

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

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ODCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 16th
OCTOBER 2023 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ODCOMBE (7.30pm to 9.25pm)**

PRESENT:

Cllr D Peters (Chair)
Cllr F Cumming
Cllr B Duffy
Cllr R West
Cllr C Francis
Cllr K Perry
Cllr D Rennie
Mr T M Heath (Clerk)

119/23 TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. J Ashton.

120/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS

Cllr C Francis declared an interest in the planning application reference 23/02231/HOU.

121/23 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18th SEPTEMBER 2023

It was **RESOLVED to APPROVE** the minutes of the meeting held on 18th September 2023.

122/23 PUBLIC SESSION

No Members of the Public were present at the meeting.

123/23 GRANT POLICY

Following a proposal from Cllr Peters, seconded by Cllr Rennie, it was **RESOLVED to ADOPT** a small grants policy and associated application form. The policy to be made available for viewing via the Councils Website. The Village Hall and Odcombe Church to be sent a copy.

124/23 SOMERSET ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION FEE

Following a proposal from Cllr Rennie, seconded by Cllr Francis it was **RESOLVED to APPROVE** affiliation to Somerset Association of Local Councils for financial year 2023/2024 at a cost of £216.37.

125/23 FINANCE

It was **RESOLVED to APPROVE** the bank reconciliation statement dated 30th September 2023.

It was **RESOLVED to APPROVE** the following list of payments

£146.72	Mr T M Heath	Salary adjustment/Expenses
£216.37	SALC	Affiliation Fee
£25.00	Odcombe Village Hall	Use of Village Hall for meetings
£7.50	Tesco	Clerks Phone
£648.75	KTD Ltd	Grounds Maintenance
£318.20	Mr T M Heath	Democratic Services
£72.57	Npower	Electricity supply
£172.80	Vision ICT	Email accounts

Council noted that interest credits for September of £303.73 have been received.
Council noted the mid-year financial monitoring statement with no questions raised.

126/23 ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Council are aware of low level anti-social behaviour occurring in and around the recreational ground. This includes dog fouling, littering, fly tipping, drug use and unsafe driving. It was agreed to set up a working party to look into the issue and report back to Council with recommendations. The Council requested that as key stakeholders, a representative from the Village Hall committee and the Football club be invited to join the working party.

127/23 REPORTS FROM WORKING PARTIES AND OUTSIDE BODIES

Environmental Working Party – Cllr Cumming reported that 6 Hazel plants have been planted along the East bank of the recreational ground.

Recreational Area Working Party – Council noted the planned dates and routing plan for the Village Hall electrical upgrade.

Council were briefed on the outcome from a recent positive meeting with Odcombe football club and approved the approach recommended by Cllr Peters and Cllr Rennie to consider within future grounds maintenance specifications, football club pitch requirements, whilst recognising Councils financial and legal constraints. It was agreed that for the start of next financial year a formal documented agreement between the Parish Council and the football club should be in place. Council agreed to consider appointing volunteers to work on the football pitch if appropriate documentation is received.

Communication Working Party – Council agreed that the next village newsletter should distinguish Parish Council, County Council and Abri responsibilities for maintenance of green spaces.

Car Park Working Party – Council noted that the tender specification is nearing completion and that a date of 30th November will be set to receive quotes back for potential contractors. Council requested the Clerk to work with the Village Hall to prepare a joint National Lottery Community grant application but asked that the application and outcome does not delay the important refurb of the car park currently planned for February 2024.

Planning Working Party – Council noted the position of planning applications and agreed to support the 2 new applications received in month:

- 23/02485/HOU - Proposed solar panel installation on South and West facing roofs of the dwelling, 2 The Barn Westbury Gardens Higher Odcombe Yeovil Somerset BA22 8UR.
- 23/02331/HOU - Proposed rear extension and new roof light to the rear elevation, 26 Westbury Gardens Higher Odcombe Yeovil Somerset BA22 8UR.

Finance Working Party – The finance working party met on 12th October and reviewed in detail income and expenditure lines.

Local Community Network (LCN) – No meeting has taken place in the period.

Village Hall Liaison Representative – Nothing additional to report

128/23 CRIME, DISORDER AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Nothing reported.

129/23 HIGHWAY MATTERS

Correspondence has been received from a resident asking why the 2 tonne weight limit signs had been removed along Dray Road. The Clerk reported he is looking into this matter with County Highways and will respond accordingly.

Cllr Cumming reported that the bench at the junction of Lower Odcombe and Old Road requires refurbishment. Council requested the Clerk obtain a quote for the work and report back.

130/23 CORRESPONDENCE

Council did not support the request from the War Memorial Trust for a donation.

131/23 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE TASKS

Council noted that cutting of the hedges around the recreational area has been delayed, now scheduled before the end of October 2023.

It was agreed that lessons from this year should be built into the grounds maintenance specification for 2024/2025. A meeting to consider the spec has been set for 30th October 2023.

132/23 MATTERS ARISING FROM CLERK'S REPORT

Council noted the Clerks report issued to Members on 10th October 2023.

Following switching of supplier, good progress is being made on the village Hamstone.

133/23 ITEMS OF INTEREST AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

None requested

134/23 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

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

.....Meeting Chair

20th November 2023