

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 16TH SEPTEMBER 2009 IN THE MEETING ROOM, PUCKLECHURCH COMMUNITY CENTRE, ABSON ROAD.

PRESENT. O.A. Beg Chairman, D.A.E. Holder Vice Chairman, P.J. Green, Mrs. M.C. Palmer, M.C. Smith, Mrs. S.E. Turley, M.J. Watson, L.J. Whittock.

Cllr. Sandra Grant.

Mr. Beg opened the meeting with a welcome and thanked Mr. Holder for chairing the last meeting.

NO. 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. R. Symons. Inspector Thatcher.

NO 2. PUPPIC PARTICIPATION. None.

NO 3. LAW & ORDER. P.C. Skelton emailed to advise he has submitted a report for the next issue of Pucklechurch News.

NO 4. MATTERS ARISING. Item 4 reference grants. Mr. Watson confirmed that grants applied for through the Safer Stronger South Gloucestershire Group needed to be put on their agenda for discussion and then applied for.

The minutes of the meeting dated 19th August 2009 were agreed a true record and signed.

NO 5. FINANCE. Mr. Symons had prepared a budget update for Councillors. Mr. Holder confirmed the quarterly budget meeting had taken place and that as shown spending was on target.

Clerk has quotation from H.J. Jefferies Ltd to level 5no headstone and bases and supply 5no new concrete covers and NAMM bars £1100.00. plus VAT. Clerk explained that any levelling would have to be carried out as per the new legislation. Councillors thought the price was rather high. It was proposed by Mrs Palmer that the quotation be accepted subject to clerk obtaining two more quotations and the price being the lowest.

Clerk confirmed the audit of accounts to 31st March 2009 had been completed and that the Annual Return would be displayed for 14days and the electorate advised they could inspect and make copies.

The following cheques were agreed for payment and signed. Glasdon U.K. Ltd. £57.89. black bags for bins. P.C.A. £57.50. 3 Parish Council and 2 Parish Plan Meetings. Town & Country Services £149.50. skip changeover in Burial Ground. Ensign Print £206.00. Pucklechurch News. Mazars £327.75. internal auditor. Mr. & Mrs. Hall £90.00. 2nd payment of rent for Shortwood Play Area. Mrs. A. Sharpe £125.00. Mrs. D. Bailey £312.82. salary £310.66. + £2.16. stamps. Instant Landscapes £604.90. grass cutting.

NO 6. MEMBERS MATTERS. A question was raised about parking on the wide pavement opposite St. Thomas a Becket Church. Councillors discussed the criteria that should be applied and it was agreed guidance and a request to park considerately should be included in the Chairman's report for the next issue of Pucklechurch News.

6a) Mr. Smith apologised that he not been able to produce the tri-fold information leaflet but advised he would email a copy to Councillors before the next meeting.

6b) Mr. Smith advised there had been an HGV parked in Becket Court one evening and he had been informed that lorries were not allowed in the Trading Estate at night unless it was their home base. Having lorries parked in the residential area is not helpful, clerk to write to Segro to ask if an area could be made available inside the Trading Estate.

6c) Mr. Smith expressed concern about local business's being converted to housing and suggested Councillors should discuss 'policy criteria' for dealing with this as an agenda item for the future.

6d) Mr. Green expressed concern about the amount of wood outside a property on Shortwood Hill. Councillors agreed clerk should contact S.G.C. as they are concerned that with the approach of bonfire night it is a potential fire hazard.

6e) Mr. Watson raised concern that the hedge outside nos 28 & 29 Main Road Shortwood have become very wide and are pushing vehicles into the centre of the road. Clerk to contact S.G.C.

6f) Mr. Watson said he thought the suggestion of backing up Parish Council data on an external hard drive should go ahead. All agreed.

6g) Mr. Watson expressed concern that a property on the corner of Eagle Crescent appeared to be running a car repair business on the side of the road. Mr. Watson to check address to enable clerk to contact S.G.C. Enforcement.

NO 7. REPORTS. Mr. Holder reported 60 children had attended the summer play scheme and that they had been brilliant and a credit to the village.

Mr. Holder reported work was advancing on the Community Hall volunteers were painting the doors and window grills, the radiators have been upgraded on one side of the hall and the shutters are now in a working condition. He has had a meeting about the trees and is hoping that with a grant from Revel to be able to get the work done within the next couple of months. To improve the appearance of the end wall they hope to erect a mural constructed from marine ply.

Mr. Green attended the Parish Charter Group meeting, poor attendance at A.L.C.A. meetings was discussed and the fact that not all parishes were registered. There was discussion about creating a list of people reference training needs, it was also suggested

broadband should be at no charge to Parish Councils. S.G.C. is increasingly moving towards Idock internal mail, there was discussion about the problem of confidentiality and how long information should remain available. Bristol City Councils proposal to submit plans for Cossham Hospital was mentioned along with the proposal to cancel buses on Sundays.

Mr. Green attended the Waste Management Meeting and reported Sita were re-submitting the planning application for an I.V.C. at Tormarton. A large part of the meeting had been taken up discussing 'love food, hate waste' it was suggested that offers of 'buy one get one free' often create waste because they go out of date before people use them.

NO 8. STANDING ORDERS AND RISK ASSESSMENT. Clerk confirmed she had sent a copy of the Risk Assessment to A.L.C.A. they confirmed it seemed adequate, they also suggested the guide on their web site could be consulted. The chairman signed the Standing Orders and Risk Assessment.

NO 9. BURIAL GROUND. Discussions were held regarding burial ground extension, it was agreed the debate should be continued next month.

NO 10. RECREATION FIELD FENCE. Clerk confirmed that subject to the project being registered with Entrust, their regulatory body, a grant of £7900.00. had been approved by the Trustees of Cory Environmental. Revel Committee has also agreed to fund the third party 10%. Councillors discussed the quotations to replace the post and rail fence with bow top railings from Wizzard Landscapes £9987.00. plus VAT, and Town & Country Services £9942.00. plus VAT. As the Council has employed both contractors before and their work was satisfactory it was agreed to accept the lowest tender.

NO 11. CONSERVATION AREA S.P.D. Councillors had looked at and been very impressed with South Gloucestershire Councils Conservation Area draft Supplementary Planning Document for Siston. Mrs. Palmer proposed a letter be sent asking if priority could be given to preparing an S.P.D. for Pucklechurch due to green belt issues.

NO 12. PLANNING APPLICATIONS. The following applications were considered and observations made. PK09/5217/TCA works to 1no Horse Chestnut tree to reduce and shape by 50% and reduce by 33% row of 4no Leylandii situated in Pucklechurch Conservation Area, 18 Shortwood Road. Mr. Beg declared an interest. No objections.

PK09/5098/F erection of Industrial Canopy. Nightfreight (G.B.) Ltd, Pucklechurch Trading Estate. Councillors supported this application providing there is no other light pollution but they had concern that additional outside working could increase the existing litter problem.

An email was received from S.G.C. advising they have been reviewing the number of documents being sent out relating to planning applications. To improve the process, reduce paper usage they intend to cease production of paper copies of weekly received

applications and applications decided under delegated powers and the monthly list of decided applications from 1st Oct 09. Instead each week or month they will email a direct link to the Planning Lists area of the website thus providing immediate access to the most up-date list (or historic lists). They will continue to send paper copies of all new applications and decision notices relevant to our area.

NO 13. CORRESPONDENCE. An email was received from South Gloucestershire Citizens Advice Bureau advising they were unable to advise the number of cases supported in Pucklechurch Parish from their data. They would be able to provide an estimate of numbers if given the Ward name.

NO 14. An invitation was received to attend the Avonside Calor Village of the Year 2009 Award Ceremony on Saturday 14th November at 11.30am at Tyntesfield.

NO 15. A letter was received from S.G.C. advising they have a number of voluntary litter pickers, both organised groups and individuals, who help to improve the cleanliness of the area important to them. An increasing number of areas are now being served by voluntary litter pickers, who make a real difference to the cleanliness of their local area. They are writing to all Parish Councils to ask if they are able to provide contact details for any voluntary litter pickers who may not be receiving support from S.G.C. they are also happy to provide advice for anyone interested in establishing a group. Councillors are aware of residents that have adopted roads/areas and it was agreed clerk would contact S.G.C. to ask what incentives are available to encourage people so that a request for volunteers could be placed on the web site.

NO 16. An email was received from Lynne English enclosing a copy of her letter to S.G.C. regarding the plans for the proposed play garden.

NO 17. An email was received from a young lady on St. Aldams Drive regarding the proposed play garden. It was agreed clerk would send copy of the letter to Tina Rainey at S.G.C. and also ask if the date for the residents meeting has been organised.

NO 18. An invitation for Parish Councils and Transport Forum representatives to attend the PTSE Select Committee meeting was received. The meeting should provide a useful opportunity to put forward concerns directly to Rail Network representatives and to hear first hand the latest position with regard to a wide range of rail related issues.

NO 19. An email was received from Steve Grudgings advising he would like to produce some form of publication on Parkfield and the area Collieries, he is looking for anyone who worked at the pit or a close relative with a good recollection. He would also like the opportunity to photograph any remaining pictures, documents and artefacts relating to Parkfield and the local pits. He is considering running a 'surgery' to collect material, memories or contacts and is asking if the Parish Council would support this perhaps offer use of village hall, putting up notices etc? Clerk to confirm Councillors are happy to support.

NO 20. Mr. Watson suggest Council should write to Steve Webb M.P. asking him to sign the early day motion in support of the Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill. He believes it is important that the amendment becomes law as it will give more power to town and parish councils. All agreed.

NO 21. Mr. Beg advised the Remembrance Day Service at St. Thomas a Becket Church is Sunday 8th November at 10.45am.

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

Date for next meeting 21st October 09 at 7.30pm.