



Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 30th January 2024, at 7.30 pm at Bellever Room, Ockment Centre Okehampton

Councillors Present -

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

Also present – 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** – Cllr Littlejohns declared a pecuniary interest in item 5.3 as the property owner.
3. **Apologies** – were received and accepted from Cllrs B Wood and P Heard, apologies were also received from Cllr A Leech (WDBC)
4. **Approval of Minutes of previous meeting** held on 2nd January 2024 the minutes of the meeting were approved as being an accurate record and were signed by the Vice Chairman, proposed by Cllr Norris, seconded by Cllr Cooper
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 0077/24/FUL** Extension of existing tennis court building, Ashbury Hotel, Higher Maddaford, Okehampton. Resolved to support the application, proposed by Cllr Goffey, seconded by Cllr J Heard
It was noted that the following 2 applications were not advised to the Council as usual by DNP due to an issue with their IT system, an extension to the response dates has been received.
 - 5.2 **DNP 0504/23** Construction of below-ground water mains pipeline with associated booster pump station and additional works at Land Between Tors Road And Okehampton Camp, Okehampton, EX20 1QP, Resolved to support application with comments that the road cannot be closed as there are no alternative routes and that the work should not affect local businesses.
It was proposed by Cllr J Heard, seconded by Cllr Norris that Cllr Goffey chair the meeting for the next item, Cllr Littlejohns left the meeting room.
 - 5.3 **DNP 0537/23** Variation of condition 2 of approved planning ref: 0362/23, retrospective application to convert three redundant barns to three holiday units to retain UPVC windows, doors and roof lights on Eastern Barn and installation of UPVC windows, doors and rooflights on Western Barn at Estrayer Park Farm Tavistock Road, Okehampton, Devon, EX20 4LR. Resolved to support the application as the windows are not visible from the road, they are facing an internal courtyard and there are no issues with the appearance, proposed by Cllr J Heard, seconded by Cllr Norris.
Cllr Littlejohns returned to the meeting room and resumed chairing the meeting.

6. **DCC and WDBC** – to consider the Councillors written reports/updates. No reports received.

7. Neighbourhood Planning

7.1 to receive an update on joint Okehampton Neighbourhood Plan. The Steering Group have met and agreed responses to the Examiners initial questions, Okehampton Town Council have agreed to OHPC being the Qualifying Body should it need to be in one councils name.

8. To receive reports from meetings and events attended by Parish Council representatives including –

WDBC Corporate Strategy briefing attended by Cllr Cooper, presentation notes to be circulated.
DCC Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee attended by Cllr Goffey, a new community group

9. Correspondence

9.1 Endurance GB – to consider request to hold ride on 3rd March 2024 from Aplite Car park as per previous years. Request agreed, cost as previous years, proposed by Cllr Ewen, seconded by Cllr Norris

9.2 Okehampton Memories – to review information received and consider any actions required. Councillors agreed this appeared to be a good initiative and some hoped to attend their launch event.

10. Finance –

10.1 Accounts for payment –

Mrs J Gillard wages £ tbc, travel £14.85	
Expenses £312.00	£
Ockment Centre	£ 33.22
DALC	£ 93.60
Mole Avon (addit repairs materials)	£ 49.01
Western Web	£ 96.00
Parish On Line	£ 45.00
Farmer Luxtons (Stoc refreshments)	£ 61.00

Resolved accounts to be paid, proposed by Cllr Goffey, seconded by Cllr Ewen.

11. Environmental issues

11.1 Mud on highways, Crediton Road and Exeter Road Industrial Estate, to note any new issues. It was noted recent cleaning by the road sweeper has not been effective.

11.2 Odours East of Okehampton – to receive an update, no new issues reported.

12. Open Spaces.

12.1 To receive update from Working Group. The Group have recently met, notes of meeting circulated to all councillors.

12.2 Bird boxes – to consider if more needed to be made using wood held by Men IN Sheds. Agreed to request 10 be made by Men In Sheds.

12.2 Old Town Park – StOC working here on 29th March and 5th April, they will commence work on footpath repairs, working group will meet on site in advance , agreed stone and liner be purchased for the work.

12.3 Old Town Park Local Nature Reserve information leaflets – draft circulated by Cllr Norris, agreed 200 of the Bio-diversity leaflet be printed at approx cost of £55.

13. Updates on Flood Plan – no further update.

14. Speedwatch – to receive update, more volunteers undertaking the on line training, Police want to agree date for ‘hands on’ training and delivery of equipment, agreed to arrange meeting of volunteers followed by a session with the Police. Cllr Cooper agreed to progress this.

15. D Day Celebrations 6th June 2024 – to receive an update and report from second meeting of Group. The working group met today, grant application submitted to OUC, awaiting outcome. Arrangements progressing, notes from meeting to be circulated when available.

16. Economic Development Projects

16.1 Okehampton BID – workshops held by Consultants with local businesses, output being reviewed. Steering Group to meet to progress project to next stage.

17. Community Governance (re proposed Boundary Changes) – receive an update from the Working Group , awaiting outcome from WDBC due 20th February

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 Goffey, seconded by Cllr J Heard

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

19. Open Space

19.1 To consider tenders received for tree works required in Old Town Park and Meldon Woods and to appoint contractor to undertake works. Tenders reviewed, agreed to appoint Oak Valley Tree Services on the understanding that they applied for the necessary permissions to undertake the work from DNP as part of the cost quoted, proposed by Cllr Ewen, seconded by Cllr Norris.

19.2 To review and set rent for Aplite Quarry Shed for 2025. Resolved to set rent at £475 on condition that litter picking fee is not increased, proposed by Cllr Littlejohns, seconded by Cllr J Heard.

20. To confirm Date and venue of next meeting - Tuesday 27th February 2024 at Meldon Village Hall, Meldon, Okehampton

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.50 pm

Signed Date