

PUCKLECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL – MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 16TH AUGUST 2006 IN THE MEETING ROOM, COMMUNITY CENTRE, ABSON ROAD.

PRESENT. L.J. Whittock Vice Chairman, Mrs. J.E. Crispin, P.J. Green, D.A.E. Holder, R.C. Lee, Mrs. M.C. Palmer, W.K. Skidmore, M.C. Smith.

Inspector G. Krouwel.

Mr. Whittock chaired the meeting in the absence of Mr. Beg.

NO 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. O.A. Beg Chairman, Cllr. S. Grant.

NO 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. Mr. Whittock invited Mr. Webb to address the Council. Mr. Webb said he lived in Westerleigh Rd. and was concerned about the illegal works being carried out on the green belt land opposite the Pets Crematorium. He felt it was South Gloucestershire Councils inaction that had allowed the issues to arise and that the 3day gap between Stop Notices was negligent. A permanent Stop Notice was served before the roof on the log cabin was completed but a tarpaulin has been placed over the top to make it look as if it isn't finished. Mr. Webb is concerned that proper checks will not take place because Officers are concerned about their safety and the breach not be prosecuted.

Inspector Krouwel was at the meeting and Mr. Whittock asked if he would like to comment. Inspector Krouwel said he had rang Mr. M. Davies S.G.C. Enforcement Officer and would provide an escort to site on Friday. He was not able to commit an Officer to daily visits.

Mrs. Palmer said Steve Webb MP had written to S.G.C. about the problems and had received a reply confirming they would prosecute if the Stop Notice was breached.

Information from residents confirmed the public footpath obstructed, a septic tank installed in the ground and water pipes laid ready for connection. It was agreed clerk would write to S.G.C. about the breach asking for assurance that they would prosecute and also request an up-date on the planning application for change of use of land to stationing of 3 caravans on Shortwood Rd.

NO 3. LAW & ORDER. Mr. Whittock introduced Inspector Gus Krouwel. Inspector Krouwel thanked Councillors for inviting him he said he was the new Inspector at Staple Hill Station and he hoped to stay for a very long time. He explained about the Neighbourhood Policing Teams confirming our Community Police Constable would stay the same but that he would have 2 Support Officers. One Support Officer Ann James has been working with P.C. Skelton for approximately 6 weeks and another recruited next year. They will be a dedicated, managed team and he will not allow them to be distracted.

A resident expressed concern that it had taken four days for the Police to reply to a reported burglary at her house. Inspector Krouwel said that the Call Station at Staple Hill had been closed and all calls centralised at Portishead and this could be the reason for the delay. Mrs. Palmer asked if there were many burglaries in Pucklechurch as there had been two in Castle Rd. Inspector Krouwel said he was not aware of very many.

Councillors asked if Community Support Officers had the power to arrest. Inspector Krouwel said CSO's were not supposed to detain they are encouraged to back off and call for assistance. CSO's have power to issue fixed penalty notices, have cars towed away and can deal with nuisance things like anti-social behaviour. They have a bit more time than Police Officers and can often pick up intelligence whilst walking around and meeting people.

Mr. Smith suggested Inspector Krouwel use Pucklechurch News and the web site as a way of communication and Mrs. Palmer suggested he contact Dr. Seddon as his application for a new Surgery may have space for community use that the CSO's could use as a base.

Mr. Whittock thanked Inspector Krouwel for coming to the meeting.

NO 4. ARISINGS. Mr. Whittock said the problems on the play area at Eagle Crescent had decreased a little.

Mrs. Palmer said S.G.C. had applied sand to the sticky tar areas around the village.

Mrs. Palmer confirmed Councillors comments on the Regional Spatial Strategy consultation had been submitted and acknowledged.

Mr. Whittock said the Burial Ground should be sufficient for another 5/6 years, he suggested it should be extended to double the area. A beech hedge protected initially by fencing will need to be planted around the extension. It was agreed that the Football Club be advised they can use the small pitch for this seasons matches but that it will be necessary to identify a new area for the following season as we need to extend the Burial Ground.

Clerk had not received a reply from Mrs. Trueman regarding proposed planters for Westerleigh Rd. and she wondered if it was because the cost of purchasing the plants had not been agreed. Mr. Holder proposed an extra £40.00. be allowed for plants, all agreed. Clerk to write to Mrs. Trueman advising Councillors would fund up to £40.00. for the purchase of plants and request an answer by the next meeting so that the costs could be included in the budget.

Mrs. Palmer and Mr. Whittock had had concern raised about the finish of the surface on Lansdown Rd. Residents were concerned it was a rushed job and may not last. It was agreed clerk would speak to the Highways Inspector and draw it to his attention.

The minutes of the meeting held 19th July 06 were agreed a true record and signed.

NO 5. MEMBERS MATTERS. Mr. Smith said he had been contacted by residents that had recently suffered flooding and were concerned that the existing water and sewage works would not be able to cope with the extra housing proposed for Oaktree Avenue. Mrs. Palmer said that a letter from the Chief Executive of Bristol Water to Steve Webb M.P. had confirmed plans for a major works scheme would be brought forward to 2007.

Mr. Holder said several items had been brought to his attention during the consultation for the Parish Plan and he felt they should be discussed. The suggestions were:

- Names for open space areas within the village.
- Lobbying for a regular bus service to Emersons Green.
- Provision of a litter bin near the under-pass.
- Sign indicating 'Industrial Estate'
- Is there a War memorial in old Chapel.

It was agreed clerk would write to S.G.C. Strategic Transport requesting the introduction of a regular bus service between Pucklechurch and Emersons Green.

Mr. Whittock said there were two graves in the grounds of the Chapel but no War Memorial.

Mr. Green said the entrance to the woodland needed clearing as the sign was obstructed. Mr. Holder said the pathways within the woodland also needed cutting. Clerk to contact Instant Landscapes and arrange for the work to be carried out.

Mrs. Palmer said a resident had identified a need for dropped kerbs in Hill View to allow wheelchair access across the cul-de-sac. Clerk to write to S.G.C.

Mrs. Palmer had received a request from Mrs. Haden for a litter bin in Holly Close. Clerk said the litter-bin by the Holly Close bus stop had been removed when the new bus shelters were installed. A replacement bin should have been installed. Clerk to check letter from S.G.C.

Mr. Holder said the contractor installing the new piece of play equipment on the recreation field had back filled with fine dusty soil which children were jumping into and scattering all over the safety surface. Clerk to contact Wicksteed Leisure as this is not a very satisfactory situation, as whilst the soil is dry it will continue to be kicked about and when wet will become a mud patch.

Mr. Whittock said a resident had asked him if a litter-bin could be provided for Eagle Crescent play area. After discussion it was agreed clerk would speak to Mrs. Anna Sharpe about the problem.

Mr. Whittock said the centre post on the gate to the recreation field near the Star Inn had not been replaced and he was concerned vehicles could drive in and damage the field. Clerk to look into the cost of installing a drop down post.

NO 6. REPORTS. Mrs. Crispin said she had attended the A.L.C.A. meeting and a report by Citizens Advice Bureau emphasized a shortage of volunteers and the problem of recruiting the right people with sufficient time and skills.

Mr. Skidmore attended the Waste Meeting and confirmed a consultation was taking place to decide the best way to dispose of rubbish after composting.

Mr. Smith said the first stage of the Parish Plan was complete and that a tri-fold leaflet was now with the printer and would be distributed with the next edition of Pucklechurch News.

Mr. Holder said he had submitted a funding request for the production of the Parish Plan and was hoping to secure £3,000.00. He was initially asking Councillors to consider a grant

of £200.00. but stressed he may need £500.00. Mr. Holder proposed an initial grant of £200.00. seconded by Mrs. Palmer, all agreed.

Mr. Holder reported graffiti on the ramps in the skate park.

Mr. Green attended the Kingswood Community Transport AGM and said Cllr. Pat Hockey had confirmed the service was working well.

NO 7. BOB STONE MEMORIAL AWARD. After discussion it was agreed that proposing/voting for nominees for this award was not something Parish Council should become involved in.

NO 8. RECREATION FIELD FENCE. The following quotations were received for the partial replacement of the fence around the recreation field.

Wizzard Landscapes - to take down old fencing and clear from site. To erect new galvanised steel Bow Top fencing panels 2.75mt x 1mt high. All labour and materials £3979.00.

Town & Country Services - to remove existing tube fence from Castle Road entrance to corner of Hill View Rd. To supply and erect Bow Top fence 1mt high, galvanised finish. £4361.25 plus VAT.

To carry out work as above but galvanised railings to be 'Powder Coated' £4930.00. plus V.A.T.

After discussion Councillors agreed they would prefer railings with powder coated finish. Clerk to ask Wizzard Landscapes for quotation for supplying and erecting powder coated railings. It was agreed clerk should accept the lowest quotation.

Clerk had a leaflet advertising grants available to community groups and not for profit organisations to help fund building a better and safer local environment, which this project may qualify for. It was agreed clerk would contact Central Networks and request an application form.

NO 9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION. PK06.2251/F installation of 1no. rear dormer window to facilitate loft conversion, 35 Main Road, Shortwood. No objections.

PK06/2337/F erection of two storey side extension to form garage and additional living accommodation. Erection of porch. 2 Cattybrook Rd., Shortwood. No objections.

A Notice of Appeal against refusal of planning permission for creation of new vehicular access, Court Farm, Westerleigh Rd. was received. Clerk to confirm Parish Council objections on the following grounds.

- The application is in the Conservation Area.
- It will interfere with the grass-crete parking area.
- It will spoil the look of the listed building and ruin the historic wall.

NO 10. CORRESPONDENCE. A request was received from Pucklechurch Cricket Club to use a section of the recreation field on 28th August for the parking of cars. The charity

event organised by Props will include bouncy castle, 20 overs in the morning for children and a friendly match in the afternoon. There will also be music and a bar-b-que at the Star Inn. Councillors agreed to the use of the field for parking providing the area is roped off and weather permits.

NO 11. A letter was received from Pucklechurch Football Club requesting use of pitches on the recreation field for this coming season. The 1st and Reserve teams to use the main pitch on Saturday afternoons and for some evening fixtures. The Youth teams to use the pitch on Sunday afternoons. The younger teams to use the small pitch by the oak tree on Sunday morning. Also could the Council re-consider their decision not to allow a perimeter fence around the main pitch as Pucklechurch is now one of only two teams in the Gloucestershire County League who have no permanent barrier during the playing season. Councillors agreed to the use of the football pitches for the 2006/7 season, the rent to be £380.00. Clerk to confirm they cannot allow the erection of a perimeter fence.

NO 12. A letter was received from Victim Support Avonvale requesting grant aid for 2006/7 to help support their work with victims of crime. Councillors agreed a grant of £100.00.

NO 13. A request was received for financial help from South Gloucestershire Senior Citizens Forum towards the cost of producing their quarterly newsletter. Councillors agreed a grant of £50.00.

NO 14. An invitation was received from S.G.C. to workshops taking place as part of the Statement of Community Involvement – Initial Consultation Questionnaire.

NO 15. A copy of Steve Webb MP letter to HMP & YOI Ashfield about the parking problems they were causing was received. Mrs. Palmer said that as Mr. Beg had attended the meeting at Ashfield perhaps it should be an agenda item for next months meeting.

NO 16. An invitation was received to attend South Gloucestershire Biodiversity Forum 18th Sept 2 – 4.30pm at HMP Leyhill.

NO 17. A report of the Local Agenda 21 Forum Meeting on the 13th June was received.

NO 18. A letter was read from S.G.C. regarding the burnt out cars in Redford Lane confirming the lane is currently recorded as a Restricted Byway and is subject to a claim under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 for full Byway use. Under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, there is only provision for restricted vehicular access on rights of way listed as having a Bridleway or footpath status. Therefore they cannot erect bollards and downgrade the road.

NO 19. An invitation was received to Community Actions Effective Management Training for Voluntary Groups on 6th October 10am – 1pm. in the Jubilee Pavilion, Long Ashton Community Centre.

NO 20. FINANCE. The following cheques were agreed for payment and signed. Town & Country Services £126.90. skip changeover in Burial Ground. S.J. Aplin Playgrounds Ltd. £1345.38. remedial works following RoSPA report. Wickstead Leisure Ltd. £5220.53. supply and installation of new play equipment. Mrs. A. Sharpe £115.50.

D. Bailey £330.40. being salary 294.00. + stamps £6.40. + tele. £30.00. Instant Landscapes. £485.27. grass cutting. S.G. Senior Citizens Forum £50.00. grant. Victim Support Avonside £100.00. grant.

There being no further business Mr. Whittock declared the meeting closed.

Date of next meeting 20th September 2006 at 7.30pm.