

FRIDAY 1 DECEMBER 2023

**THURSDAY 7 DECEMBER at**  
**Mellor St Mary C of E Primary School, Brundhurst Fold, Mellor**  
*commencing at 7.00 p.m.*

Local Government Act 1972  
**MELLOR PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**

Cllrs Venables, Barnes, Colborn, Dickinson-Gater, O’Grady, Mellor & Clerk present.

7 members of the public

Cllr Walsh joined meeting at 7.30pm after attending meeting at Ribble Valley Borough Council

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence.  
Cllrs Brunskill, Proctor, Walsh, Fletcher attending Ribble Valley Borough Council meeting
2. To receive declarations of pecuniary or personal interest.  
None
3. To discuss the recording of whole or part of Parish Council meetings.  
Cllr O’Grady proposed an official recording is made of each parish council meeting. Cllr Mellor advised the clerk will be recording the meetings (apart from the public session). This is in order to assist with composing the minutes. Cllr Barnes asked, due to GDPR regulations, that if members of the public are recording they confirm this with other members of public.
4. Adjourned for public session (max 5 minutes per person).  
A resident spoke about Woodfold Park. Clerk to contact planning at RVBC and send letter of support as we have done previously.  
  
Another resident spoke about current members being influenced by old members.  
  
Another resident asked why there is no Christmas tree in the parish. Agreed too late for this year but can be taken into consideration for next year.  
  
Finally, another resident asked why MPC were putting the precept up. Cllr Venables advised the figure had not been agreed yet by full Council but had to be in by the 31<sup>st</sup> December.
5. To resolve and confirm the minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.  
(Amendments) – Cllr Walsh - previous minutes did not express very clearly why he was late. He had come from another meeting.  
(Amendments) Cllr Colborn Section 8 planning decisions . Decisions mixed round between Sunnyside application and Watery Farm Gate.  
Following these amendments the Minutes were then approved.
6. Any matters arising not covered in the Agenda for information only.  
If it is not on the Agenda, it can be discussed only and not actioned
7. To update regarding the recent TPO placed on Mellor Parish Council including quotes for future works.  
Cllr Walsh attended RVBC meeting. Result was an unanimous decision to overturn the TPO  
Needs to be on the agenda next time what we are going to do with the trees  
Cllr Barnes asked about quote for future works –Deferred until next Agenda when Cllr Proctor is available.

8. To consider any response regarding planning applications  
 A 3/2023/0914 – Application for tree works 77 Mellor Lane - No issues  
 B.3/2023/0949 – Application for tree works 80 Mellor Lane No issues  
 C. 3/2023/0944 – Rear extension at Woodfold Park Stud, Woodfold Park, Mellor.

Clerk to send another letter in support.

Stanley House (Marquee) – Cllr O’Grady brought up matter about Stanley House. It was agreed the clerk would e-mail Cllrs to ask for comments/observations by the 15<sup>th</sup> (deadline for observations/comments to RVBC is the 26<sup>th</sup>). They had consent for a temporary marquee for 2 years whilst they did work on the main building. This is for another extension but for 3 and a half years because building work has been delayed. This delay seems disproportionate. Cllr Mellor queried whether any building work had started. Cllr Barnes queried how many local residents they employ and how much it would impact local residents if that work was to go because they are a major employer in the area.

9. Proposal that we write to RVBC to ask if they think Mellor Parish Council has breached the restrictive covenant on the land at St Mary’s Gardens.  
 Cllr Colborn advised he put this on the Agenda because he is conscious that whatever we decide has to be done the proper way. There has been discussion about the restrictive covenant and we have had a view from a solicitor. We are to go back to RVBC and say with the play equipment and trees do they think we have breached the restrictive covenant or not. Need to ask question about trees and play equipment as they are currently on the land.

Cllr Venables queried if the play equipment would be classed as being fixed.

Cllr Barnes countered above and said she would be happy to write to RVBC however phrase it differently Should be asking can they confirm going forward there will never be an issue raised with the play equipment

Cllr Venables asked Cllr Walsh if anything was mentioned about the covenant at RVBC tonight and Cllr Walsh confirmed it was not. Cllr Walsh did however say that there was possibly an issue with it.

Cllr Colborn proposed he would draft a letter and send round. Cllr Walsh seconder. Motion carried.

10. Finance matters  
 Balance £64,161.29  
 Scholarship Fund £,1218.15

A To consider and approve payments

Easyweb Direct Debit £36.60 approved – slight increase from January 2024. Increase approx. £3.00 per month.

CHQ1821 - £20.00 Cllr Brunskill (re-imburement of purchase of wreath)

CHQ1822-£666.15 Clerk’s salary (25/10/23 – 30/11/23) and expenses (25/09/23 – 30/11/23)

Breakdown to be shown for salary and expenses separately.

11. Update from Finance & Asset meeting including Bank Reconciliation Precept information and future village survey.

Cllr Mellor actioned Bank statement to be verified by all Councillors and signed by all present.

Regarding the precept, Cllr Colborn proposed an increase of 3.8% (£1,000).

Cllr Colborn proposed.

All other Councillors seconded.

Clerk to complete paperwork and send in.

Cllr Mellor advised internet banking has been missed off. Deferred until February.

12. Update regarding the recent SPid located on Mellor Lane.  
 Cllr O’Grady had shared very useful information by e-mail.

Cllr Venables advised we will look at other locations around the Parish.

Cllr Barnes' previous action was to get quotes for our own Spid. There are only two companies that would quote as we only wanted a small number. These were portable Spids with their own power supply that come on their own stand and can be moved around. Cost approx. £3,000. Information to be passed to clerk.

**13. Update regarding telephone box on Branch Road.**

Cllr Venables advised the Contract has been submitted. Currently awaiting BT engineer to assess telephone box. Cllr Barnes to send info on defib to clerk to submit in readiness.

**14. Update regarding pathways including Footpath Improvement Grants (Affiliation Form).**

Deferred Cllr Fletcher to give update.

**15. Update regarding Mellor Village Hall including Capital Grant Application.**

Awaiting quotes and paperwork for £500 grant.

A resident offered to speak to Paul and chase.

**16. To receive reports (if any).**

A RVBC report Cllr Brunskill Cllr Walsh;

None

B RVBC Liaison Cllr Brunskill Cllr Walsh

None

C Bae Systems Cllr Brunskill

Clerk to get Minutes

**17. Matters brought forward by members not covered in the Agenda.**

Cllr Venables advised in relation to the bus stop that Cllr Dickinson-Gater had queried previously, the Highways District Lead Officer has confirmed their agreement to mark the road with a bus stop sign.

Cllr Walsh had been looking at more litter bins. To discuss this matter further with RVBC.

Gravel path from Brookfield to back of the shops. Onward Homes are looking at this and doing some works.

Cllr Dickinson-Gater asked about any update on the Sunday service to Clitheroe – Cllr Venables advised no update.

Cllr Barnes gave her resignation as of today (family/work commitments). Cllr Venables offered his personal thanks and thanks from everybody else. Cllr O'Grady proposed a vote of thanks for the work Cllr Barnes has done. All other Cllrs seconded.

Meeting closed 8.30pm.

To note the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024.