

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2012 IN THE MEETING ROOM PUCKLECHURCH COMMUNITY CENTRE, ABSON ROAD.**

**PRESENT.** R. Symons Chairman. M.C. Smith Vice Chairman. E. Aze. Mrs. G. Boyle. P.J. Green. Ms Lori-Anne Scantlebury. M.S. Watson.

**NO 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Mrs. L. English. W. Prewett.

Steve Reade and Ben Stokes Councillors for Boyd Valley.

**NO 2. TO AGREE & SIGN MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.** The minutes of the meeting dated 18<sup>th</sup> January 2012 were previously circulated. Cllr. Watson asked for amendments to be made.

**Action: Clerk to amend and re-circulate.**

Cllr. Smith requested clarification of an instance at the P.V.S.S.C.

**Action 2.1: Clerk to seek clarification.**

**NO 3. LOG.** Councillors reviewed the log.

**Action 3.1: Chairman & Clerk to update log.**

**Parish Council Surgery.** Clerk confirmed next surgery 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

**Action 3.2: Cllrs. Symons and Watson & Green to host.**

**Chairman's Report for Pucklechurch News.** Headings agreed.

**Action 3.4: Chairman to circulate draft.**

**NO 4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.** Mr. Dean Freestone attended the meeting on behalf of Pucklechurch Cricket Club. Cllr. Boyle declared an interest. Mr. Freestone advised members had agreed to delay the work to extend the cricket square until the end of the 2012 season. He had a plan of the proposed semi permanent net and said the recommendation was to site the net 6mt from the Burial Ground hedge. The facility would be left up between April and August and they would like to start on the installation late March. The cost was approximately £5,000.00. and to be able to progress grant funding a full constitution was being finalised for acceptance at the AGM. Cllr. Boyle asked if they had checked whether planning permission was necessary as the area is in the conservation area. Mr. Freestone confirmed he would check with the Planning Office. Councillors suggested the Club investigate the possibility of applying for grants from other bodies and should there be a shortfall come back. The Chairman thanked Mr. Freestone for attending the meeting confirming the Club would be advised of the Councils decision.

**NO 5. LAW & ORDER.** The clerk received the following written report from P.C. Topps. "Since the beginning of the year Pucklechurch has reported (excluding incidents at Ashfield Prison) a total of 12 crimes. This makes up a total of 21% of the crime for the

Boyd Valley. There have been a number of reported criminal damage offences relating to theft from sheds and garages. Theft from shed/garages is an area that the Beat Team needs to focus on. There have been reports relating to the misuse of drugs in the village particularly around the Community Centre. Patrols over the weekend of 10<sup>th</sup> February highlighted discarded drug packets on the floor. In December 2011 a number of Stops and Searches were conducted in relation to the Misuse of Drugs Act, as a result prosecution for possession of drugs has been positive and we aim to continue being proactive in this area. Anti Social Behaviour in Pucklechurch is low. Some reports have been received about motorbikes being ridden to cause annoyance in St. Aldams Drive near the new park. There is still some community tension surrounding the recent conviction for sexual offences, these are ongoing and the local Beat Team is aware. Pucklechurch Sports & Social Club has constructed a patio area outside the Club facing towards the new play area. There are concerns over this addition to the club and a meeting has already been held with S.G. Licensing, the Police and the Club. A further meeting is to be arranged shortly. The local Beat Team has been provided with a Mobile Police Station which is basically a Police Office in a van and we will be using this resource to provide a greater contact with the village communities throughout 2012.”

Cllr. Watson advised the mobile police station would be available at the March Parish Council Surgery.

Cllr. Scantlebury expressed concern that on the 17<sup>th</sup> January during a Guide meeting ASB had been reported, a log number was given, no Police attendance.

Cllr. Smith suggested the Police should be encouraged to use Pucklechurch News as a means of improving communication.

Cllr. Watson said these concerns could be raised at the Safer Stronger Community Group meeting. Cllr. Symons agreed to attend.

**Action 5.1: Cllr. Symons to raise at SSCG.**

**NO 6. FINANCE.** A copy of the budget had previously been circulated. The following cheques were agreed for payment and Cllrs. Watson & Green were instructed to sign. S.J. Aplin £267.40. supply and fit replacement cradle seat to swing Eagle Crescent. Ensign Print £247.00. printing of Pucklechurch News. P.C.A. £70.00. 1 P.C. Meeting 1 Parish Surgery meeting, 4 Youth Club sessions & storage. Mrs. Anna Sharpe £178.00. P.C.A. £2,500.00. grant. Shortwood Methodist Church £10.00. hire of Vestry for P.C. Surgery. Joanna Long £312.20. (figure includes £79.80. tax refund). D. Bailey £356.47. being salary £319.97 + £3.50. bolts for new notice board + £30.00. tel. + £3.00. laminating. Mr. Brimble £9.00. cost of padlock for gate St. Aldams Drive Play Area.

Clerk had quotations for carrying out works follows: Burial Ground near tap to clear soil and debris, prepare soil and supply and sow grass seed. Recreation Field to supply and erect 2no sections of bow top fencing erected in front of gaps in fence on Hill View Road side. Parkfield Rank turning circle to excavate around approximately 12 pot holes, supply tarmac to repair holes and remove spoil from site. Town & Country Services total price £1878.60. plus V.A.T. Wizzard Landscapes £965.00. plus V.A.T. Cllr. Watson

proposed that the lowest quotation be accepted. Seconded by Cllr. Smith. Voting 5 for 1 abstention.

**Action 6.1: Clerk to ask Wizzard Landscapes to carry out the work.**

**NO 7. AGENDA ITEMS.** Annual Parish Meeting – Format. It was agreed there was a need to have greater public involvement than in previous years. The meeting could be used to consult/explain the concept of Participatory Budgeting and discuss the issues relating to Emerson’s Green East. The use of a title to draw attention to the meeting was also discussed.

St. Aldams Play Garden – Review. A review of the list of complaints, concerns and actions was undertaken. It was agreed the possibility of providing more equipment for younger children should be undertaken as part of a review of all Play Areas. It was suggested the list document be turned into a log.

**Action 7.1: Chairman to turn document into log.**

Pucklechurch Village Sports & Social Club – Cllrs. Smith & Scantlebury declared an interest being members of the Club. It was agreed Cllr. Green and the Clerk would attend the meeting at the Club on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

**Action 7.2: Cllr. Green and Clerk to attend meeting.**

Community Governance Review of Parish Boundaries – A letter was received from S.G.C. advising of the commencement of a council wide Parish Review. Councillors have the opportunity to request a review. This could be a review of external parish boundaries, the external boundaries of neighbouring parishes or a review of the internal parish arrangements such as the number of electoral wards or the number of Councillors. It was agreed in light of the construction of approximately 2500 homes at Emerson’s Green East to request a review of Pucklechurch parish.

**Action 7.3: Clerk to request a review of Pucklechurch parish.**

SMS Text Service - Cllr. Smith had previously circulated information regarding the setting up of a text messaging service to allow people to report problems to the Parish Council. Cost of service £99.00. per annum. After discussing the benefits of the service ie reporting problems with bus service, litter, graffiti etc it was proposed by Cllr. Smith that the service be accepted. Seconded by Cllr. Boyle. Voting all agreed.

**Action 7.4: Cllr. Smith to implement SMS Service.**

C.A. Car Park - Councillors decided to defer making a decision as to whether or not to adopt the car park as the Community Centre may be re-developed but agreed they would look sympathetically at the cost of repairing it, as it is also used as a public car park.

**Action 7.5: Clerk to ask P.C.A. to provide quotations for repair of car park.**

Recycling Bank – HMP Ashfield advised that the re-cycling bank was removed by Recresco because they no longer have a depot in Bristol. Councillors suggested clerk contact Recresco and obtain cost of reinstating recycling bank.

**Action 7.6: Clerk to contact Recresco and ask for quotation for reinstating recycling bank.**

Woodland/Skate Park – Clerk confirmed she has spoken to Rachel Goodchild about the possibility of the Youth Club adopting/looking after the area and she has agreed to speak to the young people after half term. Cllr Smith suggested that the recommendations he had put forward at the January meeting be added to the log and a ‘Bring Forward’ system implemented so that items could be identified at a specific future meeting.

**Action 7.7: Add recommendations to log.**

**Action 7.8: Implement ‘Bring Forward’ system on log.**

Training – after discussing members concerns Councilors agreed to review Standing Orders and look at delegating responsibility at the April AGM and to arrange 2 x 2hr new Councillor training sessions facilitated by Cllr. Watson.

**Action 7.9: Review Standing Orders regarding delegated responsibility.**

**Action 7.10: Cllr Watson to facilitate Councilor training sessions.**

**Action 7.11: Clerk to organize dates and times.**

Graffiti – Cllr. Smith was concerned that by agreeing to support the Youth Club’s proposal to graffiti paint (Street Art) the underpass in Oaktree Avenue it would effectively mean the Parish Council no longer has a zero tolerance to graffiti. Most of the graffiti seen in Pucklechurch is vandalism but there may be instances of graffiti that could more appropriately be called Street Art. Cllr. Smith had previously circulated a copy of Bristol City’s Policy on graffiti and it was agreed that elements of this policy could be extracted and agreed for use.

**Action 7.12: Cllr. Smith to take elements from Bristol City Policy and bring to next meeting to inform the Council’s stand on graffiti.**

Decision on Cricket Club Presentation - Cllr. Boyle declared an interest. Cllr. Watson proposed agreeing to the positioning of the semi permanent net facility and reference funding suggested Cricket come back to Parish Council if there is a shortfall after exhausting other options. Seconded by Cllr. Green, all agreed.

**Action 7.13: Clerk to inform Pucklechurch Cricket Club of Councils decision.**

Offer of Land at Orchard Road – owner of land would be willing to donate land for recreational use if Parish Council would support an application for a bungalow. Councilors are unable to progress proposal as land is in the green belt. It was suggested clerk find cost of agricultural land for information.

**Action 7.14: Clerk to find cost of agricultural land.**

**NO 8. CORRESPONDENCE.** A letter of thanks was received from St. Thomas a Becket Church for the grant towards the upkeep of the Churchyard.

A letter of thanks was received from Pucklechurch Heartstart Project for the grant for the annual maintenance of three defibrillators.

An email was received from Revel Committee thanking the Council for their support and advising they will be in touch again when they have exact figures.

A letter was received from the Vassall Centre Trust in Fishponds enquiring if the Parish Council could make charitable donations and if so how to apply. Cllr. Watson advised S.G. LINK is based there and the centre is used for training facilities for disabled, home care forum and voluntary bodies. It was proposed by Cllr. Green that on this occasion the Council is unable to help. Seconded by Cllr. Symons. All agreed.

**Action 8.1: Clerk to advise Parish Council is unable to help on this occasion.**

An email was received from Julie Gardner on behalf of St. Thomas a Becket Church and Pucklechurch Primary School. They are planning a joint celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on Friday May 25<sup>th</sup> starting 10.30am with a Mock Coronation in Church. It is to be a two week project exploring the Queen's role, the link with Church and the meaning of the coronation service. The reason for writing is to ask if the Parish Council would fund the purchase of a Diamond Jubilee mug for all the children at the School as a memento of the occasion. The Parish Council is not permitted to spend money to benefit individuals and is therefore unable to help.

**Action 8.2: Clerk to advise Parish Council is not permitted to spend to benefit individuals.**

An email was received from a resident advising vehicles have started parking in Castle Road opposite the doctor's surgery. Some of the vehicles are left there for many hours and this is causing problems for the bus drivers and large farm vehicles. At times they have blocked the driveways of properties in the area and two bollards have been unearthed by vehicles attempting to pass. Following discussion it was agreed the concerns would be put to Inspector Rees and the Police asked to take appropriate action.

**Action 8.3: Clerk to contact Inspector Rees.**

An email was received from Helen Parker asking if they could please be advised who is Parish Council representative for Pucklechurch Twinning Association. The relationship with Pringy is a formal one backed up by signature of a charter signed by both the Parish Council and the Commune of Pringy. The Parish Council has a civic responsibility to maintain links with Pringy. 2013 will be an important year as it is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and it is customary for the Council to give a small gift to their counterpart in Pringy on significant anniversaries.

**Action 8.4: Clerk to advise Cllr. Smith is Twinning representative.  
Council to agree on type and value of gifts**

An email was received from S.G. Enforcement advising their Drainage Engineer has again visited to review the situation at the Meadow View Traveller Site on Shortwood Road. He said a 'trickle' of liquid was flowing out of the entrances onto the highway but that it was not significant enough to cause concern regarding the drainage measures on site. He did note that although the amounts of water were not significant the water was not clear and thought there could be some merit in double checking that the water wasn't contaminated. Enforcement will ask the Environmental Pollution Team to investigate

whether there are in fact any contamination issues. The Traveller Liaison Officers are working with the owners in terms of submitting a planning application. Councilors welcomed the check to determine whether there are any contamination issues and could only assume the weather conditions had improved when the Drainage Engineer visited as at the time the incident was reported the road had been flooded and was potentially dangerous.

**Action 8.5: Clerk to ask SGC to check drainage again during adverse weather.**

Oaktree Avenue Site Visit – reference Village Green Application.

**Action 8.6: Cllr. Watson to attend.**

**NO 9. PLANNING.** The following planning applications were considered and observations made. PK12/0451/F erection of 1 replacement dwelling with attached garage/store 150 Westerleigh Road. No objection.

PK12/0508/F installation of side dormer to facilitate loft conversion. 76 Hawkrig Drive. No objection.

PK12/0498/F erection of 1<sup>st</sup> floor front extension to form additional living accommodation. 1 Goldfinch Way. No objection.

#### **NO 10. REPORTS**

Cllr. Watson attended the ALCA meeting at Charfield.

ALCA Executive will meet on 16<sup>th</sup> February to discuss contracting out ALCA services and re-designing the Executive Committee.

Safer Stronger Community Group meeting 16<sup>th</sup> February.

**NO 11. MEMBERS MATTERS.** Cllr. Watson confirmed Pucklechurch Heartstart Group was happy with funding, SSCG had been unable to help them but alternative funding is available.

Cllr. Watson advised S.G.C. had become a partner in high speed broadband.

Cllr. Boyle has provided evidence of problems with the 689 bus service. This will be forwarded to South Gloucestershire Transport for action.

**Action 11.1: Clerk to contact S.G.C. Transport forward list/log of concerns and request action.**

Cllr. Symons has contacted the Trustees of the Community Centre they welcomed the approach and will support the Parish Council. There is a vacancy for a Trustee and it was suggested that perhaps the Parish Council should take on the Trusteeship.

Cllr. Symons met with the C.A. Executive Committee they fully support working on a questionnaire to consult with the whole community.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

Date of next meeting 21<sup>st</sup> March at 7.30pm.