

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MELLOR PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT MELLOR METHODIST CHURCH ON THURSDAY 4th DECEMBER 2017 AT 7.00PM**

Present: Cllrs. Bernard Murtagh (Chairman), Cllrs. Mesdames. Stella Brunskill, Dot Crooks, Margaret Johnson, Pat Young (late), Messrs. Ian Moss, Nick Marsden, Michael O'Grady, Alan Upton & Noel Walsh
Also in attendance: Rev. Charles Jefferson, 2 residents, 2 representatives from Samlesbury Action Group & the Parish Clerk

Chairman welcomed all to the meeting

Rev. Jefferson (St. Mary's, Mellor) opened the meeting with prayers.

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence There were no apologies, as all members were present.
2. Adjournment for Public Session (Max 5 minutes per person)
 - 2.1 Samlesbury Residents Forum representatives spoke, giving background to why there was a wish for support for average speed camera on A59 / A677
 - 2.2 2 residents represented Mellor Community Association to update on planned improvements and to put forward their position on insurance for the Hall which differs from Parish Council. They welcomed the suggestion for future joint informal meetings.
10. To consider and approve any actions following the request from Samlesbury Residents Forum for an Average Speed Camera to be installed A59 / A677 (a representative may speak in Public Session)
 - 10.1 Chairman, with approval from members brought this agenda item forward. Members were aware of many issues due to speeding traffic on these roads, some experienced personally. Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that support be given, by letter when necessary, to Samlesbury Residents' Forum request for Average Speed Cameras on A59 / A677. All residents then left the meeting.
16. To consider and approve any response to letter from a resident *Due to the sensitive and /or confidential nature of this item, members may wish to exclude the Press & Public for this item*
Chairman, with members' approval, brought this matter forward. No press or public were present.
 - 16.1 Members then discussed 3 letters from a resident regarding an approved Planning Application and how this had been handled by Council & Clerk. Members considered the matter had been handled correctly by Parish Council which is a corporate body and the Clerk on Council's behalf. All was discussed and it was then **RESOLVED - Clerk on behalf of Council to send concise response, as drafted and agreed, to the resident**
3. To resolve to confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd November 2017 (circulated)
 - 3.1 **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held 02 November 2017 were approved and signed
4. Any Matters arising from the minutes not covered on this Agenda FOR INFORMATION ONLY
 - 4.1 There were no matters arising
5. To receive declarations of pecuniary or personal interest
 - 5.1 There were no declarations
6. To consider any response to be made to Planning Applications
 - 3/2017/1014 - Camberley, Branch Road - 1st floor bedroom , side extension & conservatory
 - 3/2017/1017 - Wards Fold Farm - stone instead of previously approved timber
 - 3/2017/1036 - 1 Church Lane - tree works
 - 3/2017/1011 - Windmill Hotel NO OBJECTIONS from RVBC to SRBC Planning Ref 07/2017/3283/FUL - fuel station inc. tanks, convenience food store with car parking, access etc following demolition of existing public house
 - 6.1 Clerk had previously circulated all the above applications ; there were no objections to the applications 3/2017/1014, 3/2017/1017 nor 3/2017/1036 however members discussed 3/2017/1011 Windmill Hotel and as with the previous application for this site, concern was expressed due to speed & weight limits on Branch Road, access via A59 at a known accident blackspot and the lack of need for a further filling station. It was therefore **RESOLVED - Clerk to send an objection to South Ribble BC to this application for the above reasons**
7. To further consider any action re. drainage on Mellor Lane and Abbott Brow, with subsequent correspondence from LCC Cllr. Schofield
 - 7.1 Various email correspondence had been circulated. Cllr. Brunskill updated on the serious situation on Abbott Brow, lack of refuse collections and it was anticipated that a solution neared completion. It was pointed out that historic maps show a reservoir (subsequently filled in) which may be part of the problem. Clerk was asked to inform Cllr. Schofield of this, and to thank him for all his efforts to solve this problem.

8. To consider and approve any further update for Play Area drainage & improvements, including RVBC Recreation Grant to receive & approve the regular Play Area Inspection ; to consider future Annual Inspection cost.

8.1 Cllr. Crooks confirmed that she has made a recent inspection of the equipment. Clerk had spoken to Dixons, who still await better weather. Clerk informed members that a £3,500 grant from Ribble Valley Recreation & Culture Scheme is expected. No decision has been made regarding maintenance contract with Playquest, which is to be discussed when works commence.

9. To consider and approve any actions for Mellor Community Association : Insurance matters, Retaining wall to Tennis Courts, Recent Flooding : to consider possible future joint meetings with Mellor Community Association

9.1 Members discussed the insurance for buildings and contents at length, again agreeing that, since no knowledge of contents & their use was Parish Council responsibility, it followed that no insurance cover could be given. The previous correspondence from two separate partners at Taylors Solicitors was read. Members felt that a more informal discussion, without any delegated powers to make decision on either side could prove fruitful, with any decision to be determined at full Council meeting. Members wished to give support regarding wall next to Tennis Court, detail of ownership to be investigated and the recent flooding to the Hall was causing concern. The informal discussion would be as a Working Party, made up of Cllrs. Marsden, Upton, O'Grady and Murtagh, with a similar number from Mellor Community Association. Following debate, it was **RESOLVED - Clerk to send a brief acknowledgement only, to Mr. Hymas, with future informal discussion to follow**

10. Financial Matters and Accounts

a. Balances

Current Account £6,567.03 (inc. £2,682.67 VAT refund to 31.10.17 & £10,881.75 paid to Playquest)
Investment Acc. £11,069.91
Scholarship Acc. £1,178.41

b. To approve : Disbursements

EON War Memorial Lights 21.04 to 04.11.17	£96.54	Cheque 001479
Parish Clerk November net salary	£374.00	Cheque 001480
Mellor Methodist Church room hire	£147.20	Cheque 001481
Newsletter 113 delivery	£45.00	Cheque 001482
SLCC - proportion of Clerk's subscription	£82.15	Cheque 001483
Little Green Bus Co. request for support	£150.00	AGREED S. 137 Cheque 001484

Clerk informed members that she is now a Qualified Clerk, for which she was congratulated.

10.1 **RESOLVED - Balances approved and all invoices & support for Little Green Bus (under Section 137) approved**

c. To receive and approve Budget Report 2017.18 actual to date

d. To consider and approve Budget and Precept for 2018.19 (see attached - Finance Working Party met 23 November)

10.2 Details of budget and precept calculation had been circulated and Finance Working Party had suggested a slight amendment. Following discussion, particularly due to major work at Play Area, members **RESOLVED to approve the Budget for 2018/19 and set the Precept request at £14,656**

10.3 Clerk informed Council of the changes due to the amalgamation of RVBC Lengthsman Grant with Concurrent Functions Grant and Clerk was asked to apply towards this grant.

11. To receive reports from meetings

a. RVBC Report by Borough - Councillors Brunskill & Walsh

11.1 Cllrs. reported that Ribble Valley is now a Dementia Friendly Council. Cllr. Brunskill circulated details of a Dementia Buddy Band, which is a Fire Service initiative. Fire Service now also covers road safety matters.

b. RVBC Parish Liaison Meeting - 9th November Matters had been covered

Cllr. Young apologised, but left the meeting at 9.00pm

c. RV LALC Liaison Meeting - 28th November (Cllrs. Brunskill & Marsden)

11.2 Cllrs. reported that they had put forward the positive achievements completed in Mellor, by working together. A list of reputable, reliable tradespeople was suggested as useful. Members were reminded that footpaths need to be used, in order to stay open.

d. BAe Liaison Meeting (Cllr. Brunskill) The next meeting of this committee will be Tuesday 12th Dec.

12. Matters brought forward by members FOR INFORMATION ONLY

12.1 Cllr. Moss circulated details of various tasks he has carried out on a voluntary basis to drains, hedges etc. He was thanked for such actions, however concern was expressed regarding insurance cover for these.

12.2 Cllr. Crooks had been contacted by a resident regarding speeding on Barker Lane, but he had not followed this up to her, nor attended the meeting.

12.3 Clerk informed members that she will be moving to Clitheroe, which will incur greater mileage.

12.4 Members were informed that John Evans (Balderstone Parish Councillor) will circulate details of events

12.5 Following resident's request at November meeting, members were pleased to note that the area at "Mellor Gate" has been much improved, Clerk was asked to write to congratulate & thank the resident.

12.6 Clerk was asked to obtain a price for a grit bin which could be attached to a wall.

13. To report any matters requiring attention to the Tree Warden

13.1 Following November meeting, Clerk had sent a letter asking the farmer to cut back Nickey Lane hedges, but this had not been done. Clerk was therefore asked to contact Ribble Valley officers to escalate this matter.

14. To note Mellor Community Association Minutes (now on Mellor Village Hall website).

15. Date of next meeting - scheduled for Thursday 1st February 2018

Chairman queried whether a meeting should be held in January, Clerk to investigate Minutes & update members accordingly. However Clerk will be away for January meeting date.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.36 pm, thanking all for their participation.