

## TIDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at 7pm on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, King Alfred's Rd, Sedbury NP16 7AQ.

**Present:** Parish Councillors: Justine Burgess, Jan Koning, Clive Russell - Chairman, Michael Swambo, and Audrey Tullett.

6 members of the public.

Also Present: Carol Hinton – Clerk, David Stevens – Assistant Clerk.

The Chairman welcomed all present.

#### **1. Apologies:**

Apologies had been received from Councillors Cracknell, Drew, Stead and Walsh.

#### **2. Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024.**

The minutes were approved as presented and signed by the Chairman.

#### **3. Matters Arising from minutes:**

The Clerk had answered questions from Hazel Evans by email. The youth centre is still under discussion, the Parish Council is now the sole trustee of Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall Charity which operates independently of the council, including its finances and fundraising. The roundabout by Wydean Fields is the responsibility of the Gloucestershire County Council Highways Dept.

Liz McBride commented that the clearance at the Beachley Churchyard had been done well and asked if it will be cleared again this year – the Assistant Clerk confirmed that this will be reviewed during the year.

Hazel Evans commented that the Offa's Dyke Bridge at the bottom of Daneshill needs clearing as everything has grown fast this year. She had been given the link to the Glos CC FixMyStreet reporting and will report it there.

#### **4. Reports:**

##### **A. Parish Council Report - The Chairman will present the highlights of last year's activities and performance.**

Councillor Russell introduced himself as the new Parish Council Chairman. He thanked Cllr Jan Koning for his massive effort over the past years as Chairman and for agreeing to be Vice Chairman for the coming year.

Cllr Russell introduced the Chairman's Report. Emily Timmins had left as youth worker. Hazel Evans commented that all organisations are having trouble recruiting volunteers to work in the youth sector. Cllr Russell confirmed that the Council is still looking to promote youth work in the Parish.

Cllr Russell thanked the land owner who allowed the pole for the AutoSpeedWatch camera to be positioned in Woodcroft.

There were no questions about the Chairman's Report.

Hazel Evans asked if the Afghan refugees had now left Beachley. Cllr Burgess confirmed all except one family had.

##### **B. Financial Statements from:**

- ❖ **Tidenham Parish Council.**
- ❖ **Mopla Cottages Charity:**

Financial statements as per handouts. The Clerk explained the increase in receipts and payments for the Parish Council was due to the monies received for the purchases of the electric vehicle and CCTV cameras.

Liz McBride asked if the cottages are rented to local people. The Chairman confirmed they currently are and that the tenants have been there long term. Should one of the cottages be re-let in future this will be taken into account.

### **C. Report from:**

- ❖ **Tidenham War Memorial Hall and Recreation Ground Trust.**
- ❖ **Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall Charity.**
- ❖ **Poor's Allotment Charity.**

It was noted that no report had been received from Tidenham War Memorial Hall.

There were no questions on the report from Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall Charity. The Chairman acknowledged the amount of work put in by Cllr Koning and the Clerk on the transfer of trusteeship of the Hall.

There were no questions on the Poor's Allotments Charity report.

### **5. Police Report:**

The Police had been unable to attend the meeting but had sent a report that had been handed to attendees. There were no questions or comments. In their absence, The Chairman thanked Mark Evans and Abi Coe for the work they do in the community.

### **7. Public Forum:**

Hazel Evans – the roundabout by Wyedean Fields look very messy. The Assistant Clerk confirmed that the developer had offered to supply 1000 daffodil bulbs to replace those lost during the construction work. Gloucestershire County Council refused these. For them to have been planted the Parish Council would have had to take over responsibility for the roundabout in perpetuity which was not financially possible.

Hazel Evans – Ormerod Road Roundabout and refurbishment? The Clerk confirmed that this was ongoing but that the opportunity to refurbish it was lost after delays by Two Rivers who own it. The Council has some money set aside for its refurbishment and has purchased a permanent Silent Soldier to be placed there. The Clerk will be chasing this over the next few months.

Gladman - recent leaflet on proposed development on A48. Not all homes had received this. The original application in 2019 had highlighted some concerns about access and the volume of traffic on the A48. The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council has requested a meeting with the FoDDC Planning Dept. before plans are submitted.

Liz McBride – there are already a shortage of school places and not enough doctors, dentists etc for the existing population.

Hazel Evans – there needs to be more provision for starter homes and homes for people to downsize to.

Liz McBride – could a police speed check be carried out on Sedbury Lane as some people are driving at dangerous speeds? Also – Tutshill School should have an incentive to encourage more pupils to walk to school to help reduce traffic. The Chairman advised that the councillor responsible for liaising with the School will be asked to bring this up with them.

Hazel Evans – is there more information on the devolution to unitary authorities? The Chairman confirmed that there is not yet any detail but the District Councils will go and some of their existing work may likely be transferred out to parish councils.

The Chairman thanked all for their attendance and contributions at the meeting.

**The meeting closed at 19.49hrs**