



Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 7th February 2023, at 7.30 pm at Links Room, Okement Centre, Okehampton

Councillors Present -

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

Also present –Mrs J Gillard, Parish Clerk, Cllr J Yelland WDBC

1. **Members of the Public** – there were 6 members of the public present.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr P Heard declared a pecuniary interest item 5.2, father of the applicant. Cllr Wood declared a personal interest in item 9.4 as an allotment holder and Cllr Cooper declared a personal interest in item 9.4 as a trustee of OUC.
3. **Apologies** – were received from Cllr A Leech (WDBC)
4. **Approval of Minutes of previous meeting** held on 3rd January 2023 - 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. Current planning issues noted, agreed no further action that this Council could take at this stage. Situation in hand with WDBC
 - 5.2 DNP 0474/22 8 Meldon Cottages, to note current situation. Noted.
6. **DCC and WDBC** – to consider the Councillors written reports/updates. Reports circulated prior to meeting, no questions arising from them.
7. **Neighbourhood Planning**
 - 7.1 to receive an update on joint Okehampton Plan – The Chair of the Working Group reported that the Regulation 14 consultation has been completed, final version circulated to all Councillors prior to meeting, OTC have approved submission to WDBC
 - 7.2 to resolve that draft plan be submitted to WDBC and DNP aiming for Referendum in May 2023, resolved to submit the plan, proposed by Cllr Wood, seconded by Cllr Ewen, all in favour.
8. **To receive reports from meetings attended by Parish Council representatives including** –

DCC Regeneration Project – Cllrs Wood, Cooper & Littlejohns attended a ‘catch up’ meeting, a second meeting was held today attended by Cllr Wood and The Clerk. Led by DCC, project aimed at producing a plan to help regenerate Okehampton, 2 more meetings planned.

OCRA AGM attended by Cllr Maile – all activities and projects have been progressing very well over the last 12 months, full report issued at meeting to be circulated.

9. Correspondence

9.1 DCC Invitation to attend Budget engagement with West Devon Town & Parishes, Teams meeting, 9th Feb, 7 – 8pm, Cllrs Cooper and Wood agreed to attend, link for meeting to be resent to all.

9.2 OTC Invitation to enter team in Mayors Charity Bowls Event, 7th May 2023, to be considered again at next meeting.

9.3 WDBC **Mayoral Awards** – to agree any nominations, closing date 17th February 2023. Resolved to nominate Simon Chudley and StOC (Over 18s/Organisation), and Cllr Webber (Long Service)

9.4 **Okehampton United Charity** – to consider request for £466.47 towards running costs of Allotments. Resolved to agree to request for funding, proposed by Cllr P Heard, seconded by Cllr Maile, with the exception of Cllrs Wood and Cooper who abstained, all remaining Councillors in favour.

9.5 **South West Endurance** – to consider request to hold ride from Aplite Quarry car park on 19th February 2023. Previous fee received £120. Resolved to agree to request, same terms as previous year, proposed by Cllr Wood, seconded by Cllr J Heard.

10. Okehampton Parkway Station – no note successful WDBC successful Levelling Up Fund bid and agree any actions to be taken. Noted, Councillors expressed their thanks to all those involved in the Bid.

11. Finance –

11.1 Accounts for payment –

Mrs J Gillard wages £560.27, travel	
£ 22.95, Exp £99.67	£ 682.89
Western Web	£ 96.00
GX Accountants	£ 54.61
James Baulch	£ 300.00
Parish On Line	£ 45.00
The Sign Shed	£ 24.96

All noted and agreed.

12. Council Documentation

12.1 To review and adopt updated Risk Assessment policy. Resolved to adopt updated document as circulated, proposed by Cllr Wood, seconded by Cllr Littlejohns.

13. Environmental issues

13.1 Mud on highways, Crediton Road and Exeter Road Industrial Estate, to note any new issues. No new issues to report. Clerk to raise issues again re lack of footpaths in the Crediton Road area.

13.2 Odours in East of Okehampton, - the Clerk reported that following a successful trial of a new system the new technology is now being implemented on a permanent basis. Councillors welcomed this news and agreed there have been no recent incidents to report.

14. Open Spaces.

14.1 To receive update from Working Group – Coppicing undertaken by StOC in Meldon Woods, approx 20 volunteers on site. Awaiting start date of tree surgery work in both sites.

14.2 To agree work that StOC be asked to undertake during early 2023. Agreed Cllr Wood to liaise with Matt Parkins, likely work to be removal of holly in Old Town Park.

14.3 Wild Camping on Dartmoor – to note recent events and changes to legislation and agree any actions to be taken. Current situation noted including the fact DNP are now appealing against the ruling.

15. Updates on Flood Plan and Snow Plan and actions required. Replacement stock of salt/grit ordered, delivery awaited.

16. Clerks Report February 2023 – Clerk to answer any questions raised by Councillors and to agree actions in connection with – Cllr Wood to request volunteers for Speedwatch.

125th OHPC Anniversary Celebrations – agreed to join with the ‘Okehampton Celebrates’ event with main activities being organised by Everything Okehampton. Separate marquee to host ‘timeline’ of Okehampton Events where OHPC, OUC and OTC will be represented. Chair & Clerk to attend follow up meeting.

2024 D Day 80th Anniversary 6th June – agreed to book The Humming Birds for event and to invite RBL, Camp, and local Cadet Groups to be involved.

Okehampton Sports Plan – resolved that Cllr Ewen be nominated as the Council’s representative, proposed by Cllr Wood, seconded by Cllr Cooper.

17. King Charles III Coronation – to discuss the Okehampton wide plans for the event and agree the role and actions this Council will take. Information previously circulated. A coffee morning organised by OTC is being held on the Saturday morning with wide screen to show the Coronation, followed by street party. Commemorative pens to be given to primary school children by OTC Mayor and OHPC Chair. Agreed OHPC organise a Cream Tea in Meldon Village Hall on the Sunday afternoon. Also agreed to purchase 2 commemorative trees for planting within the new developments east of Okehampton, sites to be confirmed.

18. Community Governance re proposed Parish boundary changes – to receive an update from the Working Group and to agree delegation to Clerk of forwarding report to WDBC if not agreed at meeting. Wording agreed at meeting after one minor amendment, proposed by Cllr Wood, seconded by Cllr Ewen.

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.’

19. Open Spaces

19.1 To discuss temporary appointment of Open Spaces Warden - resolved to accept terms quoted by Matt Parkins, proposed by Cllr Ewen, seconded by Cllr Cooper.

19.2 To discuss and agree Aplite Quarry Shed Rent for 2024, resolved to increase rent for 2024 to £475, proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr P Heard.

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

21. To confirm Date and venue of next meeting Tuesday 7th March 2023 at Meldon Village Hall, Meldon, Okehampton

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Signed Date

Minutes 286/3