

MELLS PARISH COUNCIL
(mellsparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Minutes of the remote meeting held via Zoom of Mells Parish Council on
Tuesday 9 June 2020**

- 01.06.20 PRESENT:** Cllr J Earl – Chair, Cllr J Seewooruttun, Cllr John Henderson, Cllr E Costelloe, Cllr E Costelloe
In Attendance: Joy Book, Clerk
Members of the public: None
- 02.06.20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr H Leakey, Cllr D Seviour, The Countess of Oxford & Asquith, Cllr Alan Brady, Cllr V Turner, Cllr S West, Cllr Alison Barkshire – District Councillor
- 03.06.20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None
- 04.06.20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None
- 05.06.20 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:**
- i. **Improvement to aid social distancing whilst walking and cycling:** MDC is working with Somerset CC and other Somerset district councils, the police and the fire service to identify possible adjustments to roads and pavements to assist in keeping social distance and to facilitate more people walking and cycling to destinations. Somerset has an initial £120k from Government for this, primarily aimed at temporary measures for the short term.
<https://somersexnewsroom.com/2020/06/05/120k-for-temporary-measures-to-encourage-walking-and-cycling/>
 - ii. **Frome Town Council interactive map:** Frome TC has an interactive map where you can make suggestions /support existing suggestions
<https://walkridefrome.commonplace.is/comments>
 - iii. **Bus routes:** MDC will be sending the PC a survey regarding bus routes, asking what we already have, and what we would like to see to improve transport links.
 - iv. **Recycling centres:** These have reverted back to normal opening hours and from w/c 15 June will take all materials that were previously being processed.
- 06.06.20 COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:** None submitted.
- 07.06.20 MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 12 MAY 2020** had previously been circulated. The minutes were agreed and pp’d by the Clerk.
- 08.06.20 ADOPTION OF ADDENDUM TO STANDING ORDERS TO COVER REMOTE MEETINGS:** This addendum covers the legislation in place until 7 May 2021 allowing remote meetings to take place if necessary. Adopted – all in favour.
- 09.06.20 REGISTRATION WITH INFORMATION COMMISSIONER’S OFFICE – DATE PROTECTION:** Clerk has become aware that this is required. Registration costs £40. All in favour.
- 10.06.20 MATTERS ARISING**
- i. **Superfast broadband:** Truespeed would like to come to the village but the current situation is making it hard for them to progress. The sign up is still less than half of what is required. Cllrs Earl and Asquith and John MacDonald will meet to discuss how businesses can be approached.

- ii. **Old Telephone Exchange:** The paperwork for the enforcement notice is now with the legal department.
- iii. **Road sweeper:** No further information.
- iv. **Defibrillator:** The case has been delivered and is awaiting fixture.
- v. **Condition of grass triangle – Bottom Lane:** No further information.
- vi. **Co-option of councillor:** To be carried over until face to face meetings can take place.
- vii. **Entrance to the Barn:** No further information.
- viii. **Website:** Cllr Earl has contacted the village website host and will follow up in due course.
- ix. **Condition of Vobster churchyard and velux windows:** The PCC has responded that they are aware of the problems and are currently asking the diocese for access to the Bill of Sale to understand the boundaries of the curtilage associated with the building and will make the owner/developer aware of their concerns. The owner will also be asked for their cooperation to tape off the boundary and remove any materials from the rest of the graveyard. The Bill would also assist in clarifying the responsibilities for maintaining the wall.

Planning permission for 9 velux windows was granted in 1987.

- x. **Barclays Bank mandate:** Clerk has contacted Barclays and established that the mandate is very out of date. There are currently two signatories who are no longer councillors and Cllr Costelloe, who will be leaving the council shortly, on the mandate. The only remaining valid signatory is the Clerk. Clerk will update mandate as soon as possible.
- xi. **Alternative uses for telephone box:** No further information.

11.06.20 HIGHWAYS ISSUES

- i. **Speed management on School Hill:** No further information.
- ii. **Sign posts on the Whatley Quarry/Nunney road into Coles Lane:** No further information.

12.06.20 PLANNING

New Applications: None

Mendip Decisions: None

13.06.20 CORRESPONDENCE

- i. **Email from resident regarding parking in the village:** Concerns have been raised about the amount of traffic and poor parking in the area opposite the river and by the entrance of the walk to the Iron Works. Parking which obstructs the road for other users is a police matter. Improving the area by the river is being looked into. More recently parking has increased to such an extent that it has encroached into Fairview. The good weather and people currently being furloughed with their children at home has exacerbated the problem.
- ii. **Email from resident regarding footpaths:** Concerns have been raised about the footpaths from the Reading Rooms to the playing field and the White Bridge to Top Road. Clerk to ask contractor to cut them back.
- iii. **District & County Councils proposed re-organisation:** Clerk to respond that the financial cost, extra time and lack of skill set would be an issue for the PC should the re-organisation result in services being passed to PC's to manage. Services would probably need to be merged with adjacent PC's to lessen the financial burden.

14.06.20 ACCOUNTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

Balance as at 28 April 2020 - HSBC £20,749.09. Balance as at 20 March 2020 - Barclays £5,315.33.

- i. **Payment of accounts:**
Clerk's Salary (May)

£246.55

Phone line rental x 2	5.50	
Utilities x 2	<u>4.00</u>	
		£9.50
HMRC PAYE (Period 3)		£61.60
Case for defibrillator		£535.14

All in favour. Cheques previously posted to Chair to sign.

ii. **Receipts:** None

iii. **Approval and signing of Annual Governance Part 2 Exemption Certificate:** All in favour of signing this certificate as the PC's gross income and expenditure are below £25,000. Clerk will forward to the external auditor.

15.06.20 ITEMS TO REPORT / ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

iii. Litter bin for recreation ground: The bin has recently been overflowing and has been temporarily removed. Clerk to investigate best contract for more frequent emptying.

16.06.20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday 14th July 2020 at 7.15pm in Mells Barn unless restrictions remain in place, alternatively the meeting will be held remotely via Zoom.

Meeting closed at 8.00pm.

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

Print Name.....