



Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 4th October 2022, at 7.30 pm at Meldon Village Hall, Meldon, Okehampton

Councillors Present -

R Maile
M Cooper
B Wood
A Ewen
P Heard

Also present –Mrs J Gillard, Parish Clerk

Absent –Cllr J Heard, M Littlejohns, D Webber

1.Members of the Public – presentation of Grant Cheques to Liz Westlake, Fundraiser, Okehampton Community Transport Group and Ian Brooker, Dartmoor National Park Authority.

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

3. Apologies – were received from WDBC Councillors Yelland, Davies and Leech.

4. Approval of Minutes of previous meeting held on 6th September 2022 , the minutes of the meeting were approved as being an accurate record and were signed by the Chairman, proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Maile.

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. Issues concerning the 30mph sign and hoardings covered in Clerks Report and written update from Cllr Leech, no other issues reported.

5.2 WDBC 2294/22/FUL Proposed installation of ten rapid electric vehicle charging stations within the car park of Country Lanes Garden Centre. Ten existing parking spaces will become two EV charging bays, along with associated equipment. Country Lanes Garden Centre, Okehampton. Resolved to support application, proposed by Cllr Maile, seconded by Cllr P Heard.

6. DCC and WDBC – to consider the Councillors written reports/updates. Written reports from Cllr Samuels, Yelland and Leech circulated prior to meeting. No questions arising. The Chairman thanked those Councillors for their updates.

7. Neighbourhood Planning

7.1 to receive an update on joint Okehampton Plan. Meeting held 21st September, both Councils support progressing to Regulation 14 consultation, Launch event planned for 22nd October at Okement Centre with press release on 20th October. Next meeting planned for after end of Consultation Period in January.

8. To receive reports from meetings attended by Parish Council representatives including –
Okehampton Matters meeting 12 October, all to raise agenda items with Cllrs Wood or Maile.
Cllr Wood attended Wyvern Barracks for ‘Thank you’ dinner for Ten Tors Event.
Cllr Wood unable to attend Tor Support Services AGM due to overrun of previous engagement.
Cllr Wood attended Proclamation event in Okehampton

9. Correspondence

9.1 Meldon Viaduct Company – to consider grant request of £500 towards upkeep of the Viaduct.
Resolved to award £500, proposed by Cllr Ewen, seconded by Cllr P Heard.
9.2 Devon Community Resilience Forum – to agree attendees at Virtual event 14 – 16 November.
Noted, Cllr Wood booked to attend various sessions.

10. Finance –

10.1 Accounts for payment –

Mrs J Gillard wages £525.53, travel £38.70	£564.23
WDBC (dog bin emptying)	£ 477.36
Meldon Village Hall	£ 205.00
HMRC	£ 412.80
GX Accounts	£ 12.74
WDBC	£ 95.47
N Johns	£ 50.00

10.2 Early discussion for items to consider including in next budget. Ideas for future consideration –
Coronation events, reserves for defibrillator and Beating the Bounds, Interpretation boards, potential
requirement for further allotments, community hall, contribution towards purchase of land for
cemetery.

11. Environmental issues

11.1 Mud on highways, Crediton Road and Exeter Road Industrial Estate, to note any new issues, no
new issues reported.
11.2 Odours in East of Okehampton, see Clerks Report. Noted, agreed to continue to request meeting
with Forthglade. No reports of odours have been received on days of trial of new system.

12. Open Spaces.

12.1 To receive update from Working Group Meeting and agree actions to be carried out (see separate
report). Report reviewed and suggested actions agreed including purchase of Private Road sign and
Private Car Parks, proposed by Cllr Wood, seconded by Cllr Maile.
12.2 Meldon Wildlife Day – to consider request from DNP to hold event on 22 August 2023, agreed to
support and agree to use of Council’s land for event, proposed by Cllr Ewen, seconded by Cllr P Heard.
12.3 Dartmoor Marshalls – review of scheme. The Clerk reported instead of written reports collated
by DNP, this year messages were exchanged by WhatsApp which appeared to work. Agreed the
scheme was a success again this year and it appears the presence of the Marshalls was making a
positive impact.

13. Updates on Flood Plan and Snow Plan and actions required. Work on grit bins outstanding.

14. Clerks Report September 2022 – Clerk to answer any questions raised by Councillors. Resolved to
authorise Okehampton United Charity as an authorised user of the Council’s On Line mapping system, proposed
by Cllr Wood, seconded by Cllr Ewen, Cllr Cooper abstained, remaining Councillors in favour.

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 P Heard.

15. To note current WDBC Enforcement cases list and information. Noted.

16. Community Governance – to receive an update on current position and agree further actions. It was noted a Petition for a Community Governance Review has been submitted by Okehampton Town Council to West Devon Borough Council. It was unanimously resolved that the Clerk send a letter to WDBC stating the Council were not in agreement with the proposals put forward, full reasoning to be submitted at a later date and that clarification on the timings of the review be obtained. Proposed by Cllr Wood, seconded by Cllr Ewen, all in agreement.

17. To confirm Date and venue of next meeting Tuesday 1st November 2022 at Meldon Village Hall.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Signed Date