

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 20TH JUNE 2007 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, M.C. Smith, R. Symons, Mrs. S.E. Turley, M.S. Watson, L.J. Whittock.

Cllr. S. Grant.

NO 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. None.

NO 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. None.

NO 3. LAW & ORDER. Mr. Beg reported for information that on Sunday 17th June at 9.50am someone was camped in a tent on the recreation field he presumes someone must have contacted the police as they were gone by midday.

NO 4. ARISING & TO AGREE AND SIGN MINUTES. Mrs. Palmer was concerned that overhead cables detract from the Conservation Area and asked for a letter be sent to Western Power asking if they could be put under ground.

Mrs. Palmer said that the result of the appeal on the 5th June against enforcement notices & refusal of planning permission Land off Westerleigh Rd., would be known in approximately two weeks.

Reference work in the field next to the illegal encampment Mr. Watson said he had seen lights on in the sheds at 10.30pm. Mrs. Turley confirmed the owner has been advised he must apply for planning permission or enforcement action will be taken.

Mr. Beg confirmed holding the Revel Service at the start of Revel week had been a good idea as more people had attended.

The minutes of the meeting held 16th May 2007 were agreed a true record and signed.

NO 5. STANDING ORDERS AND RISK ASSESSMENT. Previous standing orders were agreed for this year and the risk assessment completed.

NO 6. MEMBERS MATTERS. Councillors reported water flooding from manhole by pedestrian crossing on Abson Rd. after storms.

Mr. Watson expressed concern that residents in Partridge Rd. were experiencing frequent power cuts. It was agreed Mr Watson would monitor for 2 – 3 months.

Mr. Watson said there were trees on Oaktree Avenue on common ground and in private gardens that needed pruning. There were also brambles spilling onto walk ways and on the west side of Abson Road just past Hawkrige Drive the hedge needed attention. Mrs. Palmer explained it was necessary to be more specific before contacting S.G.C. Mr. Beg agreed to pen an article for the Pucklechurch web site and

Pucklechurch News reminding residents of the need to keep hedges and trees clear of walk ways.

Mr. Holder suggested it would be helpful for Councillors to have a large scale map of the Parish of Pucklechurch. Clerk to contact S.G.C. to enquire the cost of producing a laminated map of the Parish.

Mr. Symons said he had picked up a query from the Annual Public Meeting suggesting the 5min rule allowing members the public to address the Council may not be the best way. Mr. Beg said the time used to be 3minutes and had been increased to five with a response time included as item 5 on the agenda. Mr. Beg said the Football Club, the group raising the query, had been given a half hour slot to address the Council, as it was an important issue Councillors discussed and made its decision at the following meeting. Mr. Symons asked if would be appropriate, under similar circumstances, for a Councillor to obtain more details. It was agreed it would be appropriate.

Mr. Symons asked if the Council had replied to the query raised regarding photographing children on the recreation field and child protection. Mr. Beg said no he had responded to the meeting as people did not seem to understand.

Mr. Symons said he had attended Revel, had a thoroughly good day and thought people should be congratulated.

Mr. Beg advised Mr. Smith was chairman of Revel Committee and thanked him for his leadership.

Mr. Green expressed concern that rubbish was blowing everywhere from a wire basket by the tap in the Churchyard. It was agreed clerk would contact Mrs. Webb about the problem.

Mr. Holder proposed Parish Council enquire about applying for Beacon Status. Clerk to contact Deborah White at S.G.C. or A.L.C.A.

Mrs. Palmer advised for information that S.G.C. were to introduce traffic signals at the junction of Westerleigh Rd/Westerleigh Shorthill.

Mrs. Palmer said the grass verge outside the bungalows on Shortwood Rd. had become untidy. Clerk confirmed a request for the grass to be cut had been made to S.G.C.

NO 7. REPORTS. Mr. Watson and Mr Symons had attended a meeting at Dyrham & Hinton Village Hall regarding a 3day music event at Dyrham Park 10th – 12th August 07. The meeting was called to enable villagers and interested parties to meet the organisers. The most important issue to come from the meeting was that Dyrham Park currently has an entertainment licence for 5,000 people from 10am to 11pm. In order to ensure viability of the event the licence needs to be 24hr for 10,000 people. The licence if granted applies to the venue not the event and lasts indefinitely.

The decision to apply for licence appears to have been taken by the local National Trust manager rather than from a higher level.

Last year this event was held at a venue near Salisbury, the host declined this year as there were too many problems including some drug related.

The organizers assured those present that security would be better this year, with 30 professional security staff on duty, including a mobile village patrol. No permanent police presence was planned.

Police have a traffic plan that essentially turns A46 into a dual carriageway. Access to the lanes between A46 and village will be by permit only.

Most music will be focussed electronically into crowd area, towards A46 away from village and end by about 1am. According to organizers sanitation, litter, accommodation and catering arrangements will be to a high standard.

The impact for Pucklechurch is thought to be minimal as traffic should be prevented from exiting and entering the event via Pucklechurch and noise should not be an issue due to the distance.

Mr. Holder confirmed the Parish Plan questionnaires were being delivered for completion by the 12th July, analysing the questionnaires will take 2 – 3 months.

Mr. Whittock said he had been unable to attend the meeting at the Greenfield Centre.

Mr. Beg advised Mr. L. Smith had been elected Chairman of Twinning.

NO 8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS. PK07/1795/F for installation of 2no warehouse doors and 2no double slope vehicle access ramps to the east and west elevations, Unit 21 Pucklechurch Trading Estate was considered. There were no objections raised.

NO 9. CORRESPONDENCE. A letter was received from Mr. Withers HMP & YOI Ashfield in response to site visit regarding fence around the area at the top of St. Aldams Drive.

Mr. Withers confirmed he will repair the hole in the fence but is not prepared to do so continually as it is being deliberately damaged, he assumes by local children, and feels the community should play their part to assist.

He visited SGB Scaffolding regarding their materials being stored near the fence and asked if they would kindly move it to reduce the risk of it being stolen. He was informed they have a security patrol on site at all times and a guard at the main entrance.

Mr. Withers confirmed that at the moment it was not appropriate for Ashfield to consider selling the land as they may want to utilise the space in the future.

Mr. Withers is happy to meet to discuss issues concerning parking but as the person representing the prison at the last meeting is no longer with the company he would appreciate being provided with details of previous discussions.

Mrs. Palmer explained that as a result of the meeting and the on going problems for neighbours it had been suggested that Ashfield might like to consider selling the land to the Parish Council. There had also been a discussion about creating a formal opening to provide a direct route between the pensioners bungalows and the proposed new doctors surgery but neighbours present had been totally against the suggestion. It was agreed clerk should send copy of the letter to the neighbours attending the meeting.

NO 10. A letter was received from S.G.C. encouraging members to consider applying for the position of parish representative on the Standards Committee.

NO 11. A letter from the National Offender Management Service advised HMP Leyhill supply once a week to the local community a party of prisoners, supervised by a Prison Officer, to carry out a variety of tasks. The tasks can be anything from painting and general tidying of village hall, scout hut etc to weeding, grass cutting and general maintenance of the local church and they would like to offer the service to Pucklechurch. It was agreed clerk would contact them to take up their offer and discuss painting the railings on Shortwood Road.

NO 12. A request for grant aid was received from Alzheimer's Society, Mr. Beg declared an interest and took no part in the discussions. Mrs Palmer proposed a grant of £75.00. seconded by Mr. Green all agreed.

NO 13. A letter was received from the Salvation Army asking for financial help with the refurbishment of their building at Staple Hill. Councillors were unable to help on this occasion.

NO 14. An application for grant aid was received from Victim Support Avonvale. Mrs. Palmer proposed a grant of £50.00. seconded by Mr Watson, all agreed.

NO 15. A letter was received from S.G.C. regarding colour of shop fronts in the Conservation Area. Letter confirmed painting of an existing shop front would not normally need planning consent (unless it was a listed building) so would be outside of the control of the Council. Councillors felt the reply referred to painting whereas the village store had installed a new stop front. Clerk confirmed S.G.C. had asked if enquiry related to a new shop front or painting and she said she thought it had been painted. Clerk to contact S.G.C.

NO 16. A letter from S.G.C. confirmed that from Monday 2nd July 07 they would be taking over responsibility for parking enforcement from Avon & Somerset police.

NO 17. A letter from S.G.C. confirmed that Parish Councils request for dropped kerbs in Castle Rd has been added to the list, the railings on Shortwood Rd will be inspected and any defect resolved. The hedge obscuring the 30mph sign on Shortwood Hill has been cut back and the request to move it passed to their Traffic Management team. The no parking signs on Parkfield Rd have been replaced.

NO 18. A letter was read from Allianz Cornhill plc advised that the Parish Plan Steering Group may be automatically covered providing they meet the following criteria. They are an official sub-committee. The minutes of the meetings form part of and are incorporated into the Parish Council minutes. The meetings are open to the public in the same way as Parish Council Meetings. Any accounts of the committee form part of the accounts of the Parish Council and are subject to the Council's audit.

NO 19. FINANCE. To consider quotation for supply and installation of sign in Burial Ground to read 'Please keep your dog on a lead' £170.00. plus VAT. Mr. Whittock confirmed stray dogs no longer seemed to be a problem. It was agreed to keep quotation on file for future reference.

Clerk had quotation from Record Play for supply and lay concrete to infill existing gap on skate ramp £600.00. plus VAT. As this price is extremely high and installers of equipment were proposing to infill gap with concrete clerk asked local contractor to submit a quotation.

Shortwood Village Committee has been consulted over the supply of a picnic table and benches for the recreation field at Shortwood and would prefer the round table with seats attached. As this table is the cheaper option clerk has obtained quotation for table to be secured on a slab base, this will prevent ground eroding under seats and aid grass cutting.

Wizzard Landscapes to dig out area 2.4m x 2.4m supply base and lay slabs, erect bench and secure to slabs. Take down damaged sign and re-fix dog bin at Shortwood.

To dig out tarmac and infill with concrete to create new smooth finish at base of skate ramp, Westerleigh Rd. £486.00.

Councillors agreed to accept the quotation from Wizzard Landscapes.

Clerk had quotation from Queensbury Shelters for the supply, delivery and installation of Arun enclosed shelter. £3802.00. Optional extras A4 Infopost unit £60.00. and Bus stop flag bracket £30.00. all prices exclude VAT. After discussion it was agreed in principal providing funds are available. Clerk to contact SGC to progress funding application and apply for licence.

The following cheques were agreed for payment. Instant Landscapes £917.91. grass cutting. Martyn Williams £1075.00. painting play equipment. The Brandon Trust £858.04. printing questionnaires for parish plan. D.W. Parsons £52.00. cutting hedge between Abson Rd and Hill View Rd. Ensign Print £210.00. Pucklechurch news. S.G. Senior Citizens Forum £50.00. grant. Mrs. A. Sharpe £115.50. Mr. L. Whittock £8.92. petrol and can for Parish Council strimmer. Mrs. D. Bailey £302.22. salary £294.00. plus £8.22. stamps. Victim Support Avonvale £50.00. grant. Alzheimer's Society £75.00. grant. Bendry Bros Ltd £235.00. picnic table and seats. Town & Country Services £126.90. skip changeover in Burial Ground. Clerk confirmed the following cheques had also been issued by agreement Gail Boyle £28.00. supply of badges for delivery personnel for parish plan questionnaires. British Telecom £77.51.

broadband connection (funded by S.G.C.) D.W. Parsons £2500.00. payment on account in connection with supply and erection of railings for recreation field.

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

Date for next meeting 18th July 07 at 7.30pm.