

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 16TH FEBRUARY 2011 IN THE MEETING ROOM, PUCKLECHURCH COMMUNITY CENTRE, ABSON ROAD.

PRESENT. O.A. Beg Chairman, D.A.E. Holder Vice Chair, Mrs. M.C. Palmer, M.C. Smith, R. Symons, Mrs. S.E. Turley Cllr for Parish and Boyd Valley, M.S. Watson.

NO 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. P.J. Green, L.J. Whittock.

Cllr. S. Grant.

NO 2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST. None declared.

NO 3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. Mr. Beg invited Tim Small and Ruth-Deakin Crick to address the meeting. Mr. Small introduced himself and Ruth who is Reader at the University of Bristol. They have been researching 21st century approaches to effective lifelong learning. They would like Pucklechurch to become England's first 'Learning Village' with on-line self assessment courses and the community empowered to be responsible for their own learning beyond the school walls. They have been in touch with the Headteacher and Governors at Pucklechurch School as school is at the heart of learning. All they are seeking at this stage is to ensure awareness of the idea and support for exploring it further. Mr. Beg thanked Tim and Ruth for coming advising Councillors would respond at agenda item no 6.

Mr. Beg invited Mr. & Mrs. Bradley to address the Council. Mr. Bradley said we live in Oaktree Avenue and were very concerned to read on the front page of Pucklechurch News 'Community Plan win for Local People'. He said people do not think the proposed development is anything to celebrate. He quoted data from the S.G. Draft Core Strategy Document and suggested the proposed development did not meet the criteria reference housing or public transport and did nothing to create business. He did not believe the housing was wanted by the village. Mrs Bradley has submitted a petition with 187 signatures asking to have the land designated as a Village Green.

Mr. Beg thanked Mr & Mrs Bradley for addressing the Council saying Councillors would respond at agenda item 6.

NO 4. ARISINGS. Clerk confirmed two of the three plots created at the allotments had been allocated to new gardeners and a third person contacted.

- 6) Mr. Smith reminded Councillors that sports areas/formal and informal play equipment provision needed to be discussed as an agenda item.
- 8) Clerk confirmed she ask about the possibility of the Utility Company giving carte blanche permission for removal of graffiti from sub stations. S.G.C. advised that due danger/risk to their operatives they contact the Utility Company as ask them to remove ite.

- 8d) Village Store – S.G.C. has agreed to review the position in light of Parish Council comments.
- 8e) Re-location of Post Office - Post Watch has offered to attend a meeting with interested parties. Mr. Whittington has enquired whether Parish Council would be able to help with the cost of moving premises. Following discussion Councillors agreed to support in principle.
- 11) Mr Beg confirmed he has replied to the consultation on School Term & Holiday dates.
- 14) Mr. Watson was concerned there was a breach of planning permission at Meadow View as a JCB and a lorries have been seen going in and out of the site. Clerk to contact SGC Enforcement.

The minutes of the meeting dated 19th January 2011 were agreed a true record and signed.

NO 5. RESPONSE TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. Pucklechurch ‘Learning Village’ - after discussion Councillors confirmed support in principle. Mr. Watson though the initiative could be interpreted as an important tool for the community and urged Mr Small and Ruth Deakin-Crick to liaise with the Boyd Valley Safer Stronger Group as a possible source of funding. Mr. Beg said he thought it had lots of potential and hoped the next Council would work with them to enhance the future.

Potential Building on Oaktree Avenue – Mr. Watson declared an interest. Mr. Smith replied reference concern about the article in Pucklechurch News, he said he wrote the article as Chair of the Community Plan unfortunately an error has occurred as it was signed Cllr Martin Smith.

Regarding the planning application Councillors have battled to get the best for the community, the housing numbers have been reduced and parking spaces increased. They are concerned about public transport and have raised this with South Gloucestershire Council.

They believe there is a need for local housing and a new doctor’s surgery. The surgery would be part funded by the housing element as the doctors would not be able to fund the infrastructure costs on their own.

The work has to start by the 31st March or the project will fail as the Government is withdrawing funding for affordable housing. If this happens the Developer will pull out as the project will not be viable.

Councillors are concerned that the village green application could stop the doctor’s surgery.

NO 6. PUCKLECHURCH CRICKET CLUB. Mr. Freestone and Mr. Grainger attended the meeting explaining that every year it costs the club £2000.00. to have the cricket square cleaned off and the surface deep drilled and seeded. They have never asked for a grant as they consider the cost of upkeep of the wicket to be their responsibility along with the servicing of the mowers Mr. Freestone confirmed the outfield was cut by the Councils contractor and stressed they are very happy with the service provided. The Cricket Team has a team of volunteers that run three Saturday sides, a Sunday side and five youth sides. Councillors acknowledged they were engaging with a lot of young people which is very important. Mr. Watson said they are building the community and suggested they approach the Safer Stronger Group for funding. Mr Holder suggested the rent be increased in line with the Football Club and proposed an increase of £10.00. seconded by Mrs. Turley. All agreed.

NO 7. LAW & ORDER. Clerk had information regarding setting up new/alternative ways for the community to contact the Police. Councillors questioned how this would impinge on Pucklechurch?

NO 8. FINANCE. Mr. Symons gave a budget update confirming £17,000.00. in the bank with £4,600.00. unallocated.

The following cheques were agreed for payment and signed. Ensign Print £249.00. Pucklechurch News. P.C.A. £60.00. for use of the meeting room for 1 P.C. meeting and 4 Youth Club sessions. Mr. Smith £80.92 cost of hosting the Pucklechurch web site. Mrs. A. Sharpe £128.75. Mrs. D. Bailey £353.25. being salary £319.97. + tel £30.00. + stamps £3.28.

NO 9. MEMBERS MATTERS. Mr. Smith reported seagulls from the Shortwood Landfill site at the Sewage Works and is concerned that there could be a risk of salmonella. Clerk advised there was a Shortwood Quarry Liaison Meeting on the 17th February and she would raise the concern.

Councillors agreed a date for the Annual Parish Meeting, 1st June 2011 at 7pm. Clerk to check that the meeting room is available and advertise event in Pucklechurch News.

Clerk has received the design details for the proposed play garden on St. Aldams Drive open space land. Councillors asked if the design had been sent out for public consultation and if not when this would happen. Clerk explained that it would be sent out as soon as the Parish Council had given their approval for the proposal. Councillors looked at the proposal in detail and agreed to accept the design. Clerk to thank Tina Rainey advising Councillors accept the design and would prefer 'totem poles' at the entrance. Mr. Symons reminded Councillors that after the hand-over process the risk assessment and liability would need to be in place.

NO 10. REPORTS. Mr. Smith reminded Councillors that the Part Night Switch Off consultation was next Wed 23rd. Forms for comments would be provided and he would like the item included on next months agenda.

Mr. Watson had attended the S.G. ALCA AGM and the S.G. Partners Conference at the U.W.E.

NO 11. COMMUNITY PLAN REVIEW. Mr. Smith confirmed the plan was being laid out for printing.

NO 12. PLANNING APPLICATIONS. The following application was considered PK11/0452/F demolition of existing dwelling to facilitate the erection of 1no replacement dwelling with access and associated works. (Resubmission of PK09/1139/F) Stratis Finis, Parkfield. No objections.

NO 13. REVIEW OF LOG. A review of the log was undertaken. - Clerk confirmed she had met with S.G.C. and they will provide a quotation for jet washing/inserting a camera to prove the integrity of the drain on the recreation field.

NO 14. CORRESPONDENCE. Clerk has received a request for a sign to be erected in the Burial Ground asking people to 'keep dogs on leads' as a mark of respect and to stop fouling. There was discussion as to where a sign could be erected, Mr. Beg agreed to talk to St. Thomas a Becket about the positioning.

NO 15. Clerk has received notification that this years RoSPA inspection will be carried out in April.

NO 16. A letter of thanks was received from St. Thomas a Becket Church for the grant towards the upkeep of the Churchyard.

NO 17. An application for grant aid was received from St. Peter's Hospice for help with their Community Nursing service. The service provides specialist medical care and support for terminally ill patients and in the last 12 months has cared for 59 patients in Pucklechurch parish. After discussion Mr. Watson proposed a grant of £120.00. seconded by Mr. Holder. All agreed.

NO 18. A letter was received from Pucklechurch Sports Youth F.C. advising their 11 a-side Youth teams played on a pitch at the village school before moving onto the pitch on the recreation field. Unfortunately this is no longer an option due to the building work at the school. The under-12 team playing on the Youth football pitch on the recreation field need to use the posts that were previously used on the school pitch but they are not suitable for being put up and taken down every time they are used. Depending on the weather the team's final home match is scheduled for April and the posts will be taken down immediately afterwards. Next season the team can use the larger posts that are suitable for putting up and down each time they are used, so the problem will not re-occur. Clerk to reply that now Councillors understand the reason they are agreeable.

NO 19. An email was received from Marie Walkley expressing concern that the 689 bus run by Wessex Connect is unreliable. It was agreed clerk would write to SGC about the problem enclosing a copy of the email.

NO 20. A letter was read advising Yate Town Council currently administers all Joint Parish Council meetings and that this is having a cost effect on the council. It has been agreed that Yate Town Council should charge to administer meetings. Pucklechurch is part of the Joint Parish Cycleway Group therefore there will be a charge to administer these meetings of between £47.42. and £71.13. per meeting per council (depending on the number of councils involved). Councillors agreed to accept the charge.

NO 21. An application form was received reference National Spring Clean 2011. Clerk to complete and return the application.

NO 22. A letter was received from Iain Selkirk offering his services as Independent Internal Auditor. Should the Council accept his services he will arrange to inspect the books at a convenient date and the fee will be £125.00. Councillors agreed to re-appoint Mr. Selkirk as Internal Auditor for the financial year ending 31st March 2011.

NO 23. An invitation was received to attend the final General Meeting of Community Action on 7th March at 11am in the Jubilee Pavillion, Keedwell Hill, Long Ashton. Mr Holder agreed to attend.

NO 24. An invitation and agenda was received to Parish/Town Council early adopters briefing session at Thornbury Council Offices, Room 1 on 9th March between 10-12am. Mr Smith, Mr Watson and clerk to attend.

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

Date of next meeting 16th March 2011 at 7.30pm.