

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2008 IN THE MEETING ROOM, PUCKLECHURCH COMMUNITY CENTRE, ABSON ROAD.**

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

Cllr. Sandra Grant.

**NO1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** None.

**NO 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.** Cllr Grant wished to thank the Parish Council for arranging the meeting Tuesday 12 February that gave residents information on the proposed site for the in-vessel composting facility at Batchfield Lane. She thanked Omar for his excellent Chairmanship skills and Martin for his informative, unbiased presentation. She is dismayed at the unfounded rumours going around the village and confirmed she will and always has supported Pucklechurch residents.

Mr. Simon Higgins said he farms Lyde Green Farm and has received a communication from a Development Company, he advised that on the plan the area he farms is shown but not his neighbours land to the west. Councillors knew of the proposed development but not which landowners had been contacted. Clerk advised she had been contacted by Gallagher Estates regarding ownership of Lyde Green Common, she had explained Pucklechurch Parish Council had given up maintaining the common many years ago but confirmed they received still way leave payments for the tower and HG3 Mast. Mrs. Palmer said ownership was a very grey area. Mr. Higgins confirmed that through Defra he has Commoners Rights.

Mr. Beg thanked Mr. Higgins for attending the meeting.

**NO 3. LAW & ORDER.** Clerk advised P.C. Skelton had telephoned her, he said Kevin Thatch was replacing Inspector Krouwel. He confirmed there were no issues in Pucklechurch at the moment. The risk assessment and training for the Community Speed Watch Group has been completed.

**NO 4. ARISINGS & TO AGREE MINUTES.** Reference parking outside Village Store clerk confirmed S.G.C. had been unable to help as the lines outside were white advisory not yellow, where there is no traffic regulation order they have no power to enforce. Clerk contacted PSO Ashley Roland he said he would visit and speak to anyone causing an obstruction.

Reference Cycle Path clerk had confirmation from Mark Parry S.G.C. that the path is planned for Shortwood Hill, Pucklechurch, at the moment it is being investigated for design, when plans have been prepared Parish Council will be consulted. Implementation is planned for 2008/9 but funding will need to be applied for.

Alleged breach of Planning Control Londis Store update. There has been no contact from the owner of the shop therefore S.G.C. has written giving them a final 14days to either remove the unauthorised sign or apply for consent for a suitable replacement.

S.G.C. will continue to monitor the case and update with any further action to be taken by the enforcement team.

Site off Westerleigh Road an email confirmed Planning Enforcement Team has forwarded witness statements for prosecution to Counsel who was double checking documentation. Upon initial assessment, the legal department consider there should not be a problem with the prosecution.

The minutes of the meeting dated 16<sup>th</sup> January 2008 were agreed a true record and signed.

**NO 5. RESPONSE TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.** Mr. Beg thanked Cllr Grant for her kind words.

**NO 6. MEMBERS MATTERS.** Mrs. Palmer said it was important that Parish Council replied to S.G.C. Gypsy/Traveller Consultation. The deadline for replies was the 29 February. It was agreed Councillors would have a separate meeting to form a reply, Monday 7 - 8.30pm clerk to check and confirm venue.

Mr. Holder said he had read an article offering people money to encourage use of allotments. Mr. Holder agreed to pass on the information to allotment holders.

Mr. Smith asked that our Highways Officer be made aware that the edge of the verge on Abson Rd is eroding due it being sprayed with weed killer last year.

Mr. Symons said the Social Club wanted to erect an electric canopy over their veranda and wonder if they need planning permission. Councillors suggested they check with the planning office.

Mr. Symons confirmed Mr. D. Matthews has resigned as Trustee of the Community Association and currently there are three trustees. Councillors agreed that under the terms of the lease there should be four.

Mr. Whittock said that when the Burial Ground is extended it would be necessary for the new land to be consecrated.

Mr. Smith advised Redford Lane was very messy. Clerk to write to S.G.C. to ask if the litter could be removed.

Mr. Whittock mentioned that the lights either side of the zebra crossing on Abson Rd. had been extended.

Concern was expressed that the erosion of the red strip of tarmac at the top of Abson Rd. was of little worth and probably more of a hazard.

**NO 7. REPORTS.** Mr. Green had attended the Boyd Link Meeting the agenda had been similar to previous meetings.

Mr. Whittock had also attended the Boyd Link Meeting he confirmed there was to be a display at Conham Woods on the 8/9<sup>th</sup> March. He said he had taken Ross Abbott to the meeting and introduced her as one of our Path Wardens.

Mr. Smith said he had attended S.G.C. Gypsy/Traveller Site Consultation, he advised S.G.C. were trying to establish a framework for the future. The meeting had been very useful.

NO 8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS. The following applications were considered and observations made: PT08/0177/F erection of In Vessel Composting Facility, off Batchfield Lane. A draft letter setting out Councillors reasons for objecting to this application was discussed. It was agreed Mr. Smith would make the necessary alterations and forward it to the clerk for submission to S.G.C.

PK08/0293/F erection of single storey rear extension to form additional living accommodation. Installation of Ino rear dormer window to facilitate loft conversion 14 Parkfield Road. No objections.

PK08/0303/RVC variation of condition 33 attached to planning permission PK03/1545/F to amend the operational working hours of the landfill site to 7.00 to 13.00 Saturdays and 09.00 to 16.00 Bank Holidays. Existing Landfill Site, Shortwood Quarry. Councillors objected to this application as the proposed increase in lorry movements of 10 vehicles translates into 20 vehicle movements = 1 vehicle every 3 minutes between 7 and 8am weekends and Bank Holidays. Councillors considered this unacceptable because of noise and disturbance to local residents plus the added traffic on the Avon Ring Road on Bank Holidays.

PK08/0306/F erection of rear conservatory, 40 Maple Walk. No objection.

PK08/0282/CLP application for Certificate of Lawfulness for the proposed installation of Ino dormer window to side elevation, 40 Maple Walk. No objection.

PK08/0271/F erection of conservatory to north west elevation, 33 Oaktree Avenue. No objection.

PK08/0255/F erection of first floor side extension to form additional living accommodation, 77 Hawkrig Drive. No objection.

PK08/0426/F erection of rear conservatory, 74 Abson Rd. No objection.

PK08/0418/F demolition of existing buildings and redevelopment of the site to provide two blocks for commercial/industrial use (class B1 (c), B2 B8) with ancillary office space, car parking, landscaping and associated works. Erection of 3m high boundary fence. Units 22-27 (formerly known as Units 3-5), Pucklechurch Trading Estate. Councillors thought the new design was less daunting for neighbours and may generate employment. No objection.

PK08/0440/TCA works to Ino Tree of Heaven to lift lowest limbs and thin and reduce overhang by 20% situated within Pucklechurch Conservation Area, 7 Westerleigh Rd. No objection.

**NO 9. CORRESPONDENCE.** A letter and plan detailing the proposed installation of bus stop markings for the stop on Castle Road was received. Councillors support the proposal.

**NO 10.** A letter from S.G.C. advised the School Organisation Plan 2007-2012 could be downloaded from the website at [www.southglos.gov.uk/SOP](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/SOP)

**NO 11.** A letter from Pucklechurch Cricket Club asked for permission to host the Kwik Cricket Tournament for Primary Schools in Gloucestershire as in the previous 3 years. They also formally requested use of the recreation field for cricket matches from the 1<sup>st</sup> May to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2008. Councillors were happy for the Kwik Cricket Tournament to be played on the recreation field and agreed to the use for cricket matches for the coming season. Rent to be increased in line with increase for use of the field by the Football Club.

**NO 12.** A letter from S.G.C. advised temporary closure of LPU66/10.

**NO 13.** An email from S.G.C. confirmed the problem of flooding outside the Rose & Crown in Parkfield Road would be investigated.

**NO 14.** An email confirmed SGC Rights of Way Team would look into the possibility of installing a bollard in Kings Lane to prevent fly tipping.

**NO 15.** An email from Mr. Blake SGC Head of Highways & Transportation confirmed Parish Council would be consulted on the emerging proposal to use the Bristol to Bath railway path for a rapid transit bus route.

**NO 16.** A letter of thanks was received from Pucklechurch Twinning Association for the grant towards the cost of their dinner to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They also asked who would be representing the Parish Council. Mr Watson agreed to represent the Parish Council.

**NO 17.** A letter was received from Mr. Rogers 75 Westerleigh Road. The concerns raised in the letter were discussed and the clerk asked to reply.

**NO 18.** A letter was received from Murco Petroleum Ltd regarding the problem of lorries coming through Pucklechurch. They advised they do not employ any drivers but said they would display Parish Councils letter locally so that drivers using their facility were aware of our concerns.

**NO 19.** A letter was received from Rachel Goodchild advising St. Thomas a Becket was having a special Baptism Celebration on Palm Sunday between 3 - 4pm. They have acquired two donkeys to be involved in the celebrations and would like permission to allow them on the recreation field. Councillors were happy to agree.

**NO 20.** An email was read from Karen Ross S.G.C. Enabling Manager regarding the proposal for housing and a GP surgery on land at Oaktree Avenue. They propose holding a consultation event in the village to present the outline proposals in late April. They would be happy to explain the proposals to Councillors before the event.

Clerk to contact Karen Ross to arrange the date and time, possibly at the start of the next Parish Council Meeting.

**NO 21.** Clerk has received a letter from Cory Environmental Trust advising the trustees have approved a grant of up to £3000.00. towards the extension of safety railings on the recreation field. The award is conditional on the provision of an independent 10% 3<sup>r</sup> party funding contribution of £300.00. Mr. Smith said he thought Revel would be able to fund the independent contribution, he has spoken to two committee members and needed to contact one more.

**NO 22. TO DISCUSS ALCA MEMBERSHIP.** Mr Beg said he had tried on several occasions to contact ALCA but had been unable to speak to anyone.

**NO 23. FINANCE.** A letter from the Audit Commission advised Mazars LLP has been appointed as External Auditor to Pucklechurch Parish Council. The appointment is for a five-year period commencing with the 2007/8 accounts.

A letter was received from Iain A Selkirk FCA offering his services as Internal Auditor. Mr Selkirk confirmed he would be acting totally independently of the Council and that his fee would remain the same as last year. Councillors agreed to appoint Mr. Selkirk as Independent Auditor for the 2007/8 audit.

The following cheques were agreed and signed for payment. Town & Country Services £133.95. skip changeover in Burial Ground. South Gloucestershire Citizens Advice Bureau £250.00. grant. South Gloucestershire Council £52.70. charge for emptying and maintenance of dog waste bin 1<sup>st</sup> Oct to 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 07. BT Payment Services Ltd. £77.51. Broadband connection. Mrs. A Sharpe £125.00. Mrs. D Bailey £486.10. being salary £310.66. back pay £140.00. tel £30.00. stamps £5.44.

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

Date of next meeting 19<sup>th</sup> March time to be confirmed.

*Omar B*

19/3/2008

