

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 15TH AUGUST 2007 IN THE MEETING ROOM, PUCKLECHURCH COMMUNITY CENTRE, ABSON ROAD.

PRESENT. Mrs. M.C. Palmer, M.C. Smith, R. Symons, M.S. Watson, L.J. Whittock.

Cllr. Sandra Grant.

It was proposed by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Whittock that Mrs Palmer chair the meeting in the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman. All agreed.

Mrs. Palmer welcomed everyone to the meeting.

NO 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. O.A. Beg Chairman, D.A.E. Holder Vice Chairman, P.J. Green, Mrs. S.E. Turley.

NO 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. Cllr. Grant was invited to speak. She said that for clarification she would like to say that residents concerned about flooding and sewage had approached her. She had not realised the Parish Council was dealing with the problem as she only receives an agenda and minutes not correspondence, if she had been aware she would have informed the residents. She had delivered letters to people living in the vicinity of the proposed works telling them about the meeting because she thought it was important they were kept informed. She did not invite them to the meeting but suggested they contact the clerk if they wanted more information.

After discussion it was agreed that Cllr. Grant should receive copies of reports but not correspondence.

A letter was read from Mr. Mail, it had been his intention to attend the meeting but due to unforeseen circumstances was unable. Mr. Mail listed a number of concerns he wished to draw to the Councils attention. Mr. Mail also indicated he had filled in a questionnaire requesting a meeting with someone from the Council but so far no one had contacted him.

It was agreed that as the majority of the concerns raised by Mr. Mail were the responsibility of S.G.C. the letter should be forwarded to Mr. Speding Street Care Manager.

Mr. Smith said he presumed the questionnaire mentioned was the one produced for the Community Plan. He explained that the Steering Group had collected 1900 questionnaires and that the information was being entered onto a data base for analysis. The intention was to pass on all information/requests but as this is huge task it will take some time. Mr. Watson offered to contact and visit Mr. Mail to discuss the points raised.

NO 3. LAW & ORDER. Mr. Whittock said Mr. Broad had still not received a response from P.C. Skelton. It was agreed clerk would contact Inspector Krouwel expressing disappointment.

NO 4. ARISINGS & TO AGREE AND SIGN MINUTES. Mr. Watson said the 'Oaktree Avenue' road sign was obscured and he was concerned about a low limb on the Willow tree in Partridge Rd. Mr. Whittock offered to remove the limb.

Mr. Watson said the Heritage Steam Train trip had been well attended and had been an enjoyable evening.

The minutes of the meeting held 18th July 07 were agreed a true record and signed.

NO 5. MEMBERS MATTERS. Mr. Whittock said the tree obscured the light on the zebra crossing on Abson Rd. Clerk to contact S.G.C.

Mr. Whittock said two graves in the Burial Ground had been planted with flowers. It was agreed clerk would speak to the family advising the plot should be allowed to grass over but that the flowers could remain until levelling work commenced.

Mr. Smith said the 40mph sign on Westerleigh Rd was obscured, also the shrub/hedge on the grass verge on Abson Rd needed pruning.

Residents in Parkfield are concerned as to what is happening with 'The Meadows' encampment. Mrs Palmer confirmed the temporary consent expired July 2007. It was agreed clerk would write to Planning Enforcement asking for an update on the current situation/confirmation that the land was being vacated.

Mr. Smith had concern raised about a boat being parked on the road in Parkfield Rank. Cllr. Grant advised S.G.C. were still looking into the problem of parking at Parkfield Rank.

Mr. Symons asked if the 'S.G.C. Review of Gypsy/Traveller Provision' consultation document being circulated could be included as an agenda item for discussion.

Mrs. Palmer said the tubs on the island at the junction of Parkfield Rd./Westerleigh Rd. looked very attractive. Councillors agreed clerk should send letter of thanks to Mrs. Trueman.

NO 6. REPORTS. Mr. Smith said that at the meeting with Wessex Water there were several members of public and he had agreed to include an article in Pucklechurch News indicating the basic principle of the proposed works. The main concerns of the community were:

1. Sewage spilling into streets particularly at corner of Abson Rd/Feltham Rd but also the bottom of Oaktree Ave and the area of Partridge Rd and Hawkrigde Drive.
2. Flooding and sewage in Feltham Road between Abson Road and Feltham Brook
3. Impact of further development (Residential and Commercial) within the catchment area on the surface water and sewage systems.
4. Sewage contamination in Feltham.
5. Sewage contamination of Farmland.

It transpired during the meeting that Wessex Water currently have a consented discharge which allows them to discharge into the ditch on the north side of Feltham Rd. The proposed work, to install a sewer tank with 6mm screen, is being carried to fulfil their obligation to the Environment Agency, it will not solve other issues with the sewer system.

During the meeting Mr. Simpson in Marsh Farm expressed concern that the installation of a large diameter pipe in Feltham Rd may result in there being insufficient space left to upgrade the surface water system. This was felt to be an important point that needed to be discussed with S.G.C.

Wessex were asked if they had considered upgrading the entire sewer from Feltham Road to the treatment plant and installing holding tanks at the plant. This had been discussed but rejected on cost grounds.

The Parish Council is concerned that the current proposal does not go far enough. Mr. Smith agreed to reply on behalf of Councillors.

Mrs. Palmer confirmed she had attended the Planning Enquiry for the Meadow View Gypsy/Traveller site on Shortwood Rd together with Mr. Holder and Mr. Watson. Parish Councillors had their say and a decision is expected by 31st August.

NO 7. PLANNING. The following application was considered. PK07/2340/RM erection of 1no detached dwelling. (Approval of reserved matters to be read in conjunction with outline planning permission PK04/0664/O). 5 Castle Rd., Pucklechurch. No objections.

Councillors agreed the copy of the 'Development in the Green Belt June 2007 Supplementary Planning Document' was very useful. Clerk to request extra copies.

NO 8. CORRESPONDENCE. A letter from S.G.C. confirmed the alleged breach of planning control Londis Store, Westerleigh Rd was being investigated.

NO 9. A letter from Western Power Distribution regarding the possibility of placing overhead electricity lines underground was received. They regret to advise that the cost of such an exercise would be far too expensive for them to undertake. However as part of a national survey they are looking at all overhead lines to check that they are in line with new government guidelines and believe that some of the lines close to the church may have to be either diverted/changed to a different type of cable system or placed underground. They are happy to meet on site to discuss the matter further if wished. Mrs. Palmer was also concerned about the overhead cables at Parkfield Rank. It was agreed clerk would request a site visit.

NO 10. A letter from Mr. & Mrs. Kenworth, Beech House Management, confirmed the offending hedge had been cleared.

NO 11. An email had been received from S.G.C. Mapping Department attaching scale of map that could be provided and advising cost of A1 laminated print £57.00.

After discussion it was agreed clerk would request the following maps: Pucklechurch Village A1, Parkfield A2, Shortwood A2, Parish A1.

NO 12. A letter from Avon & Somerset Constabulary invited Councillors to the Safer & Stronger Community Group Meeting. The aim of the group is to facilitate action that ensures a safer and stronger community, working to promote pride in the community as a safe, thriving and pleasant place in which to work and live. The meeting will take place Wick Village Hall on Tues 25th September at 6pm. Mr Symons and Mr. Watson agreed to attend.

NO 13. An invitation was received to attend South Gloucestershire's Voluntary Voices Annual Conference 10th Oct. 10.30 – 3pm at Turnberrie's (Thornbury's New Community Building) Bath Rd. Thornbury.

NO 14. An invitation was received to the formal launch of South Gloucestershire's SureStart Children's Centres 3rd Sept. between 10am and 2pm.

NO 15. A letter from S.G.C. confirmed they are required to carry out a review of polling districts and polling places to ensure all electors have reasonable facilities for voting and to ensure polling stations are accessible to all. Clerk to confirm Councillors are happy with arrangements for Pucklechurch and Shortwood.

NO 16. FINANCE. The following cheques were agreed and signed for payment. A.L.C.A. £23.30. Councillor information packs. Pitman Engineering £240.87. replacing two 60.3mm tubular struts on swings in recreation field. D.W. Parsons £106.00. emergency repair to recreation field fence. Mrs. A. Sharpe £115.50. D. Bailey £330.12. being salary £294.00. + stamps £6.12. + tele. £30.00.

There being no further business Mrs. Palmer declared the meeting closed.

Date of next meeting 19th September at 7.30pm.