

**MINUTES of the Annual Parish Meeting of Melksham Without
Parish Council held on Monday, 3 April 2023 at 7.30pm
at Berryfield Village Hall, Telford Drive**

Present: Councillors John Glover (Chair), David Pafford (Vice Chair), Alan Baines, John Doel, Mark Harris, Shona Holt, Peter Richardson, Andy Russell, Robert Shea-Simonds and Richard Wood

Officers: Teresa Strange, Clerk; Lorraine McRandle; Parish Officer; Marianne Rossi, Finance & Amenities Officer

In attendance: Wiltshire Councillors Phil Alford (Melksham Without North & Shurnhold), Nick Holder (Bowerhill), Jonathon Seed (Melksham Without West & Rural), Richard Rogers, Community Engagement Manager, Melksham Area Board and Sarah Cardy CEO, Age UK Wiltshire

35 Members of public

1. Welcome, Housekeeping and Apologies

Councillor Glover welcomed everyone to the meeting and pointed out the various fire exits.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Patacchiola who was on holiday. It was noted Councillor Terry Chivers and Rob Hoyle were not present.

2. To receive Chair's report on the work of the Council during the year.

Councillor Glover as Chair reported on the work of the Council during the last year and plans for the next (**Appendix 1**) and on the parish council website.

3. To receive reports from the Wiltshire Councillors for the Parish

Reports from Wiltshire Councillors Phil Alford, Nick Holder and Jonathon Seed were included in the Annual Parish Booklet (**Appendix 2**) and on the parish council website.

The Chair invited Wiltshire Councillors to speak if they wished to add anything further to their written reports.

Councillors Phil Alford, Nick Holder and Jonathan Seed addressed the meeting and provided updates on their reports included within the Annual Parish Booklet.

4. To receive reports from Organisations and Groups in the parish

Reports were included in **Appendix 3** of the Annual Parish Booklet.

5. To receive short presentation from guest speaker Sarah Cardy, CEO of Age UK Wiltshire on news of an exciting new partnership with Melksham Without Parish Council and Melksham Town Council for the next generation of Melksham Community Support

Sarah Cardy, CEO of Age UK Wiltshire gave a short presentation on the new partnership with both Melksham Without Parish Council and the Town Council on the next generation of Melksham Community Support and highlighted the support it would provide for the most vulnerable in the community and thanked the parish council and Melksham Area Board for their support.

6. Comment and question time: to receive suggestions and proposals concerning any matter of interest in the parish including provision of recreational, cultural and other amenities for the parish.

The Landlord of the New Inn raised a concern at recent comments made at a parish council meeting regarding a complaint about noise, rubbish and potential hazards from a proposed pizza oven at his premises and sought an understanding of why the concerns were raised by the Parish Council. His biggest issue was that he had been characterized as unapproachable, which he did not feel was fair.

Councillor Glover clarified concerns had been raised by a member of public and therefore included on an agenda to bring to the council's attention, after the Clerk had advised the resident to contact Wiltshire Council's environmental health team with their concerns.

The Clerk confirmed that following the meeting, she had spoken to a representative from the New Inn to clarify the concerns raised had been made by a resident and not the parish council. It was explained that the parish council were in support of a pub in the village as a welcome community asset, but wished to make sure that they were a good neighbour.

7. To present Grant Aid cheques to local organisations and groups.

The Chairman & Vice Chair presented Grant Aid cheques to those groups and organisations who had been awarded a grant, having provided a service which benefitted the residents of the Parish.

The Chairman invited groups and organisations to say a few words whilst receiving their grant cheques, with representatives from several groups thanking the parish council for their support and providing an explanation of the services they provided and what they would be spending their grant funding on.

Meeting finished at 8.38pm

Signed
Full Council Meeting, 24 April 2023