

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2011 IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE MEETING ROOM, ABSON ROAD.**

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

**NO 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Mrs. S.E. Turley Councillor for Parish & Boyd Valley, R. Symons,

Sandra Grant Cllr for Boyd Valley.  
Inspector Thatcher.

**NO 2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST.** None.

**NO 3. VILLAGE HALL MAKE OVER TEAM UPDATE.** The Chairman introduced Mr. C. Thomas, Mr. Bob Hyde and Mr. J. Sexton. Mr. Thomas advised their aim was to develop a community facility that would be a focal point of community life, compliment the character of the village, meet the expectations of existing and potential users, be a building Pucklechurch residents will be proud of and use and deliver good financial, social and environmental performance.

Currently they have carried out research, analysis, a review of future needs and aspirations and are developing outline options.

S.G.C. Conservation Officer has recently carried out an appraisal. The document said the Community Centre detracted from the character and appearance of the conservation area because of its heavy brick walls, expansive low pitched roof slopes and solid windows and doors that make it appear bland and bulky.

The Make Over Team has since spoken to the Conservation and Planning Officers, looked at and discussed with them the options they have been working on and now have a clearer idea of what would be acceptable.

Four options have been developed options 1 and 2 were discussed and an outline of options 3 and 4 were looked at using plans, elevations and 3D computer models.

The Team advised funding will be needed to prepare schematic drawings and to submit outline planning. A new lease will be required and a 5 year business plan prepared to support the credibility of the project. They estimate it will take 12/18months to secure funding. The question of when they would consult the community was raised. They said another meeting held jointly with the Parish Council and the Community Association was necessary to provide feed back. They are working towards presenting the project to the community during Revel.

Mr. Beg thanked Clive, Bob and John for presentation.

**NO 4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.** None.

**NO 5. LAW & ORDER.** Nothing to report.

**NO 6. ARISINGS & TO AGREE PREVIOUS MINUTES.** 3). There were several alterations to be made (add number of names on petition and include speech marks etc).

5) Mrs. Palmer advised Mrs. Hall, Pucklechurch Post Office, was now in a position to meet Mr. Whittington but as she was standing down it would need another Councillor to take on the role. It was agreed to wait until after the election.

9) Mr Holder asked if the Youth Worker had been contacted. Clerk advised she has emailed her but has not yet received a reply. It was agreed clerk would email again and ask if she could provide a progress report for the Annual Parish Meeting.

The minutes were agreed a true record and signed.

**NO 7. FINANCE.** Mr. Symons had provided an update indicating an underspend against budget. Mr. Beg asked for thanks to be recorded to Mr. Symons and Mr. Holder for ensuring the accounts were maintained in a clear way.

The following cheques were agreed for payment and signed. S.G. Heritage Forum £10.00. membership. Yate Town Council £256.06. hosting 3 Joint Cycleway Meetings. A.L.C.A. £521.54. Membership. E.D.F. Energy £57.55. unmetered supply. P.C.A. £118.75. 2 Parish Council sessions, 5 Youth Club session and 1 Pucklechurch Interest Group meeting. Mrs. A. Sharpe £178.00. Mrs. D. Bailey £326.32. being salary £319.97 plus £6.35. stamps.

Clerk had letter requesting a grant of £100.00. from Victim Support towards providing core and specialised training courses for their volunteers. After discussion it was agreed the Council was unable to help on this occasion.

A letter was read from five members of the 1<sup>st</sup> Pucklechurch Guide Unit advising they are planning to complete the highest award available to Guides ' The Baden-Powell Challenge' which involves 3 months of work completing ten separate activities. After this they have to go on an adventure weekend, they have chosen the ICANDO Activity Centre, London, which costs £70.00. each. They have started fund raising such as car washing, babysitting, cleaning, gardening and cake sales and would be very appreciative of any support the Parish Council could offer. After discussion it was proposed by Mrs. Palmer that a grant of £20.00. per guide be awarded. All agreed. Clerk to confirm Councillors would be interested to hear their progress.

Clerk had quotation from Prosigns to supply and erect sign in Burial Ground. Sign to be 18" high x 14" wide advising 'Keep Dogs on Leads' after discussion it was agreed it would be preferable for the Chairman would include an article in his Report for Pucklechurch News than erect a sign.

**NO 8. MEMBERS MATTERS.** Mr. Green reported concern that the sign outside the Vicarage on Westerleigh Road needed cleaning.

Mr. Whittock said there was a lack of drop kerbs for the disabled between Pucklechurch and Parkfield Rank.

He had been contacted by a resident who expressed concern that mini motorbikes were driving around the recreation field.

Mr. Whittock said the skip for the Burial Ground had not been put back on the hardstanding when it was changed.

Councillors noted these concerns.

Mr. Watson advised that some time ago S.G.C. planted a clump of bushes on the junction of Partridge Road/Woodpecker Crescent. The shrubs need a serious amount of pruning and tidying. Clerk to contact S.G.C.

Mr. Watson reported on the Heart Start Initiative advising members were looking for sites for defibrillators, also the group has started fund raising as well as raising funds from the community they are hoping to find three sponsors, Parish Council and two other business's.

Mr. Smith asked if clerk would prepare a job specification for a Village Orderly for next months meeting, he also reminded Councillors that the deadline for Pucklechurch News was 10<sup>th</sup> May.

Mr. Beg expressed concern about the kerb between the road and the site of the Old Garage suggesting it should be reinstated once the development is complete. Clerk to contact S.G.C.

**NO 9. REPORTS.** Mr. Holder reported the bushes had been planted around the Community Centre Car Park, electrical work in the Hall carried out and the floor finished.

Mr. Watson attended the following meetings:

Link Meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March where he stressed the need for rural communities to be supported with appropriate community health facilities.

Prevent Steering Group on the 11<sup>th</sup> April looking at ways Organisations can identify and informally report possible terrorist activity before it becomes a problem.

Wick & Abson Parish Council Meeting he advised Councillors in Pucklechurch were concerned about the application for a certificate of lawfulness on a barn in Abson. It was suggested and agreed the Councils would work co-operatively over common interests.

National Spring Clean – Mr. Smith confirmed 8 areas in Pucklechurch had been covered.

Mr. Smith reported the Joint Cycleway Group had money available to create a cycle link between Pucklechurch and the top of Shortwood Hill. S.G.C. will need the help of the Parish Council with contacting landowners. Clerk to contact Mark Parry.

Mr. Smith advised the Community Plan was ready for printing. Clerk has contacted Whitehall Printing and Ensign Print for quotations. Whitehall Printing quoted £1649.00. plus VAT. A verbal quotation of £2000.00. has been received from Ensign Print. After discussion it was proposed by Mr. Watson that the lowest quotation be accepted, seconded by Mr. Holder. All agreed.

Mr. Smith explained that a meeting had been held with Mr. Sims S.G.C. regarding the use of herbicide in the village. He understood Councillors reasons for not wanting the edges and obstacles sprayed but said it would be greener to spray than to employ someone to keep strimming. He thought herbicide in Pucklechurch had in the past been used excessively and this should not have happened, he agreed it was not appropriate to spray the edges of Abson Road. After discussion Councillors agreed to continue with the use of herbicide with the assurance it would be used with a 'light touch' and to review the situation before next year's season.

Mr. Beg reported a successful twinning visit, the group was smaller than usual due to Easter Holiday, an enjoyable time was had by all.

**NO 10. PLANNING.** Application PK11/0846/LB and PK11/0858/F for erection of single storey side extension to outbuilding and increase in roof height to form additional storage area, Harvest Barn, 5 Farlands, Pucklechurch was considered. After discussion Councillors agreed they had no objection to the application providing the Conservation Officer was happy with the detail.

**NO 11. CORRESPONDENCE.** A letter was received from St. Peters Hospice thanking the Parish Council for their kind grant towards the cost of their Community Nursing Service.

**NO 12.** An email was received from Pucklechurch Cricket Club advising Dean & Vicky Freestone looked at the recreation field to check the report of waste dumping. As they suspected one of their members had cut the grass on the square and emptied the four small buckets of grass on the outfield, one on each side of the square. They have been doing this for some time and the grass naturally disperses. They checked again the following evening and there was no sign of any mounds of grass. The grass and nettles under the site screens and along the bank has been strimmed. While the work was being carried out there was an altercation with the resident adjacent to the area as he objects to

the site screens being there. Clerk to contact Dean & Vicky advising their concerns have been noted.

**NO 13.** An invitation was received to enter the C.P.R.E. Avonside Village of the Year competition. After discussion Councillors agreed to enter again this year.

**NO 14.** A letter was received from S.G.C. advising that from July onwards bags for recycling cardboard will be available to residents free of charge on a first served basis. They have identified libraries, leisure centres and council offices as suitable outlets and would like to involve other local outlets to ensure bags are easily available. They would like to use the Parish Council's premises. Councillors felt that having the bags available at the Revel would offer the best opportunity. Clerk to enquire if bags could be made available for 18<sup>th</sup> June.

**NO 15.** A letter was received from Cory Environmental Resource Management advising the Shortwood Landfill facility will be open to receive waste on Bank Holidays. Their planning permission allows for such opening over a temporary period of 12months.

**NO 16.** The Chairman received a letter from First Step Homes advising they are following with interest the proposed development on Oaktree Avenue and the recent application to have the land registered as a Village Green. First Step Homes did a presentation to the Parish Council in October 2008 giving an overview of their company and their proposal for a mixed development of affordable local needs housing, sports pitches and a doctor's surgery on land at Marsh Farm. Should the Village Green application be successful and the land therefore not suitable for development they would be able, subject to Parish support, to make land available for a variety of uses to include the doctor's surgery if required. They would be happy to present to the Parish Council again if members are interested in what they could potentially offer the village.

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

Date of Next Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

Mr. Beg gave a vote of thanks to Mrs. Palmer and Mr Whittock (not standing for re-election) for their outstanding service and major contribution. Mr. Beg (also not standing for re-election) thanked members for their work and for putting the needs and welfare of the community first. He thanked them for their friendship saying this was not good bye.

Mr. Holder presented Mr. Beg, Mrs. Palmer and Mr. Whittock with a small gift in recognition of their long service. He thanked Mr. Beg for his chairmanship, Mrs. Palmer for her guidance, Mr. Whittock for his inspiration and Mrs. Turley for her good work.









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