



Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 9th Aug 2022, at 7.30 pm at Meldon Village Hall, Meldon, Okehampton

Councillors Present –

B. Wood

M. Cooper

A. Ewen

M. Littlejohns

P. Heard

R. Maile

Also present – Marion Pratt, Locum Clerk

Absent – Cllr D Webber

1. **Members of the Public** – There were 2 members of the public present.

Chair Cllr B Wood thanked Liz Westlake for setting up the hall for the meeting.

2. **Declarations of Interest** – there were no declarations of interest made.

3. **Apologies** - apologies were received and accepted from Cllr J. Heard,
also Cllr J Yelland and Cllr T Leech WDBC.

4. **Approval of Minutes** of previous meeting held on 12th July 2022 - the minutes of the meeting were approved as being an accurate record and were signed by the Chairman, proposed by Cllr M. Cooper seconded by Cllr A Ewen.

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

5.1 To discuss and receive update on Exeter Road development issues. No new developments to report other than erection of a new fence, and parking issues to date.

5.2 WDBC – 1972/22/FUL erection of replacement dwelling, car port, and replacement outbuilding for ancillary use including demolition of existing buildings. Nethercott Farm, Southcott, Okehampton

This planning application falls outside the parish, although the road is on the boundary of Okehampton Hamlets. Therefore, no comments, but duly noted.

5.3 WDBC – 1889/22/FUL erection of double garage to service plot 100 on current development site, land north of Crediton Road, Okehampton (ref 2885/18/ARM)

This is an amendment to a property on the Romansfield development. Cllr Wood proposed it should be SUPPORTED, seconded Cllr Cooper. Agreed unanimously.

6. **DCC and WDBC** – to consider the Councillors written reports/updates.

Cllrs Samuel and A Leech were thanked for their written reports which were received and distributed prior to the meeting. There were no questions arising from them.

7. **Operation London Bridge and other events** – to consider offer of adding a facility to website for important events (details already forwarded to Councillors)

A quote has been received from Western Web for £75 to set up a web page which can be immediately made “live” on the death of a prominent royal. This will include relevant photos and protocols that Parish Councils should observe at such a time. The facility can also be used for other announcements in the future.

Cllr Wood proposed that this should be accepted, seconded by Cllr Cooper and agreed unanimously.

8. **Neighbourhood Planning**

8.1 to receive an update on joint Okehampton Plan – this meeting was attended by Cllr Cooper and comments were submitted by Cllr Wood. The final draft document should be submitted to Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council October meeting for comments. It is hoped that it will be circulated prior to the meeting so that all councillors can fully read it, particularly the new maps that have been included.

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

a) The **Beacon Path** is a project to create a cycle/active-travel **route** between South Tawton, South Zeal, Sticklepath, Belstone and **Okehampton**. Cllr Wood reported that it could pass through the Business Park and proposed new Okehampton Parkway Station with plans for a joint pedestrian and cycle way. He will email maps of the proposed route to councillors.

10. **Correspondence**

10.1 – North Dartmoor Search & Rescue – to consider grant request for £300 towards purchase of new vehicle.

Cllr Wood proposed that since North Dartmoor Search & Rescue are an important charity working within the parish boundary, and since they have not made a grant application in the past 2 years, Okehampton Hamlets should approve a grant request of £500, seconded Cllr Littlejohns. Agreed unanimously.

11. **Finance –**

11.1 **Accounts for payment –**

Mrs J Gillard wages - £525.53

Broadbury Landcare - £145.00

Resolved accounts be paid, proposed by Cllr Wood, seconded by Cllr Cooper

11.2 – **Bank Reconciliation** – to note independent check of Bank Reconciliation as at 14.7.22 has been completed by Cllr Cooper

12. Environmental issues

12.1 Mud on highways, Crediton Road and Exeter Road Industrial Estate, to note any new issues. The main issue at the moment is excessive dust causing a problem for residents.

12.2 Odours in East of Okehampton, 14th June – see Clerks Report. There has been a change of personnel, and Clerk has had no response to her emails. Cllrs will continue to monitor and record instances of this issue.

12.3 Cllr Ewen reported that there is also a seagull problem around the Business Park that has been getting worse over past 2 -3 yrs. It was proposed to add this as an item for the next Agenda and for the Clerk to contact Environmental Health Department to investigate the possible cause.

12.4 Cllr Cooper was pleased to note the new directive from Dartmoor National Park who will be banning all BBQs and open fires.

13. Open Spaces.

13.1 To agree date for Working Group meeting. Date of 13th September agreed by Group members. This meeting may clash with Northern Links meeting. The Chair and Clerk will liaise to see who attends which meeting.

14. **Updates on Flood Plan and Snow Plan and actions required.** To be reviewed at September meeting with a view to setting up a working party to empty salt bins where salt has solidified, and replace with bags of road salt.

15. **Clerks Report June 2022** – was taken as read by councillors with following points noted.

a) Jubilee Costs will not be significantly different. Committee is hoping to sell surplus Water bottles etc at this week's Okehampton Show and then final accounts can be published.

b) Both WDBC & DNP are changing their planning systems. This may involve training for Clerk and councillors in the future.

c) Okehampton Music Day was well attended and received

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 Cllr Cooper and seconded Cllr P. Heard. Members of the public left the hall.

16. **Open Spaces** –To receive an update from the Clerk re the potential repairs to Aplite Quarry track - DNP have offered contribution towards costs.

17. **To note current WDBC Enforcement cases list and information.**

There were no enforcement cases this month.

18. [Okehampton United Charities](#) Cllr Cooper reported that the charity is considering a reorganisation of its Trustees. A full discussion took place with suggestions of how Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council would like to be represented. However, a formal proposal from OUC is awaited for a future meeting.

19. **To confirm Date and venue of next meeting Tuesday 6th September 2022 at Meldon Village Hall.**

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.20 pm

Signed Date