

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2025 at 7.00pm held at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, Sedbury.**

**Present:** Councillors: Allan, Koning, Russell (Chairman), Stead, Swambo, Tullett, Walsh and Warby.  
**Officers:** Carol Hinton (Clerk), David Stevens (Assistant Clerk)  
County Councillor Chris McFarling

**1. ATTENDANCE**

- a) **Resolved to receive** apologies for absence from those councillors unable to attend from Councillors Drew and Burgess.  
b) **Resolved to accept** those apologies received with reasons for absence from Councillors Drew and Burgess.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- a) **To receive Declarations of Interest** in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers and in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members.  
*Interests may be declared at any time during the meeting should they become apparent.*  
b) **To consider any Dispensation Requests** received by the Parish Clerk and not previously considered. **None.**

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

- a) **Resolved to approve** as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2025.  
b) **To consider any questions** arising from those minutes.  
Cllr Koning asked for confirmation that the alterations at S&BVH included fully supporting the block work above. Clerk to obtain.

**4. PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

**To receive and consider** any questions from the Public. **None present.**

**5. TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED**

**None.**

**6. TO REPORT ON PLANNING DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS (s101)**

**Resolved to note** the following:

- a. **P1088/25/FUL** – Beachley House, Beachley Road, Sedbury, Chepstow.  
Erection of an attached garage with associated works.  
**Tidenham Parish Council supports this planning application.**
- b. **P1058/25/LBC** – Cider Barn, Stroath Farm, Stroath, NP16 7LR.  
Listed building consent for Internal changes to provide bedroom accommodation on the southeast corner of cider barn.  
**Tidenham Parish Council supports this planning application.**

**7. POLICING IN THE PARISH**

- a) **Resolved to note** Police crime statistics for Tidenham and Sedbury can be accessed following this link.  
[Tidenham and Sedbury | Police.uk \(www.police.uk\)](http://www.police.uk)

**8. COMMITTEES**

**To receive reports, minutes and recommendations from committees** already circulated, enclosed herewith or to be circulated and to consider any questions arising from them. **No Committee meetings held.**

**9. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**To receive and note any announcements from the Chairman** of the meeting.

The Chairman wished to thank the District Council for the new recycling arrangements that now include plastic punnets etc. Cllr Koning added that he found the personnel that collect all waste are very pleasant, efficient and amenable.

**10. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

**Resolved to note** report from Chris McFarling which covered County and District Council news.

Cllr McFarling had made some suggestions for the use of the remaining S106 monies. Cllr Walsh had met with Tutshill School headteacher – suggested that planters be placed on the pavements to stop cars parking close to the school.

Cllr Koning – pleased to see report about request for funding for an Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy Officer. Cllr McFarling stated that this is an important area for the economy of the Forest.

Cllr McFarling reported that the FoDDC proposals for the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) have to be submitted by 13<sup>th</sup> November. It is expected that Gloucestershire will put forward two options (1 Unitary Authority or west / east split). The FoDDC are hoping to put forward a third option. There is much concern for the Forest of Dean. The current District Council has no borrowing, healthy reserves and not in debt and attains 99% in customer satisfaction ratings so it is a shame it will no longer exist.

Cllr Tullett – pleased to hear that the DC is showing some resistance.

Cllr Walsh – following the local workshops, it was agreed that this is an opportunity for local councils to work together and to try to manage change from ‘the bottom’ up.

Cllr Walsh – is there any update on the Community 20s initiative and can Tidenham still be considered as a trial area? Cllr McFarling thinks this will involve repeater signs not road roundels. Clerk to follow up offer to be trial area with Roger Whyborn.

**11. PARISH CLERK’S REPORT**

**Resolved to receive and note** the Parish Clerk’s Report.

**12. FINANCE**

a) **Resolved to approve payments** according to the Financial Statement for September 2025.

b) **Resolved to receive and approve the Financial Statement** for September 2025.

c) **Resolved to note** the second precept payment of £64,743.00 from the District Council has now been received.

d) **Resolved to note** the payments from Poor’s Allotments for the Clerk’s time for 2024/25 and 2025/26 – total £400 – have now been received.

**13. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION**

**To receive** update on Local Government reorganisation process.

Cllr Koning updated councillors on discussions at the GAPTC/FoDDC workshops and the Working Group. The overall message was that councils want this to be a success. It seems that town and parish councils will still exist but there will be a need for some working together. There was some concern on the potential new ‘Neighbourhoods’ and the need to look at which current DC activities can be shared or scaled up by local councils. Cllr Koning suggested that if the new Neighbourhoods are centred around the four towns, would Tidenham Parish Council see itself aligned with Lydney or Coleford? There is a need to be in touch with local parish councils to explore common ground and to perhaps start a conversation with both towns.

**14. SEDBURY SPACE MONTHLY SESSION**

**To consider** Councillor representative to attend October public session on 29<sup>th</sup> October @ 10am.

**Cllr Swambo agreed to attend the October session.**

**15. PARISH COUNCIL BLEED KIT**

**Resolved to note** Bleed Kit donated by the DC to the Parish has now been installed by the Sedbury defibrillator next to the chemist and registered with HeartSafe. The installation has been shared on Facebook.

**16. SEDBURY AND BEACHLEY VILLAGE HALL**

a) **Resolved to note** the goal posts have now been removed from the playing field and re-installed at the Buttington Road skate park site.

b) **Resolved to note** the unsafe wall has now been removed and the area cleared. The job had been more complex once the wall had been demolished. Howard Rees had required a skip due to the excessive amount of debris behind the wall. What appeared to be ash saplings were in fact shoots from a huge trunk that had grown unseen over the years. This required a stump grinder to deal with at an extra cost of £620.

- c) **Resolved to note** the free of charge bike rack offered by ParkThatBike (through FoDDC) has been ordered and will be installed on the concrete slab at the hall once delivered.

**17. REMIT OF COMMITTEES**

- a) **Resolved to approve** continuation of consideration of planning applications as part of the full council meetings.
- b) **Resolved to approve** adoption of Remit of Committees amended to reflect full council remit if a) above approved.
- c) **To consider** all councillors to be included in review of applications prior to meetings.  
**Resolved** – all councillors to review applications but members of the previous Planning Committee to continue the monthly in depth review on a rota basis until the next council year.

**18. CORRESPONDENCE**

**Resolved to receive and note** any other correspondence as detailed in the Clerk's Report.

**DUE TO THE CONFIDENTIAL OR NATURE OF ITEM 19, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING**

**19. STAFF SALARIES**

**Resolved to approve** increase of one salary scale point for David Stevens from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2025 as per his contract of employment, and to pay from that date.

**20. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

**To receive and note** any matters which councillors wish to raise and where appropriate add to the agenda for the following meeting or meetings of committees.

**There were none.**

**21. FUTURE MEETINGS**

**Resolved to note** the dates of future council and committee meetings:

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025 – Amenities Committee meeting.

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2025 – Full Council meeting.

**The meeting concluded at 20.07hrs**