

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MELLOR PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT MELLOR METHODIST CHURCH ON
THURSDAY 27th FEBRUARY 2020 COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM**

Present: Cllrs. Nick Marsden (Vice Chairman, in the Chair), Stella Brunskill, Dot Crooks, John Hymas, Margaret Johnson, Michael O'Grady, Mick Venables.

Also in attendance: Parish Clerk

Vice Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all.

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence

1.1 Apologies had been received from LCC Cllr. Alan Schofield and Rev. Stuart Smith. Members also noted with sadness that Cllr. Noel Walsh was in hospital following a sudden illness. All wished him a speedy recovery.

2. Adjournment for Public Session (Max 5 minutes per person) Public

2.1 No members of the public were present

3. To resolve to confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 06 February 2020(circulated)

3.1 The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6th February 2020 had been circulated and it was **RESOLVED** that those Minutes be confirmed and approved.

4. Any Matters arising from the minutes not covered on this Agenda FOR INFORMATION ONLY

4.1 Members were informed that Cllr. Brunskill is picking up Cllr. Walsh's Borough Council responsibilities, including emails. All members were asked to be mindful of any tasks required in the Parish.

5. To receive declarations of pecuniary or personal interest

5.1 There were no Declarations made.

**6. To hear a presentation from each candidate regarding the Casual Vacancy for Parish Councillor
*Due to the sensitive and confidential nature of this item, Members may wish to resolve that press and public be excluded from the meeting for this item of the agenda***

6.1 Members noted that there were no members of press or public present.

6.2 Each of the two candidates individually made a 5 minute presentation to Parish Council, without the presence of the other candidate and then each withdrew. The candidates were to be advised of resolution following the meeting and they were thanked for their applications.

**7. To consider and approve any items for additional purchases for Volunteer Litter Picking packs
*(Members are reminded that a budget of £250.00 has been previously approved)***

7.1 Cllr. Hymas had obtained a litter picking pack from Blackburn with Darwen Council & from Ribble Valley Borough Council. Members noted that Blackburn with Darwen Council was much more substantial and Cllr. Brunskill agreed to take this matter up with Ribble Valley Borough Council. Members understood that a local group planned to carry out a litter pick on the following Saturday. Members then **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Hymas be approved to use his personal card & be reimbursed up to £250.00 + VAT for subsequent agreed additional purchases, dependent on the outcome of Ribble Valley Council discussions

**8. To consider and approve any urgent actions for Mellor Community Association,
*(Chairman / Clerk will update members)***

8.1 Chairman informed members of recent concerns at Mellor Village Hall regarding water ingress, that several meetings had taken place, including consultations regarding drainage & Building Control and reports were awaited. Members considered that support should be given to this village facility and it was expected that more information could be available for March Parish Council meeting.

9. To consider and approve any co-option to the earlier Casual Vacancy for Member of Mellor Parish Council

Due to the sensitive and confidential nature of this item, Members may wish to resolve that press and public be excluded from the meeting for this item of the agenda

9.1 Members noted that Press & Public were not present for this confidential & sensitive item.

9.2 Vice Chairman asked all for their considerations on the two candidates who had presented. All agreed that Parish Council was fortunate again to have two excellent candidates, who had demonstrated diverse skills and each was well qualified for consideration. It was then

RESOLVED that **Quentin Colborn be co-opted as a Member of Mellor Parish Council**

9.3 Clerk was to liaise with Mr. Colborn to arrange formal Declarations and handover were carried out. Clerk was asked to liaise with the other candidate and invite her to allow her candidacy to go forward for the third Casual Vacancy.

10. Matters brought forward by members FOR INFORMATION ONLY - Members are requested to bring any items for March Agenda to Clerk's attention.

10.1 Cllr. Brunskill was unable to attend Parish Council on 5th March, due to her Mayoral Duties. She therefore informed members of her recent training on Drug and Alcohol abuse where understanding is needed on the issues. She intends to arrange for compilation of a list of useful contacts for discreet circulation to those who need support. Cllr. Brunskill will be attending a training session on Highways Safety and reminded members of the Freedom March for Lancashire Regiments on 28th April. She had not been able to attend the recent BAE Systems Liaison Meeting, but would forward a report upon receipt. Mellor School will be at a Performing Arts occasion at Blackburn Cathedral, which she will also attend.

10.2 Cllr. Crooks informed members of further investigation work to the drains at the top of Mellor Lane

10.3 Cllr. Hymas asked for advice on a Planning / Building Control matter brought to his attention by a resident. Cllr. Brunskill asked for the background & she will look into this with Ribble Valley Officers.

10.4 Members were reminded that a letter had been sent to both a resident and Millstone Manager to ask that consultation with Parish Clerk be made prior to any garden type of works being undertaken at Mellor War Memorial.

10.5 Cllr. Marsden had worked with Clerk to simplify rolling items e.g. Policies on future agendas, but the item may be moved on if no actions are required.

10.6 Clerk was asked to ensure that RV Cllr. Sherras (RVBC Armed Services Champion) be informed of VE Day commemorations at Mellor Village Hall

10.7 Vice Chairman informed members that RVBC Planning Officers had been contacted by Clerk regarding applications at Victoria Terrace, following concerns expressed at 6th February meeting by a resident. No response had been received and the resident had been updated.

10.8 Clerk informed members of 3 payments which were due for payment, but as Cllr. Brunskill could not attend the March meeting, members approved that payments be made, full details to be given at March meeting.

10.9 Members noted that Election of Chairman (and possibly also Vice Chairman) would be required at March meeting and again at May Annual Parish Council. Due to annual holidays, members agreed that Annual Parish Council should be postponed until Thursday 21st May 2020.

11 Date of next meeting -Thursday 5th March 2020 -Members noted that this will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting

Vice Chairman then thanked all for their attendance and input before closing the meeting at 8.23pm