

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 18TH JULY 2012 IN THE PUCKLECHURCH COMMUNITY CENTRE MEETING ROOM, ABSON ROAD.

PRESENT. R. Symons Chairman, Mrs. G. Boyle Vice Chairperson, E. Aze, Ms. Lori-Anne Scantlebury, M.C. Smith, M.S. Watson.

NO 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Mrs. L. English, P.J. Green. Steve Reade, Ben Stokes Cllrs. for Boyd Valley.

NO 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. Mrs. Anna Sharpe and Mr. P. Lugg addressed the Council on behalf of the P.C.A. They explained the reason for the request for the grant was to help fund safety work to the fire escape and veranda and to improve the look of the Hall entrance for users. They would like to replace the central door in the foyer with PVC and glass; this will be a particular benefit to the Play Group as the front door could be left open and the inner PVC/glass door locked. They have a quotation of £1800.00. for the replacement inner door. The floor tiles in the entrance have been replaced at odd times but now require replacing completely. Councillors suggested it would be useful for them to receive a breakdown of the figures. Mr. Lugg confirmed he would ask Mr. Holder to send through a breakdown. Cllr. Symons thanked Mrs. Sharpe and Mr. Lugg for attending the meeting.

NO 3. LAW & ORDER. Cllr. Symons introduced P.C. Jo Kille. P.C. Kille explained she is the new Beat Manager for Boyd Valley and is replacing P.C. Simon Topps. She has been in position for approximately 3 weeks and gave a report of the crime figures. Cllr. Smith passed on contact details for the Editors of Pucklechurch News and the Community Website as a useful way of introducing herself and for communicating with residents. Councillors asked if she was aware of reports of drug dealing in various places in the village. P.C. Kille was aware of the problem and the vehicles linked to it. Cllr. Watson advised a resident had attend the Parish Council Surgery expressing concern that squatters had moved into an empty house on Oaktree Avenue and a possible link with drug dealing. P.C. Kille said she was hoping to have a regular surgery in the village. Councillors advised P.C. Topps had arranged for the mobile Police Station to be in the Car Park at the same time as the Parish Council Surgery (1st Saturday of each month 10am – 12o'clock) and perhaps she may like to continue this. Cllr. Symons thanked P.C. Jo Kille for attending the meeting.

NO 4. TO SIGN MINUTES. The minutes of the meeting dated 20th June previously circulated were agreed a true record and signed along with the minutes of the extra meeting to adopt the new NALC Code of Conduct dated 27th June 2012.

NO 5. LOG. A review of the log was undertaken. It was agreed Cllr. Smith would invite Speed Watch Team to come along to the next Parish Council Surgery as an active Speed Watch Team is considered to be the best way of dealing with speeding in villages.
Action: Cllr. Smith to invite Speed Watch Team to next Parish Surgery.

Clerk to ask SGC to remove stickers that have been put on village sign on Shortwood Rd.
Action: Clerk to contact Streetcare.

Damage to verge corner of Eagle Crescent to be reported again to SGC.
Action: Clerk to contact Streetcare.

Speed Review – Cllr Watson advised powers have changed with the introduction of the Localism Act. It was agreed Cllr. Smith would circulate the document and clerk would contact SGC for an update.

Action: Cllr. Smith to circulate Speed Review document.
Clerk to contact SGC.

Tri-fold - item to be included on next months agenda.

Cllr. Smith expressed concern that although the hedge and verge on Westerleigh Road has been trimmed the soil/grass growth has not been removed and the footway is narrow.
Action: Clerk to contact SGC.

Double yellow lines around car park in front of Homefield Centre. Clerk confirmed Merlin Housing had arranged for the yellow lines to be painted because people had been parking inconsiderately and blocking the car park. Councillors were surprised the work could be undertaken without a traffic regulation order. Clerk to contact SGC for guidance.

Action: Clerk to contact SGC for guidance.

Cllr. Smith expressed concern that items had been closed on the log in June.

1. The meeting with Enforcement over issues with non-material changes on development and other items stemming from the meeting with Helen O'Connor (SGC Planning) in March.
2. Outstanding issues with the development of Stables in Redford Lane including the provision for the Public Right of way which has not been implemented as shown on the planning application.

Clerk to investigate and take action where necessary.

It was further agreed that Clerk would check the log and close items when issues had been resolved so that only outstanding items would be reviewed.

NO 6. FINANCE. Cllr. Symons gave an update of the budgeted figures that had been circulated confirming £22,800.00. in the current account and £14,200.00. in the reserve account.

Clerk confirmed the new mandate was now in place at the Nat West Bank. Cllr. Boyle and Cllr. Watson were instructed to sign the following cheques for payment. C.R. Belcher £1068.00. repairing the Car Park wall. Dignity Funerals Ltd. £150.00. re-setting headstone in Burial Ground. S.J. Aplin Playgrounds Ltd. £363.91. repairs to safety surface under roundabout on recreation field and replacing flat swing seat. EDF Energy

Ltd. £58.46. unmetered supply. The Conservation Volunteers £552.00. two days work in the woodland. Rescresco Ltd £42.00. emptying plastics re-cycling facility. P.C.A. £100.00. use of meeting room for 1 P.C. meeting, 1 Open spaces committee meeting, 1 Countryside access meeting, 1 Parish Surgery, 4 sessions of youth club and storage. Ensign Print £299.00. printing of Pucklechurch News. Town & Country Services £170.40. skip changeover in Burial Ground. Mrs. J. Long £516.40. Mrs. A. Sharpe £178.00. D. Bailey £375.44. being salary £319.97 + stamps £7.50. + purchase of pockets for laminator £47.97.

The following quotations were considered for works to roadside hedge at St. Aldams Drive. Lawrence Tree Services £550.00. plus V.A.T. Greenman Environmental Management Ltd £520.00. plus V.A.T. Councillors agreed to accept the lowest quotation.

Action: Clerk to ask Greenman Environmental Management Ltd to undertake the work.

Quotations have been received for supply and installation of replacement slide for Castle Road children's play area from Russell Play, G.B. Sports & Leisure UK Ltd & Sovereign. After discussion it was agreed clerk would contact S.G.C. for help with preparing a specification that would then be sent to Sovereign & G.B. Sports & Leisure so as to ensure like for like quotations.

**Action: Clerk to contact SGC for help in preparing specification for new slide.
Clerk to request quotations as per prepared specification for replacement slide.**

NO 7. AGENDA ITEMS. To accept policy for Graffiti – defer to August meeting.

Amend Standing Orders. Cllr. Watson advised there was a problem with sub committee meetings being quorate as only named members could make decisions. There were two options available: 1. to nominate more people to sub-committees or 2. to hold two weekly Parish Council Meetings. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Watson that two Parish Council Meetings are held 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month with specific agenda items. Seconded by Cllr Boyle. Voting unanimous.

Report from Countryside Access Group. Cllr. Smith advised the Countryside Access Group had surveyed potential circular routes in Pucklechurch, the routes to be published.

Work on the Coxgrove Hill to Yate cycleway link will begin on Monday 23rd July for one week. The work to be undertaken by S.G.C. and 20/30 volunteers. The Chair of South Gloucestershire Council to be asked to open the path on Saturday 28th July. Cllr. Smith proposed that up to £500.00. be set-aside to provide food and drink for the volunteers. Seconded by Cllr. Scantlebury, all agreed.

Reference the Pucklechurch – Shortwood cycleway link the landowners have been contacted but there is potential being looked at for a new route.

Weed Control. Cllr. Smith commented that S.G.C. had not sprayed weed killer this year and that he thought the village look much better.

Village Hall Make Over. It was agreed the letter drafted by Cllr. Boyle should be sent to the Stakeholders: P.C.A., Trustees & Make Over Group. It was suggested some budget should be set aside for exploratory work, that the Make Over Group should be invited to a meeting and that a formal written legal opinion regarding the lease was needed.

Action: Clerk to write to C.A., Trustees & Make Over Group.

Chairman's Report for Pucklechurch News. Members were asked to put forward suggestions for Pucklechurch News. Clerk confirmed the closing date had been brought forward to 31st July. Cllr. Symons to prepare draft for circulation before submitting to the Editors.

Action: Cllr. Symons to prepare draft report for Pucklechurch News.

To consider removing Members Matters & Reports from Agenda. Following discussion it was agreed routine problems would be reported to the clerk for action and a report made. Written reports would be circulated and noted.

NO 8. CORRESPONDENCE. A copy of an email to Steve Webb MP was received suggesting the delivery depot located at the rear of the Post Office in Mangotsfield will close. This will mean that people in Pucklechurch, Shortwood, Siston & Mangotsfield will have to travel to Fishponds to retrieve packages, large letters or items requiring a signature that the Royal Mail are unable to deliver because no-one was home. It was agreed clerk would write to the Royal Mail to establish the facts.

Action: Clerk to write to Royal Mail.

A letter was received and noted from SGC regarding carriageway & footway assessment for Area Forums.

An email was received advising SGC did not have sufficient funds to obtain land, install drainage and create a parking facility at Parkfield Rank.

Action: Clerk to inform resident that proposed the scheme.

A letter was received confirming formal notice of commencement of Community Governance Review.

NO 9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS. Planning application PK12/2223/F for erection of free standing canopy Nightfreight, Unit 18 Pucklechurch Trading Estate was considered. Councillors had no objection.

Councillors discussed the draft reply proposed by Cllr. Boyle in respect of PK12/1962/F change of use of land from agricultural to land for the keeping of horses. Erection of 4no stables, land at Abson Hill. Councillors agreed that the draft letter objecting to the erection of the stables should be sent.

Cllr. Watson advised he brought up at Parish Charter Meeting that S.G.C. has no policy relating to the development of stables in the green belt. S.G.C. confirmed they are aware there is nothing in the Strategic Plan.

Cllr. Boyle confirmed Planning had granted approval for the garden shed at Parkfield Rank.

Cllr. Symons has received concerns that the stone being used in the development of the Pucklechurch Service Station site is not in keeping with other properties. Cllr. Boyle advised that according to the web site the only condition that has not been discharged is the provision of a sample panel of the stone to be used. It was agreed clerk would write to the Planning Department and ask for confirmation that the sample panel has been submitted.

Action: Clerk to contact the Planning Department.

NO 10. CALENDAR. Items for Pucklechurch News - discussed. H.R. Contract – it was agreed this should be reviewed.

Action: Cllr. Symons to contact H.R. Company for a review.

NO 11. REPORTS. Cllr. Watson confirmed Steve Reade & Ben Stokes had sent apologies as they were attending a S.G.C. full cabinet meeting. They were concerned that the local area doesn't have a council youth centre and that local youngsters are missing out on their share of the youth budget. Steve Reade & Ben Stokes are jointly petitioning for change to ensure every local youngster can benefit from their own fair share of this budget and decide with their parents how it should be spent. Cllr. Watson said he was happy to support the petition and would encourage others to sign.

Cllr. Watson had attended the Local Strategic Partnership meeting, the Parish Charter Working Group meeting and the NALC meeting and gave Councillors information on the new Standards Regime for Councillor Conduct.

Cllr. Smith advised one of the people working on the Community Plan has all the documents and is asking where the Council would like to store them/can they be destroyed. Clerk to contact Gloucester Records Office and enquire if they would like them for the archives.

Action: Clerk to contact Gloucester Records Office.

NO 12. MEMBERS MATTERS. Cllr. Smith to email concerns to clerk.

Cllr. Watson reported that at the Parish Surgery a resident had attended and spoke about a confidential matter that was not directly a problem for the Council but of interest.

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