

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 18TH JANUARY 2006. IN THE MEETING ROOM, PUCKLECHURCH COMMUNITY CENTRE, ABSON ROAD, PUCKLECHURCH.

PRESENT. O.A. Beg Chairman, Mrs. J.E. Crispin, P.J. Green, D.A.E. Holder, Mrs. M.C. Palmer, W.K. Skidmore.

Cllr. Sandra Grant.

NO 1. APOLOGIES. L.J. Whittock Vice Chairman, R.C. Lee. K.W. Whatley

NO 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. None.

NO 3. LAW & ORDER. None.

NO 4. ARISINGS. Cllr. Grant expressed concern that she had not been informed that Mr. Pratt was interested in speed gun training. Cllr. Grant asked to be kept informed of anyone interested.

Reference item no 5 from December minutes Mr. Green advised that the Mangotsfield Post Office was closed for refurbishing.

NO 5. MEMBERS MATTERS. A resident who had almost been knocked down on the zebra crossing on Abson Rd had contacted Mrs. Palmer. It was agreed clerk would write to S.G.C. Highways to enquire if anything could be done to make it safer.

Mr. Skidmore said the bus shelter on Oaktree Avenue near Maple Walk had been sprayed with fibreglass; he was also concerned about the amount of litter near the underpass. Clerk to contact S.G.C.

Mr. Beg said the 'Rose & Crown' sign advertising coffee was still on the triangle. Clerk to contact S.G.C.

NO 6. REPORTS. Mr. Skidmore said that at the Waste Management Meeting S.G.C. had been congratulated as since working with Sita recycling services had increased from 6% in 1999 to 40% now. There was a proposal to compost food waste – the food waste would be put in the green wheeled bin and collected weekly. There is also a proposal to increase the plastic bottle bank service from 4 to 15 sites.

Mr. Holder reported that waste management services had been discussed at the Area Forum Meeting. Shredded paper could now be put in a cardboard box and placed in the green box and a kerb side collection for Christmas trees had been provided.

NO 7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION. PK06/0037/F erection of three storey rear extension to provide additional living accommodation, 45 Parkfield Rank, Pucklechurch. Mrs. Palmer declared an interest and took no part in the voting. There were no objections raised to this application.

NO 8. CORRESPONDENCE. A letter from S.G.C. advised a copy of the finalised Schools Organisation Plan 2005/10 could be downloaded from the website.

NO 9. An invitation to 'Safer South Gloucestershire' seminars was received.

NO 10. A letter from S.G.C. advised that the Local Plan was adopted on 6th January 06 and could be viewed at The Council Offices or on the Council's web site. A final colour printed version will be available in March.

NO 11. A letter from S.G.C. advised the problem of fly tipping in Redford Lane had been passed to the Public Rights of Way Section.

NO 12. A letter of thanks was received from St. Thomas A Becket Church for the grant towards the upkeep of the Churchyard.

NO 13. A letter was received from Mr. Hatch expressing concern about the facing walkers and cyclists on Shortwood Rd. Mr. Hatch regularly walks in and out of the village and is concerned about the safety of people on the bend between the end of the foot/cycle path in front of the prison to where the road widens. Mr. Holder said he had looked at the area and noticed that part of the road on the bend had been cleared of dirt and debris and the kerb exposed making the road quite a bit wider. Mrs. Palmer was concerned that with Abson Road soon to be regulated, Shortwood Rd would be the preferred route and two lorries meeting on the bend could not pass. Clerk to write to S.G.C. asking for the width of the road to be established, enclosing a copy of Mr. Hatch's letter and asking if they could look at ways of improving safety.

NO 14. An invitation was received from St. Thomas A Becket Church to the Memorial Service on 22nd January at 3.30pm for Mr. Bob Stone and Mr. Bob Todd.

NO 15. LEGAL SUPPORT FOR PARISH COUNCILS. Mr. Lee had looked into S.G.C. proposal for providing support but did not believe the proposal was practical. Mr. Holder proposed Councillors send Mr. Lee's letter in its entirety as their reply. All agreed.

NO 16. TO REVIEW SALARIES & AGREE AND SET PRECEPT FOR 2006/7. Mr. Holder and clerk had carried out a budget review of expenditure to April 06 (copy attached). Projected figures suggest £8,542.00. will be carried forward, of which it was agreed £2,100.00. be set aside for emergencies. Mr. Holder proposed that £5,000.00. be ear marked for new play equipment for the recreation field and precept calculated on last years figure plus inflation at 2.7%. The proposal was seconded by Mrs Palmer, voting unanimous.

SALARIES. Mrs. Sharpe is paid £1,320.00. p.a. clerk is paid £3,360.00.p.a. plus expenses of £700.00. p.a. and £30.00. quarterly for telephone. It was proposed by Mr. Beg and seconded by Mr. Holder that salaries be increased by 5%.

The following cheques were agreed and signed for payment. E.D.F. Energy Ltd £2.27. for unmetered supply. Mrs. A. Sharpe £110.00. Mrs. D. Bailey £358.18. being salary £280.00. plus toner for photocopier £72.50. plus stamps £5.68.

NO 17. It was with regret that Mr. Beg confirmed Mr. Whatley is no longer able to serve as a Parish Councillor due to illness. Six months has elapsed and the Parish Council must fulfil its legal obligation and inform the electorate that a vacancy has occurred.

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

Date for next meeting 15th February at 7.30pm.