

**PUCKLECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2006 IN THE MEETING ROOM, COMMUNITY CENTRE, ABSON ROAD.**

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

Cllr. S. Grant.

**NO 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** M.C. Smith.

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

**NO 3. LAW & ORDER.** None.

**NO 4. ARISINGS.** Mr. Whittock said the manhole covers had been raised to the level of the new surface on Lansdown Road but he is concerned the new surface will not be durable. Clerk said she contacted South Gloucestershire Council and the Highways Department had confirmed the surface was guaranteed and would be monitored.

Mr. Whittock confirmed the paths had been cut in the Woodland.

Mr. Whittock confirmed the contractor had laid turf to make good the area surrounding the new play equipment but due to the dry weather some of the turf has died and will need to be seeded.

Mr. Whittock expressed concern that a section of the recreation field fence (area in front of the swings) was unsafe. Clerk said she had applied for a grant of £3,500.00. to help with the cost of replacing the fence and was awaiting the outcome. Councillors agreed to fund the cost of a temporary repair.

**NO 5. MEMBERS MATTERS.** Mr. Whittock said the footpath on the land opposite the Pets Crematorium had been reinstated. Mrs. Palmer said the Rights of Way team had been excellent and requested a letter be sent to James Brindley thanking them for their support.

Mr. Skidmore said he had noticed tracks made by mini motos on the grass next to 44 St. Aldams Drive. Clerk said someone must of removed a section of the new fence that had been erected prevent access.

Mr. Lee said there was sign advertising paving attached to the road name near the roundabout and a sign advertising property for sale on the verge outside The Poplars. Clerk to contact S.G.C.

Mrs. Palmer asked for a letter to be sent to S.G.C. Planning Department asking if the works being carried out at the Crematorium for a new cemetery site were covered by the original application.

Mr. Beg said he had read an article where a Council had invoked a little used piece of legislation: section 215 of the 1990 Town & Country Planning Act, to force owners to carry out repairs to buildings that were harming local amenities including the appearance of a neighbourhood and he wondered if this legislation could be used against the owner of the Congregational Church. Clerk to contact S.G.C.

**NO 6. REPORTS.** Mr. Holder said that the Forum Meeting he had been advised that finance for a footway on Feltham Road would be discussed at their November meeting.

Mr. Holder said Mr & Mrs. Abbott had started walking the footpaths, they had submitted a written report to S.G.C. and were doing an excellent job.

Mr. Holder said the tri-fold leaflet for the Community Plan had been delivered and he was waiting for a response from Community Action regarding the funding application.

Mr. Beg confirmed a return visit to Pringy had been arranged for October.

**NO 7. PROBLEMS CAUSED BY PRISON PARKING.** Mr. Beg said he had attended a meeting at Ashfield with Nigel Cutland and some residents. Problems with parking and the possible use of spare land at the top of St. Aldams Drive had been discussed and Mr. Cutland had agreed to look at suggestions and report back. Mr. Skidmore said part of the problem is that the residents are split in two, half want the area at the top of St. Aldams Drive used but half do not. Mrs Palmer suggested the introduction of a travel plan could help. It was agreed a letter should be sent to the Director Vicky O'Dea suggesting that the introduction of a travel plan formulated with the help of S.G.C. could help to solve the problems.

**NO 8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.** The following applications were considered and observations made. PK06/2496/F erection of first floor extension over existing porch to form additional living accommodation. 21 Woodpecker Crescent. No objections.

PK06/2522/TCA works to remove 3no dead branches from Lime tree and reduce 1no. Yew tree by 20% all situated within Pucklechurch Conservation Area. 20 Shortwood Rd., Pucklechurch. No objections.

PK06/2606/F erection of single storey rear extension to provide additional living accommodation. Erection of rear conservatory. Hodden Cottage, Hodden Lane, Pucklechurch. No objections.

PK06/2622/F erection of rear conservatory, 25 Partridge Rd., Pucklechurch. No objections.

PK06/2400/O land at Emersons Green East, land to east of Avon Ring Rd., South of M4 Motorway. Urban extension on 106 hectares of land comprising: Residential development of up to 2650 dwellings; up to 16.5 hectares of B1,B2, B8 and C1 employment development land. Up to 2,450 m2 of small scale A1,A2,A3,A4 and A5 uses. One, 2 – form entry primary school, a land reservation for a second 2 – form

entry primary school and a land reservation for a secondary school. Community facilities including a community hall (class D1). Transportation infrastructure including the internal street network and connections to the Folly roundabout on Westerleigh Road and the Rosary roundabout on the Ring Road. A network of footways and cycleways. Structural landscaping. Formal and informal open space. Surface water attenuation areas. (Outline) with means of access to be determined. Mrs. Palmer suggested we contact the developer and request a meeting to explain the application as it is large and could have an impact on our parish. Clerk also to write to Mrs. Ainsley the Planning Officer to check time scale for comments.

**NO 9. ILLEGAL WORKS ON WESTERLEIGH RD.** Cllr. Grant read an email from S.G.C. Legal Services explaining their role reference the illegal work that has been carried out on land at Westerleigh Rd. It confirmed two enforcement notices had been served on Mr. Hazel, both expire on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2006. The third enforcement notice expires on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2006. S.G.C. must wait until 5<sup>th</sup> October for the first two enforcement notices and until 28<sup>th</sup> October for the last one. Assuming the evidence is there to prove the enforcement notices have been breached the Legal Services Department will bring proceedings. S.G.C. expects Mr. Hazel will argue that the matter should be adjourned until his appeal in relation to the enforcement notices is heard but S.G.C. will argue strongly that this should not be the case. Legal Services confirmed they were keeping an eye on the timetable and gave assurance legal proceedings would be brought, if appropriate, as soon as possible.

Mr. Beg said clerk had spoken to Mr. Gosling the Planning Officer who had said he would not make a decision until he was in possession of full facts. He needed a definite response from the Traveller Unit who were awaiting an educational report.

Councillors were very disappointed that no response had been received to their letters; they also thought it was unacceptable that the application for the site on Shortwood Rd, which was registered in April 2005 had not been determined. They believe the parish is suffering because S.G.C. do not have sufficient gipsy sites; their suggestion that a site be included in the planning application for Emersons Green East also received no response.

It was agreed Mrs. Palmer would draft a letter expressing Councillors concerns to Amanda Deekes, Chief Executive, S.G.C.

**NO 10. CORRESPONDENCE.** A letter of thanks for grant aid was received from Victim Support Avonvale.

**NO 11.** A letter of thanks for grant aid was received from South Gloucestershire Senior Citizens Forum.

**NO 12.** A letter from Wicksteed Leisure Ltd confirmed their installer had carried out the necessary remedial work and apologised for any inconvenience.

**NO 13.** A letter from S.G.C. advised it may be possible for them to incorporate dropped kerbs on Hill View Rd as part of the Castle Road, Safer Routes to School scheme. If it is not possible they will add them to the list of sites waiting to be completed using the mobility budget.

**NO 14.** A letter from P.C.A. advised they wished to accept Councillors offer to fund half the cost of trimming back the shrubs etc surrounding the Village Hall car park. They are waiting for quotations and will have the work carried out as soon as possible.

**NO 15.** A letter was received from Halifax Home Insurance Co. advising that No 44 St. Aldams Drive was currently suffering subsidence damage. From their initial inspection of the property they consider the damage to be due to clay shrinkage probably brought about by moisture demands of adjacent vegetation. The vegetation referred to are Acer and Maple trees, which they believe, are the responsibility of the Parish Council. Further investigations are being carried out and a copy of the report will be sent on when available. It was agreed clerk would pass the letter to Allianz Cornhill Plc.

**NO 16.** A letter from S.G.C. contained a formal consultation on the proposed diversion of footpath LPU 33 at Meadowland Cottage, Coxgrove Hill. It was agreed clerk should consult Mr. & Mrs. Abbott footpath wardens before replying.

**NO 17.** A letter from S.G.C. confirmed the Standards Committee had endeavoured to visit each Council at least once every two years. The visits have had varying success rates and before another round of visits is undertaken they would like know if Councillors are happy to be visited. Clerk to reply that Councillors are happy to be visited but would suggest that as local elections are due next year the visit should be postponed until the following year.

**NO 18.** A letter from Pucklechurch Revel Committee thanked Councillors for their support and advised that approximately £7,000.00. had been raised for village organisations and projects.

**NO 19.** A letter from Mrs. Trueman confirmed she was willing to undertake responsibility for planting and maintaining the planters. Clerk is awaiting a license from S.G.C. before purchasing the planters.

**NO 20.** An invitation was received to attend S.G.C. European & International Affairs Forum on 17<sup>th</sup> Oct 06 6pm – 8.30pm.

**NO 21.** An invitation was received to the A.L.C.A. A.G.M. at Beacon Hall, Peasedown St. John, Bath on 7<sup>th</sup> October at 10am.

**NO 22.** An invitation was received to Community Action A.G.M. at Long Ashton Community Centre 19<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm. Mr. Holder agreed to attend.

**NO 23.** An invitation was received to Alzheimer's Society A.G.M. in the Village Hall, Emersons Green on the 12<sup>th</sup> October 2 – 4pm.

**NO 24.** An invitation was received to the launch of the new dramway walk leaflet.

**NO 25.** An invitation was received to S.G. Local Agenda 21 Forum at the Greenfield Centre, Winterbourne, 5<sup>th</sup> October 7.30-9.30pm.

**NO 26.** A letter was read from S.G.C. containing an update on the progress of the large scale voluntary transfer of housing stock to Merlin.

**NO 27. FINANCE.** Clerk confirmed the audit of accounts to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006 was complete and the Audit Certificate signed.

Clerk had received a letter from S.G.C. with the estimated election costs for May 2007. Mr. Holder and Clerk to arrange a budget review meeting for November 06.

The following cheques were agreed for payment. Mazars £293.75. external audit. Wicksteed Leisure Ltd. £915.33. supply and lay safety surface under new play equipment. Pucklechurch Community Association £55.00. use of meeting room for 3 Parish Council Meetings and 2 Parish Plan Meetings. Ensign Print £424.00. being September edition of Pucklechurch News £200.00. Parish Plan Leaflet £224.00. Glasdon U.K. Ltd. £254.46. replacement litter bin. Mrs. A. Sharpe £115.50. Mrs. D. Bailey £302.36. being salary £294.00. plus stamps £8.36. Instant Landscapes £749.65. grass cutting £561.65. plus £188.00. cutting paths in Woodland.

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

Date for next meeting 18<sup>th</sup> October 06 at 7.30pm.