Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9th September 2026 at 7.00pm held at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, Sedbury.

Present: Councillors: Allan, Russell (Chairman), Stead, Swambo and Walsh.
Officers: Carol Hinton (Clerk), David Stevens (Assistant Clerk)
County Councillor Chris McFarling
PCSO Abi Coe and 2 members of the public.

1. ATTENDANCE

a) Resolved to receive apologies for absence from those councillors unable to attend from Cllrs. Burgess and Tullett.

b) Resolved to accept those apologies received with reasons for absence from Cllrs. Burgess and Tullett.
Apologies had also been received from District Councillors Birch and Lane.

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 received.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

a) Resolved to approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 15th July 2026.

b) To consider any questions arising from those minutes. Cllr Walsh asked about the Dial a Ride offer to visit – this had been passed to Sedbury Space.

4. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

To receive and consider any questions from the Public, which may be answered but not debated.
Richard Homan from Buttington Terrace spoke on behalf of residents in Beachley, having leafleted the area for feedback from residents on the reckless and anti-social driving along Beachley Road. Mr Homan acknowledged that this is not a new problem but it seems to have become worse this year. On multiple occasions, particularly at weekends, cars and motor bikes speed along the straight section of Beachley Road, seemingly as a challenge to reach high speeds. This represents a safety issue for other road users and pedestrians using the narrow pavement, often with push chairs and young children walking to school. The noise of modified exhausts from cars and speeding motor cycles is a major problem with one resident recording a motor cycle at 119 decibels. Residents are asking for meaningful data to be collected on speeds in the area so that further follow up action might be considered by County Council Highways and the Police. Mr Homan and one other Beachley resident had joined the Community Speedwatch training session arranged by the Parish Council on 8th September.
The Assistant Clerk explained that he had contacted the Police Road Safety Officer who had agreed to install speed monitoring equipment in the area as soon as he is able. The summary data will then be shared. There have been two recent surveys carried out. PCSO Abi Coe will forward the most recent data available.
County Councillor Chris McFarling asked Mr Homan to send the details of his residents' survey and, in view of recent nationally publicised traffic incidents, he will escalate at County level.
The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council has supported residents and initiatives in the area for several years and continues to do so.

5. TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

a. P0809/26/FUL – The Bungalow, Coleford Road, Tutshill, Chepstow.
Erection of a single storey rear extension to replace conservatory, part conversion of garage to utility room, alterations to fenestration, and associated works.
Tidenham Parish Council supports this planning application.

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b. P0800/26/FUL – Dennel Hill Farmhouse, Tidenham Chase, Chepstow, NP16 7JN.
Erection of rear 1.5 storey extension with balcony and first floor extension with balcony to allow for extended first floor level with associated internal alterations and works. Demolition of existing rear conservatory.
Tidenham Parish Council supports this planning application.

c. P0969/26/FUL – Deep Campus, Day House Quarry, Tidenham, Chepstow.
Installation of a floating saturation diving facility comprising prefabricated structures, diving infrastructure, ancillary equipment and associated works positioned on a permanently moored pontoon.
Tidenham Parish Council supports this planning application.

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

a. P0095/26/FUL – Sheercliffe, Coleford Road, Tidenham, Chepstow.
Erection of a two-storey extension and double garage.
Tidenham Parish Council does not support this planning application for the same reasons as previously advised.

b. P0766/26/FUL – 38 The Martins Tutshill Chepstow.
Proposed erection of rear outbuilding ancillary to main dwelling.
Tidenham Parish Council supports this revised planning application.

7. PLANNING AS PART OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Resolved to review nominated councillors for detailed review of planning applications and that Cllrs. Allan and Russell will continue to do this.

8. FoDDC LOCAL PLAN TOWN AND VILLAGE SETTLEMENTS FACILITIES/SERVICES QUESTIONNAIRE

Resolved to approve questionnaire responses for submission to FoDDC subject to addition of 1 takeaway outlet, 2 extra places of worship and more detail about the traffic issues in the Parish.

9. TO CONSIDER CORRESPONCE RECEIVED RE HIGHWAY ISSUES

a. Resolved to note request for Community Speedwatch training received from a resident in Beachley due to perceived high speeds being driven on Beachley Road.

b. To report Winter updates for 2026/27 (bags of salt etc) submitted to FoDDC Highways. The Council should consider updating the local winter plan. **To be noted at the October meeting.**

c. To report speeding on Castleford Hill reported to Cllr Walsh. **This was reported to the PCSO @ item 5.**

10. POLICING IN THE PARISH

a) Resolved to note Police crime statistics for Tidenham and Sedbury can be accessed following this link, which now shows data up to June 2026.
Tidenham and Sedbury | Police.uk (www.police.uk)

b) To note PCSO Abi Coe will be attending the meeting subject to operational requirements.
PCSO Coe gave an overview of the crime statistics from May to June 2025 and 2026 which do show a rise in crime numbers. However, these can be explained by one person repeatedly reporting the same incidents in one part of the Parish. Otherwise, numbers are lower than the same period in 2025.
Cllr. Walsh – has had reports of cars racing up and down Castleford Hill. PCSO Coe advised that because the road is effectively closed at present the Police will not be able to undertake surveys or patrols there.
Cllr Walsh reported that the Lollypop guy Robbie had been hit on his arm by a car outside of the Tutshill School. The ThinkTravel Team at the County Council had promised that he would be provided with a bodycam for the start of the term. This has not happened and there is therefore no footage of the incident.
The Clerk to email the Council's concern at this – Cllr McFarling to be copied in.

11. 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.

i). Finance and Probity Committee meeting held on 2nd September 2026.

There were no questions to Councillor Allan, Chairman of the meeting.

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ii) Mopla Cottages Committee meeting held on 2nd September 2026.
There were no questions to Councillor Allan, Chairman of the Committee.
iii) Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall Committee meeting held on 2nd September 2026.
There were no questions to Councillor Swambo, Chairman of the Committee.

12. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive and note any announcements from the Chairman of the meeting.
The Chairman reported that he and the Vice-Chairman had been working on a draft three year plan for the Council which will include looking at strategy and funding. A training and development session has been planned for 14th November when councillors can discuss the plan in more detail prior to considering its adoption and the budget setting in December.

13. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Resolved to note reports from Chris McFarling and the District Councillors who may attend the meeting.
Cllr McFarling gave an over view of the Government announcement on the delay of Local Government Re-Organisation. There has been little detail other than that the District Council elections will now go ahead in May 2027.

14. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

Resolved to receive and note the Parish Clerk's Report. All items requiring the council to make a decision had been specified separately on the agenda.

15. PARISH COUNCIL INSURANCE RENEWAL

Resolved to approve renewal of annual insurance from 1st October 2026 through Clear Councils (insurer Ecclesiastical Insurance Office plc), year 3 of 3 year Long Term Agreement, at £2042.91 including admin fee and Insurance Premium Tax. This premium includes legal expenses cover. This represents an increase of £19.38 on last year's premium.

16. FINANCE

a) Resolved to approve payments according to the Financial Statement for August 2026.
b) Resolved to receive and approve the Financial Statement for August 2026.
c) Resolved to note the Tump Farm Community Benefit for 2026 (year 10 of 25) of £7642.62 has been received.

17. EXTERNAL AUDIT – 2025/2026

a) Resolved to approve and note External Audit report for 2025/2026 and note that PKF Littlejohn have stated that the information provided is in accordance with proper practices and that no other matters have been raised giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. The external auditor has noted that the incorrect box had been ticked @ Section 2 box 11, but that this has been amended.
b) Resolved to note the audited AGAR and Notice of Conclusion of Audit have been added to the website as required.

18. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Resolved to approve review and re-adoption of the Financial Regulations.

19. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2027

Resolved to approve date and new format for the Annual Parish Meeting as Saturday 8th May 2027 at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall with community group participation in the afternoon and meeting starting at 6.00pm.

20. COMMUNITY STUDENT EXCELLENCE AWARD

Resolved to approve the process for the introduction of an annual Dr Jan Koning Excellence Award, donated by Dr Koning, for a student who has shown exceptional, pioneering and inspirational leadership within a school community. Cllrs Russell, Stead and Tullett to introduce to their nominated schools.

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21. ANTI RACISM IN SCHOOLS

Resolved to approve Councillors to contact their respective schools to discuss and offer anti-racism training which can be provided by a Welsh council Community Safety Engagement Officer who undertakes such training.

22. OPENSPACES GROUP UPDATE

a) Resolved to approve applying for a Lawful Development Certificate for the proposed Family Park £243.50 at Buttington Road.

b) Resolved to note update from the Open Spaces Group.

23. SECTION 106 MONIES

a) Resolved to approve proposal from Nimbus Solar Ltd for the installation of 2 x public electric car chargers at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, including solar panels and battery storage to feed them.

b) Resolved to approve submission to FoDDC for consideration for the use of the S106 monies currently being held.

24. SEDBURY AND BEACHLEY VILLAGE HALL PLAYING FIELD

Resolved to approve quotation from Shane Weldon to re-position the railings previously at the front of the hall to the bottom entrance to the field to stop access to the field for motor bikes of £150 no VAT. Note – it was not possible to obtain further quotes for this work.

25. CORRESPONDENCE

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

DUE TO THE CONFIDENTIAL OR NATURE OF ITEM 26, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING

26. STAFF SALARIES AND STAFF AND COUNCILLOR MILEAGE EXPENSES

a) To approve increase of salary for the Clerk according to the Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2026/27 backdated to 1st April 2026 and to pay from that date.

b) To approve increase of salary for the Assistant Clerk according to the Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2026/27 backdated to 1st April 2026 and to pay from that date.

c) Resolved to approve increase of one salary scale point for the Assistant Clerk from 1st October 2026 as per his contract of employment, and to pay from that date.

d) Resolved to approve from 1st April 2026 the claimable mileage rate payable to staff and councillors be increased to 55p per mile which is the new HMRC milage rate applicable from 1st April and that this be backdated to that date.

27. 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.

Cllr Swambo – had attended the Sedbury Space AGM. They are currently fund raising for funds for the activities they provide – any ideas would be welcome.

28. FUTURE MEETINGS

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

Wednesday 16th September 2026 – Amenities Committee meeting.

Wednesday 21st October 2026 – Full Council Meeting.

The meeting concluded at 2045hrs

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