

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

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

Steve Reade & Ben Stokes Cllrs. for Boyd Valley.

Cllr. Symons opened the meeting with a welcome.

**NO 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** E. Aze (Holiday) M.S. Watson sent apologies as he would be a little late due to a previous meeting.

**NO 2. TO SIGN THE MINUTES.** The minutes of the meeting held 18<sup>th</sup> July had been circulated. Cllr. Smith advised there were some amendments he would like to be made. It was agreed Cllr. Smith would email amendments to clerk and the minutes would be signed at the meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> September.

**Action: Cllr. Smith to email amendments.**

**NO 3. LOG.** The open items on the log were reviewed and the following actions agreed.

Letter to Royal Mail reference closure of Mangotsfield Sorting Office – clerk to request reply for next meeting.

**Action: Clerk to contact Royal Mail requesting reply to previous letter.**

Cllr. Symons advised he has not received a reply from the H.R. Company. Cllr. Symons to write again.

**Action: Cllr. Symons to write to H.R. Company again.**

Public footpath closed behind Laurel Farm – SGC advised the temporary closure has been extended until 4<sup>th</sup> December. Clerk to advise Rights of Way that parish is not happy with the extended closure and concerned that the path is now very overgrown and who will clear it when it is re-opened.

**Action: Clerk to contact Rights of Way.**

Public right of way issues at Stables off Redford Lane. Cllr. Smith advised that this issue was raised with enforcement during the initial development of the stables and we had a reply saying it would be resolved shortly. It is now several months and nothing has been done. This issue had been omitted from the log.

**Action: Cllr. Smith to provide information on blocked right of way.**

**Action: Clerk to re-instate this item in the log.**

Speed Watch – Cllr Smith advised he has asked Speed Watch to come to the next Pucklechurch Parish Council Surgery. Cllr. Reade advised the Speed Watch signs that they have been waiting for are now ready. He said Jackie Ward is keen to reinvigorate

and bring Speed Watch Groups together rather than have them working in isolation. Cllr. Reade agreed to pick up the signs, talk to the Chairman and ask him to attend the next Parish Council Surgery. Clerk to email Cllr. Reade with date and time of Parish Council Surgery.

**Action: Clerk to email date and times of Parish Council Surgery.**

Stickers on signs on Shortwood Road. Clerk to contact S.G.C. Parish Council to consider cleaning sign themselves and billing S.G.C. if they cannot do the work.

**Action: Clerk to contact S.G.C.**

Yellow lines around car park outside Homefield Centre. S.G.C. has confirmed the lines are on private land and there is nothing Enforcement or Street Care can do. Cllr. Smith said residents and the local Traffic Group were against yellow lines in the village. It was agreed clerk would write to Merlin Housing explaining there are concerns about yellow lines and that we would appreciate it if they used a different method to deter parking.

**Action: Clerk to write to Merlin House.**

**NO 4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.** None.

**NO 5. LAW & ORDER.** Cllr. Watson expressed concern that policing in the Boyd Valley area has dropped to an unacceptable level. It was agreed the subject would be raised at the next Safer Stronger Community Group Meeting. Cllr. Green to attend.

**Action: Cllr. Green to attend S.S.C.G. meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August at Doynton Village Hall.**

**NO 6. FINANCE.** The following cheques were agreed for payment and Cllr. Green and Cllr. English instructed to sign. Clerk confirmed two cheques had been signed during the month for funding of food for the volunteers undertaking the construction of the extension to the Cyclepath at Coxgrove Hill (M.Skidmore £62.80. and R. Payne £199.86.) clerk confirmed there is one more payment to be made. Instant Landscapes £656.01. grass cutting. S.J. Aplin Playgrounds Ltd. £115.66. supply and fit new swing seat. Greenman Environmental Management £624.00. pruning hedge between Play Garden and St. Aldams Drive. P.C.A. £85.00. hire of meeting room for 1 P.C. meeting, 1 Open Spaces Committee, 1 Parish Surgery and 4 sessions of Youth Club. Mrs. A. Sharpe £178.00. Mr. J. Long £398.80. Parish Orderly. D. Bailey £354.72. being salary £319.97. + stamps £7.00. + padlock £7.50. + Tel. £30.00.

**NO 7. AGENDA ITEMS.** To consider Policy for Graffiti. Cllr. Smith had prepared and circulated the document. It was proposed by Cllr. Watson that the policy for Graffiti be accepted. Seconded by Cllr. Boyle. All agreed.

Community Plan. Cllr. Smith confirmed the first stage of the work to construct the shared path use between Coxgrove Hill and Yate has been completed and opened by chair of South Gloucestershire Council, Cllr. Biggin. There is a delay on Phase II the Esso oil pipeline crosses the path and work has been stopped until further notice. They are hoping to start again by the end of August but depending on weather conditions may

have to wait until next Spring. Advertising for volunteers is on the web site, Matthew Skidmore is the volunteer co-ordinator and has received quite a number of responses.

The Countryside Access Group has identified two people to help with the equestrian side and they are getting involved. On the footpath project a survey of two circular walking routes has been carried out. The intention is all walks will be published electronically with the best walks being printed.

With regard to the other actions in the community plan Cllr. Symons asked for suggestions as to how volunteers could be found to help implement schemes identified in the Community Plan. It was suggested that bigger projects ie land for sport facilities and makeover of Village Hall should be 'project based' whereby groups of interested people get together lead the project and make the decisions. It was suggested the Parish Surgery on the 1<sup>st</sup> September could informally look at the Community Plan and identify suitable projects.

Tri-fold Document. It was suggested that rather than a group photograph members email individual photograph to Cllr. Smith. Cllr. Symons to provide up to date financial information. Leaflet to include major achievements and things on the horizon

**Action: All Councillors to supply a passport style photo to Cllr. Smith.**

**Action: Cllr. Smith to circulate text of the last leaflet and all Councillors to review and comment on content.**

To consider grant for C.A. At the previous meeting Mrs. Sharpe and Mr. Lugg had agreed to ask Mr. Holder to provide details of proposed grant expenditure. This information has not been provided therefore Councillors were unable to make a decision.

**Action: Clerk to contact Mr. Holder.**

Parish Council Surgery. One person had visited the Surgery concerned about The Bridge Inn in Shortwood. Since the recent take over there have been a number of cases of anti-social behaviour which is believed to be associated with the Pub. The person attending the Surgery had a petition signed by 30/40 residents that he intended taking to S.G.C. Licensing Officer on Monday morning. Councillors had suggested the issue be raised with Safer Stronger Community Group.

Emergency Planning Update. Cllr. Smith advised he and the clerk had met with Hayley Brazier the Emergency Planning Officer for S.G.C. The Toolkit and guidance notes were discussed the document will be global but specific to our area. Cllr. Smith put forward some suggestion that will be looked at. S.G.C. is looking to undertake a parish pilot and has been working with Mangotsfield Rural Council but should they be unable to continue may look to work with Pucklechurch. There is a lot of work to be done and community involvement is essential. Dates/opportunities when the community could be encouraged to get involved were discussed. Procedures will need to be put in place and we will have to look at identifying vulnerable people and establishing evacuation procedures.

**NO 8. CORRESPONDENCE.** A letter and survey was received from S.G. Heritage Forum. It was agreed Cllr. Boyle would complete and return the survey.

**Action: Cllr. Boyle to complete and return survey.**

A request for a funding contribution towards the ongoing work to support victims and witnesses of crime living in the Pucklechurch area was received from Victim Support. As there were no figures to suggest how many residents had been helped the Council was unable to offer support.

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

A copy of a letter sent to P.C. Topps regarding the Pucklechurch Village Sports & Social Club was received. The contents were noted.

A reply was received from the Gloucester Records Office advising they would like to have the paperwork generated from the production of the Community Plan to preserve in the Archives, amongst the records of the Parish Council. Cllr. Smith said he thought the Records Office may not realise how much paperwork had been generated.

**Action: Clerk to contact Records Office to check what they would like.**

**NO 9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION.** PK12/2446/F erection of single storey rear extension to form living accommodation. 29 Main Road, Shortwood. No objection.

PK04/1965/O land at Emersons Green East – land to east of Avon Ring Road South of M4 Motorway and north west of disused railway line. Revised proposals. Cllr. Boyle confirmed the revised proposal was an Environmental Statement. No objection.

Certificate of lawful use 5 Queens Road, Pucklechurch. No objection.

Cllr. Boyle advised the planning application for 85a Parkfield Road was on hold pending special circumstances. Mrs. Ayres has sited her health as a special circumstance but the Planning Officer has said her health has no bearing as she is not living there.

**NO 10. CALENDAR.** A review of the calendar was undertaken.

**NO 11.** Cllr. Reade advised he has called in the planning application for The Stables on Abson Hill and would like someone to speak at the Site/Committee meeting.

Cllr. Reade advised it has been agreed the residual fund of ex HRA money should be divided equally between the six parishes forming the Boyd Valley Ward. £873.00. per parish is available to be spent on something that is beneficial to the whole community and must not be exclusive in nature. The item must be agreed by the relevant South Glos Officer before the funds can be released.

Cllr. Reade advised there is a restriction on Parish Councils bidding for money at the Kings Forest Forum and he is trying to get the restriction removed.

Cllr. Reade advised reference the petition for Youth Funding he is grateful for the support.

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

Date of next meeting: 5<sup>th</sup> September 2012 at 7.30pm.

Date of Parish Council Surgery: 1<sup>st</sup> September 2012 10am – 12o'clock.