

**NOTES OF THE PUCKLECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL OPEN SPACES,  
FINANCE AND PLANNING MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE MEETING ROOM, ABSON ROAD.**

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

Ben Stokes Councillor for Boyd Valley. Dean Freestone for Pucklechurch Cricket Club,  
Chris Belcher for Pucklechurch Football Club. Cllr. Lori-Anne Scantlebury representing  
the Pucklechurch Guide/Brownies/Rainbow Group.

Cllr. Symons opened the meeting with a welcome.

**No 1.** Apologies for absence. None.

**No 2.** The notes of the previous meeting dated 1<sup>st</sup> August 2012, previously circulated,  
were agreed a true record and signed.

**No 3.** Public Participation. None.

**No 4.** Open Spaces. Councillors explained they had been looking at and have identified  
land that could potentially be acquired for recreational facilities within the parish. Land  
owners have been contacted and Councillors believe the next step is to involve the  
community and form a project group to take the initiative forward. The Parish Council is  
in the best position to help financially as it has the opportunity to borrow from the Public  
Works Loan Board but they would like input from the local groups to shape what is  
required.

Mr. Freestone spoke on behalf of Pucklechurch Cricket Club advising they are currently  
renting a pitch outside the village and that to have another pitch within the village would  
be an advantage. They would need an area approximately 200mt with changing facilities  
with hot and cold water and a storage facility for roller/mower. There would be no  
problem with them sharing facilities with Pucklechurch Football Club but the square  
would need to be protected. Training facilities were discussed and it was established an  
indoor net would be good but it would require a purpose built building. On the plus side  
an indoor net could be rented out to generate income.

Mr. Belcher confirmed the Football Clubs interest as they also have to rent outside the  
village. The 1<sup>st</sup> team was relegated in 2011 but they will never be able to go back up  
while playing on the recreation field because of the restriction of being unable to erect a  
permanent barrier. They would have no problem sharing with Cricket but changing  
rooms would need to be adjacent to the pitch.

Councillors asked that should a need be established would they have people to commit  
time and effort to lead the project. Mr. Freestone & Mr. Belcher confirmed they could.

Cllr. Lori-Anne Scantlebury spoke for the Pucklechurch Guide group she said they would like a facility that could be used for camping. They would need toilets, climbing wall, a building with kitchen facilities, changing rooms and camping areas. They are fortunate to be able to use land on a local farm but a permanent facility would be a better option and could be used to generate income.

The possibility of creating camping areas between the trees in the woodland was discussed which could also be used by the Youth Club.

The way to take the project forward was discussed.

**Actions: Cricket Club to discuss as an agenda item at their AGM.  
Mr. Belcher to take back to Football Club.  
Parish Council to go ahead with survey for Pucklechurch News.**

Cllr. Symons thanked Mr. Freestone and Mr. Belcher for attending the meeting.

**No 5.** Planning Applications. Cllr. Boyle confirmed the following comments had been submitted. PK12/2509/F 10 Parkfield Road. Objection – Councillors are concerned the increase in size of the replacement garage, both in width and height is out of keeping with the scale and form of the adjacent buildings. Although the proposed new garage is described as 1.5 storeys high the difference between it and the height of the adjacent properties is relatively small. The applicant has taken account of the nature of building materials appropriate to the conservation area; however the use of painted timber cladding on the front elevation of the garage on its gable is not acceptable as this feature would be unsympathetic to the preservation of the character of the conservation area since it is not apparent elsewhere. Also when the painted cladding is taken in conjunction with the expanse of a painted timber double-width garage door, the front elevation of the garage facing towards the road would be out of keeping with the traditional stone built properties surrounding it. The design & Access statement supplied with the application makes reference to a porch planned for Glebe Cottage itself which is described as ‘permitted development’. Councillors query whether or not an ‘Article 4 (2) Direction’ has been served on any properties in the conservation area that would remove permitted development rights for this kind of addition as part of the area’s Preservation & Enhancement Strategy.

PK12/2687/F 85 Parkfield Road, erection of two storey front and side, first floor side and single storey side extension to form additional living accommodation. Erection of front porch. Object on the following grounds: Parish Councillors believe it is possible that the plans that have been submitted may not have taken into account the volume by which the property has already been extended. In particular the construction of the existing two storey side extension appears to have taken place in the late 1970’s. Taking this into account the total volume by which the property would be extended with the proposed new additions is likely to exceed the 30% allowed for and referenced in the Supplementary Planning Document relating to development in the Green Belt. Further to this the design of the extensions, particularly the proposal to render the whole of the front

elevation of the building facing the road cannot be said to compliment the existing original building since it would change its appearance entirely. The current natural stone Victorian house with red brick detailing would no longer be visible. A building with a relatively flat homogeneous frontage such as this would have more of a visual impact on the local street scene and blend less well in the rural setting.

Cllr. Watson asked Ben Stokes if the Ward Councillors received a copy of the Parish Councils response to planning. Ben Stokes said they only see a summary at circulated schedule time and he thought it would be useful to have a copy.

**Action: Clerk to send copy of comments to Ward Councillors in the future.**

A letter was received from the Conservation Officer regarding the former Chapel site. He noticed that in the Pucklechurch Community Plan it advised there was support for the redevelopment of the site as a garden or community facility and that there may be an Action Group set up to promote redevelopment. He wonders if there had been any further discussions within the Parish Council or amongst other Action Groups about the site. Following discussion Councillors agreed that as they had not been able to find volunteers to form an Action Group they would prefer to see a house built on the site that was sympathetic to the listed buildings in the area.

**Action: Clerk to send reply.**

**No 6. Finance.** To consider grant request from P.C.A. It was established that historically:

- a) The Parish Council had funded the P.C.A. when it was in debt, currently it is buoyant.
- b) The Parish Council has already given a grant of £850.00. to repair the Car Park Wall.

Cllr. Symons proposed that a grant of £2150.00. be ring fenced for the P.C.A. so that they can apply against it. Seconded by Cllr. English, all agreed. The letter from the P.C.A. also drew attention to the fact that the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer intended to step down in May 2013 and that it could arise that there will be no Executive Committee to run the Community Centre.

**Action: Clerk to advise the P.C.A.**

**Clerk to circulate copy of C.A. lease.**

Cllr. Symons had made adjustments to the budget following the alterations made at the previous meeting. He explained the difference between the budgeted and actual spend for August saying the over spend was due to hedge cutting at St. Aldams Drive and funding for food for volunteers building the extension to the Cox Grove Hill cycle path. The Council had forecast to spend £58,000.00. this year. £8,000.00. has been allocated for participatory budgeting and £14,000.00. for the Reserve. Cllr. Watson advised A.L.C.A. recommended a reserve equalling half the total income. Cllr. Symons confirmed the Council had agreed to gradually build up the Reserve but said any money not spent could be added to the Reserve.

**No 7.** White lines on steps between Birch Drive and St. Aldams Play Garden. Clerk had received a quotation of £220.42. excluding VAT from S.G.C. to paint the edge of the steps with white masonry paint. It was agreed the clerk would purchase white masonry paint and ask the Parish Orderly to carry out the work.

**Action: Clerk to ask Parish Orderly to paint white lines on edge of steps.**

Clerk advised the Parish Orderly had just resigned giving a months notice as she has sold her property and is moving.

Clerk has received request from resident to be allowed to plant a memorial tree. It was agreed the most appropriate place would be the Community Woodland.

**Action: Clerk to advise Parish Council agreed to memorial tree being planted in the Community Woodland on Westerleigh Rd.**

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

Date of next meeting. 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 7.30pm.