



Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd January 2024, at 7.30 pm at Meldon Village Hall, Meldon, Okehampton

Councillors Present -

M Cooper
M Littlejohns
J Heard
P Heard
A Ewen
J Goffey
S Norris

Also present – Cllr G Dexter (WDBC), Mrs J Gillard, Parish Clerk,

In the absence of the Chairman, the meeting was chaired by the Vice Chairman Cllr M Littlejohns

- 1. Members of the Public – there were no members of the public present.**
- 2. Declarations of Interest -** there were no declarations of interest made.
- 3. Apologies –** were received and accepted from Cllr B Wood
- 4. Approval of Minutes of previous meeting** held on 5th December 2023 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 P 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 3584/23/HHO** Householder application for removal of existing septic tank from field adjacent to property and install new replacement septic tank within boundary of property, Hillside, Chichacott Road, Okehampton. Resolved to support application, proposed by Cllr Goffey, seconded by Cllr Ewen, all in favour.
 - 5.2 WDBC 3983/25/FUL** Erection of 1 glamping pod, Meldon Lodge, Tavistock Road, Okehampton. Resolved to support the application, proposed by Cllr J Heard, seconded by Cllr Norris, all in favour.
- 6. DCC and WDBC –** to consider the Councillors written reports/updates. Written report from Cllr Dexter previously circulated, he was thanked for his report, there were no questions arising from it.
- 7. Neighbourhood Planning**
 - 7.1 to receive an update on joint Okehampton Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Cooper reported an initial report has been received from the Examiner. The Group are arranging a meeting to take place within the next few weeks. One item raised was concerning the ‘Qualifying Body’ ie could it be both councils or did it need to be just one of the 2 involved. It was proposed by Cllr Cooper that it should remain as both councils however if it had to be amended that the Qualifying Body should be OHPC, seconded by Cllr P Heard, all in favour.
- 8. To receive reports from meetings and events attended by Parish Council representatives including – DCC Priorities & Budget 2024/25.** Attended by Cllr Cooper, key issue was to save money, and a key priority was Special Educational Needs. Slides from presentation circulated to all Councillors 13th December.

9. Correspondence

9.1 WDBC – invitation to planning training event via Teams, 29th Feb, 4 – 7 pm, agree attendees. Cllrs Cooper, Goffey and Norris to attend.

9.2 WDBC – invitation to Corporate Strategy briefing via Teams, 17th Jan, 6 – 7 pm, agree attendees. Cllr Cooper to attend.

9.3 NHS Devon – to consider briefing document received re Okehampton Community Hospital and agree any actions required. Resolved to object to proposals and appoint Cllr Goffey to represent Council at future meetings.

9.4 DCC – to consider proposals for on street parking charges and agree actions required. Agreed that proposals not in the best interests of the community or businesses, agreed that Cllrs Littlejohns or Goffey to represent Council at planned meeting between DCC and WDBC. All Councillors reminded they could personally respond to the online consultation as individuals.

10. Finance –

10.1 Accounts for payment –

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Mrs J Gillard wages | £867.17, travel | £14.40 |
| Expenses | £ | £881.57 |
| M Pratt | | £ 3.68 |
| HMRC | | £ 563.32 |
| GX Accountants | | £ 61.80 |
| Ockment Centre | | £ 43.06 |
| Westcountry Grounds Maintenance | | £489.60 |

Resolved accounts be paid, proposed by Cllr Norris, seconded by Cllr Ewen.

10.2 2024/25 Budget – to agree budget for 2024/25 year. After discussions, agreed to set budget at total of £49288 plus reserves of £29,900, proposed by Cllr P Heard, seconded by Cllr Goffey, all in favour

10.3 To agree precept for 2024/25, agreed to request precept of £36,038 equating to a Band D equivalent of £47.92 (a total rise of £5.38, 12.65%), 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, no new issues reported

11.2 Odours East of Okehampton – no new issues reported

12. Open Spaces.

12.1 To receive update from Working Group. Tree survey report has been received covering both areas of woodland, Clerk to request quotes for undertaking work identified. Agreed to hold Open Spaces Working Group meeting on 8th January, 7pm at Hughslade.

12.2 Old Town Park – no additional updates

12.3 Old Town Park Local Nature Reserve information leaflets – agreed to print biodiversity leaflet only, the history leaflet to be available on website and content used for new interpretation board. Costs of printing agreed at previous meeting.

13. Updates on Flood Plan – Cllrs Wood & Ewen progressing update to document.

14. Speedwatch – to receive update, additional volunteers from Inwardleigh and Sticklepath, their on line training to be completed and when that has been completed Police will visit to deliver equipment and undertake on the ground training.

15. D Day Celebrations 6th June 2024 – no meetings held recently, next due 30th January.

16. Economic Development Projects

16.1 Okehampton BID – to receive an update including agreement of representative from Council to stand on Steering Group. Agreed Cllr Ewen represent Council on Steering Group. Briefing meetings being arranged for 29th and 30th January, Consultants will be inviting businesses to attend, representation from Council also required.

17. Community Governance (re proposed Boundary Changes) – receive an update from the Working Group and agree next steps. Cllrs Littlejohns and Cooper and Clerk attended meeting with WDBC, now awaiting outcome of Consultation.

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.’

18. To note current WDBC Enforcement cases list and information. Updated list not received.

19. To confirm Date and venue of next meeting - Tuesday 30th January 2024 at Bellever Room, Ockment Centre,

The Vice Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Signed Date

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