

MITCHELDEAN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 25th January 2016 at 7pm in Mitcheldean Town Hall

Present:

Parish Councillors: Sara Gates (Chair), Jackie Fraser (Vice-Chair), Sue Henchley, Andre Edwards, Kay Wozencroft, Deb Blackmore, Adrian James, Bill Waddell

Also present: Two members of public
Mrs J Shirley (Locum Clerk)

1. To note Apologies for absence

District Councillor Douglas Scott

2. Members of the Public Issues (15 minutes Standing Orders suspended)

Mrs Farbowski asked if the Council could provide an update on fracking in the Forest of Dean. Cllr Fraser gave an update that the Forest of Dean District Council has objected to fracking and Gloucestershire County Council is writing to Government about its concerns. There is a forthcoming event taking place in Coleford on Sunday 31st January called "Frack off our Forest". Mitcheldean will also be holding an information event at the community centre.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Gates declared an interest in item 4 (Mitcheldean Heartbeat) and took no part in discussions on the matter.

4. Accounts/Finance

It was resolved to reimburse "Mitcheldean Heartbeat" the funds totalling £5481.81 that the Council was holding on its behalf.

It was resolved to sign a cheque for £324.10 to the solicitor for land searches to be carried out to progress the transfer of land from Gloucestershire County Council; the parish council had previously agreed to expenditure of the parish's solicitors fees for the transfer.

The Clerk noted that the contract for electricity supply at the Town Hall had expired in November and a new supplier has yet to be sought. The Clerk will present options at the next meeting.

The budget for 2016/17 will be considered at the next meeting, Councillors were requested to bring forward any budget requests.

5. Playing Fields

The Council had been made aware that the condition of the playing field was being compromised by football matches being played whilst the ground has been very wet. In accordance with clause 7 of the lease agreement, it was agreed to authorise Cllr Edwards to inspect the playing field each week and give a minimum of five hours notice if the Council is of the view that the ground is unsuitable for matches. **Action: Clerk** to write to the Sports Club.

A working group was formed to look at the lease agreement which is due for renewal in June 2016, and also to look at options to improve the drainage of the playing field. Cllr Gates, Cllr Blackmore, Cllr Edwards, Mr Ian Cruickshank and Mrs Lorna Farbowski all agreed to be on the working group and will meet on 17th February at 7.30pm.

6. SEPARATE BUSINESS

Pursuant to 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during the consideration of:

The Council received an update on staffing matters and agreed that Cllr Fraser and Cllr Blackmore will meet with the Clerk on 29th January.

There being no further business the meeting closed 8.45pm.