

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 15TH JUNE 2005 IN THE MEETING ROOM, COMMUNITY CENTRE, ABSON RD., PUCKLECHURCH.

PRESENT. O.A. Beg, Chairman, L.J. Whittock, Vice Chairman, Mrs. J.E. Crispin, D.A.E. Holder, R.C. Lee, Mrs. M.C. Palmer, K.W. Whatley.

NO 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. P.J. Green, WK. Skidmore. Cllr. Sandra Grant.

NO 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. None.

NO 3. PRESENTATION ON CODE OF CONDUCT. The Chairman introduced April Begley. April said she was delighted to attend the meeting, she represented Parish Councils on the Standards Committee, which also had a Chair an Independent and Political Party representatives.

The Code of Conduct delivers a high ethical link. Some areas of concern have been identified and S.G.C. had provided some helpful suggestions.

April said there had been very few complaints against Parish Councillors, issues could be petty and sometimes complaints of a malicious nature. In the future complaints would be dealt with locally and this would save the expense of bringing people from London

Mrs. Palmer said you could not over estimate the effect of a malicious complaint as all publicity is directed at the Councillor and she felt the investigation should be made more quickly.

Mr. Holder suggested that complaints should be investigated within say 5days and any enforcement within a time scale of say 1 month, as this would make the process effective.

Mr. Beg said Councillors were always careful about declaring interest; and as there were no further questions thanked April Begley for coming.

NO. 4. LAW & ORDER. Mrs. Palmer asked if the Police Newsletter was available. Clerk confirmed the Delta Serria Newsletter was in circulation.

NO 5. ARISINGS. Mrs. Palmer asked if any advice had been received about the condition of the football pitch on the recreation field. Clerk advised she was waiting for contact names from Mr. Grainger.

Mr. Whittock said that since the withdraw and cancellation of the Motor Cycle Training Centre appeal Mr. Phillips was suggesting he may sell off the land in plots to gypsies. Mr. Lee said that as Mr. Phillips had said under oath at the Public Enquiry that he did not own the land perhaps S.G.C. should be made aware of the situation.

Mrs. Palmer proposed that as Councillors objective was to protect green belt land S.G.C. should be asked to issue an article 4 directive which would protect the land for the future. All agreed.

The minutes of the meeting held 18th May 2005 were agreed a true record and signed.

NO 6. MEMBERS MATTERS. Mr. Whittock advised he and Mr. Green had carried out some pruning and removed brambles from around the parish.

In an effort to try and tidy up the Congregation Chapel grounds by clearing bramble from the pillars on the gate Mr. Whittock noticed and was concerned see that it was only the coping stones holding up the wall. It was agreed clerk should write to the owner of the property again.

Mr. Whittock said Mr. Whatley had trimmed the hedge between the Village Hall and Hill View Rd.

Mr. Lee said that since the re-surfacing of parts of Parkfield Rd the white lines and no parking markings have not been re-painted and he was concerned there could be an accident. Clerk to contact S.G.C.

Mr. Holder expressed concern about hedge and verge encroachment making the pavement between 80 Parkfield Road and Parkfield Rank narrow. Clerk to arrange site meeting with S.G.C. Highways Officer.

Mrs. Crispin has had concern raised by elderly residents that the path between the Homefield Centre and the Poplars Retirement Flats is in need of repair. Clerk to contact S.G.C. Housing.

NO 7. REPORTS. Mr. Holder was concerned about graffiti on the skate park equipment and weeds growing through the tarmac surface.

Mr. Holder said the woodland was superb and suggested pathways could be cut. Clerk said there was grant money available for two more cuts. It was agreed clerk would ask Instant Landscapes to cut the pathways.

NO 8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS. The following applications were considered and observations made:

PK05/1518/TCA works to fell 3no Macrocarpa trees, 9 Shortwood Rd. within Pucklechurch Conservation Area . Mr. Beg declared an interest and took no part in the decision as the trees were on his neighbours property. There were no objections.

PK05/1554/F erection of 1no. storage building, HMP & YOI Ashfield, Shortwood Rd. No objections.

PK05/1639/F erection of detached double garage, 31 Shortwood Rd. No objections.

PK05/1680/F erection of two storey side extension to form additional living accommodation, 38 Hawthorn Close, Pucklechurch. No objections.

NO 9. CORRESPONDENCE. A letter of thanks was received from the Alzheimer's Society for grant of £75.00.

NO 10. A quotation was received from Wizzard Landscapes for the rebuilding of a section of stone wall and the repairing and replacing of the coping in the Burial Ground. Labour and materials £120.00. Councillors agreed to accept the quotation.

NO 11. A letter was received from S.G.C. regarding Shortwood Hill/Main Road, Shortwood advising there were no current plans to extend the weight limit but they agreed to monitor the use of Main Road by Heavy Goods Vehicles.

NO 12. A letter of thanks for supporting keeping Cossham Hospital open was received from the Save Cossham Hospital Group. Throughout the campaign the public consistently requested the installation of a Minor Injuries Unit at the hospital and a consultation is under way.

NO 13. An invitation was received from S.G.C. to attend Further Electoral Review – Open Forum Meetings on the Boundary Committee's Draft Recommendations. Councillors were unable to attend, clerk to request copy of minutes.

NO 14. An invitation was received to attend Kingswood Community Transport AGM at The Civic Centre on the 30th June 05.

NO 15. A letter was received from S.G.C. regarding the 'Children Playing' signs for Parkfield Rank. It confirmed the proposals were discussed three years ago and scheme drawings prepared, however the signs were never erected for which they apologise. The relevant signs will be erected within the next 6-8 weeks.

NO 16. A letter from Defra explained about the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005.

NO 17. Clerk had been in contact with the Revel Chairperson and advised the Gun Dogs and Falconry Display was the main field event and would cost £600.00. Councillors agreed a grant of £300.00.

NO 18. FINANCE. Clerk distributed copies of the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2005. Section one of the Annual Return was checked and signed, section two was agreed, completed and signed.

Clerk confirmed two cheques had been issued on the 3rd June 05. Seed Co. £322.58. this being the 10% contribution towards the grant from S.G.E.B. or new swings for Castle Rd. recreation field. Alheimers Society £75.00. grant.

The following cheques were agreed and signed for payment: Instant Landscapes £1119.77. grass cutting. Town & Country Services £1390.43. for work carried out on Shortwood Play Area and for the installation of a tarmac base for new Bus Shelter on Goldfinch Way. Pucklechurch Community Association £44.00. for use of Meeting Room February – May 05. Mrs. J.M. Sexton £15.00. for the erection and covering with clear vinyl film the map in the bus shelter on Abson Rd. Ensign Print £155.00.

Pucklechurch News. Iain A. Selkirk £110.00. internal audit. Mrs. Anna Sharpe £110.00. Mrs. D. Bailey £284.76. salary £280.00. plus stamps £4.76. Pucklechurch Revel £300.00. grant.

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

Date of next meeting 20th July 2005. at 7.30pm.