

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 18<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2010  
IN THE MEETING ROOM, PUCKLECHURCH COMMUNITY CENTRE,  
ABSON ROAD.**

**PRESENT.** D.A.E. Holder Vice Chairman, P.J. Green, Mrs. M.C. Palmer, M.C. Smith, R. Symons, M.S. Watson, L.J. Whittock.

Mr. Holder opened the meeting with a welcome.

**NO. 1. APOLOGIES.** O.A. Beg Chairman, S.E. Turley Cllr. for Parish & Boyd Valley. S. Grant Cllr. for Boyd Valley.

**NO 2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST.** There were no declarations of interest.

**NO 3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.** None.

**NO 4. LAW & ORDER.** Clerk advised P.C. Simon Topps hoped to attend but presumably has been called away.

**NO 5. ARISINGS & TO CHECK MINUTES.** Mr. Holder confirmed a technical person was looking into supply and cost of installing a wireless connection in the Village Hall.

There was concern raised about confidentiality of quotations not accepted. It was agreed to discuss the format for minutes at next months meeting. 10) Mr. Whittock confirmed he had swept the bus shelter on Shortwood Rd. 11) Mr. Smith said he would not be able to attend the next Cycle Group Meeting but would contact Mrs. Turley to check if she would be available.

After amendments to pages 1, 2 and 3 of the previous minutes dated 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010 they were signed as a true record.

**NO 6. FINANCE.** Mr. Symons gave a budget update (copy attached).

Clerk advised she had been contacted by Nat West Bank regarding the Bonus Saver Accounts. They had suggested the money would be better transferred to their Direct Reserve Account so as to achieve a better rate of interest. After discussion Mr. Symons proposed both Bonus Saver Accounts be moved into one Direct Reserve Account, ring fencing 10% of Precept for emergencies, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Holder, voting unanimous.

Clerk confirmed the Accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 had been signed by the External Auditor and so as to fulfil the legal requirement a copy of the Annual Return and the notice of conclusion of audit will be displayed in the Notice Board for 14days.

The following cheques were agreed for payment and signed. Mazars £334.88. external audit. P.C.A. £60.00. use of meeting room for one meeting and four youth club sessions.

Beaufort Montague Harris £88.13. sending letter of instruction reference payments for HG3 Mast. Mrs. A. Sharpe £128.75. Mrs. D. Bailey £353.21. being salary £319.97. + stamps £3.24. + Tel £30.00. As agreed a cheque was sent to S.G.C. on the 3rd August for the funding of the assistant youth worker.

**NO 7. CYCLE RACK PROVISION.** After discussion the proposed positioning of cycle racks was agreed: one near the bus stop outside the Community Centre, one by the Village Store and one by the Café. Clerk to contact S.G.C. and ask for drawing/photo of cycle racks and write to shops to ask if they would support or have any concern or objection.

**NO 8. PART NIGHT SWITCH OFF.** Councillors looked at and discussed the proposal put forward for Part Night Switch Off. It was proposed by Mr. Symons that S.G.C's plan is used as the guideline base for the public meeting, seconded by Mr. Holder. Voting unanimous. Suggested date for the Public Meeting is November Mr. Smith and Mr. Watson to be involved in the consultation process.

**NO 9. OAKTREE AVENUE.** Councillors discussed the points raised in the letter from the Planning Officer outlining what within their guidelines could/could not be provided. It was agreed the most important issues were:

- 1 – Local Need. Councillors felt that provision of housing to meet local needs was very important. In order for S.G.C. to even consider this a Local Needs Survey was needed and has been sent out but something has gone wrong with distribution. Councillors agreed that S.G.C. should be contacted to ensure that every household receives a copy of the survey even if this means distribution with Pucklechurch News.
- 2 – Footpaths. Councillors believe it is important that a footpath is provided between St. Aldams Drive and the proposed Doctors Surgery to provide a level route from the Dennisworth, Homefield Rd and Poplars areas.
- 3 – Public Transport. Concern was raised that the funding for transport would be used for improvements to bus stops rather than spent on services. The Community Plan clearly shows that improved service was most important and the Parish Council would continue to push for this.
- 4 – Density. As only a block plan is available it is very difficult to take a final position on this. Even so, a number of concerns were raised by Councillors based on the block plan supplied. It was also noted that concerns over layout and access have been raised by local residents.

**NO 10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.** The following applications were considered and observations made. PK10/1708/F erection of detached garage and store (re-submission of PK10/0718/F). Horseshoe Cottage, Shortwood Rd. No objection.

PK10/1776/F change of use from agricultural land to land for the keeping of horses. Erection of stables. Parcel of land Lyde Green, Nr. Henfield. Councillors object to this application as there is insufficient land to support two horses.

Mr. Watson advised the owner of 47 Partridge Road has complied with Enforcement and removed the front porch.

**NO 11. MEMBERS MATTERS.** Mr. Whittock raised concern about the Parish Council Notice Board. It was agreed this would be discussed as an agenda item at next months meeting.

Mr. Whittock expressed concern that a bug was attacking and turning the leaves brown on the Horse Chestnut Tree behind the garages on Lansdown Road, he believed this should be reported to the Forestry Authority. Clerk to check.

Mr. Whittock advised Merlin Housing have cut down the nettles/weeds behind the garages on Lansdown Road. They did a good job and the area is now tidy.

Mr. Green reported the bus shelter in Shortwood had been hit. Clerk has obtained two quotations for replacement and been in touch with the Insurance Co.

Mr. Watson said one of his neighbours had expressed concern that the village was devoid of an ATM also there is no burger van for out of hours takeaway food. The Parish Council thought was outside their remit.

**NO 12. MEMBERS MATTERS.** Mr. Watson has reported to the A.L.C.A meeting that the weight restriction sign at the top of Westerleigh Shorthill when travelling from Bristol is painted out and needs cleaning.

Mr. Watson reported that Safer Stronger Community Group has awarded a small grant of £600.00. to the P.C.A. to assist with clearance work in the Car Park.

A grant of £1600.00. has also been awarded to support a Horse Safety Event in Wick. S.S.C.G. need an account to pay this money into. Mr. Watson asked if the Parish Council would be prepared to sponsor the account if necessary. Councillors agreed.

Mr. Watson advised numerous emails had been received from a Pucklechurch resident raising concern about the cycle paths, major problems with speeding, graffiti, anti social behaviour, young people on the recreation field using bad language and the positioning of the disabled bay. The Police at the meeting said there was the odd anti social behaviour incident but they did not think there was a serious speeding problem in the village or that moving the disabled bay would help. Mr. Smith advised the Community Action Plan covered these issues, he suggested recording equipment in the flashing lights and a more active Speed Watch Team would be helpful.

Mr. Holder said the Summer Play Scheme run by Rachel Goodchild had been well organised with 48 children attending aged between 3 – 11yrs.

Mr. Holder reported on the site visit to the Allotment Gardens. He confirmed the majority of the plots looked good and were productive but one plot has not been cultivated and it was agreed a letter would be sent asking them to put the plot into active use within two weeks or vacate so that it could be offered to another gardener. Two other plots were not being used to their full potential and this would be discussed with the gardeners.

**NO 13. REVIEW OF LOG.** It was agreed clerk would contact the Highways Officer about the problem of wood being stored outside no 47 Shortwood Hill and the problem with the wall on Birch Drive. An update would be requested for log nos. 52120 and 52044. Clerk confirmed she had emailed the Planning Officer reference the boundary wall between the Burial Ground and the Old Garage.

**NO 14. CORRESPONDENCE.** A letter of thanks was received from St. Thomas a Becket for the grant towards the cutting back of the Lime Trees.

**NO 15.** A letter of thanks for grant aid was received from South Gloucestershire Citizens Advice Bureau.

**NO 16.** A letter was received from S.G.C. reference the Consultation of Revised Local Planning Application Requirements. Councillors agreed to complete the consultation at the next meeting.

**NO 17.** A Museums & Heritage Service update was received together with an invitation to ride on the Heritage Volunteer Train 11<sup>th</sup> September at Bitton Railway Station.

**NO 18.** A notification of the A.L.C.A. 37<sup>th</sup> AGM at Filton Folk Centre on the 14<sup>th</sup> Oct at 7.30pm was received.

**NO 19.** An email from Tina Rainey reference the proposed new Play Garden at St. Aldams Drive advised the Play Builder/Pathfinder funding had been frozen by the Government and S.G.C. asked to submit details of where they are with their contracts. Tina has received an email direct from Government confirming that contrary to the press reports, they are still assessing the funding commitments and no decisions have been taken. Unlike many other councils South Glos. is already tied into contractual agreements for Playbuilder sites so are hopeful that the funding will still be made available to them. Worse case scenario is that they will have to work on a 'scaled down' design using the other funding already secured.

**NO 20.** A letter was received from C.P.R.E. advising the results of this years Village of the Year competition. The overall winners of the Large Village was Alveston and the Small Village Ubley. Mr. Whittock gave Councillors a copy of the list of features judged for future competitions.

**NO 21.** A letter was received from S.G.C. advising that planning permission was granted on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2010 for the 'Erection of 1no 6metre wind turbine in the rear garden of no

39 Westerleigh Road.' The Planning Enforcement Team now have no grounds to pursue the investigation further and has closed the case.

There being no further business Mr. Holder closed the meeting at 22.27pm.

Date of Next Meeting. 15<sup>th</sup> September 2010 and 7.30pm.