

Mere Town Council

TOWN CLERK - MRS. L. C. WOOD

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held on Monday, 7th January 2019 at 7.30 p.m. in The Andy Young Pavilion, Springfield Road, Mere, BA12 6EW

Present: Councillors John Jordan (Chairman), Mrs. K. Symonds (Vice-Chairman), A. Colman, C. Hazzard, G. Jeans, E. Mitchell, B. Norris, R. Sims & Mrs. L. Traves.

Also 9 members of public & 1 press

Due to GDPR it is now considered good practice not to identify members of the public by name within these Minutes.

Meeting convened at 7.32 p.m. with Public Session

The Chairman will convene the Town Council meeting after the public session (please note that members of the public are no longer permitted to speak unless invited to do so by the Chairman).

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Mrs. Lindsey Wood spoke in objection to the planning application for a 2-storey rear extension at 2 Duchy Cottages on the basis that the proposed extension appeared to be no different to that which was refused by the Town Council & Wiltshire Council's Southern Area Planning Committee in March 2017. At that time she had raised her objection mainly on the grounds of loss of amenity in relation to a severe loss of daylight and sunlight and this objection still stands.

Mr. Robert Pearce spoke in objection to the planning application for a 2-storey rear extension at 2 Duchy Cottages, stating that for 18 years he had lived in 3 Duchy Cottages, a 3-bedroom terraced cottage. He said that if this planning application were approved it would reduce this home to a 2-bedroom terraced cottage because the third bedroom would be so dark as to render it useless. He also said that the extension would cause a severe loss of sunlight to the patio area at the rear of 3 Duchy Cottages.

Mrs Sheldon spoke in objection to the planning application for a 2-storey rear extension at 2 Duchy Cottages stating that the proposed extension would result in the loss of too much light from their property, especially their single-storey kitchen extension which had roof lights. She also said that they would not be able to maintain their own property due to the proximity of the proposed single-storey side extension.

Jenny Seward spoke representing Mere Railway Modellers Club and said that owing to the fact that their building in Castle Street Car Park (the old Band Hut) was now too small for their needs and the roof was in a dangerous condition, they had asked an architect member to provide some drawings to represent proposals for extending the building. Their architect had also measured up the car park today and confirmed that the proposals would not result in the loss of any car parking spaces and the spaces would all fall in line with new car parking standards/regulations. Mrs. Seward asked if the Town Council would support their proposals for these improvements/extension and if the Railway Modellers Club produced some detailed drawings, would the Town Council pay the planning application fees and give the club advice on how to seek funding?

Mr. Tom Snook, also representing Mere Railway Modellers Club said that ideally they would like a brick-based building which would have cladding on the outside to look like the existing and would meet disability regulations. He had provided members of the Council with a brief outline of proposals and said that he would be happy to answer any questions members may have.

Mr. Roy Sims said that he would like to thank everyone who supported the Warminster Military Wives Choir event held at the church. It was very well supported and the proceeds of this fundraiser - £1406 - were split equally between Mere Cancer and St. Michaels Church. He also mentioned that he had tried to open the barriers at the end of the emergency route on the Kingsmere Estate with a large Allen key but

could not do so. The Clerk said that the issue of emergency exits, bollards and keys in Mere was being investigated at the present time.

The Chairman thanked the people of Mere for supporting the Xmas Lights switch on event and Santa evening and thanked the grounds staff and all those involved in erecting the Xmas Lights and making Mere look and feel festive.

Mr. Jeans pointed out that Mrs. Adrienne Howell had been awarded the British Empire medal in the New Year's Honours list in recognition of 50 years of community service to Mere. It was agreed that Mrs. Howell was very worthy of this award and that the Town Council should write to Mrs Howell to congratulate her on this award.

Mr. Clive Hazzard asked when the Speed Indicator Device would be installed in Castle Street. Mr. Jeans said he had been trying to identify a location and the only suitable site he had found was at the bottom of Bramley House. It was confirmed that this land belonged to Wiltshire Council & that permission would therefore be required. Mr. Jeans said he would be happy to give a scaffold pole to the Town Council's groundsman for them to collect and install once permission obtained.

Mrs. Harkin said that she was involved with sport for youth in Mere and they were running into quite a few problems. The youth football club had grown and there were now about 80 youngsters who were travelling to Gillingham for training but if the Multi Use Games Area were resurfaced with Astroturf then they could train in Mere. She also said that she was involved with Gymbuds and they were having constant problems with using the school hall and she was aware that there were other clubs, like karate, that also had problems with hiring venues. Mrs. Harkin said she was aware that the Town Council was considering installing outdoor fitness equipment into the old swimming pool site but felt that this would be a mistake as it would end up being used as a drugs den and she suggested that a purpose-built hall for sport could be built on this site instead which could be used for pilates, yoga, gymnastics, cricket net practice, karate etc. Mrs. Harkin said that Mere would benefit from a purpose-built sports hall unless the school opened their hall up for community use. The Chairman said that it would be wonderful to have a sports hall in Mere and when he considered the facilities that were now on offer in Tisbury he did feel that Mere had missed out. He also pointed out that he had asked if Mere could have Tisbury's old hall but was told it was being used for storage. The Chairman said that he would make some enquiries and raise this as a future agenda item if appropriate.

Apologies for absence received from Cllrs. P. Coward, R. Coward, G. Ings, R. Hill, Mrs. J. Hurd, A. Mead

224. To receive declarations of interest from members and to consider requests for new DPI dispensations.

Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Mere Town Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

- Eric Mitchell declared a personal interest in planning applications 18/11695/PNCOU & 18/11792/PNCOU
- Mrs. Lindsey Wood, Town Clerk, declared a pecuniary interest in planning application 18/11273/FUL as a neighbour of the applicant. The Clerk said that she would leave the room whilst the application was considered by the Town Council. (As an officer of the Town Council and not an elected member the town clerk is not required to declare an interest but wished to do so as a matter of good practice)

225. Minutes – RESOLVED to approve Minutes of Town Council meetings held on Monday, 3rd December 2018 on proposal made by Cllr. Mrs. Traves, seconded by Cllr. Sims and carried with a unanimous vote of those present on 3.12.18. RESOLVED to approve Minutes of Annual Budget Meeting held on Wednesday, 28th November 2018 on proposal made by Cllr. Hazzard, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Traves and carried with a unanimous vote of those present on 28.11.18.

226. Matters Arising

***a) Minute No. 223a) Suggestion of Blue Plaque for The Maltings, Castle Street where Mr. Wolfe Frank once lived** – The Clerk had provided members with the following information: “Salisbury Civic Society sub-committee reviews applications for plaques for South Wiltshire. Reviews take account of anniversaries or other relevant dates for installation, as well as the characteristics of the candidate. Candidates must have a strong connection to the area, by birth, death or residence, and have made a significant contribution to local or national history or culture. The Civic Society will undertake research into the candidate to determine their suitability for a plaque. The Civic Society currently has a backlog of over two dozen candidates, and only has sufficient resource to install a maximum of 3 new plaques per year. So it could be some time before a proposal is considered, although a strong candidate for Mere could be considered for 2020/21. The 2019 programme is already committed.” Members felt that there were probably a lot of past residents of Mere that deserved a blue plaque and questioned whether or not the Town Council was qualified to choose one over another. The Chairman said that the Clerk had suggested that the Town Council should seek advice from Jenny Wilding & David Longbourne of Mere Museum on this matter before deciding on whether or not to make an application to Salisbury Civic Society for this particular past resident or any others.

b) Minute 217a) Centenary of the end of the First World War (Battle's Over – a Nation's Tribute) – update on display of soldier's mementos – The Chairman informed members that the mementos had been gathered up and taken to the Chapel for storage. He had looked at trying to display them in the North Chapel but there was no easy way of doing this so for the moment they were safely stored away.

c) Minute No. 223c) Judging of Xmas lights – Cllr. Glen Ings and his children did a good job of judging the Xmas lights this year and our thanks to him for this work. The results of the judging were: 1st prize to Mr. & Mrs. Morris of Downside Close, 2nd prize to Mr. & Mrs. Sams of Lynch Close, 3rd prize to Mr. & Mrs. Cammack of North Street and Highly Commended to Mr. & Mrs. Tealey and Mr. & Mrs. Adams of Denes Avenue. Cllr Jeans provided wine for the prizes and for the plaque to be inscribed & Cllr. Jordan provided tins of chocolates for the highly commended prizes. Cllr. Jeans said that he had distributed thank you letters to all those who participated in the Christmas lighting.

227. Reports & Consultations

a) Neighbourhood Policing Report – Cllr. Sims reported that a house was broken into in The Lynch over Xmas & New Year. He said that this highlighted the importance of neighbourhood watch schemes. He also reported that there were still a number of vans being broken into and goods taken from within. The Chairman said that he was still following up information on Neighbourhood Watch Schemes.

b) County Councillor's report – Cllr. Jeans reported that more financial cuts were in the pipeline for Wiltshire Council. He also reported that a resident of Downside Close had given some oak trees to the town, two of which had been planted along Burton path some time ago and one which was planted there over the Xmas period. Cllr Colman asked about the blocking of the alley/path along White Road & Cllr. Jeans explained that one of the tenants of the houses decided that he did not want the general public to walk along the alley any longer and put a sign up to say it is private property. Cllr. Jeans had received a number of complaints about this and pointed out that if the general public had used a path for 20 years they could apply for it to go on the definitive map. Wiltshire Council has sent an officer out to view the area and he has made a report to the housing team. Cllr. Jeans said that these alleys/paths are not public footpaths and are on private land owned by Wiltshire Council but he had been informed that Wiltshire Council intend to take measures to bring the alleys back into use by the public. Cllr. Colman informed Cllr. Jeans that there is a locked gate blocking public access at the present time. Cllr. Jeans said he would pursue the matter with the housing department and the Chairman suggested that the Town Council send in letters or emails of support if this would help.

228. Planning

a) Applications: (All applications can be viewed on Wiltshire Council's website <http://planning.wiltshire.gov.uk/Northgate/PlanningExplorer/ApplicationSearch.aspx> – and type in the relevant application number)

Application Ref: 18/11174/FUL
Application for: Full Planning
Proposal: Conversion of existing bank to create 3 no. 1 bed and 1 no. 2 bed flats with parking.
At: Lloyds Bank Plc, The Square, Mere. BA12 6DP

Cllr. Colman pointed out that there were 5 car parking spaces which met minimum standards but there was no provision for visitor parking. The Clerk mentioned a change in circumstances over the red application boundary line which now includes half of the building on the north side of the application site. Cllr. Jeans felt that this should be mentioned in the Town Council's consultation response in order to ensure that the application has been validated. Cllr. Jeans said that he may call in this application for Committee consideration because he feels so strongly that it will have a detrimental effect on street parking in the town centre. The Clerk read out the Council's comments on the previous planning applications for this building and it was resolved to recommend refusal on the same grounds but also to mention the change in the red Line application boundary. Proposal was made by Cllr. Mitchell, seconded by Cllr. Colman and carried with a vote of 8 for. In order not to compromise his position as Wiltshire Councillor, Cllr Jeans abstained from discussion or voting)

Application Ref: 18/11273/FUL
Application for: Full Planning
Proposal: Proposed two-storey rear extension
At: 2 Duchy Cottages, North Road, Mere. BA12 6HG

Due to a declaration of interest, the Town Clerk, Mrs. Lindsey Wood, left the meeting. Cllr. Mrs. Symonds recorded the meeting:

Cllr. Hazzard noted that the application is the same as that which the Town Council objected to previously and which was subsequently been rejected by Wiltshire Council's Southern Area Planning Committee in March 2017. Cllr. Hazzard said that at that planning committee meeting one of the members had said that it was all about symbiosis and that whatever one neighbour does in such a small area impacts heavily on everybody else and that the impact on the neighbours was completely unacceptable in planning terms. Resolved to recommend refusal of the application for the same reasons as before (omitting reference to garage) on proposal made by Cllr. Jordan, seconded by Cllr. Norris and carried with a vote of 8 for and 1 abstention. In order not to compromise his position as Wiltshire Councillor, Cllr. Jeans abstained from discussion or voting.

The Town Clerk re-entered the meeting and resumed post:

Application Ref: 18/09890/CLE
Application for: Certificate of Lawfulness
Proposal: Stationing of a caravan
At: Linden Lea, Southbrook, Mere. BA12 6BG

Cllr. Jeans reported that he had spoken to a senior planning officer about this matter. It is an application for a Certificate of Lawfulness which means that they are asking for confirmation that they have permitted development rights. Cllr. Jeans said that this was a very complicated issue, relating to the 1960 Caravan Act and that evidence was required to prove that it was lawful. Cllr. Jeans said he was aware that part of the property was used as an annex in the past. The Chairman said he had spent some time examining this issue as it did not occur to him that a mobile home would not require planning permission. He said that this was obviously a very complex matter and although he has some experience in providing mobile classrooms at schools I am not an expert in these matters. I am aware of criteria which states that the use of this mobile home must be incidental to the use of the dwelling house and not provide independent

living accommodation. Cllr. Colman said that he believed it should be the subject of a planning application as it was not a wheel bearing building but a building that was wheeled in and bolted together and the square footage exceeds that of a three bedroomed house. Cllr. Hazzard said that he thought it was a wonderful thing for a family to do, to give their son somewhere to live and he thought the Town Council should support the family. Cllr. Norris said that there had been some creeping development in Southbrook but the road was not up to standard. Furthermore, the Town Council does not normally accept development outside the settlement area and this is clearly outside the settlement area boundary. Cllr. Mitchell said that he did not feel in a position to make a competent decision on this application and felt that the Town Council should make no comment and let Wiltshire Council decide. Cllr. Hazzard proposed that the Town Council write to Wiltshire Council to say that we support the family in their application for a certificate of lawful fullness but that we do not feel competent to comment on whether or not it is lawful or unlawful. Proposal seconded by Cllr. Jeans and carried with a vote of 6 for & 2 against and 1 abstention.

Application Ref: 18/10355/FUL
Application for: Full Planning
Proposal: Raise the height of the garage roof and insertion of 7 Velux windows in the roof, 4 on the rear and 3 on the front of the property, to aid loft conversion.
At: The Rondel, Castle Hill Lane, Mere. BA12 6JB

Cllr. Mrs. Traves said that she remembered how this building was constructed and hoped the applicants had checked that it was sound enough to cope with this conversion. She also said that she had a vague recollection that this building was tied to the main house when it originally received planning permission but I have not been able to find any evidence of this. RESOLVED to recommend approval of the application on proposal made by Cllr. Jordan, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Traves and carried with a vote of 8 for and 1 abstention. In order not to compromise his position as Wiltshire Councillor, Cllr. Jeans abstained from discussion or voting.

Application Ref: 18/11695/PNCOU
Application for: Prior Notifications on change of use
Proposal: Notification for Prior Approval of a Proposed Change of Use under Class Q – Conversion of part of single storey barn to form 2 units of residential accommodation (Use Class C3) and for associated operational development
At: Barn at Broadwater Farm, Woodlands Road, Mere. BA12 6JT

The Chairman informed members that the proposal was to convert an agricultural building that is of brick construction with a tiled roof. Cllr. Jeans said that Wiltshire Council had given him some guidance on these Prior Notification Class Q applications in relation to recent appeal decisions and one of the main criteria relates to the extent of the works required and whether they would amount to a rebuild or conversion. Also the curtilage of the residential accommodation can be no bigger than the current curtilage and this would include garden and associated residential parking. The Chairman said that in this instance, the application building would appear to lend itself to conversion and proposed that the application be approved. RESOLVED to recommend approval of the application on proposal made by Cllr. John Jordan seconded by Cllr. Jeans and carried with a vote of 6 for and 2 abstentions. Cllr. Mitchell having declared an interest abstained from discussion and voting. In order not to compromise his position as Wiltshire Councillor, Cllr. Jeans abstained from discussion or voting.

Application Ref: 18/11792/PNCOU
Application for: Prior Notifications on change of use
Proposal: Notification for Prior Approval under Class Q – Conversion of barn into residential

use as a single dwelling house (Use Class C3) and for associated operational development

At: Barn off Southbrook Road, Burton, Mere. BA12 6BR

The Chairman said that this was quite a contrast to the previous application as the barn was no more than a pole barn and he could not see how this could be converted without an extensive element of reconstruction. RESOLVED to recommend refusal of this application on the grounds that it would require reconstruction rather than conversion. Proposal made by Cllr. Colman, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Traves and carried with a vote of 7 for and 2 abstentions. Cllr. Mitchell having declared an interest abstained from discussion and voting. In order not to compromise his position as Wiltshire Councillor, Cllr. Jeans abstained from discussion or voting.

****b) Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Plan & Councillors Briefing Note No. 374 – Focused consultation on the Schedule of Proposed Changes and associated evidence documents*** - The Chairman said that he had read through as many of the documents as possible and confirmed that those that mentioned Mere referred to Mere as being within the Salisbury Housing Market Area and that Annex A confirmed figures which showed that Mere was still in the Southern HMA and that we are 13% over the expected housing completions when the Woodlands Road development is completed). He said that he could not find anything untoward or anything in the consultative document that the Town Council was not aware of. Cllr. Jeans stated that the existing core strategy is being revised and also pointed out that Wiltshire Council had recently lost a planning appeal in Amesbury on the basis that Wiltshire Council could not demonstrate a five-year housing supply. He said, however, that the issue of Mere being moved to the Trowbridge Housing Market Area had not yet been resolved and was still on the cards and suggested that the Town Council should reiterate its stance on that position. He also pointed out that the Town Council may want to mention that it is open to consider a limited amount of housing in appropriate locations, particularly social or affordable and that we are feeling particularly frustrated about the lack of interest or take up in our allocated employment site and that if this is not utilised in the near future, we may put the case forward for Mere to be allocated an alternative employment site within the new Local Plan and for the existing one to be removed altogether. RESOLVED that the Chairman and Clerk be delegated to formulate a response along the lines indicated above and send to Wiltshire Council. Proposal made by Cllr. Jordan, seconded by Cllr. Norris and carried with a unanimous vote.

229. Highways, Rivers, Footpaths, Traffic & Transport

a) Highway & footpath issues for Parish Steward, Wiltshire online reporting & street lighting faults – The Clerk informed members that the Parish Steward was in Mere tomorrow and Wednesday and members identified the following issues:

- Ivymead Road (from Water Street to Springfield Road)– potholes
- Clearance of steps on public footpath at side of Castle Hill

b) Dropped kerbs in and around Shaftesbury Road/Woodlands Road junction area – the Chairman said that he had spent some time with a resident who is concerned about dropped kerbs. He had raised this at a CATG meeting but was now in communication with C. G. Fry and Son as he had been told by Cllr. Mrs. Wayman that they would be paying for dropped kerbs.

230. Buildings, Open Spaces, Play Areas, Sports Grounds, Allotments & Cemeteries

****a) Proposal to expand Mere Model Railway Club*** – Cllr. Hazzard pointed out that the Mere & District Railway Modellers had a very good track record. He wondered if a moveable building would be a good idea if extra space was needed. Cllr. Colman & Cllr. Mitchell said that they were concerned about where the funding would come from to provide such an extension. The Chairman said that he understood that there were two proposals one of an extension to make the building 5.5m wide and the other of an extension to make the building 9m wide. The wider option would entail the loss of two ad-hoc parking spaces. He said that he would be happy to support the notion of a 5.5 m building but not a wider building

that would extend out into the car park and pointed out that the car park is not ours, it belongs to Wiltshire Council and is leased to us. Cllr. Mrs. Traves said that it was important to remember that drivers needed to negotiate in and out of these car parking spaces and she felt that the wider proposal may hamper the ability for people to get in and out of some of these car parking spaces. Cllr. Norris agreed and said that he was concerned that these proposals would restrict the use of the car parking spaces in the middle of the car park. Cllr. Hazzard wondered if it would be a good idea to find out what other groups may be interested in using the building and asked Mr. Snook about the viability of this. Mr. Snook replied that it would be an open-plan building with a workshop area. He also pointed out that the Mere & District Railway Modellers had to turn away disabled people because they could not provide disabled access. Cllr. Jeans said he would be against the loss of any parking spaces and said he fears that car parking is going to be an awful problem in the centre of Mere in a few years' time. He said that parking spaces within the car park needed to meet a certain standard & he wondered if there might be any possibility of gaining car parking spaces outside the car park for example on the wide areas of pavement. Cllr. Hazzard said that the Railway Modellers Club had proved themselves to be very capable and the building was an asset to the town. He pointed out that finding potential funding would be interesting and complicated but that the town Council should look into this proposal with an open mind. He therefore proposed that town councillors should meet on site at the car park with representatives from the Railway Modellers Club, chalk around various options to see the implications of the two different plans and how this would affect car parking. Proposal seconded by Cllr. Mrs Traves and carried with the unanimous vote

231. Finance, Policy & Resources

***a) Payments** – RESOLVED to approve payments set out in payment schedules on proposal made by Cllr. Colman, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Symonds & carried with a unanimous vote.

***b) To adopt recommendations made by Budget Meeting, as shown in Minutes of Budget Meeting held on Wednesday, 28th November 2018 (Minutes attached)** – The Chairman pointed out that the recommendations made by the Budget Committee meeting would result in a 5.91% increase in the parish precept. He said that members would see, from the Minutes, that he did make a commend at the beginning of the budget meeting that the precept should increase by only 2.6% to fall in line with the state pension. He said that he also made this comment at the end of the meeting and requested that a sum from capital reserves should be removed in order to reduce the overall increase to 2.6% but he was overruled on this. The Chairman said that he would like to make a proposal now that the Town Council revise the capital reserves allocated for the Chapel buildings to £2600 in order to reduce the precept to a 2.6% increase. Cllr. Hazzard said that this discussion was held at the Budget meeting and the majority view was to stick with the 5.91% increase. The Chairman reiterated that he was making a proposal that the Town Council did not adopt those recommendations and suggesting an amendment because it was his ambition to reduce the precept increase to 2.6% in keeping with the increase in state pension. Cllr. Colman asked why salary increases were not in line with government recommendations but Cllr. Jeans pointed out that the salary increases were in line with government recommendations but that in some instances, an extra increase had been included for increased productivity & productivity incentives. Cllr. Jeans said that he could quite understand the Chairman's wish to save taxpayers money but he would advise caution as he knew that hard times were coming and because of that and the fact that Town & Parish Councils are being warned that they could be capped in years to come, he thought it would be unwise to reduce any reserves at this moment in time. Cllr. Mrs. Symonds said that she thought the Town Council would be on a very slippery slope if it started unpicking all the recommendations made by the budget committee at the budget meeting. Cllr. Jordan reiterated his proposal which was seconded by Cllr. Colman but the proposal was not carried with a vote of 2 for, 6 against and 1 abstention. RESOLVED to adopt the recommendations made by the budget committee as recorded in the minutes of the budget committee meeting held on 28 November on proposal made by Cllr. Hazzard seconded by Cllr. Norris and carried with a vote of 6 for, 2 against and 1 abstention.

c) To approve Precept on Wiltshire Council for 2019/20 – RESOLVED to approve a Precept of £146206.38 for 2019/20 on proposal made by Cllr. Norris, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Traves and carried with a vote of 6 for,

2 against and 1 abstention. The Precept form was signed by the Chairman in the presence of the Town Council.

d) To set up a sub-committee to look into spending S.106 funds – it was agreed that a working group should meet to make recommendations to the Town Council. Cllrs. Colman, Mrs. Traves, Roy Sims, Brett Norris & the Chairman agreed to form the working group.

e) The Public Sector Bodies (Websites & Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2019 – The Clerk said that these regulations came into force on 23rd September and apply to local councils but there is no need to panic as the requirement to meet accessibility standards do not apply for existing websites until 23 September 2020, to new websites published on or after 23 September 2018 until 23 September 2019, and for apps, 23 June 2021. The Clerk is aware that NALC is raising this with the government including a request for support so there may be more updates from them in the near future.

232. General Items & Consultations/Briefing Notes

a) GDPR and consents for names being recorded in Town Council Minutes – Cllr. Jeans said that he had raised this at the last meeting because Wiltshire Council had a policy whereby members of the public were informed that by entering a meeting room they are consenting to having their name recorded and he would like this to be raised as a future agenda item for a similar policy to be considered by the Town Council. The Clerk said that although she had been given the wording that Wiltshire Council use by Cllr. Jeans, she was not convinced that this was the correct wording to use to comply with the GDPR regulations and would try and get some advice from WALC with some draft wording to consider at the next meeting of the Town Council.

b) WALC request for nominations for invitations to a Buckingham Palace Garden Party – RESOLVED to nominate Cllr. R. Sims on proposal made by Cllr. Hazzard, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Traves and carried with a unanimous vote.

233. Forthcoming meetings/events

- South West Wiltshire Area Board Meeting – Wednesday, 30th January 2019 at 6.30 p.m. -Nadder Centre, Weaveland Road, Tisbury, SP3 6HJ
- South West Wiltshire Community Safety Group Meeting – Wednesday, 13th February at 6.00 p.m. – Nadder Centre, Weaveland Road, Tisbury, SP3 6HJ

The Chairman said that he would try and attend both these meetings.

Emergency item

The Clerk reported that all the high risk and medium risk tree work had now been carried out. However, during the works some additional remedial items had been identified on two beech trees. One was to shorten a low branch over field obstructing farmers machinery in the Recreation Ground and one was to remove a fractured branch extending over a footpath on Long Hill. The quotation for these works was £590. RESOLVED to have these tree works carried out as soon as possible on proposal made by Cllr. Jordan, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Symonds and carried with a unanimous vote.

The Chairman reminded members that it was the Mere Chamber of Trade AGM would be held at The George on 30th January.

Meeting closed 21.30

Note: Members are reminded that the Town Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime and Disorder, Health and Safety and Human Rights.

*Further information on these items enclosed/attached