

MELLS PARISH COUNCIL
(mellsparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Minutes of the meeting of Mells Parish Council on
Tuesday 14 November 2017 at Mells Barn**

PRESENT:, Mr E Costelloe – Chairman, Mr J Earl – Vice Chair, Mr S West, Mrs J Seewooruttun, Mr C Tye, Mrs A Moir

In Attendance: Joy Book, Clerk.

No members of the public

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Mr J Poynton, Mr A Brady, The Countess of Oxford & Asquith, Mr D Seviour, Mr V Turner
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - None
3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** - None
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES DATED 10 OCTOBER 2017** 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:** Works in the area of the proposed mast appear to have started.
 - b) **Barn Lease:** Chairman to chase solicitor again.
 - c) **Traffic on Selwood Street and car parking:** The current car park signage is not working very well. It was agreed to purchase a few larger signs. Clerk to contact Jon Price to clear car park of weeds and instigate a regular programme of clearance. All in favour.
 - d) **Old Telephone Exchange:** Clerk to chase.
 - e) **Bridge – Station Road:** The bridge has been repaired again after a recent accident. Clerk to contact Highways (cc Councillor Philip Ham), to suggest that all the money spent on repairs could be better used for a one off capital cost to remove the bridge. CPM have offered use of their equipment to assist.
 - f) **Dumped cars – Fairview:** MDC Enforcement have been approached again.
 - g) **VAT re-claim for works on the Barn:** John Earl is looking into this but it looks likely the VAT will not be able to be reclaimed.
7. **ANNUAL REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS, SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY, RECORDING AT MEETINGS POLICY, RISK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT.** The documents had previously been circulated. All in favour of approving. Review in one year.
8. **PLANNING**
 - a) New applications
2017/2972/TCA Proposed works to a tree in a conservation area – Beech reduce crown, crown thinning and crown lift – 4 Hollycroft to Fairview. No objections.
 - b) Mendip Decisions
Walled Garden update: The application was given approval by all the members on the Planning Board.
9. **CORRESPONDENCE FROM SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL**
 - a) **Salt bag collection day:** Chairman reported that Vince Turner already has a stock of bags so no further bags were required at present.
10. **CORRESPONDENCE FROM MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL** – none
11. **OTHER CORRESPONDENCE**
12. **PAYMENTS, RECEIPTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS**
Balance as at 28 November 2017 – £6,393.72. Barclays £5,191.63.

a)	J Book	Clerk's Salary & expenses (October)	£246.29
		Trip to Mells (@ 45p/mile)	3.60
		Phone line rental	5.50

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Utilities	<u>4.00</u>	
	£13.10	
HMRC PAYE (Period 8)		£38.60
Jon Goode – strimming footpaths		£20.00
Chris Rowe – war memorial hedge		£75.00

Approved - all in favour

- b) **Preliminary 2018-2019 budget:** Clerk had previously circulated the draft budget. It was agreed to add £500 for the upkeep of the car park. Final decision regarding precept needs to be made by the December meeting.
- c) **Receipts:** None
- d) **Bank Mandate:** Clerk now has the mandate for HSBC which was completed by John Earl, Clerk and the Chairman who are currently signatories on the account. David Seviour will be added as a signatory. Clerk to obtain forms for the Barclays account.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) **Collapsing trench by entrance to Whatley Quarry:** Clerk to report.
- b) **Resignations:** Edmund Costelloe will be resigning from his position as Chairman after the December meeting but has offered to continue as a councillor for the foreseeable future. Chris Tye will be tendering his resignation from the Parish Council after the December meeting. Many grateful thanks were extended for their 15 years of service on the Parish Council.
- c) **Tree across river:** A tree has fallen by the duck pond. Clerk to contact quarry and Rivers Authority.
- d) **Hanson Quarry meeting:** Steve West had attended the meeting. The quarry has dropped a shift and is currently sinking down two more levels. A couple of blasting complaints had been received from residents in Whatley. Steve West had thanked the quarry for donating the gravel for the car park. Chairman reported that there had been a significant increase in lorries between Mells and Nunney.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday 12th December 2017 at 7.15pm in Mells Barn.

Meeting closed at 8.05pm.

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

Print Name.....