

OLD ST. MELLONS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for the extraordinary meeting held in the Village Hall, Newport Rd,
Old St. Mellons at 6.00pm on Thursday 28th November 2016

Present:

Chair: Cllr Rosemary James (RJ)

Vice Chair: Cllr Sarah Johns (SJ)

Councillors: Cllr Dennis Matthews (DM)
Cllr Dianne Rees (DR)
Cllr Jane Rogers (JR)
Cllr Derek Stroud (DS)

Clerk to the Council: Mrs N Evelyn-Gauci (NG)

In attendance: Mr Paul Good (RFO)

1. Apologies for absence (1 min)

Cllr Suzanne Williams – work commitment
Cllr Ricky Blackmore – family commitment
Cllr Len Phillips – No apologies given

2. Declaration of interests (1 min)

SJ: member of Knit & Natter
DR: St.Edeyrns
RJ: OSMVA

3. Finance (20 min)

The RFO distributed Councillors an updated spreadsheet as 30th November 2017 taking into consideration additional I & E movement since 10th November meeting. The RFO then explained the breakdown of all figures including commitments to 31st March 2017. He expected the bank balances as at year end will be approx. £13k, which have reduced from over £20k in recent years. In the circumstances, the RFO recommended that £10k should be the minimum retained balance in future. Next year's election costs of £2,450 will be a further drain on our resources although the Council decision on 10th November to sell 4 additional burial plots in 2017/18 will boost income. He considered that we should continue upgrading our facilities as in the current year and reflected on the Village Hall improvements supported by OSMVA, but this can only be achieved by generating additional income. Since the Nursery closed, hall income has dropped from £12k to £4k, yet running and maintenance costs have continued to rise. HWP recommendations for next year meant that the RFO considered it prudent not to adjust the hall expenditure budget next year. The RFO recommended however that hire rates should be increased as each £1 per session increased income by £400 per year, but it was a decision for councillors. The RFO explained that he had adjusted where necessary the 2017/18 budget spreadsheet figures based upon Council decisions resulting in an anticipated shortfall of £3k for 2017/18. This shortfall to be met from the surplus bank balances as at 31st March 2017. Finally, the RFO is recommending the Precept £27,600 is maintained at the same level and is encouraged that additional income may also be generated from Section 106 monies, grants and donations.

3.1 Consideration of 2017-18 Precept

It was noted to keep the precept as it is.

It was resolved: DS proposed to keep the precept, JR seconded – all agreed

3.2 Returning Officer's election costs to finalise – £2450.00

Noted.

3.3 HWP consider fascias and gutter work is essential in 2017/18. It was noted to set aside £3k allocated to improvements and £5k to annual maintenance

It was resolved: all agreed.

3.4 Do we regard £10k as the minimum bank balance to retain?

It was resolved: DM Proposed, JR Seconded - All agreed for £10k as minimum bank balance

3.5 Income increase from both regular and private hirers?

Noted that since the Nursery has left, income has decreased.

Income has increased from private hire, but is offset slightly by charges of hall opening/closing.

It was noted to increase the fee for regular users to £8 per session – DR proposed, DS seconded – (open to the public all welcome)– all agreed to commence 1st April 2017

It was noted to increase the fee for private hire - £10 for local residents and £15 for non-residents, DM proposed DS seconded – all agreed, all agreed to commence new charges from 1st April 2017

3.6 Insurance for hall hirers.

Defer to next meeting

3.7 Sanitary Units

Defer to next meeting – awaiting quotes

Meeting closed at 20:15

Date of next meeting: 12th January 2017



*Cllr Rosemary James MBE
Chair to the Old St. Mellons Community Council*