

MELLS PARISH COUNCIL
(mellsparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Minutes of the meeting of Mells Parish Council on
Tuesday 9 August 2016 at Mells Barn**

1. **PRESENT:** Mr E Costelloe – Chairman, Mr J Earl – Vice Chair, Mr D Seviour, J Seewooruttun, Mr V Turner, Mr J Poynton, Mr A Brady
In Attendance: Joy Book, Clerk
No members of the public
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Mr C Tye, The Countess of Oxford & Asquith, Mrs A Moir, Mr S West,
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None
4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –** None
5. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING AND ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS –** dated 12 July 2016 had previously been circulated and it was resolved that the minutes be adopted. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman.
6. **MATTERS ARISING**
 - a) **Mobile Phone signal/broadband:** Alan Brady reported that approximately 45% of the country still do not have full coverage.
 - b) **Iron Fingerpost painting and re-seating of wooden fingerpost, Rashwood Lane footpath, Gay Street:** The post has been re-seated. The contractor will commence painting the fingerposts shortly.
 - c) **Noticeboard requiring varnishing – Little Green:** Contractor will carry out this work.
 - d) **Litter bin liner by Post Office:** Liner has been delivered and the Shop is responsible for paying the invoice.
 - e) **Barn Lease:** The Chairman has contacted Cooper and Tanner who would be willing to carry out the work for £185/hr. It is currently unknown how much work will be involved. Quote was approved. The Chairman and John Earl will arrange a meeting to discuss the requirements.
 - f) **Traffic on Selwood Street:** The Passing Place signs were much too small and have been removed. Zig zag lines were proposed to indicate the full extent of the passing place. Clerk expressed concerns about painting the highway.
 - g) **Hapsford Mill visit:** Six councillors attended and found the visit very informative and worthwhile.
 - h) **Dwarf wall by telephone exchange:** No further information.
 - i) **Dangerous wall and missing sign Whatley Quarry/Knapton Hill:** Highways have no recorded incidences of any accidents at this junction. They will inspect and remove vegetation from signage and reinstate the white lines if required. These works, according to Highways, would be sufficient to make the junction safe. A couple of stones from the wall on Knapton Hill were noted as being in the road recently. Clerk to chase Highways.
 - j) **Pavilion ‘facelift’:** Various interested parties had met with the Company to discuss the state of the Pavilion. Jan Seewooruttun reported that part of the ceiling in the kitchen had fallen in due to a water leak. Vital electrical works are also required. The emergency repairs will be carried out using the £7,000 recently received from the Community Trust. Substantial fundraising is required before further improvements can be made.
 - k) **Recycling at The Talbot:** This is carried out weekly.
 - l) **Dog waste bin:** A suitable site has been found but confirmation from the Estate that it is acceptable is awaited.
 - m) **Quarry noise:** The noise has been very bad this month, especially in the evenings up to 11.00pm. The work also appears to be nearer to the surface. Clerk to find out what the authorised working hrs are and to ask Steve West to follow up the issue with the quarry.

7. PLANNINGNew applications

2016/1959/TCA Notification of proposed works to trees in conservation area. Thuja x 3 fell, hornbeam remove canopy back by 2 metres from the barn roof. Selwood House, Selwood Street. For approval.

Mendip Decisions

2016/1157/LBC Alterations to existing internal toilet and kitchen facilities. The Tythe Barn, Selwood Street. Approved.

8. CORRESPONDENCE FROM SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL - none**9. CORRESPONDENCE FROM MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL - none****10. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE**

a) **NHS England** - application offering unforeseen benefits at premises on Anchor Road, Highbury Street and Church Street – Prasant Mandahar. Chairman will respond.

11. PAYMENTS, RECEIPTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

Balance as at 28 July 2016 - HSBC £16,503.37. Balance as at March 2016 - Barclays £5,190.33

a)	J Book	Clerk's Salary (July and August – £282.07 x 2)	£564.14
		Expenses (July and August)	
		Trip to Mells (@ 45p/mile)	3.60
		Phone line rental x 2	11.00
		Utilities x 2	<u>8.00</u>
			£22.60
		Goode and Handy – footpath strimming and gully clearance	£20.00
		SALC – Councillor training	£25.00

b) **Receipts:** None

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 **Overgrown vegetation around village:** Highways has cut back most of the vegetation between the war memorial and the shop which has improved safety for pedestrians. Trees are pushing out the wall along this stretch of road which will cause an issue in future. Vegetation generally around the village looks very untidy. Chairman will ask the Estate to extend their works. The Parish Council will cover the extra costs involved.

12.2 **Fly tipping:** This has increased in the area. It is difficult for people working normal hours to get to the Frome Recycling Centre. Clerk to write to Somerset Waste Partnership, Mendip District Council and County Councillor, Philip Ham to suggest changing the opening times to opening later in the morning and closing at 6.00pm.

12.3 **Speedwatch:** A session is planned for next week in the early evening. The Police motorbike has been noted in the village. Four Speedwatch signs are being delivered.

12.4 **Car park at The Talbot:** The area is generally untidy with rubbish, an old sign and broken noticeboard. Chairman to talk to the Estate.

12.5 **Kerbstones by the war memorial:** These have been damaged recently. Large vehicles are clipping the kerb when manoeuvring. The area near the bus stop, Rectory Corner is also being undermined. Chairman to talk to the Estate.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday 11 October 2016 at **7.15pm** in Mells Barn

Meeting closed at 8.00pm.

Signed..... Date.....

Print Name.....