

**PUCKLECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2006 IN THE MEETING ROOM, COMMUNITY CENTRE, ABSON ROAD.**

**PRESENT.** O.A. Beg Chairman, L.J. Whittock Vice Chairman, P.J. Green, D.A.E. Holder, R.C. Lee, Mrs. M.C. Palmer, W.K. Skidmore, M.C. Smith.

Cllr. S. Grant.

**NO 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Mrs. J.E. Crispin.

**NO 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.** None.

**NO 3. LAW & ORDER.** Cllr. Grant advised 19 people had been at the 'Speed Watch' meeting, the highest number recorded by the police. Unfortunately the original camera, which would have cost £150.00. is no longer used and the replacement costs £800.00. of which the Area Forum could fund £440.00. The next stage is for a risk assessment to be carried out.

**NO 4. ARISINGS.** Clerk confirmed she had had no response from S.G.C. about the work being carried out at the Crematorium or from the Chief Executive about our concern at receiving no direct response to letters regarding the unauthorised development of green belt land at Westerleigh Rd.

There was also no response from HMP & YOI Ashfield regarding the parking problems.

Clerk confirmed she has passed the letter from Halifax Home Insurance Co. regarding subsidence damage to no 44 St. Aldams Drive to Allianz Cornhill Plc.

The minutes of the meeting held 20<sup>th</sup> September 06 were agreed a true record and signed.

**NO 5. MEMBERS MATTERS.** Mr. Smith said two residents expressing concern that there is no bus shelter on the Kestrel Drive stop had contacted him. It was agreed clerk would check costs and enquire whether grant funding is still available.

Mr. Holder said he had been to see Concorde; he had been impressed with the tour and had enjoyed the visit. The weather had been good but had it been wet and windy the visit may not have been quite as enjoyable. Clerk to write and enquire how funding for protection of Concorde is progressing.

Mrs. Palmer confirmed S.G.C. had cut back the hedge on Feltham Road.

Mr. Beg confirmed Twinning had purchased a Cheddar cheese, chutney and biscuits as a gift for the Twinning Committee in Pringy.

**NO 6. REPORTS.** Mr. Smith advised stage one of the Community Plan was complete; there had been 67 replies. Stage two was to build a questionnaire in a creative way so as to increase response. The result of the survey will be included in

the December issue of Pucklechurch News and the questionnaires should go out March 2007. Mr. Holder confirmed their £3000.00. funding application had been successful.

Mr. Skidmore said he thought South Gloucestershire Waste Management should be congratulated on the green bags and information recently distributed. Clerk to pass on Councillors congratulations.

Mr. Holder said the Speed Watch Meeting had been good, quite a few residents had offered to help and they were awaiting the next step.

**NO 7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.** PK06/2996/F erection of two-storey rear extension to form additional living accommodation. 32 Parkfield Rank, Pucklechurch. No objections.

PK06/2987/TCA to fell 1no Fir and 1no Spruce trees within Pucklechurch Conservation Area. 3 Abson Road, Pucklechurch. No objections.

PK06/2931/TCA works to reshape and reduce by 33% 3no Horse Chestnut trees, reshape and reduce by 20% 1no Indian Bean tree and reshape and reduce by 33% 1no. Norway Maple tree all within Pucklechurch Conservation Area. 18 Shortwood Rd. Pucklechurch. No objections.

Clerk confirmed the planning meeting with the Developer for Emerson's Green East had been arranged for 8<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm.

**NO 8. CORRESPONDENCE.** A letter from S.G.C. advised notification of order to divert part of footpaths LPU33 and LPU34 at Shortwood.

**NO 9.** A letter advised the Calor Village of the Year 2006 award ceremony 4<sup>th</sup> November 11am at Marksbury Village Hall followed by the CPRE Avonside B ranch AGM at 1.30pm. Mr. Whittock to attend.

**NO 10.** A letter advised Equalities Training Session 7<sup>th</sup> Nov 10-12.30pm at the Ridgewood Centre, Station Rd. Yate.

**NO 11.** S.G.C. Heritage Forum AGM 15<sup>th</sup> Nov 7pm The Council Offices, Thornbury. Mr. Holder to attend.

**NO 12.** An invitation was received from Central Networks to apply for funding for Christmas lights and decorations. Mr. Beg agreed to complete the application.

**NO 13.** A letter from S.G.C. offered to provide each council completely free a laptop computer, printer, internet connection and email account plus initial set-up and training. In return Councils would have to undertake to write electronically instead of on paper all correspondence and any consultation exercises from 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2007 to 31<sup>st</sup> Mar 2008. In order to fund this scheme S.G.C. is relying on a 'reward' grant from Central Government, however to qualify for the reward all Local Councils must participate. Councillors were very willing to be involved, Mr Holder suggested that if

the scheme goes ahead computers are equipped with 'Open Office' software instead of Microsoft as it is totally free.

**NO 14.** A letter from S.G.C. advised the Cabinet considered their response to the Consultation on the Draft South Gloucestershire Strategic Green Belt Assessment on 3<sup>rd</sup> July and the report and appendices could be viewed on the web site ([www.southglos.gov.uk](http://www.southglos.gov.uk)).

**NO 15.** A letter from S.G.C. advised a review of bus services in South Gloucestershire was undertaken in 2004/5, which included a regular link from Pucklechurch to Emerson's Green, but it was considered that the provision of an all day service was unlikely to generate sufficient passengers. The option of diverting some journeys on Service 689 to run through Emerson's Green has also been investigated but the consequence would be that the communities of Shortwood and Mangotsfield would lose out.

**NO 16.** A letter was received from S.G.C. regarding a Community Archives Feasibility Study. Mr Smith agreed to complete the form as he already has much of the information on the Pucklechurch Web Site.

**NO 17.** A letter from South Gloucestershire Trading Standards explained they are approaching organisations in order to establish a communications network. They aim to disseminate important consumer-related information to all sectors of the community. They would like to send this information as a text that could be inserted into newsletters and magazines. It was agreed the letter should be passed to the editor of Pucklechurch News.

**NO 18.** An email was received from a resident who was concerned that neighbours were territorial about parking. S.G.C. had sent an Officer along some six months previous but nothing had changed. It was agreed the Chairman would include an article in his report for Pucklechurch News reminding residents they do not have a right to park outside their property and suggest neighbours show consideration. Clerk to write to S.G.C. regarding their visit saying Councillors would be interested to know the outcome.

**NO 19.** Clerk had received an email from a resident expressing concern that S.G.C. had taken down part of the wall at the end of Birch Drive but had not removed the rubble. Clerk had contacted S.G.C. Building Control who confirmed they had demolished part of the wall as it was unsafe but said they could not remove the bricks as they belonged to the property developer. It was agreed clerk would contact S.G.C. advising them the developer had gone into liquidation many years ago and request the bricks be removed in the public interest.

**NO 20.** A letter from a resident in Castle Road was received concerning the new goal posts on the recreation field that seems to be a permanent fixture. He is concerned in particular about the one on the edge of the recreation field as young children on a daily basis use it. The problem is that footballs are being regularly kicked into Castle Road and young children have been seen running into the road without paying attention to traffic, there have already been some near misses. He agrees Pucklechurch Sports AFC provides a wonderful service to both children and adults in the village

and fully supports their dedication in encouraging more people to get involved with sport but is concerned a child could suffer a serious injury. Mr. Whittock said the Football Club were concerned that the new goal posts would be damaged by continual removal also by leaving them in position it has alleviated the problem of youths kicking the football against the Village Hall. Councillors shared the concern and as they also have a responsibility to the wider community agreed they would forward a copy of the letter to the Football Club for comment.

**NO 21.** A letter was received from Police Sergeant Andy Workman advising he no longer held the post of Sector Sergeant at Staple Hill and that he was to be replaced by Police Sergeant Paul Bolton-Jones.

**NO 22.** A consultation was received from Forest of Avon regarding the next stage of the development of Overscourt Community Woodland. Councillors suggested they consider the land currently for sale on the bend on Shortwood Hill.

**NO 23.** Councillors were each given a Survey of Disability Issues form for completion.

**NO 24.** An invitation was received to the Remembrance Day Service at St. Thomas A Becket on 12<sup>th</sup> November at 10.45am. Mr. Whittock agreed to lay the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

**NO 25. FINANCE.** Clerk advised the application for grant funding towards the replacement of the recreation field fence had been unsuccessful but that the Trust Secretary had suggested including it for consideration by another group of Trustees. A decision would be made 4<sup>th</sup> November.

It was agreed Mr. Holder and clerk would carry out a financial review once a decision about the grant was known.

The following cheques were agreed for payment and signed. Mr. & Mrs. Hall £90.00. rent for Shortwood Play Area. A.S. Hall & Son. £252.63. maintenance of Shortwood Play Area. E.D.F. Energy Ltd. £4.50. unmetered supply. D.W. Parsons £359.00. hedge cutting, fit new litter bin, supply and fit supports for recreation field fence. P.C.A. £142.50. half cost of pruning shrubs around car park. Mrs. A. Sharpe £115.50. Mrs. D. Bailey £301.08. salary £294.00. + £7.08. stamps. Instant Landscapes £526.40. grass cutting.

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

Date for next meeting. 15<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm.