



## Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council

### Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023, at 7.30 pm at Meldon Village Hall, Meldon, Okehampton

#### Councillors Present -

R Maile  
M Cooper  
P Heard  
J Heard  
M Littlejohns  
A Ewen

Also present –Mrs J Gillard, Parish Clerk

In the absence of Cllr Wood, the Vice Chairman, Cllr Littlejohns chaired the meeting.

1. **Members of the Public** – there was 1 member of the public and 1 member of the press present.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr P Heard declared a pecuniary interest in item 5.3 as father of the applicant (he left the meeting room when that item was discussed), Cllr P Heard and J Heard declared a personal interest in item 5.4
3. **Apologies** – were received and accepted from Cllrs Wood and Webber. Apologies were also received from Cllr Leech and Cllr Yelland,WDBC
4. **Approval of Minutes of previous meeting** held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022 - the minutes of the meeting were approved as being an accurate record and were signed by the Vice Chairman, proposed by Cllr Cooper, 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 To discuss and receive update on Exeter Road development issues, no new issues reported.
  - 5.2 WDBC 3833/22/CLE Certificate for lawfulness for existing installation of a geothermal heating system, the system is below ground & consists of ten boreholes that provide renewable energy (heating and cooling) to the A30BC business unit. Seeking installation is lawful. A30 Business Centre, Okehampton. Resolved to support application, proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr P Heard, all in favour,
  - 5.3 DNP 0474/22 Retrospective application for variation in design for application 0262/18 and change of use from extension for living accommodation to a dwelling, 8 Meldon Cottages, Meldon. Resolved to support application, proposed by Cllr Ewen, seconded by Cllr Cooper, all in favour.
  - 5.4 WDBC 3991/22/OPA Outline application with all matters reserved for Farm managers dwelling Development Site at SX 551 948 Southcott. Resolved to support application proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Ewen, Cllr P and J Heard abstained from voting, remaining Councillors in favour.
6. **DCC and WDBC** – to consider the Councillors written reports/updates. Written reports previously circulated and noted, no questions arising.

## 7. Neighbourhood Planning

7.1 to receive an update on joint Okehampton Plan. Group met 8<sup>th</sup> December, The reg 14 consultation is now closed. There was very little feedback. They are reviewing some feedback from Elliot Hale NP officer at WDBC. OHPC and OTC now to be requested to approve submission of the plan to WDBC with view to holding Referendum on May election date. In the absence of Cllr Wood, as he was the representative at the Group's last meeting, agreed to formalise this at next meeting.

**8. To receive reports from meetings attended by Parish Council representatives including** – none attended.

**9. Correspondence – None.**

**10. Finance –**

### 10.1 Accounts for payment –

Mrs J Gillard wages £844.51, travel	
£12.60	£ 857.11
Okement Centre	£ 30.48
HMRC	£ 516.54
B Wood	£ 5.35

Resolved accounts be paid, proposed by Cllr Ewen, seconded by Cllr P Heard

**10.2 2023/24 Budget** – to agree draft previously circulated and then to set precept for 2023/24 After review of previously circulated ideas and discussion on the items, it was proposed by Cllr J Heard and seconded by Cllr P Heard to set budget at £45,300, and a total reserves figure of £30,200.

**10.4 Precept 2023/24** – to set precept for 2023/24 . Based on the figures above, it was resolved to set a precept at £27,850, resulting in a Band D tax figure of £42.54, a rise £1.40 per annum or 3.41% increase which is below the current Retail Price Index. Proposed by Cllr Ewen, seconded by Cllr Cooper, all in favour.

## 11. Environmental issues

11.1 Mud on highways, Crediton Road and Exeter Road Industrial Estate, to note any new issues, none reported.

11.2 Odours in East of Okehampton, - to receive an update. No further issues reported.

## 12. Open Spaces.

12.1 To receive update from Working Group. No further meetings held, awaiting work on trees to be undertaken before end February. Several trees have fallen across the road in Meldon recently and been removed.

12.2 To agree work that StOC be asked to undertake during early 2023 – further coppicing in Meldon Woods and to liaise with M Parkins on Old Town Park priorities.

## 13. Updates on Flood Plan and Snow Plan and actions required.

Cllr Ewen reported that with the Chairman he had distributed numerous salt bags to various locations during the recent freezing conditions. A new grit bin has been installed at Chichacott and it was agreed not to replace the bin on Upcott Hill as that section of road is regularly gritted by DCC. Clerk to request additional grit bags from DCC as stock held now minimal.

**14. Clerks Report January 2023** – Clerk to answer any questions raised by Councillors and to agree actions in connection with –

Speedwatch – agreed Chair to publicise on social media initially

Red Squirrel South West – agreed to invite OUC, OTC and DNP

OHPC 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations – agreed joint (OUC/OTC/OHPC) Okehampton wide celebrations appropriate to include OUC anniversary and Town Charter.

2024 D Day Anniversary Celebrations – Agreed to hold event including Beacon Lighting on 6<sup>th</sup> June at Okehampton Showground with entertainments and to book Humming Birds if possible. Offer to be made to OTC for joint event.

**15. King Charles III Coronation** – to agree how to mark this event. Agreed community wide events most appropriate, Clerk to liaise with OTC.

**16. Community Governance** – to receive an update from the Working Group. A report is being drafted for submission to WDBC, final submission to be agreed at next meeting.

**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 Ewen, seconded by Cllr J Heard.

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

**18. To confirm Date and venue of next meeting Tuesday 7th February 2023 at Links Room, Okement Centre, Okehampton**

The Vice Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Signed ..... Date .....  
Minutes 285/3