

PUCKLECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 18TH APRIL 2007 IN THE MEETING ROOM, COMMUNITY CENTRE, ABSON ROAD.

PRESENT. O.A. Beg Chairman, 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.

NO 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. None.

NO 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. None.

NO 3. LAW & ORDER. Mr. Beg reported an incident of young people camping on the recreation field. He had asked them politely to leave, as they refused he telephoned the police (using the number given by P.C. Skelton) a police car arrived and within an hour the youngsters had cleared up and left. On this occasion the new number and system worked well.

NO 4. ARISING & TO AGREE AND SIGN MINUTES. It was confirmed Councillors would meet Sunday 29th April at 10.30am in Pucklechurch for National Spring Clean, volunteers were meeting in Shortwood Saturday 28th April at 10am and the Pucklechurch Guides on 1st May. A mini skip will be on the grass at the end of Becket Court 27th April – 2nd May.

Mr. Holder and Mr. Skidmore had attended the meeting reference plans for the Science Park at Emerson's Green. The initial application will be for an Innovation Centre, the area is not within our parish boundary.

Mr. Beg reported the Palm Sunday event had gone well with all children at Church being given the opportunity of a donkey ride.

Mr. Beg advised the bark for the Jardin du Pringy had been purchased, £19.00. spent and a receipt provided.

Clerk had received letter from A.L.C.A. advising they were sorry Council had decided not to renew its membership but as there constitution says 'Any council wishing to terminate its membership of ALCA for the following membership year may do so by sending its resignation in writing to the Secretary by the 31 December in any year and the notice shall take effect on receipt by the Secretary. Each such Council shall continue to be liable for the payment of its full subscription for the current membership year' our resignation has been accepted as being for the year beginning April 08. It was proposed by Mr. Lee and seconded by Mr. Holder that Council pays half of the membership fee as due to the decline in members at meetings they do not feel they are receiving full benefits and from the legal aspect believe they are better served by having their own Lawyer.

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 21st March were agreed a true record and signed.

NO 5. MEMBERS MATTERS. Mr. Whittock has had concern raised by a gentleman using an electric chair that there is no drop kerb opposite The Star on Castle Rd. Clerk to write to S.G.C.

Mr. Whittock is concerned that the brambles and weeds in the grounds of the Old Chapel are out of control. It was agreed clerk would write to owner again asking for the area to be cleared and made safe or the Parish Council will have to ask S.G.C. to use their statutory powers under section 215 of the 1990 Town & Country Planning Act.

Mr. Smith asked on behalf of Revel Committee for permission to use a section of the recreation field for parking on Friday evening, Saturday day and evening during Revel events. Also as a new marquee is to be erected which will effectively leave The Star with no car park they request the use be extended for pub hours on Wednesday and Thursday 13th and 14th June. After discussion Councillors agreed to grant the request, the area to be roped off and weather permitting. Revel Committee to liaise with Mr. Whittock.

Mr. Smith confirmed he had seen and taken a photograph of youngsters doing gymnastics on the goal posts on the recreation field. Clerk to contact the Football Club and remind them they have first call for liability for as long as they remain up.

Mr. Skidmore said the bus stop sign was missing on Shortwood Hill, recently one driver had refused to stop for a resident and another had stopped but was not aware he should. It was agreed clerk would write and ask for the bus stop to be re-instated.

Mr. Lee said he understood that S.G.C. were looking to make cuts to bus services, he thought it was important that our service was not cut. All agreed, clerk to write to S.G.C.

Mr. Lee said he thought the sign advertising 'Drivers Wanted' on the roundabout near the Trading Estate should be removed. After discussion it was agreed the Estate could be asked to erect a notice board for employment opportunities.

Mr. Green said the plaque on the memorial seat on the recreation field near the teen shelter needed attention.

Mr. Green raised concern about what appears to be a static caravan in the driveway of a house in Cattybrook Rd., Shortwood. Fencing has been erected in front of the caravan. It was agreed clerk would write to S.G.C. to check the legal position.

Mrs. Palmer reported bramble growing in the lane between 67 and 27 Hawkridge Drive. Clerk to write to S.G.C. asking for it to be removed.

Mrs. Palmer has had complaints that the Prison fence at the end of St. Aldams Drive has been poorly repaired. It was agreed clerk would contact the Prison Authority about the fence also Mr. Beg would like know if we are having another meeting to discuss parking issues and how they may be resolved.

Mrs. Palmer has had concern raised about the risk to children playing due to the speed of vehicles going in and out of the stables at the bottom of Parkfield Rank. It was agreed S.G.C. would be contacted and asked if a sign could be erected advising 'Slow children & Horses.'

Mrs. Palmer had been contacted about the importance of providing a bus shelter on the Merlin Ridge stop. It was agreed clerk should contact S.G.C. to ask if grant funding is available.

NO 6. REPORTS. Mr. Smith confirmed the questionnaires for the Parish Plan would be delivered by volunteers for completion and return by 25th June.

Mr. Skidmore said he had received an invitation to attend the Cory liaison meeting reference the landfill site at Shortwood on the 2nd May.

Mr. Beg said the twinning visit had been very successful. 2008 would mark the 20th anniversary and normally Parish Council provides a gift every 5th year.

NO 7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS. The following applications were considered and observations made.

PK07/1137/F erection of single storey side extension and first floor front extension to provide additional living accommodation 70 Hawkridge Drive. No objections.

PK07/1192/F change of use of agricultural land to the use of land for the siting of 8no gypsy caravan pitches, with construction of 8 no hardstandings, driveways access and works. Erection of 1.8m panel fencing The Rosary, Cattybrook Rd. Mangotsfield. Councillors objected strongly to this application for following reasons.

- The proposal is in the green belt.
- It is not in the South Gloucestershire Structure Plan.
- There is no obvious means of access.
- The area is of Special Scientific Interest.
- No special circumstances have been provided.

NO 8. CORRESPONDENCE. An invitation was received and accepted to enter this years Village of the Year Competition.

NO 9. A letter was received from S.G.C. enclosing formal notice of diversion of footpath LPU33 at Coxgrove Hill.

NO 10. A letter from Avon & Somerset Constabulary advised Inspector Angus Krouwel would be able to attend the July Parish Council Meeting.

NO 11. A letter and photographs was received from a resident showing what was once a very attractive piece of land. The grass on the triangle on Coxgrove Hill has turned to mud because people from the stables use it for parking, could action be taken to return the triangle to its original state. Resident is also concerned about abuse by motorists the verge is continually being pushed back because drivers are too impatient to give way in the appropriate places. There are also large amounts of litter discarded in the hedgerow. With regard the litter the resident would be prepared to

periodically collect at the top end of Coxgrove if a gripper tool was available. Councillors share residents concerns and agreed to write to S.G.C. suggesting rustic posts be erected to protect the triangle. Regarding the litter clerk to suggest resident contacts his neighbour and shares the litter picker already provided.

NO 12. An invitation was received to attend the Community Action conference 'Keeping Community Alive' on the 28th June 9.30 –3.30 at BAWA Club.

NO 13. A letter from the Audit Commission confirmed the appointment of Mazars as auditor for the financial year 2006/7.

NO 14. An invitation was received to S.G.C. Local Agenda 21 Forum at the Greenfield Centre, Winterbourne on the 14th June at 7pm. Mr. Whittock agreed to attend.

NO 15. A letter was read from S.G.C. regarding the planning consultation Emersons Green East and providing further information on the outstanding issue relating to 6th form education provision.

NO 16. A letter was read from Shortwood Village Committee asking if the Council would consider providing a table and benches for the park at Shortwood. The park is increasingly being used by families not only from the village but also from Emerson's Green and the existing lone seat is proving inadequate. Councillors agreed to this request clerk to obtain quotation for supply and installation.

NO 17. An invitation was received to C.P.R.E. ticket only farm visit on Sunday 20th May 07 10am -12noon or 2pm - 4pm.

NO 18. FINANCE. Councillors were given a copy of the review carried out by Mr. Holder and the clerk. This has been prepared for information so that new Councillors will be aware of current liabilities and commitments.

PUCKLECHURCH NEWS. Councillors consider communication very important and agreed a 3% increase. Clerk to write to the editors of the magazine advising a budget of £824.00. has been agreed for this year.

WEB SITE. Mr. Smith has been personally paying the £80.00. fee for the Pucklechurch web site. Mr. Holder proposed the Parish Council pay this sum, seconded by Mrs. Palmer, all agreed. Mr. Beg said it was an excellent web site and officially thanked Mr. Smith for his work.

The following cheques were agreed and signed for payment. Instant Landscapes £570.11. grass cutting. S.G. Heritage £10.00. membership. E.D.F. Energy 1 Ltd £12.83. unmetered supply for millennium feature. Mr. D. Gay £265.00. cutting of Burial Ground hedge. Mrs. A. Sharpe £115.50. D. Bailey £386.52. being salary £294.00. stamps £6.32. Ink jets (7) for new printer £86.20. Pucklechurch Revel £985.00. grant. A.L.C.A. £281.84. half cost of membership.

The Chairman thanked all members for being good colleagues and for their varying skills and expertise and the clerk for her efficiency. He wished all Councillors standing for re-election success and was sorry Mrs. Crispin was not standing again.

Dates for Meetings.

Parish Council AG.M. for the signing of Declarations of Office and election of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Sub Committees 8th May at 7.30pm in the Homefield Centre.

Parish Council Meeting 16th May 07 at 7.30pm in Meeting Room Village Hall.

Annual Parish Meeting 23rd May 07 at 7pm in the Meeting Room Village Hall.

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