

# MITCHELDEAN PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES

OF A MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 10 December 2012 AT 7.00PM IN THE TOWN HALL, AFTER DUE NOTICE HAD BEEN GIVEN.

### Present

**Parish Councillors:** Mr D M Scott (Chairman)  
Mrs S F Henchley (Vice-Chairman)  
Mrs K A Baker  
Ms K A Wozencroft  
Mr A Edwards

**District Councillor:** Mr I R Whitburn

**County Councillor:** Mr Brian Robinson arrived 8:30

**Clerk:** Mrs Sandra Schwanethal

[Mr Waddell attended the meeting as an Elector.]

### Parish Councillor Vacancies

Three applications had been received during November and each person was invited to attend an interview before all members at the monthly meeting. Each candidate was asked to give a brief profile and how they felt they could contribute to the role of Parish Councillor.

Mr W Waddell stated he had lived in Mitcheldean since 1994. He is a member of the Local History Society, The Arts Club & a member of the Community Centre exercise group. He felt he could represent the older residents and the disabled people. He would aim to keep/maintain a balance within the village of projects for the youth and projects for the elderly.

Mr H Baker stated he had lived in the village for 24 years. He has a desire to get involved with community projects. He felt his business background and acumen would help him build relationships with the businesses in the village. He would like to see a link on the Council's website to the local schools and the estate agents.

Ms S Gates told the members she had lived in the village since 2003 and has two children at the local school. Ms Gates has a business on the Vantage Business Park and is also involved with monitoring offenders. She would like to see more communication between the Parish Council and the Business Park.

A vote was taken following the interviews.

**Agenda Item 1: Apologies for absence:** Mrs J A Fraser Mr A Maliphant

**Agenda Item 2: Members of the Public Issues:**

Mr Don Dickenson, Mrs Vera Dickenson, Mr Ken Ambrey & Mrs Pam Ambrey spoke in support of the application for funding from the Indoor Short Mat Bowling Club. Cllr Henchley asked if a quotation for the equipment could be produced and Chrnm Scott asked if the Club itself could match any funding given by the Parish Council possibly from Lottery grants.

Following their address Mr & Mrs Dickenson & Mr & Mrs Ambrey left the meeting.

### Agenda Item 3: Code of Conduct – Declaration of Interests: None

### Agenda Item 4: Planning

Minor revision to Glenrock application. Mrs Jones of 'Parkside' & daughter asked Cllr Henchley for MPC's support in getting the dwelling moved forward on the plot. Proposed by Cllr Henchley. Seconded by Cllr Wozencroft. Passed unanimously. The clerk to give the Council's response through 'Public Access'.

### Agenda Item 5: Minutes of the Parish Council Monthly Meeting

The Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Parish Council held on the 12 November 2012, having been circulated to all Members were taken as read and signed.  
(Proposed by Cllr Henchley, seconded by Cllr Edwards and agreed by all Members present).

### Agenda Item 6: Matters arising from the Minutes

Offer from Street Warden to explain new initiative 'paws on patrol' - Agenda item in March  
Letter of thanks to Brian -Glos Highways in Review had drawn some negative comments in the village.

### Agenda Item 7: Business relating to the Playing Field

Tables and balance blocks made by Ian Graves have been installed in the play area. Liz Lewitt supervised the installation which unfortunately needed more helpers to lift the pieces into place which has incurred £300 of additional costs. Members voted on whether the Parish Council should pay the additional expenses. Cllr Henchley proposed the motion, Cllr Wozencroft seconded, Cllr Edwards abstained. The motion was passed.

Cllr Baker informed the members that Two River Housing had asked for a utilities survey to be carried out on the area to be resurfaced. Having looked through the files the clerk could find no reference to any utilities in the proposed site and Two Rivers have been informed likewise. No start date for the work had been received before the meeting.

A tree surgeon had been consulted about a possible diseased tree in the playing field. He needed to be contacted again to get a full report.

The 'plastic' recycling bin was overflowing once again. A second bin to be sited.

### Agenda Item 8: Sub Committees

### Agenda Item 9: Discussions/Decisions made

**Decisions:** The FODDC are to install struts to the walls of the toilet block for the Murals to be attached to by Clare Robinson. It will be the responsibility of the parish council to maintain or remove the murals in the future.

**Discussions:** The clerk asked if a budget could be set for maintenance of the Town Hall. It was agreed £1500 would be allocated. Motion proposed by Cllr Edwards, seconded by Cllr Henchley, passed unanimously.

### Agenda Item 10: Community Garden

A letter had been received from the Gardening Club with their intentions for planting over the next two years. It was felt this was premature as the contract only runs until April 2013, when new tenders will be sent out. Caretaker, Adrian Gargan was willing to take on small areas of gardening and maintenance around the village, which may be more cost effective for the PC to use.

## **Agenda Item 11: County/District Councillor Reports**

County Cllr Robinson informed the Members that BT's ongoing £7.5 million scheme to provide super fast Broadband speeds to the Forest is determined by which areas have the easiest access. If there is public hostility to masks being erected etc. then this can delay the work.

County Cllr Robinson spoke about the changes to the No 24 Bus run by Stagecoach  
"There are no concerns with the changes to Service 24. The commuter journeys to and from Ross remain but the service during the day between Joys Green and Ross has been withdrawn. Stagecoach introduced the extension of the service from Joys Green to Ross during the day for operational reasons when they transferred their Forest services from Coleford depot to Ross in March of this year. This was an opportunity to test the viability of this extension. Disappointingly Stagecoach made substantive losses on this part of the route with very few passengers using the service. Operationally they no longer need to continue this extension as crew changes are now carried out in Gloucester. Passengers wishing to make this journey can use Service 35 to Ross and also have the opportunity to go to Monmouth. The commuter journeys to and from Gloucester remain with only minor changes including the option of arriving early at 06:51 or 08:20 ( now five minutes earlier). The evening commuter journeys from Gloucester remain unchanged."

### **Car Parking**

Dstr. Cllr Ian Whitburn stated that he wants Mitcheldean to remain a separate/special case as far as charges are concerned. There was a full Forest of Dean council meeting in Coleford on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

## **Agenda Item 12: Parish Councillors - 'Information Sharing'**

Cllr Wozencroft stated that the light in Platts Row still remains out. The clerk to get an update on the problem. The problem of dog fouling in the Platts Row becomes more of a concern when there are no lights. A resident had fallen along Cottrells lane due to the footpath being uneven. (Cllr. Edwards to survey the pavements throughout the village). A drain was blocked along the Stenders Road.

Cllr. Edwards informed the Council that 'panic hardware' was needed on the two 'Fire Exit' doors at the pavilion in order to comply with current Health & Safety legislation.

Cllr Baker asked about The George (former public house). She had heard that a squatter was living in the property and that other youths were being enticed to enter the derelict property. C. Cllr Robinson to report the matter to Social Services.

Cllr Henchley informed the Members that the Hub/Library were having another Bring & Share evening on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

Although unable to attend the meeting Cllr Maliphant had sent an email requesting the issue of a cheque from the Parish Council to the Hub as a loan to cover the purchasing of computers and software-this had already been approved at an earlier meeting. He had also heard that The Range which has a large business on the Vantage Park site, was moving its operation to Reading or Doncaster.

Chairman Scott told the Council about his preliminary meeting with Dataserv, which has premises on the Vantage Park site. Funding of £1000, for the community was offered by Dataserv and a second meeting was arranged for Cllr Edwards and the clerk to attend with Chmn Scott on the 19<sup>th</sup> December. Dataserv have been invited to speak at the January monthly meeting about a Community Fair & Free Electrical Recycling Event they are organising in March 2013.

A grit/salt bin has been placed in Lining Wood. Chris Hawkins, from Glos. Highways will approve its positioning and arrange for it to be filled.

**Agenda Item 13: Clerk's report:**

Meeting room has been redecorated by Adrian-the pictures will be replaced shortly.

Adrian & Lew have both completed the manual handling course with CRS.

Christmas tree erected by Ashley Hornchurch. The clerk had approached both Hereford City council and Monmouth Town council about purchasing any lights they may have surplus to requirements, but unfortunately, they were none. It was agreed that the Church be approached for help next year and that the matter of Christmas lights be put on the agenda for July 2013.

MPC had received an email of thanks from Brian Watkins Glos CC for MPC comments on Plump Hill works MPC had received an email from Brian Robinson concerning Glos CC disposing of the land at the 'cross gardens'-This had been sent in error.

The clerk had previously forwarded an email on the 3 December, to all Councillors from Glos CC on the topic of "Statement of community Involvement & Waste core Strategy". No comments were recorded.

The clerk has received an email from Cllr Henchley after she had spoken to Andy Byham re minor alteration to house type on Glos Rd development.

An email had been received from Martin Scrivens re pavilion PAT & repairs and a request for gravel to be placed around the shed. The clerk informed members Adrian had had difficulty sourcing replacement handles. Ashley Hornchurch has replaced the heater & the light timer switch at the pavilion Cllr Baker to monitor meter use.

The re-siting of the goal posts has not been done yet but Cllr Edwards will be liaising with Adrian.

The GAPTC Planning training event that the clerk and Cllr Maliphant attended on 11 December in Quedgley, would be put on the agenda for discussion at the February meeting.

An email had been received informing everyone that Martin Surl had been appointed as Police Commissioner CPO James Pearce had previously informed the clerk that there had been a burglary in Churchill Way.

Local resident Roger Gilson had emailed MPC about a public right of way issue in Baby Lane. The clerk reported the matter to Glos CC on the 15 Nov+ 3 December.

An email from Glos CC on "Statement of Community Involvement" had been forwarded on to all Councillors for their comments. There is an eight week consultation period.

An email from Glos CC informing MPC that there is an emergency relieve grant available to those affected by the recent flooding. A flat payment £250 was available to each household affected.

Dtrt. Cllr Whitburn has added an additional web page for Minutes & Agendas to the website.

GAPTC had emailed guidelines on Dispensation Requests. SLLC felt they were not needed.

Projects board arrived.

Resident Mr. Neames of Churchill way requested that moss growing on the footpath to the playing fields be removed at it was a slip hazard for the elderly. Cllr Edwards would include this in the pavement survey.

An email had been received from FODDC confirming that mixed coloured glass could be placed in the glass bottle bank.

**BUSINESS CONDUCTED 'IN COMMITTEE'**

Agenda Item 14: Accounts/finance

**Financials-Proposed by Cllr Henchley Seconded by Andre Edwards. All agreed.**

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and the Meeting ended at 09.45pm.

**Dated this 14th day of January 2013**

**Signed...*Douglas Scott*.....CHAIRMAN**

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