

**PUCKLECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2007 IN THE MEETING ROOM, COMMUNITY CENTRE, ABSON ROAD.**

**PRESENT.** O.A. Beg Chairman, L.J. Whittock Vice Chairman, D.A.E. Holder, R.C. Lee, W.K. Skidmore, M.C. Smith.

Cllr. Sandra Grant.

**NO 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Mrs. J.E. Crispin, P.J. Green, Mrs. M.C. Palmer.

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

**NO 3. LAW & ORDER.** Clerk advised residents living near the Eagle Crescent play area were experiencing problems with youngsters playing hard ball games again. P.C. Skelton had been contacted and agreed to visit. Councillors expressed concern that the Police rarely attended Parish meetings. It was agreed clerk would write to the Inspector at Staple Hill to ask if he could attend meetings from time to time.

**NO 4. ARISING & TO SIGN MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.** Mr. Skidmore confirmed he had completed the consultation of 'Options on Waste' on behalf of the Council.

Parking problems at Parkfield Rank it was confirmed S.G.C. had written individually to residents.

The minutes of the meeting held 16<sup>th</sup> January 07 were agreed a true record and signed.

**NO 5. MEMBERS MATTERS.** Mr. Skidmore expressed concern weeds were growing through the tarmac in the skate park. Clerk to purchase weed killer.

Mr. Lee said the weight restriction sign and the bollard on the triangle junction of Westerleigh Rd/Parkfield Rd were damaged. Clerk to advise South Gloucestershire Council.

Mr. Beg expressed concern that foreign lorry drivers had been seen driving through the village. It was agreed clerk should write to S.G.C. requesting the erection of a large dedicated sign (near the top of Police Station Hill) to give drivers advance warning they are approaching the Trading Estate.

**NO 6. REPORTS.** Mr. Smith said the Community Plan Consultation Public Meeting had been well supported with volunteers offering help. Feed back has been good with lots of input and work has started on the questionnaires.

Mr. Holder said he had attended the Community Action 'Sustainability' meeting.

**NO 7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.** PK07/0146/F erection of two storey side extension and rear conservatory to provide additional living accommodation. Replacement of existing flat roof with pitched roof over from porch. 1 Kestrel Drive.

Councillors objected to this application as the proposed extension was very large and out of keeping with existing properties.

PK07/0287/O erection of two storey surgery building with car parking (Outline) with means of access to be determined. All other matters to be reserved. Oaktree Avenue. Pucklechurch. Councillors had no object in principle but, through consultation on the Parish Plan, were aware of elderly residents concerns over access as there is no footway between their bungalows and the proposed surgery. Councillors felt a solution to this problem should be put forward as soon as possible perhaps through a 106 agreement.

PK07/0468/F alterations to roofline and erection of single storey rear extension to provide additional living accommodation. 80 Hawkrigge Drive. Councillors had no objection to this application.

PK07/0523/F erection of two storey side extension to provide additional living accommodation. 9 Lansdown Road. Mr. Whittock declared an interest. Councillors had no objection to the application.

Councillors noted the following appeals against refusal of planning permission.

- Change of use of grazing land for the stationing of 3no residential gypsy caravans Land at Shortwood Rd.
- Stationing of 1no caravan with amenity unit 85a Parkfield Rd.

**NO 8. WESTERN POWER DISTRIBUTION.** A letter and maps requesting permission to place fibre optic cables under ground was received. The cable to be buried in the roadside verge and a short section on the edge of Lyde Green Common requires the consent of the Parish Council. A permanent Easement payment of £5400.00. and an annual wayleave payment of £405.00. would be paid. It was agreed Mr. Lee would look at the contract.

**NO 9. CORRESPONDENCE.** A letter of thanks was received from St. Thomas A Becket Church for grant towards the upkeep of the churchyard.

**NO 10.** A letter of thanks was received from South Gloucestershire Citizens Advice Bureau for grant aid.

**NO 11.** A request was received from South West Dobermann Club asking to use a section of the recreation field for their Dog Show on Bank Holiday Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May. Councillors were happy to agree to their request as they are a very responsible club and the show is popular with many residents. Clerk to invite them to send details for inclusion on the web site.

**NO 12.** A letter was received from the Pucklechurch Community Speedwatch Association thanking Councillors for their generous offer. However, they felt they must decline the offer at present as their current funds are sufficient to purchase a speedgun and some of the ancillary equipment and a grant application has been

submitted for the remaining funding which could be negated if they were to accept further offers.

**NO 13.** A letter was received from Pucklechurch Sports A.F.C. requesting a further meeting as they are concerned the decision not to allow a barrier around the pitch was made without Councillors being fully aware of all the facts and circumstances. Councillors decided a further meeting was not necessary as they had been made fully aware of the facts by Mr. Grainger. However, Councillors would like to be furnished with the web address and relevant section of the Gloucestershire County rules.

**NO 14.** An invitation was received to attend a meeting to discuss the role of Town & Parish Councils in the new Safer and Stronger Community Groups in South Gloucestershire. Mr. Holder agreed to attend.

**NO 15.** A letter from S.G.C. advised the request for reinstatement of the 'slow' road markings is situated on a section of road to be resurfaced providing budget permits. The sign will be reinstated after the resurfacing has taken place or if there is insufficient funding will be placed of the list for remarking.

**NO 16.** A letter from S.G.C. acknowledged the points raised in our letter dated 11<sup>th</sup> January regarding the planning application for Emersons Green East.

**NO 17.** A letter was received inviting nominations to the Chair of Council's Community Awards.

**NO 18.** A letter from S.G.C. advised the S.G. Strategic Green Belt Assessment could be viewed on the web site or copies obtained from the Spatial Planning Team at Thornbury Council Offices.

**NO 19.** A letter from S.G.C. regarding the parking issues at Parkfield Rank explained there are no signs that can be installed to advise residents that they cannot reserve spaces.

**NO 20.** A letter was received from Pucklechurch Cricket Club requesting use of the recreation field for this coming season 1<sup>st</sup> May to 31<sup>st</sup> August 07. They also requested use of the field Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June to host the Kwik Cricket Tournament for Primary Schools in Gloucestershire. Councillor agreed to both requests, the rent to be £285.00.

**NO 21.** The Judges comments for the Calor Village of the Year 2006 competition were discussed and noted.

**NO 22.** A letter was received from the Avon Valley Railway Heritage Trust requesting grant aid towards improvements at Bitton Station. Councillors agreed they were unable to help on this occasion.

**NO 23. FINANCE.** A quotation was received from Mr. D.Gay for the grass cutting in the Burial Ground for the 2007 season of £540.00. Councillors agreed to accept this quotation.

**NO 24.** A quotation was received from Instant Landscapes for the maintenance of the playing fields and open space land for the 2007 season. Castle Road and Eagle Crescent playing fields £116.60. per cut. Strimming around posts etc. £42.00. per visit. Castle Road extra cut £68.00. per cut. Open space at St. Aldams Drive £105.00. per cut. Councillors agreed to accept this quotation.

**NO 25.** A letter was received from Iain A Selkirk FCA offering his services as Internal Auditor for this years audit. Letter confirms he would be acting totally independently of the Council, his fee to be £120.00. Councillors agreed to reappoint Mr Selkirk as Independent Internal Auditor.

**NO 26.** A letter was received from the Audit Commission regarding the appointment of External Auditor and advising they propose to extend the appointment of Mazars as auditor to Pucklechurch Parish Council for the financial year 2006/7. Following the success of the 5year fixed rate fees introduced in 2001/2 and in consultation with stakeholders the Commission has approved new fees to operate from 2006/7 for a 5year period.

**NO 27.** The following cheques were agreed for payment and signed. Mr. E. Boulton £175.00. maintenance of Parkfield Rank play area 2006 season. Lawrence Tree Services £587.50. felling trees open space land, as instructed by Insurance Co and to prevent further subsidence damage to no 44 St. Aldams Drive. Community Action £20.00. membership. Wizzard Landscapes (D.W.Parsons) £297.00. supply and fit drop down bollard gate to recreation field. Anna Sharpe £115.50. D. Bailey £334.74. being salary £294.00. tel £30.00. Stamps £4.81. Spring gate closer for Shortwood play area £5.93. S.G.C. £52.70. maintenance and emptying of dog bin St. Aldams Drive.

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

Date of next meeting 21<sup>st</sup> March 2007. at 7.30pm.