

# MITCHELDEAN PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES

OF A MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 11<sup>th</sup> February 2013 AT 7PM IN THE TOWN HALL, AFTER DUE NOTICE HAD BEEN GIVEN.

### Present

**Parish Councillors:** Mr D M Scott (Chairman)  
Mrs S F Henchley (Vice-Chairwoman)  
Mrs K A Baker (arrived 8pm)  
Mr A Maliphant  
Mrs J A Fraser  
Ms K A Wozencroft  
Mr A Edwards  
Mr Huw Baker  
Ms S Gates

**District Councillors:** Mr I R Whitburn  
Mrs J A Fraser

**County/District Councillor**  
Mr B R Robinson (arrived 8.30)

**Clerk:** Mrs Sandra Schwanethal

[Mrs M Bailey & Mrs M Smith attended the meeting as Electors.]

**Agenda Item 1 Apologies for absence:** Cllr Baker had earlier informed the clerk she would be late for the meeting

**Agenda Item 2 Members of the Public Issues: -None**

**Agenda Item 3 Code of Conduct – Declaration of Interests:**

Acceptance of Office forms were given to Cllr Huw Baker and Cllr.Sara Gates for completion. Cllr Baker was asked to sign the Lloyds Bank mandate.

**Agenda Item 4 Planning P0034/13/COU-change of use from commercial to residential.**

As Cllr Edwards is currently purchasing this property he left the room while the matter was being discussed. No objections were raised to the application. Motion proposed by Cllr Henchley seconded Cllr Baker all agreed.

**Agenda Item 5 Minutes of the Parish Council Monthly Meeting**

The Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Parish Council held on 14 January 2013, having been circulated to all Members were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

(Proposed by Cllr Maliphant, seconded by Cllr Henchley and approved by all Members who were present in January).

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

Cllr Fraser had contacted FODDC concerning the DataServ event and received the following reply from Marsha “As you know by the end of March, it is the intention that the team here will move across to the Joint Waste Authority, and given the uncertainties about what our direction will be in the new organisation and our current heavy workload (including the renewals for the garden waste service and the work required for our move into the new structure) we felt we could not commit additional resource at this time.”

Cllr Whitburn stated that the answer he had received from County concerning the car parking charges in Mitcheldean were unsatisfactory, but the decisions were always likely to be the same as long as the same people on the committee were making them.

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

The quotes from Dan Tipp for supplying and planting trees for the community orchard were discussed, but as Cllr Baker had not arrived and further financial details were requested by Cllr Maliphant & Fraser as to exactly how much money had already been spent on this project. A proportion of the £10,000 from reserves had already been agreed to and was being used to part fund the skate park resurfacing project. Cllr Henchley asked if volunteers could be drafted in to help. Cllr Whitburn queried the use of the grant money secured for the Dirt Jumps. No decision was made

## **Agenda Item 8 Sub Committees**

**Communications:** A brief report was given by Cllr Henchley following her meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January, with Mike Heyling, the editor and producer of the church monthly newsletter. It was agreed that relevant/interesting information would be exchanged by the Parish council and the church for inclusion in their respective newsletters, but a joint venture was unlikely.

A brief report was read by the Chairman following the meeting on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013 with Liz Lewitt, Kate Baugh (GRCC) & Kate Wyatt. The aim of the meeting was to establish if funding may be available to improve the facilities at the Pavilion. It was agreed that the Community Centre already has many of the required facilities, but were not necessarily accessible to all those who sought them. It was agreed that Kate Baugh would initiate a meeting with the management committee of the community centre, along with other stakeholders to discuss a proposal to join the two buildings together.

The Chairman read out the additional questions that the council had asked to be included on the Housing needs Survey. Martin Hutchins GRCC had requested a further meeting to discuss the inclusion of the questions.

**Planning:** Cllr Maliphant gave a synopsis of what a Neighbourhood Plan is & the work entailed in completing an application. He concluded by saying that even if the Council followed these procedures there is no guarantee that the District or County Authority would adhere to its findings-developers may still get permission to build on ‘green’ field sites should the housing needs be ‘exceptional’. Cllr Maliphant also said he would not have enough time to lead a steering committee on this issue should the council decide a Plan was needed.

## **Agenda Item 9 Discussion**

Two quotes had been received at the time of the meeting for reports on the possible diseased tree in the park. The quote from Jim Unwin was accepted and the clerk was asked to make the necessary arrangements for the report to be carried out quickly. Cllr Maliphant asked about a long term plan for the trees and their upkeep. Motion proposed by Cllr Edwards, seconded by Cllr Henchley all agreed.

## **Agenda Item 10 County/District Councillor Reports**

District Cllr Fraser stated that the Wilderness Centre had now been reinstated as a community resource. She thought there may be big problems as there had been previously when an area around Plump Hill had been sold.

“The Interim Board of the Community Interest Company has been advised that, its long-term business plan would be more viable if it owned the equity in the Wilderness Centre from the start. We are therefore hoping to acquire the Centre and its associated facilities as soon as possible. With the help and support of our original business partners, we have agreed that we should launch a community share scheme backed up by a call for additional corporate partners to build on the existing funding support. To facilitate this approach we are in the process of converting the community enterprise into an Industrial and Provident Society.”

Paragraph taken from an open letter issue by the Wilderness Project.

There was now a new Forestry Panel in place.

The Paws on Patrol initiative hoped to have around 200 people signed up in six months.

District Cllr Whitburn stated that he is on both the new Forestry panel and the Regeneration Panel. He is still fighting the car parking charges battle and trying to get the District council to honour their own decisions.

Both district councillors had been contacted by constituents complaining about the ‘bed tax’. They understand the disabled will be affected. Even if people are willing to ‘downsize’ there is not enough smaller properties to move into. Appeals are being heard on a case-by case basis.

County Cllr Robinson confirmed that the County council were now trying to refill the grit bins as and when resources allowed.

He reminded the Parish Council that they were able to edit/amend the wording about the precept that is printed on the front of the bills.

Cllr Edwards asked why County waste collectors were coming around replacing the waste bin bags with inferior quality bags when the Parish’s own street cleaner was using more suitable bags. Some jobs seem to overlap while others are not getting done at all.

## **Agenda Item 11 Parish Councillors –‘Information Sharing’**

Cllr Henchley reminded the members that she will be standing down as vice Chairman at the annual meeting.

The Chairman stated that he would be leaving office completely when his term as chairman finishes.

Cllr Wozencroft said the drains on the Stenders road were blocked and that a light was out where the school patrol officer stands. The Clerk to report the faults.

Cllr Maliphant enquired if Cllr Baker had completed the Quick Wins application. He inform the members that there is another community event at the library on the 28<sup>th</sup> February.

Cllr Edwards stated that the drains at the Pavilion were still blocked and asked the clerk to recall Hygiene Services.

The Chairman read a letter from a resident of Glebe Close about a drainage problem. The clerk to arrange a meeting to ascertain responsibility for the sheep field ditch. Cllr Baker said a report had been commissioned about 12 months previously when the dirt jumps were being constructed and recalls that it stated there were natural springs in the area in question. Cllr Maliphant though the district Planning officer would know who was responsible for drainage in that area.

The members were told that the 'dog walking' track in the sheep field was thick with mud and needed a permanent pathway laid. Cllr Baker thought Carol Samford was seeking funding.

## Agenda Item 12 Clerk's report

### Correspondence & enquiries

Precept meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> January-budgets approved-see Report

Meeting with Mike Heyling-church magazine-see Report

Update on clearing May Meadow Lane-hopefully week begin 11<sup>th</sup> Feb

Update on rubbish by Chinese takeaway-Snow delay Written to Mr Yip re neglected area.

Rosemary's ditch clearance!!Adrian inspected-not a problem –running freely.

Update on lighting problem in Glebe close

Update of Murals installation

Update from CPO J Pearce re moving on-met Dave

Bags of salt delivered from Cannop

Plusnet providing phone line, calls and broadband Fax line cancelled

Councillor vacancy advertised in proper format.

Posters rec'd from Blood Donation service-20 Feb.

Electricity Meter readings from pavilion completed. No funds rec'd

Drains now cleared at Pavilion

Questions for the Housing Survey by Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Jan-Printing costs quote rec'd £113

Questions for DataServ? **None**

Visit to the Water Treatment Works delayed-poss 4,5 or 6<sup>th</sup> March.

Quotes for Street cleaning equipment smaller model-more money-**keep looking**

Quote received from tree surgeon.Potter £500 Unwin £150-**Clerk to contact Mr Unwin**

Quotes from Dan Tipp re trees-**no decision**

Hawthorne Road remains closed re landslip till 30<sup>th</sup> March.

Youth event in Cheltenham 15<sup>th</sup> February

Heritage Open Days 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> Sept -**yes to participate clerk to reply**

Written to Xerox re housing photocopiers.

Letter rec'd fm Francis Law re FC lease

Glos Playing Fields Assc. sent Annual Report

Letter, Certificates & Chq rec'd from Community Centre

Email rec'd GlosVain-opposition to Incinerator-email forwarded? **Parish's position-no comments to be made.**

Letter rec'd from Mrs Kibble silver street wanting salt bin-**clerk to reply-no bins available**

Email update on filling of salt bins-letter to Brian Watkins-numerous phone calls-Mark Harper involved

Email from M. Surl Police commissioner re precept-**noted**

Email forwarded on 28 Jan re Major Schemes Information Event in Glos.-any comments-**None**

Email Certs rec'd from C Centre from Boundary commission

Email from 2 Rivers re introduction of Bed Tax forwarded 11 Feb. 13

Email from Kate Baugh re Planning meetings 4<sup>th</sup> March Wooaston 7<sup>th</sup> March Rudford

Registered for SLCC Working With Your Council

Purchase of reference books

Mentoring meeting with Jayne Smailes Lydney CEO 26<sup>th</sup> Feb

## BUSINESS CONDUCTED 'IN COMMITTEE'

The Football club's expired lease was discussed and it was agreed that the clerk should organise an urgent meeting with the club's committee to address the issues.

It was approved that a cheque issued to Liz Lewitt would be delivered by Cllr. Baker.

It was approved that the cheque for the Bowls club be delivered by Cllr Edwards.

### Agenda Item 13 Accounts

		Gross Totals	
FEBRUARY			
M'Dean	Donation short mat		
Friendship	bowls	1000.00	
SLCC	WWYC01	75.00	
SLCC	Reference Book	67.80	
Npower	Electric Pavilion	269.58	
Npower	Electric Town Hall	106.97	
Forester	Advert in Forester	44.40	
Various	Administration	2139.77	
Severn Trent	Water	233.99	
FOD Review	Advert Grass Cutting	100.80	
Plus net	Broadband & Phone	48.14	
HMRC	VAT reclaim	2066.04	
BT	Refund	47.05	
Community Centre	Contribution	300.00	
Lloyds	Repayment of Bond with interest	10022.68	
Football Club	Reimbursement of utilities	137.11	

(Proposed by Cllr. Baker Seconded by Cllr. Maliphant. All approved)

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and the Meeting ended at 21.45.

**Dated this day 11<sup>th</sup> of March 2013**

**Signed**



**CHAIRMAN-Douglas Scott**