

**Claverton Parish Council**  
**Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting Held on 7th May 2013 at St Mary's Church**

**Present**

Councillors: Richard Wright (Chair), Chris Jensen, Rodger Sykes, Anna Beria , Mark Mackintosh and Glennis Naylor  
 Clerk: Lesley Watkinson  
 Other: Members of public

**Open Forum** - Two members of the public spoke in support of the work of the Broadband Project. Additionally, a member of the public made two representations to the Parish Council (PC). First, deep concerns were expressed about the Solar Panels on the roof of Thyme Barn. The member of the public has already made representations to B&NES and will continue to do so. The PC was invited to give its views on the Solar Panels and the way forward. Second, he stated his support for the Claverton Broadband Project and, having provided the PC with information on Wansdyke Telecom (WT), that he did not see the WT initiative supplanting the Claverton project. The PC was invited to give its views on the possible (longer term) relevance of WT to Claverton, detail on whether the proposed Claverton cabinet could be upgraded to accommodate future FTTH Broadband and its views on Claverton's representation on the WT website.

Chair thanked members of the public and advised that these points will be addressed during the meeting

**Apologies for Absence** - Clive Abbott

**Declaration of Member Interests** - All Councillors at meeting declared that they had an interest to declare relating to the proposed discussions on the Broadband Project. All declared that they were home owners in Parish. At the meeting the Cllrs requested a dispensation.

The Cllrs resolved that the Council delegates the power to grant dispensations to the Clerk. The power rests with the relevant authority under section 33(I) of the Localism Act 2011 and the basis is set out under section 33(2).

After consideration, the clerk granted the dispensations on the basis that so many members of the decision-making body have disclosable pecuniary interests that it would impede the transaction of the business.

A copy of the dispensation will be kept with the Register of Councillors' Interests

	<b>Actions</b>
<p><b>Progress report on status of Broadband</b></p> <p>On the 23rd April a meeting Parish Council meeting was held to update interested members on the Parish on the status of the Broadband project, and answer any questions they may have.</p> <p>Cllr Sykes advised that a Building Society account has been opened by member of the Broadband team to collect the voluntary donations from members of the Parish</p> <p>Clerk to check that Cllr initiative funding had been received.</p> <p>Cllr Sykes advised that Wansdyke Telecom was one of many options considered when the Broadband working party were investigating broadband options for Claverton. The offer by BT was considered most suitable as broadband would be installed and maintained by BT, leaving no maintenance legacy. Cllr Sykes advised that no one from broadband working party made any commitment to WT. Cllr Sykes will contact WT to discuss the input on their website which mentions Claverton.</p> <p>Cllr Sykes will clarify with BT that the proposed cabinet is upgradeable in the future to support fibre to the home (FTTH)</p>	<p>RS</p> <p>RS</p>

	<b>Actions</b>									
<p><b>Decision on contribution (if any) of Parish Council to Broadband Project and related actions</b></p> <p>Cllr Wright proposed and Cllr Jensen seconded that the broadband project should proceed. The broadband team should collect the pledges. Cllrs agreed. Cllrs also requested that the broadband team start detailed negotiations with BT. The next milestones will be for Cllr Sykes to agree a final contribution level with BT. Once village contribution funds are fully collected and are available the PC is prepared to consider, signing the contract with BT and make a financial contribution if appropriate, if necessary and subject to advice.</p> <p>PC will seek advice from ALCA and BNES Monitoring Officer to confirm that the PC have the powers to make a financial contribution and act as customer to BT. The PC will also seek advice on how to evidence Parish commitment.</p> <p>The Cllrs noted that the Broadband Group is a working party and not a formal committee of the PC. Three members of the working party are Parish Councillors. The Cllrs are content that it remain a working party as it is an advisory group only. Any decision on broadband is made at Parish council meetings. The PC will seek advice that this arrangement remains appropriate.</p>	<p>LW</p> <p>LW</p>									
<p><b>Discuss correspondence received from Bob Allard, BNES Planning</b></p> <p>Cllr Wright advised that he has received correspondence from Bob Allard, BNES Planning concerning the installation of solar panels on the south elevation roof of Thyme Barn, this matter has been considered at a Senior Level within the Planning Department and the Council's position is that the installation of the solar panels does require the benefit of retrospective planning permission if the owners wish to attempt to regularise their installation. Accordingly, BNES planning has written to the owners informing them of the Council's position and requesting their intention on whether they intend to apply for planning permission or not.</p> <p>Cllr Wright in dialog with BNES and Bath Preservation Trust</p> <p>Cllrs agreed that the solar panels are ill-judged, show a disregard for the Conservation Area and should be removed</p>										
<p><b>Exchange of Information</b></p> <p>Following cheques presented and signed:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">100121</td> <td style="width: 15%;">£24.66</td> <td style="width: 70%;">ALCA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100122</td> <td>£50</td> <td>M Mackintosh, Village Newsletter</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100123</td> <td>£15</td> <td>Bath Preservation Trust</td> </tr> </table> <p>Change of Mandate forms presented and signed in preparation for departure of Chairman</p>	100121	£24.66	ALCA	100122	£50	M Mackintosh, Village Newsletter	100123	£15	Bath Preservation Trust	
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The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Dates of Next Council Meeting: Tuesday 14th May 2013 - Annual Parish Meeting and ordinary meeting  
Future Council Meetings: Tuesday 9th July 2013, Tuesday 10th September 2013

Signed ..... Date .....

Cllr Richard Wright Chairman, Claverton Parish Council