

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2008 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, R. Symons, M.C. Smith, M.S. Watson, L.J. Whittock.

**NO 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Cllr S Turley.

**NO 2. PRESENTATION BY SOVEREIGN HOUSING.** Mr. Beg introduced South Gloucestershire Councils Enabling Team and Leslie Holding Sovereign Housing. Leslie Holding explained they had taken on board comments received following the previous proposal and the new application was for 62 units, previously 92, and a Doctors Surgery. The application is for housing on the left hand side of the land and the Doctors Surgery and public open space (formal play area) on the right. The application is for mixed tenure properties 1/3<sup>rd</sup> shared ownership, 1/3<sup>rd</sup> outright, 1/3<sup>rd</sup> affordable, spread throughout the site.

Following the presentation Councillors asked a number of questions, they were disappointed with the plans and felt they mirrored properties on Emerson's Green, which is fine for a new modern urban extension but not for a village location. Councillors confirmed they were pleased with the re-development on Poplar Drive and had hoped the proposal for Oaktree Avenue would be similar, moving away from the style of the existing properties on the Estate. Concern was expressed that there was insufficient parking provision. Councillors were pleased to see that a footway was planned for one side of Oaktree Avenue but concerned it did not extend to the whole length.

Leslie Holding said the Planners were happy with their proposal but they were not averse to looking again if there were strong views.

Mr. Beg thanked Sovereign Housing and the Enabling Team for their presentation.

**NO 3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.** Mr. Simpson said that Wessex Water had completed the work on Feltham Road and he wanted to raise awareness of the following.

- The combined sewer overflow has been constructed above ground rather than below.
- A stonewall has been built without planning consent.
- There is no guard protecting the underground pipe.
- Soil has been placed on the verges but no grass seed sown.

**NO 4. LAW & ORDER.** Mr. Watson advised a meeting of the Safer South Gloucestershire Group has been arranged for 29<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm at the Police Station.

Mr. Whittock was concerned about problems with youths on Eagle Crescent play area, PCSO Ashley Roland had attended and spoken to youths one evening, the following evening he had attended again but a parent challenged his authority. P.C. Skelton

attended but it appears he was unable to do anything as there was a responsible adult there. Councillors asked clerk to contact P.C. Skelton about the alleged incident as it appears his authority has been undermined.

**NO 5. ARISINGS.** Councillors asked if there was an update from Enforcement regarding the Londis Shop Sign. Clerk confirmed no update had been received. Mr. Watson said that at the Parish Charter meeting he had spoken to Brain Glasson about concern over enforcement. It was agreed clerk would write to Enforcement and request a copy of their policy.

The telephone box outside the Post Office has not been repaired and the dog waste bin on the recreation field has not been re-erected. Clerk to check.

Montague Harris clerk reported registration with Land Registry costs £40.00. plus the Solicitors fee £250.00. per registration. It was agreed clerk would contact Robert Lee for advice.

Councillors were concerned that the proposed surface dressing planned for Abson Road may not be sufficient. Clerk to check with S.G.C.

Mr. Beg confirmed the Annual Parish Meeting was 14<sup>th</sup> May 2008 at 7pm in the Meeting Room.

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed a true record and signed.

**NO 6. MEMBERS MATTERS.** Mr. Whittock reported the following:

- Horses on the raised pavement between Dennisworth and Homefield Rd.
- Grass bank not cut on Shortwood Rd. Clerk to contact Highways Inspector.
- Ridge in the tarmac outside 48 – 52 Abson Rd.
- Speed Watch Group out with their camera.

Mr. Smith reported:

- For safety reasons the Revel parade will leave from Hill View Road instead of the Village Hall car park.
- Fly tipping in Back Lane. Clerk confirmed she has reported this to S.G.C.
- During spring clean he noticed that the old goal posts had been thrown onto the sub station roof. Clerk to ask Football Club to dispose of them.

Mr. Holder said that regarding the proposed development for Oaktree Avenue he was disappointed with the lack of imagination and style. He was surprised the proposed development mirrored Emerson's Green as Pucklechurch is a rural village not an urban extension. It was agreed clerk would write expressing Councillors disappointment. Mrs. Palmer said it has taken two years for the plans to get to this stage and she would not want the process delayed further as it could have an effect on the funding the PCT has reserved for the new surgery.

Mr. Green said the Christmas tree stand was still by the Millennium Stone. Mr. Smith agreed to ask Revel to remove it.

Mr. Watson reported two sheets of tin left on the grass verge at the junction of Oaktree Ave/Abson Rd. Mr. Green offered to remove the tin.

Mrs. Palmer said it was important that Councillors commented on the Rural Spatial Strategy Issues and Options document. Clerk to book meeting room for 19<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm.

**NO 7. REPORTS.** Mr. Holder said that reference the Parish Plan data has been entered onto a data base for analysis and he also wanted to thank Ros Abbott and Helen Parker for arranging the successful youth meeting.

Mr. Watson attended the Parish Charter Working Group meeting which was in two parts. The main topic of discussion was the request that Parish Councils help South Gloucestershire to improve performance in determining planning applications. The initiative carries financial implications for S.G.C. if it does not meet targets. 12-15% of applications come electronically and they expect them to increase. They will make paper copies available if necessary, particularly for large developments. They stress Parish Councils comments are valued and more training may be available for Councillors on planning matters.

**NO 8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.** The following applications were considered and observations made. PK08/0958/F erection of porch to front elevation. 6 Cherrytree Court. No objections.

PK08/088/F erection of first floor side extension to form additional bedroom accommodation. 19 Homefield Rd. No objections.

PK08/0928F erection of first floor side extension to form additional bedroom accommodation. 18 Homefield Rd. Councillors raised the following concerns:

- The size of the proposed extension may exceed the permitted increase.
- That they propose building up to the boundary.
- That the size of the extension will increase the footprint to such an extent as to overwhelm the existing bungalows.

**NO 9. LITTER PROBLEMS.** It was agreed the problem of litter in the village should be a community issue and that the best way to tackle the problem may be to encourage residents to 'Adopt a Road'.

**NO 10. CORRESPONDENCE.** An acknowledgement of the Gypsy & Traveller Sites Issues and Options Consultation was received.

**NO 11.** A letter regarding Local Action on Climate Change was received from S.G.C. Clerk to pass information to Sue James Chair of the local Environment Group.

**NO 12.** An invitation was received to Community Actions Sustainable Communities Conference 26<sup>th</sup> June 08 at BAWA Club, Southmead Rd.

**NO 13.** A letter of thanks was received from Pucklechurch Cricket Club for allowing use of the recreation field for matches.

**NO 14.** A letter from S.G.C. confirmed they were unable to erect a bollard by the Grey House in Kings Lane as it is classed as a road. The only place they may be able to erect one is near Mr Boulton's yard. Mr. Whittock said there would be no point in putting a bollard there as it would not solve the fly tipping problem. Clerk to contact S.G.C. advising we will monitor the situation.

**NO 15.** A letter from S.G.C. regarding erection of new stable block at Redford Lane advised they have written to the Land Registry and are awaiting a reply. They will write again when they have more information.

**NO 16.** A letter of thanks was received from Pucklechurch Revel for the donation towards the main event. Regarding concerns over litter they stress most of the litter on the Sunday morning is not from the Revel or Beer Festival but from local people picnicking. However the Beer Festival Committee intends to clean up the recreation ground on the Sunday morning, as in the previous year, and wonder if the Parish Council would be able to provide 5 litter-pickers for the cleaning operation. Councillors agreed to provide litter-pickers.

**NO 17.** In April 2007 a new team of Community Engagement Officers was set up to work with the Parish Charter Working Group to find out what issues needed improvement. Mr. Holder completed the Parish Satisfaction Survey the results of which will be fed back by email and presented for discussion at the Annual Parish Charter Review meeting in October.

**NO 18. A.L.C.A. MEMBERSHIP.** Mr. Beg gave Councillors a leaflet explaining the aims of the Association and the benefits of becoming members. Clerk confirmed membership for this year as £585.24. It was agreed Councillors would read the leaflet and decide next month.

**NO 19. FINANCE.** Budget for Pucklechurch News for 2008/9. Clerk advised the cost of producing Pucklechurch News had exceeded the agreed budget of £824.00. by £22.00. Mr. Beg confirmed the Editors had contacted him about the overspend. It was agreed the budget would be discussed with the Editors and a decision made next month.

The following cheques were agreed for payment and signed. Pucklechurch Revel £900.00. grant. Mrs. R. Abbott £108.16. expenses for Parish Plan youth meeting. EDF Energy 1 Ltd £12.83. unmetered supply. Greenman Environmental Management £1760.15. tree works. Mrs. A Sharpe £125.00. Mrs. D. Bailey £316.70. salary £310.66 + £6.04 stamps.

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

Date for next meeting. 21<sup>st</sup> May 08 at 7.30pm.