

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 19TH DECEMBER 2007 IN THE MEETING ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL, ABSON ROAD.

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

Cllr. S. Grant.

NO 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. None.

NO 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. None.

NO 3. LAW & ORDER. A resident has been given the telephone numbers of P.C. Skelton and Ashley Roland his PSCO as there are problems by the underpass.

NO 4. ARISINGS. Mr. Whittock confirmed problem of water lifting the tarmac on the junction of Hill View Rd/Castle Rd. has been marked.

Reference Meadow View, Shortwood Road clerk confirmed an acknowledgement had been received advising Councillors concerns would be investigated by S.G.C. Planning Enforcement team. Mr. Watson said he had driven up the lane at the side of Meadow View and observed levelling and tarmac work taking place and mobile homes being replaced. He was also concerned to see that the site has been extended from behind. Mrs. Palmer said extra areas of tarmac could cause additional water run off on Shortwood Rd. It was agreed clerk would contact S.G.C. advise what had been observed and request an update.

Clerk confirmed she had accepted the quotation from Greenman Environmental Management Ltd for the tree works.

NO 5. MEMBERS MATTERS. Mr. Whittock said he thought new Councillors may like to know that the smaller stones around the millennium stone had come from the old bridge that went over the railway at Shortwood and that underneath one of them is a time capsule.

Reference Village of the Year competition the poor results last year were due to untidiness in Feltham Rd., Shortwood Rd and the lane leading to Becket Court. Mr. Smith suggested that for next year we look for volunteers to adopt a road.

Mr. Whittock said the broken rail on the fence near Birch Drive had been replaced.

Mr. Whittock has had concern raised that cars are parking on the bus stop by the School and restricting visibility for the patrol crossing lady. Clerk to contact S.G.C. and ask if lines indicating 'bus stop' could be painted on the road.

Mr. Green drew attention to the Woodland sign saying it needed refurbishing.

Mr. Smith said the Revel Christmas Tree was up and lit but he had received concern that the power box, which runs off the light for the Millennium Stone, had water in it.

Mr. Smith said that at a Revel Meeting people had expressed concern that the Rose & Crown Public House had been asked to remove their advertising board on the junction of Westerleigh Rd/Parkfield Rd. Mr. Smith had suggested they write to Parish Council and apply formally for a proper brown sign.

Mrs. Palmer asked that S.G.C. be contacted as the pavement through the village was covered in leaves.

NO 6. REPORTS. Mr. Whittock had attended the Forum Meeting, Street Care had given an interesting talk about their aims and targets. Also Tina Rainey had suggested that if Parish Council were to identify areas around the entrances to the village she may be able to fund some planting.

Mr. Watson had attended S.G.C. Planning 20 –26 Vision presentation, the purpose of the consultation was to receive the public's thoughts as to what was most important for South Gloucestershire. The meeting seemed to be made up of special interest groups who hijacked the meeting. Mr. Watson asked clerk to circulate documents from the consultation.

Mr. Watson had attended the Safer Stronger Community Group Meeting at Marshfield. A guidance committee was formed and parishes were asked to put forward volunteers, Mr. Watson confirmed he had agreed to represent Pucklechurch. Public Meetings to talk about local issues were planned and would be chaired by the Parish Council Chairman or representative. Cllr Grant confirmed the next meeting would be held in Pucklechurch. Mr. Smith asked if this was something the newly formed Good Neighbour Scheme could become involved in. Mr. Watson thought it may be appropriate.

Mr. Holder reported that as a direct result of the Community Plan Questionnaire a Good Neighbour Scheme had been set up and was running the Environmental Group has had one meeting, and the Gardening Group was carefully matching people needing help with helpers. Progress with the questionnaires was slow but advancing, £1500.00. was in the kitty and they are trying to access more funding.

Mr. Holder had attended the Heritage Forum at Yate it appeared to be in a healthy position and Mr. Peter Aze is the chairman.

Mr. Smith advised the Community Plan Traffic Group had been having difficulty accessing help from S.G.C. The clerk had passed on contact names, these officers were very helpful, some surveys were now in place but some budget will be required.

Mr. Holder said he had attended the Christmas Extravaganza at HMP & YOI Ashfield it had been a very good and enjoyable afternoon.

NO 7. PLANNING. The following planning application was considered PK07/3612/F for retention of 2no. agricultural storage buildings and 1.2m high wooden entrance gates (Retrospective). Land adjacent to 166 Westerleigh Rd. Pucklechurch. Councillors had no objection to the Hay and Fodder Store but objected to the Implements Store for the following reasons: 1. The material the store is constructed from is inappropriate in a rural location and more suitable to an urban

location. 2. The store is disproportionate and detracts from the visual amenity. 3. Councillors questioned the need for so large a shed to support so small an area of agricultural land. Councillors also wanted to make S.G.C. aware that there were other buildings, and wrought iron gates, which are inappropriate in a rural location, on the site, that were not included on the application.

NO 8. CORRESPONDENCE. A letter had been received from Pucklechurch Twinning Association explaining that in 2008 they celebrate 20years since the Twinning Charter was signed between the Parish of Pucklechurch and the Council of Pringy, Seine-et-Marne. They are planning to re-sign the charter as they did for the 10th anniversary and are organising a formal dinner on Sunday 20th April when the Charter will be re-signed and representatives of the Parish Council invited to attend. Almost all their fund raising is from the efforts of their members and they wonder if for this special anniversary the Parish Council could contribute towards the cost of the celebrations. Mr. Beg and Mr. Smith declared an interest, being involved in Twinning. Mr. Holder said twinning was a strong social body open to everyone, Mrs Palmer said they were focussed in supporting young families. Mr. Watson said that as it was an Official Meeting with a formal dinner they should give a grant towards the cost of the event. Mr. Holder proposed a grant of £250.00. seconded by Mrs. Palmer. Voting 7 for 2 abstained declaring an interest.

NO 9. A copy of S.G.C. formal consultation – Proposed Traffic Signal Junction – Westerleigh Rd/Shorthill Road Crossroads, Westerleigh & proposed one-way/left turn only on existing slip lanes was received. Clerk to confirm Councillors agreement.

NO 10. An email was received from S.G.C. asking for nomination for Community Awards by 25.1.08.

NO 11. FINANCE. A quotation was received from Mr. D. Gay for the cutting of grass in the New Burial Ground for the 2008 season of £556.00. Councillors agreed to accept the quotation.

A letter was received from Pucklechurch Community Association advising it has become necessary to increase charges with effect from 1st January 08. The cost for the use of the meeting room will be £11.50.

The following cheques were agreed for payment and signed. Mr. D. Gay £540.00. grass cutting in New Burial Ground for 2007 season. Pucklechurch Community Assoc. £63.00. 3 Parish Council Meeting Sept., Oct., Nov. and 2 Community Meetings Good Neighbour 27.9.07 and Environment 1.10.07. Instant Landscapes £45.53. extra cut recreation field. D.W. Parsons £281.24. being VAT due for work carried out between June 06 - Feb 07 and July 07 - Sept 07. Ensign Print £220.00. Pucklechurch News. Mrs. A. Sharpe £115.50. D. Bailey £295.70. salary £294.00. plus stamps £1.70. Mr. L. Whittock £5.88. expenses (Creosote).

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

Date of Next Meeting. 16th January 2008 at 7.30pm.

