

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 19TH JANUARY 2005 IN THE MEETING ROOM, COMMUNITY CENTRE, ABSON RD., PUCKLECHURCH.

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

Cllr. Sandra Grant.

NO 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. W.K. Skidmore, L.J. Whittock Vice Chairman.

NO 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. None.

NO 3. LAW & ORDER. Mr. Beg said there had been an incident in the hall on New Years Eve, Mrs. Crispin confirmed the police had attended and that P.C. Skelton had two names and was investigating. Mr. Beg commented that it would be nice to meet P.C. Skelton. Mrs. Crispin said she did not think he was keen on attend Parish Council meetings but confirmed he was attending youth meetings and was very pro-active.

NO 4. ARISING AND TO AGREE & SIGN MINUTES. Mr. Holder confirmed he had attended the extravaganza at HMP Ashfield, it had been well attended and very good.

Mr. Holder advised the burnt out car in Redford Lane had been removed but that the tyres were still there. Clerk to write to S.G.C.

Mrs. Palmer confirmed the hole on the road corner of Lansdown Rd/Castle Rd had been repaired but said the white lines had yet not been re-painted.

The minutes of the meeting held 15th December 2004 were agreed a true record and signed.

NO 5. MEMBERS MATTERS. Mr. Holder said a resident had expressed concern that youngsters riding mini motorbikes at the top of Oaktree Avenue were turning up the land. Councillors confirmed mini motorbikes should not be ridden on public land also it was an offence to ride without a helmet.

Mr. Holder advised the red surface denoting 30mpr on Abson Rd. was washing away. Clerk confirmed she had reported the problem to S.G.C. Highways.

Mrs. Crispin said Chris Brownlie was working our youths and that she had lots of prior knowledge of Pucklechurch. The young people have elected a Chairperson, a series of activities is being arranged including football at Colerne. Concern has been expressed that the youth shelter no longer meets the needs and Parish Council may be approached regarding amendments. Clerk confirmed the shelter was funded by a Government initiative through S.G.C.

Mr. Lee expressed concern that the lanes on the Ring Road were confusing, he recently witnessed a car being driven the wrong way up the carriageway. It was agreed clerk should write to S.G.C. and register Councillors concern.

Mrs. Palmer reported an incredible amount of litter in the village, she was also concerned about the litter on the banks of the Ring Road most of which appears to have come from the Sainsburys Store. Clerk to write to S.G.C. and ask if the pavements could be swept and the litter picked up.

Mr. Whatley said the land on the left hand side of Westerleigh Rd. needed re-instating by the Water Company as the gateway was flooded.

Mr. Beg reported panes of glass had been removed from and left inside the telephone box outside the Post Office. Clerk has reported problem to British Telecom.

NO 6. REPORTS. Mr. Holder said the Local Channel had been in touch and confirmed they were sending out a hand book.

Mr. Green said the Boyd Link meeting had been well attended. A representative from the Forestry Authority had talked about the woodland at Overscourt Farm, Siston saying plans were being made for a disabled route and car parking. Mr. Green said he and Mr. Whittock had been rebuked because they were not aware of footpaths being moved at Shortwood Clay Pit. There had also been a heated argument about the proposed extinguishment of part of LPU 30 at Parkfield.

Mr. Beg advised the twinning visit has been arranged for 23rd to 28th April.

NO 7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION. PK03/1545/F planning application for continuation of clay extraction and restoration by landfilling with residual non-hazardous waste at Shortwood Quarry. Mrs. Palmer explained that the application received planning consent in March 2004 and that the document was an update/report identifying changes in policy and legal developments.

NO 8. FINANCE. Mr. Holder explained that he and the clerk had calculated expenditure to 31st March 05 as being £6072.52. Balance sheets were handed to Councillors (copy attached) and the following quotations and requests to grant aid discussed.

- a) Damage to gate between car park and recreation field. To repair existing gate £250.00. plus VAT. Engineer emphasized that it would be necessary to heat the gate to bring it back into shape and that heating the metal damages the galvanising. To replace the gate as existing but with four horizontal and four vertical bars £440.00. plus VAT.
- b) Upgrade fencing on recreation field - Castle Road end.
Avon Fencing 2000 – Option 1 to supply and erect 75mtres of 900mm high black chainlink stapled to existing post and tied back to existing tubes using black cable ties and replace 1no damaged timber post with new. £785.00. plus VAT.

To supply and erect as option 1 but using 900mm high black weldmesh. £995.00. plus VAT.

Wizzard Landscapes – To supply and erect 900mm high galvanised black chain link fixed to existing posts and tubes and to supply and fix 1 timber post to replace damaged one. £465.00.

To carry out work using black weldmesh. £472.00.

As an alternative to supply and fix 2 timber rails between existing tubes £502.00. Contractor felt this option would be more in keeping with the rural area and help to support the existing fence.

Town & Country Services – To supply and fix 2no rails to existing fence 100 x 50mm and to supply and fix one new post. £528.00. plus VAT. Contractor commented that in his opinion all posts would soon need replacing.

After discussion it was agreed Councillors would look at fence and discuss options at next months meeting.

- c) To consider request from South Gloucestershire Citizens Advice Bureau for grant aid for 2005/6. After discussion Councillors agreed a grant of £150.00.
- d) To consider request from St. Thomas a Becket Church for a grant towards the upkeep of the churchyard. After discussion Councillors agreed a grant of £700.00.

Mr. Beg had a letter from Miss Seacombe asking for financial help as she has been accepted to take part in the World Youth exchange programme. World Youth promotes volunteering to build a fairer world and Miss Seacombe will participate in the exchange for a period of six months spending 3months in Uzbekistan and 3months in the U.K. Councillors agreed a grant of £50.00.

NO 9. Projected Spending for 2005/6

- a) To agree Precept requirement.
Mr. Beg proposed an increase to cover inflation of 3.1% seconded by Mr. Holder. Voting unanimous.
- b) To consider changing Diamond Reserve Account. Nat West Bank has advised they are simplifying there range of savings products and will no longer being offering the Diamond Reserve Account to new customers. It was agreed clerk should transfer the funds into a Savings Direct telephone based account.

NO 10. The following cheques were agreed for payment and signed. A.S. Hall & Son £211.50. maintenance of Shortwood play area. Town & Country Services £111.63. skip change over in Burial Ground. Mrs. A. Sharpe £110.00. Mrs. Bailey

£284.76. being salary £280.00. plus stamps £4.76. South Gloucestershire Citizens Advice Bureau £150.00. grant. Miss H. Seacombe £50.00. grant. St. Thomas a Becket Church £700.00. grant.

NO 11. CORRESPONDENCE. A letter was received from Bristol Health Services Plan advising the consultation process on the proposals relating to Cossham Hospital has been extended to 1st March 05.

NO 12. A letter was received from S.G.C. acknowledging Parish Councils letter withdrawing objections to the proposed extinguishment of part of LPU 30.

NO 13. An invitation was received to attend a Community Action seminar on the New Licensing Act. Mr. Skidmore had indicated to clerk that he would be interested in attending.

NO 14. An invitation was received from S.G.C. to attend a meeting on 26th April regarding monitoring the Parish Charter. Mr. Holder agreed to attend.

NO 15. A letter was read from Mrs. Smart, secretary of the Scout Executive Fund Raising Committee asking for Parish Council comments on the following:

1. Oak tree at rear of Scout Hunt – Could it be removed to prevent damage to the Scout Hut?
2. Drainage problem – There appears to be no drain outside the hut.
3. Disabled Access – In view of current legislation the hut requires disabled access.

After discussion it was agreed should clerk reply:

1. The Oak tree is in the conservation area and felling would require the permission of S.G.C. which it was thought unlikely unless there was evidence of damage.
2. Councillors were of the opinion that a drain for surface water was not necessary as the Scout Hut is erected on sloping ground.
3. Provision of disabled access is not the responsibility of the landlord.

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