



Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 1st March 2022, at 7.30 pm at Meldon Village Hall, Meldon, Okehampton

Councillors Present -

R Maile
A Ewen
M Cooper
D Webber
J Heard
M Littlejohns

Also present - Mrs J Gillard, Parish Clerk

Absent – Cllr P Heard

In the absence of the Chairman Cllr Wood, the vice-chairman Cllr Littlejohns took the chair for the meeting.

1. Members of the Public – There were 5 members of the public present. Mr Rick May addressed the meeting and explained his plans for setting up a bus service in the town and Hamlets to link the community together. It would be a 7 days per week service covering the town centre, new developments, railway station and schools. He is in the process of obtaining an operators licence and he hopes to be in a position to commence the service when this is obtained. He was thanked for attending the meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest – Cllr Ewen declared a pecuniary interest in item 9.4 as chair of the association.

3. Apologies – apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Wood. Apologies were also received from Cllrs Yelland, Leech and Davies (WDBC) and Cllr Samuels (DCC)

4. Approval of Minutes of previous meeting held on 1st February 2022 - the minutes of the meeting were approved as being an accurate record and were signed by the Chairman, proposed by Cllr Ewen, seconded by Cllr J Heard.

5. Planning – to consider and agree response to applications listed below together with any others received up to date of this meeting.

5.1 WDBC 3927/21/FUL Infill house between 35 and 16 Summering Close, Okehampton. Resolved to submit a neutral view but to raise concerns over the high density of houses, inadequate parking and access for delivery of materials and access for working. Proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr J Heard.

5.2 Devon & Cornwall Police – to note information received re Project Wingspan in connection with considering planning applications. Information noted.

5.3 WDBC 0090/22/TPO T1: Ash Tree - fell to ground. Tree is dead; G1 - x4 Oak - Crown lift to 4.5m from ground level. To remove epicormic growth; G2: x4 Oak - crown lift to 4.5m from ground level. To remove epicormic growth and holy at base; G3: x4 Oak - crown lift to 4.5m from ground level. To remove epicormic growth; Remove x1 smallest oak. To allow room for theothers to grow; T2: Birch - fell to ground. Over shadowed by oaks; noroom to grow; G4: x4 Oak - crown lift to 4.5m from ground level. To remove epicormic growth: Remove large dead limb in centre of tree to ground level (multi stem collide stool) . Crown thin by 20% to allow more light and a partial view through trees. Land at SX 541 948 Ashbury Hotel, Fowley Cross, Okehampton. Resolved to support application, proposed by Cllr Ewen, seconded by Cllr Cooper.

5.4 WDBC 0368/22/HHO Householder application to convert attached block storage building into ensuite bedroom, Site at SX 613953, Stockley, Okehampton. Resolved to support application, proposed by Cllr Maile, seconded by Cllr J Heard.

5.5 Barratt David Wilson Homes – to agree names for new roads within Hampton Mill development. Agreed to submit the following options – Chicacott Vale, Saxon Hill, Fitzgilbert, Metherall, Langford, Bray Heights, Herdsman, Shepherd, Miller, Poacher, Cooper, Weaver, Acorn Avenue, Ash, Rowan, Sycamore.

6. DCC and WDBC – to consider the Councillors written reports/updates. Written reports previously circulated, no questions arising.

7. Neighbourhood Planning

7.1 to receive an update on joint Okehampton Plan. The Clerk advised a further meeting had taken place, further progress made with wording of policies, further meeting due next week.

7.2 To review and adopt revised Terms of Reference amending target completion date to 31st July 2022. In view of progress being made with the Plan, resolved to amend the target completion date to 31st July, proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Ewen.

8. To receive reports from meetings attended by Parish Council representatives including –

No meetings attended by members present, the Chairman will update on meetings he has attended in the April meeting.

9. Correspondence

9.1 WD Broadband Champion – the Clerk has clarified the situation with the alleged nominee, no further action required.

9.2 DNP – to consider nominations request for nomination of Parish Member to DNP Authority. No potential nominees at this stage.

9.3 Government consultation on the Glover Landscapes Review – an opportunity to stop ‘off-roading’ in the National Parks, to consider response to public consultation. Agreed individual Councillors to make their own responses if they wished to do so.

9.4 OCRA – to consider grant application for £436.41 towards equipment and training for Sporting Memories Group. Resolved to award the requested sum, proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr J Heard.

9.5 TLG Make Lunch Club – to consider grant application for £500 to help fund items for new holiday club including crockery. Agreed further information required before any award made, Cllr Cooper to speak to applicant, carried forward to next meeting.

9.6 Okehampton Rivers Improvement Group – to consider grant application for £460 towards training volunteers and replacement Hi Vis jackets. Resolved to award the requested sum of £460, proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Ewen.

9.7 Okehampton & Hamlets Twinning Association – to consider grant application for £500 towards costs of hosting exchange weekend. Councillors resolved not to award grant at this point, however they did support in principle the aims and purpose of the Group and questioned the small number of Hamlets residents that may benefit against the amount of the request. Proposed by Cllr Ewen, seconded by Cllr J Heard.

9.8 Romansfield Jubilee Party – to consider grant application for £500 for purchase of gazebo for outdoor events. Councillors wished to support the residents for this event. As no formal Group yet set up the Council was unable to make a direct award. Cllr Ewen to ascertain if ‘borrowing’ a gazebo from another local source was possible to assist the residents. Clerk to ascertain if there was any other support required that the Council could help with.

9.9 Note that Derek Webber has been selected (by ballot) to attend the Queens Garden Party in May. Discuss arrangements and any costs that this council may cover. Agreed in principle that some travel costs could be covered by the Council, to be discussed further when full details of event known.

9.10 West Devon Mayoral Awards. To consider any suitable nominations. Agreed to nominate Cllr Derek Webber (Long Service) and the Street Cleaner (Green Award)

9.11 Great British Springclean – to consider involvement and actions, agreed to undertake a litter pick and/or sign cleaning. Clerk to ascertain if WDBC would collect any litter collected.

10. Finance –

10.1 Accounts for payment –

Mrs J Gillard (wages £487.03, mileage £)	£
Oaklands Tree Services	£1350.00
Parish Noticeboard	9.60
Devon Communities Together membership	£ 50.00

10.2 Grants Policy – to review and adopt if agreed, revised Grants Terms and Conditions to come into effect 1/4/2022, Resolved to adopt amended terms returning maximum amount payable to £500, proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Maile

11. Environmental issues

11.1 Mud on highways, Crediton Road and Exeter Road Industrial Estate, to consider issues and agree actions. Reported that the situation has improved, ongoing monitoring to continue.

11.2 Dog fouling – to consider correspondence received from resident. Acknowledged that this is a widespread issue and very difficult to solve, agreed to raise on website and on social media.

12. Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations – to receive update from Clerk and Cllr Cooper on arrangements.

12.1 To consider applying for DCC Localities Grant for funding events together with any other appropriate organisations. Agreed that Council could make grant applications to DCC Localities and also Okehampton United Charity for specific purposes and amount. Agreed working Group needed to meet to finalise some arrangements in order this could be done.

13. Open Spaces. To receive update on works in Meldon Woods. Tree surgery work completed.

14. Updates on Flood Plan and Snow Plan and actions required. Cllr Ewen to arrange collection of new bins from Clerk and arrange for Upcott Hill damaged bin to be replaced.

15. Clerks Report February 2022 – Report noted. The following resolution Proposed by Cllr Cooper and seconded by Cllr Ewen – ‘This Council supports the principle of the holding of occasional informal meetings between the Mayor of OTC and the Chair of OHPC subject to both Clerks being present’, agreed by all. Dog Waste Bin agreed that Clerk liaise with WDBC to ascertain most appropriate size to purchase and Clerk authorised to proceed with purchase most suitable option of those previously circulated.

16. Annual Parish Meeting – agreed to hold meeting on Tuesday 19th April, names of suggested speakers discussed, Clerk and Cllr Cooper to liaise over refreshments.

PART TWO

Items which may be taken in the absence of the press and public. The Council is recommended to pass the following resolution:- ‘Resolved that under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items as they involve the likely disclosure of sensitive and confidential information.’ Proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Maile.

17. Open Spaces To agree terms of appointment of ‘Open Spaces Warden’ including Role Spec and pay scale – carried forward to next meeting.

18. To note current WDBC Enforcement cases list and information. Updates noted.

19. To confirm Date and venue of next meeting- Tuesday 5th April 2022

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30 pm.

Signed Date