

**MELLS PARISH COUNCIL**  
(mellsparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Minutes of the meeting of Mells Parish Council on  
Tuesday 10 July 2018 at Mells Barn**

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1. **PRESENT:** Mr J Earl - Chair, Mr S West, Mr A Brady, Mr E Costelloe, Mr D Seviour, The Countess of Oxford & Asquith, Mrs H Leakey  
  
**In Attendance:** Joy Book, Clerk. 0 members of the public
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Mr J Henderson, Mrs J Seewoorutten, Mr L Turner, Mr V Turner Edward Drewe – District Councillor
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - None
4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES DATED 12 JUNE 2018:** Minutes had previously been circulated and it was resolved that the minutes be adopted. The minutes were then signed by the Chair.
6. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS:** None
7. **ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**
  - a) **Mobile Phone signal:** The mast is now live for users of O2 and those who piggy back of their system.
  - b) **Broadband – TrueSpeed:** The presentation by TrueSpeed was poorly attended. The PC has looked at all the available options and deduced that TrueSpeed installations would have the least impact on the village and also has the ability to extend its capacity in the future. 30% of the village (approx. 100 houses) need to sign up to the service to make installation viable. Two banners will be displayed around the village to raise awareness of TrueSpeed services. Residents will be informed about TrueSpeeds proposals via letter and an article in the magazine.
  - b) **Barn Lease:** The Diocese solicitors thought the Barn was a church hall which has caused confusion as the legalities are completely different. The solicitor has agreed to give monthly updates.
  - c) **Old Telephone Exchange:** Clare Asquith had seen the occupants on site which was reported to Enforcement who have not been able to speak with them or access the property which is required before any action can be undertaken.
  - d) **General Data Protection Regulations:** Clerk is progressing with the audit.
  - e) **Dumped car – Fairview:** MDC will be putting an 'awareness' notice on the vehicle.
  - f) **Frome Recycling Centre opening times:** Letter to Frome Town Council has been passed to David Oaten, Contract Manager for Treatment and Infrastructure who oversees the recycling sites and liaises with Viridor. Clerk to chase. Alan Brady reported that Trowbridge's recycling centre is open until 6pm, Wells until 5.30pm however Midsomer Norton also closes at 4pm but it is run by the same contractors as Frome.
  - g) **Fire hydrants - Mells:** The hydrants could not be found at the locations given. The Chair will forward information on known hydrants to the Clerk.
  - h) **Wheel wash at Lime Kiln Hill Stone Quarries Ltd:** MDC referred this enquiry to SCC who were responsible for giving the planning permission. Clerk to chase.
8. **HIGHWAY ISSUES**
  - a) **Bridge beyond CPM:** A driver appears to have misjudged the bend and crashed causing substantial damage to the car. Kilmersdon Parish Council are pursuing with Highways.
  - b) **Lime Kiln Hill – obscured 30mph repeater sign:** Clare Asquith will get the Estate's handyman to cut back the vegetation.
  - c) **Slow Children sign:** 'Kill your speed' signs have been installed on the 30mph sign at Knaptons Hill and on the school sign at Park Corner. Mells School SpeedWatch is now up  

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and running and has carried out two sessions. The highest speed recorded was 53mph. 38 vehicles were recorded doing over 36mph. The mobile SID unit has been placed temporarily on Holes Lane. Helen Leakey reported that the SID does not appear to be registering every car. Clerk to report to SCC.

- d) **Blocked drain – Rectory Corner:** This has been cleared.

**9. PLANNING:** No new applications or approvals have been received.

Chair reported that he had recently attended a planning session run by SALC. Enforcement are currently unfunded and short on human resources. The 21 day consultation period was queried as PC's generally meet once a month (28+ days) and some bi-monthly. This is a legal requirement and PC's should hold an emergency planning meeting to discuss applications or the delegated PC planning officer can write a report for the Clerk to use in their response.

**10. CORRESPONDENCE FROM SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL – none**

**11. CORRESPONDENCE FROM MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL – none**

**12. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE - none**

**13. PAYMENTS, RECEIPTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Balance as at 28 June 2018 – £14,009.20. Barclays £5,195.13.

a)	J Book Clerk's Salary & expenses (June)		£294.57
	Trip to Mells (@ 45p/mile)	3.60	
	Phone line rental	5.50	
	Utilities	<u>4.00</u>	
		£13.10	
	HMRC PAYE (Period 4)		£40.80
	SALC Planning Training		£30.00
	Jon Goode – footpath strimming		£30.00

Approved - all in favour

- b) Receipts: None

**14. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA / ITEMS TO REPORT**

- a) **Condition of verges and weeds around the village:** It is the responsibility of the owner/occupier to cut back any vegetation overhanging the Highway. To be monitored.
- b) **Flytipping:** There has been more instances of this within the parish. MDC respond very quickly to remove the debris.
- c) **Top Road – large lorries and tractors:** Farmers on farm vehicles have a right to access their land. Residents should take the registration number of any large lorries that do not appear to be using the road purely for access and report them to the police or company responsible.
- d) **No Through Road sign – Vobster:** This requires painting. Clerk to ask contractor.
- e) **Recreation Ground – car park security:** A resident's car had recently been stolen from the car park. Security measures would involve the gate being locked/unlocked daily. It would be difficult to find someone willing to do this and CCTV which is costly and likely to be tampered. *All cars are parked at the owner's risk.*

**15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> August at 7.15pm in Mells Barn

Meeting closed at 8.00pm.

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

Print Name.....