

ODCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL
77 West Street, Stoke-sub-Hamdon, TA14 6QL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ODCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 20th
FEBRUARY 2023 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ODCOMBE (7.30 p.m. – 9.35 p.m.)**

PRESENT:

Cllr D Peters (Chairman)

Cllr C Francis

Cllr R West

Cllr R Parr

Cllr. F Cumming

Cllr B Dufty

REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Updates on Local Community Network groupings and future County Council funding of grit for salt bins were presented by County Councillor Hewitson and District Councillor Gina Seaton

171/22 TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. K Perry, Cllr. J Ashton and Cllr. D Rennie.

172/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS

None

173/22 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16th JANUARY 2023

It was RESOLVED to APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on 16th January 2023.

174/22 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

No Members of Public were present

175/22 CRIME, DISORDER AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

No formal report received from the PCSO.

The Clerk reported that he had been in contact with a representative from the local PCSO team primarily regarding parking issues throughout the village. Main points noted by Council were:

- The police cannot take action regarding parking on grass verges as this is the responsibility of the land owner.
- Unless parking is deemed dangerous to traffic or pedestrians the police are unable to act.
- It is an offence to park in front of driveways (obstruction) when residents are not able to access a public highway.
- If a resident wishes to discuss a parking issue with the police they can provide details to the Clerk, who will facilitate the PCSO contacting the resident to offer advice and guidance on the issue.

The Clerk reported that he has not received any correspondence from residents relating to speeding related issues in Lower Odcombe.

176/22 PLANNING

The Clerk reported the current position of planning applications.

(a) Applications Approved In Month

None

(b) Applications Awaiting Decisions

21/03305/FUL - Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and the erection of 3 No. dwellings, garages, access, landscaping, and associated works (revised application of 21/00447/FUL), New-Close Old Road Higher Odcombe Yeovil BA22 8XA.

(c) New Applications

No new planning applications received in month.

177/22 HIGHWAY MATTERS

Council noted the Traffic Regulation Order associated with 7.5t enforcement signs through Lower Odcombe came into force on 26th January. County Highways have tasked their contractor to erect the associated signs throughout the village.

178/22 CORRESPONDENCE

Following discussion, Members asked the Clerk to bring back to the August meeting plans and costs for installation and maintenance of a salt bin to be located in the Village Hall car park.

179/22 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS WHO ARE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES OR MEMBERS OF WORKING PARTIES

Car Park working Group - The Clerk reported KTD had been contacted regarding filling of potholes in the Village Hall car park.

Discussions were held regarding the Camper Van which has been parked at the Village Hall for a considerable amount of time. Council requested the Clerk to contact the owner asking him to move the vehicle within 4 weeks. Members agreed that there is a need for an adopted car parking policy, the Clerk was asked to add to next month's agenda.

The Clerk reported ongoing communications were taking place with Somerset County Council relating to replacing the 2 street lights with solar panel ones. Further updates will be given at the next meeting.

Environmental Working Group - Reported that revised plans are in place to pollard the willow trees and plant young trees on Sunday 12th March 2023 and would welcome volunteers to help.

Fund Raising Working Group - Cllr. Peters reported conversations were held with County Councillor Patrick regarding possibilities of grant funding to support any future car park refurbishment. Scope of the project to be presented at a future meeting by the Car Park working Group.

Communication Working Group - It was noted by Council that the Facebook page was receiving interest from the community. Cllr. Peters reported a submission to the village newsletter will be made this week.

180/22 FINANCE

It was RESOLVED to APPROVE the following payments:

£318.20	Mr T Heath	Democratic Services
£52.38	Mr T Heath	Expenses (Jan/Feb)
£30.00	SALC	VAT Training
£127.20	SSDC	Play Inspection
£240.00	SSDC Legal	Hamstone Legal costs
£192.07	SSDC	Ranger Services

The following Payments made by Direct Debit or Standing Order were noted

£7.50	Tesco	Clerks Phone
£41.31	Npower	Electricity supply

Members noted receipt of £37.96, Interest

It was RESOLVED to APPROVE the bank reconciliation statement as of 31st January 2023.

181/22 RISK REGISTER

The Clerk presented a revised risk register to Council and advised on plans to review the register every 6 months. Council agreed that:

- the Parish Council has adequately identified its current risks
- the scoring and level associated with the identified risks are correct.
- appropriate mitigation plans are in place for each identified risk

Therefore, following a proposal from Cllr. Parr and seconded by Cllr. Peters all Members were in agreement to adopt the revised risk register dated 20th February 2023.

182/22 COUNCILLOR CODE OF CONDUCT

It was RESOLVED to ADOPT a revised Code of Conduct, dated 20th February 2023 which aligns to the updated LGA model. Councillors agreed to submit new register of interest forms to the Clerk by the next Council meeting.

183/22 HAM STONE PROJECT

Cllr. Peters reported progress on the project; legal work is progressing with the Hamstone planned to be completed in April 2023. As previously agreed by Council, the Hamstone will be unveiled over the Kings Coronation weekend.

184/22 KING CHARLES III CORONATION

Council discussed grant funding opportunities for village events, any application from a recognised body would be looked at on receipt.

185/22 MATTERS ARISING FROM CLERK'S REPORT

It was RESOLVED to APPROVE a request be made to Somerset County Council asking for Odcombe to move into the Yeovil Local Community Network where it felt more benefits could be realised for the community.

186/22. ITEMS OF INTEREST AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Adoption of a car park policy.

187/22 RECREATIONAL CONTRACT

Following extensive discussion, it was RESOLVED TO APPROVE the grounds maintenance contract for 2023/2024 to KTD Ltd.

188/22 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of council will take place at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 20th March 2023.

..... Meeting Chair

20th March 2023