

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 21ST JULY 2010 IN THE MEETING ROOM, PUCKLECHURCH COMMUNITY CENTRE, ABSON ROAD.

A pre-meeting commenced at 6.45pm to allow S.G.C. Enabling Officer and Sovereign Housing to discuss Parish Council requirement reference proposed Development and Doctors Surgery on Oaktree Avenue. A letter from the planning officer explaining what could and could not be provided was discussed. It was confirmed Parish Council design comments had been taken on board and the Architect made aware of concerns regarding the communal spaces. A consultation with some of the neighbouring properties has commenced and the date for the consultation event with the wider community will be published in Pucklechurch News. Mr. Beg thanked the Officers for attending the meeting saying Councillors understood the points and would consider them at the next meeting.

PRESENT. O.A. Beg Chairman, P.J. Green, Mrs. M.C. Palmer, R. Symons, M.C. Smith, S.E. Turley Cllr for Parish and Boyd Valley, L.J. Whittock.

Sandra Grant Cllr for Boyd Valley.

NO 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. D.A.E. Holder Vice Chairman, M.S. Watson.

NO 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. None.

NO 3. LAW & ORDER. Mr. Beg reported that the Fleur de Lys had reopened, he raised concerned about parking at the back of the car park whilst it was closed.

The update reference the incident outside the public house one person has been charged with GBH.

NO 4. ARISINGS & TO CHECK MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING. No 5 Parish Expenditure. Clerk to enquire about the possibility of a grant for cycle racks.

The planned visit to the allotments was deferred.

Bus route and time table information to be progressed by Mr. Smith.

Mr. Holder to investigate the possibility of installing a wireless connection in the Community Hall.

The minutes of the meeting dated 16th June 2010 were agreed a true record and signed.

NO 5. ADOPTION OF COMMUNITY PLAN. Mr. Smith confirmed that in line with discussions at the review meetings the action plan had been updated to include information on time scale. Mr. Beg said it had been helpful to see the back ground and understand the amount of work undertaken by the group. Mr. Green raised a question

about conflict of interest. Councillors decided there was no conflict. Mrs. Palmer proposed the plan be adopted, seconded by Mrs. Turley. Voting unanimous.

Mr. Smith thanked Councillors for their encouragement.

NO 6. FINANCE. Mr. Symons updated Councillors advising an under spend against budget of £1003.00. due to the Contractor not submitting his invoice for grass cutting.

Open Spaces Committee had met with the clerk to look at the recommendations in the Arboriculture Report. The trees on St. Aldams Drive/Birch Drive require basic maintenance ie. removal of deadwood, dense canopy requiring 20% thinning to allow more light and air penetration and crown lifting to 2mtrs for health and safety.

Similar work is required on trees in the recreation field except for a Robinia tree between the Burial Ground and the Recreation Field. This tree has a cavity 2mtrs up the main stem on the southern side also the Ganaderma decay at the base of stem noted in 2007 is still present and has increased in size. A Picus investigation is recommended. The Turkey Oak has signs of exudation on the main stem, this may be an isolated decay pocket or possibly signs of more extensive internal decay and needs to be monitored. The Midland Hawthorn on the Hill View Road boundary is in a serious state of decline. The leaf cover is sparse and discoloured, it is recommended that this tree should be removed and a suitable replacement planted.

Two quotations have been obtained Lawrence Tree Services £780.00. plus VAT and to supply and plant heavy standard native tree, planted with tree stake and tie £120.00. plus VAT.

Greenman Environmental Management Ltd. £1123.30. plus VAT. Clerk discussed replanting work on Hill View side and Greenman has provided planting suggestions.

The cost of a Picus investigation of the Robinia Tree with printed results and interpretation is approximately £175.00. plus VAT. This would probably be an ongoing cost so that results of investigation could be compared. Mrs. Turley suggested it would be better to remove the tree as it's in a poor condition and replant and perhaps a section of the trunk could be placed on the recreation field and used as seating or for natural play.

Councillor's agreed to accept the quotation from Lawrence Tree Services. Clerk to ask for a quotation for removal and replanting of Robinia and discuss applying for permission as the recreation field is in the conservation area. Councillor's agreed to discuss the replanting scheme for Hill View Road boundary at a later stage.

Clerk advised Mr. Watson had contacted her with concerns about a dead tree near the Eagle Crescent play area and one behind the garages at the front of properties on Partridge Road. Clerk confirmed the tree was on the edge of the play area and would be Parish Council responsibility, clerk to contact S.G.C. reference the tree behind the garages.

The following cheques were agreed for payment and signed. Instant Landscapes £1005.65. grass cutting. Glasdon UK Ltd. £391.39. supply of two dog waste bins. EDF Energy £58.38. unmetered supply. S.J. Aplin Playgrounds Ltd. £346.63. repairs to safety surface at Eagle Crescent. P.C.A. £90.00. use of meeting for 1 Parish Council Meeting, 2 Parish Plan Review meetings and four Youth Club sessions. Town & Country Services £293.75. skip changeover in Burial Ground, installation of 2no dog waste bins and supply and fitting of new catch to retain gate on recreation field. Martyn Williams £150.00. painting of roundabout at Parkfield Rank. D.W. Parsons £61.10. cutting and strimming hedge on path between Abson Road and recreation field. Mrs. Anna Sharpe £128.75. Mrs. D. Bailey £323.57. being salary £319.97 + stamps £3.60.

NO 7. STANDING ORDERS & RISK ASSESSMENT. Clerk had amended the Standing Orders as agreed at the June meeting which were then signed by the Chairman.

Mr. Symons had prepared a Risk Assessment which he presented to the Council. The document was checked and the subject, risk and management and control agreed. From the Risk Assessment it was agreed clerk would add 'Declaration of Interest' to the agenda and write to P.C.A. asking them to confirm they have the appropriate Insurance. Mr. Beg thanked Mr. Symons for preparing the document.

NO 8. PART NIGHT SWITCH OFF. Mr. Smith confirmed he had attended a meeting with S.G.C. to progress the proposal for Part Night Switch Off. S.G.C. guidelines recommend enclosed walkways should be lit and roads not lit. Pucklechurch because of its design with separate walkways and road access does not conform. Lights would be switched off between midnight and 1am until approximately 5am. Mr. Smith had received a map outlining the proposal which is the starting point for Parish Council to feed information to S.G.C. which would then go to public consultation. Councillors agreed they needed time to study the map. Clerk to contact S.G.C. for an electronic copy for distribution and include on next months agenda.

NO 9. DOG FOULING. Concern has been raised that there is an increase in the amount of dog fouling on the recreation field. It was agreed clerk would contact S.G.C. Dog Warden to ask if signs could be erected.

NO 10. MEMBERS MATTERS. Mr. Whittock had received a complaint about litter in the bus shelter on Shortwood Road.

Mr. Whittock advised there was a damaged post at the entrance to the Community Woodland.

Mrs. Turley raised concern that a section of the boundary wall between the Garage and the Burial Ground has been re-built with concrete blocks rather than natural stone. It was agreed clerk would write to S.G.C. Planning Case Officer as the wall is in the Conservation Area and rebuilding with concrete block was not considered appropriate.

Mrs. Palmer reported the Maple Walk road sign had been painted over. Clerk to contact S.G.C.

Mrs. Palmer had prepared a response to S.G. Core Strategy Consultation. After discussion it was agreed clerk would send response and include the addition of 'Councillors are surprised that the issue of a possible new link to the M4 has been included. This is a very complex proposal with both positive and negative implications and should be dealt with in a more comprehensive way'.

Mr. Beg expressed concern that brambles are growing over the wall and through the gates of the Congregational Church grounds. Clerk to write to the owner asking for the area to be cleared and made safe.

Councillors asked clerk to contact Tina Rainey for an update reference the proposed new play garden at St. Aldams Drive.

NO 11. REPORTS. Mr. Whittock reported a dog paddle missing by the stile on the by-pass. Clerk to contact S.G.C.

Mr. Whittock and Mr. Green had attended the Boyd Link Meeting, the village clean up, Brandy Bottom colliery and tree wardens was discussed. Mr. Whittock advised a landscape grant was available and Mr. John Morris could be contacted on 01454 863581 for information.

Mrs. Turley had been at the Development Control East meeting when the planning application for Emersons Green East had been considered. The Parish Councils concern about consultation and there being no time to comment was raised. It had been agreed that some issues raised could be brought up later and the Parish Council allowed to become involved. Mrs. Turley advised an application for an MMI and a footbridge to link Pucklechurch and Mangotsfield was due to be submitted, the Parish Council could have extended consultation period.

Mr. Smith advised the Cycle Group Meeting had been cancelled.

Mr. Smith said the Joint Transport Forum Local Plan (3) has gone out to consultation. It was agreed clerk would include as an agenda item for comments at September Meeting.

Mr. Smith advised that at a meeting with S.G.C. Gary Meddick had agreed spraying was detrimental but the problem was that they do not have the labour force to trim. Mr. Meddick suggested that S.G.C. could offer some support and residents asked to tidy up edges also some parishes employ a Parish Orderly for this type of work. It was agreed to discuss as an agenda item at a future meeting.

Mr. Green apologized as he was unable attend the Kingswood Community Transport AGM.

Mrs. Palmer said a letter from Pucklechurch Primary School advised Cowlin Construction would be carrying out phase 1 of the work during the holidays and due to time scale would be working week-ends. The Manager Mr. Rob Steel would be writing to neighbours and the School could be contacted should there be any problems.

NO 12. PLANNING. The following applications were considered and observations made. PK10.1550/F Leigh Croft, 200 Westerleigh Rd. erection of 1no building for the storage of waste. Mrs. Turley declared an interest and left the room. After discussion it was agreed there was no objection. Mrs. Turley was invited back in.

PK10/1684/F & PK 10/1683/LB The Stables Court Farm, Westerleigh Road internal and external alterations to facilitate the formation of a new door with shutters in the north west elevation. No objection.

PK10/1732/F subdivision of existing dwelling into 2no dwellings and erection of first floor rear extensions. (Amendment to previously approved scheme PK09/5745/F) 45 Westerleigh Road. Councillors had no objection but commented that the parking area identified was the grass-crete area and was for communal use.

PK10/1413/RVC Pucklechurch Primary School, Castle Road. Variation of condition 2 attached to PK03/3036/F to allow the Elliott classroom to be used between the hours of 8.30 and 18.30 from Monday to Friday. No objection.

PK10/1741/RVC Westerleigh Crematorium, Westerleigh Road. Variation of condition 3 attached to PT06/2004/F to include use by the Westerleigh Group Headquarters. No objection.

NO 13. REVIEW OF LOG. A review of logged and emailed consultations was carried out.

NO 14. CORRESPONDENCE. A letter was received from St. Thomas a Becket Church advising that to improve visibility the lime trees along the Churchyard wall have been cut back. They have received an invoice for £690.00. for the work and wonder if the Parish Council is able to help with the cost as the work benefits the village as a whole. Mr. Beg declared an interest and took no part in the voting. After discussion Mr. Green proposed a grant of £350.00. seconded by Mr. Smith. Voting unanimous.

NO 15. A letter requesting financial help towards the running of the South Gloucestershire C.A.B. for 2010/11 was received. A grant of £300.00. was proposed by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mrs. Palmer. All agreed.

NO 16. A letter of thanks was received from Revel Committee for the loan of the litter pickers on Revel Day.

NO 17. A letter was received from Pucklechurch Sports Football Club asking to use the recreation field for matches for the coming 2010/11 season. Councillors were happy to

grant consent, rent to remain as last year £420.00. Regarding Parish Council letter dated 26th May 2010, this was brought to the attention of the respective Leagues and clubs were told this was not acceptable behaviour and to use the facilities provided. Notices will be put up in the changing rooms warning clubs that they will be reported to the League Management Committee if it happens again.

NO 18. A letter was received from S.G.C. Public Transport Officer reference problems on the 689 bus service explaining it would be difficult for the bus operator to investigate instances without the relevant evidence. As part of all contracted bus services S.G.C. will carry out further monitoring of this service paying attention to the morning and evening times of arrival in Pucklechurch. Clerk to reply that the Parish Council has put in place a reporting system, the information will collated and passed on.

NO 19. A letter was received from S.G.C. regarding the Standards for England Pocket Guide. The letter advised the Pocket Guide is merely a handy sized reminder of key points and that wherever possible the Code of Conduct Guide for Members 2007 should be referred to. It was agreed clerk would ask if the guide could be provided as a PDF.

NO 20. A letter thanking the Parish Council for their grant was received from S.G. Senior Citizens Forum.

NO 21. A letter was received from Mrs. R. Abbott raising concern about the dangerously long thorny blackberry branches protruding through the gates and over the wall of the derelict chapel grounds. Clerk to thank Mrs. Abbott for her letter advising the issue has been raised and the owner will be contacted.

NO 22. A letter was received from Rachel Goodchild advising that despite the new build at the school the holiday club will go ahead this year. The Community Centre has been booked instead for two days and they hope to have about 40 children. They would like permission to use the recreation field for games and sport providing the weather is good. They will be sensitive to other recreation field users and have strict policies in place reference safety and security. Children will be in small groups supervised by CRB staff. Councillors were happy to grant permission providing that in common with any user they carry out an assessment of risk.

NO 23. A letter was read from a group of young people from Partridge Road who love football wondering if a second goal could be provided or perhaps a net for the goal on the land at St. Aldams Drive. They also raised concern about the amount of dog waste on the land. (This has been passed to S.G.C. Dog warden). As an alternative to a second goal they wondered if a basket ball court could be provided at the top of the field. After discussion it was agreed clerk would reply thanking the young people for their letter and advising there is a proposal for a new play garden at St. Aldams Drive and that a copy of their letter will be forwarded to the Officer designing the project so that she is aware of their ideas.

NO 24. A letter was received from Ashfords regarding Lyde Green Common asking for confirmation that the Council's Solicitor has given notice to Western Power and Hutchison UK Ltd that payments are due to their client, c/o Ashfords. Clerk to contact the Solicitor and arrange for a letter to be sent advising change of payment details from the 2011 financial year.

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

Date of next meeting. 18th August 2010 at 7.30pm (Councillors to meeting at the allotments at 6.45pm.)