

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 21ST NOVEMBER 2007 IN THE MEETING ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL, ABSON ROAD.

PRESENT. P.J. Green, Mrs. M.C. Palmer, M.C. Smith, M.S. Watson, L.J. Whittock.

In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman Mr. Watson proposed Mrs Palmer chair the meeting, all agreed.

NO 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. O.A. Beg Chairman, D.A.E. Holder Vice chairman, R. Symons, Mrs. S.E. Turley. Cllr. S. Grant.

NO 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. None.

NO 3. LAW & ORDER. Mr. Whittock said he was hoping to receive minutes of the latest Neighbourhood Watch Meeting.

Mr. Green said PSO Roland had been visiting in Shortwood and advising residents to keep their sheds locked.

Mr. Smith confirmed the report from Inspector Krouwel would be in the next issue of Pucklechurch News.

NO 4. ARISINGS. Mr. Watson confirmed new road name signs have been erected around the estate. Clerk to email letter of thanks to Mr. G. Meddick.

The minutes of the meeting held 17th October 2007 were agreed a true record and signed.

NO 5. MEMBERS MATTERS. Mr. Whittock said there appeared to be a water leak on the junction of Hill View Rd and Castle Rd. Clerk to contact Bristol Water Co.

Mr. Whittock was concerned about the litter in and around the entrance to the underpass.

Mr. Smith said he had received positive comments about the railings on the recreation field and also confirmed the Revel Committee had paid the third party contribution towards the grant for the railings.

Mr. Smith wondered why the orange sheath on the overhead cable outside no 1 Westerleigh Rd had not been removed as the work was completed several weeks ago. Clerk to contact Western Power Distribution.

Mr. Green confirmed Western Power had erected four new poles in Shortwood.

Mr. Green suggested the 'For Sale' signs outside The Poplars should be monitored in case they encroach further onto the grass verge.

Mr. Watson has received favourable comments about the new railings on the raised pavement on Shortwood Rd. Clerk to pass comments on to South Gloucestershire Council.

Mr. Watson raised concern that there could be a breach of the planning conditions imposed by the Inspector on the Gypsy/Traveller site at Shortwood Rd. The gate near the site that leads to the reservoir is normally locked but is now open daily and there is evidence of HGV's being driven into the site via an opening they have created in the hedge. A condition imposed was that the hedge has to be maintained and the consent allowed for parking of only one lorry on site. Clerk to bring this to the attention of South Gloucestershire Council.

Mr. Watson said he had seen HGV lorries coming through the village from Westerleigh Rd and Abson Rd. Clerk to contact P.C. Skelton.

NO 6. REPORTS. Mr. Whittock attended the C.P.R.E. AGM a local person had presented a very interesting film show on structures in villages.

Mr. Smith said he would draft a reply to the letter received from Wessex Water. He had recommended accepting the proposed works on Feltham Rd as it would help solve some problems. Wessex Water had brought the scheme forward at the request of our M.P. Steve Webb and the work should hopefully be finished by March 08. The plans did not show how power was to be delivered and Mr. Smith was surprised to see overhead poles had been installed. Mr. Watson wondered if the supply would come from the same circuit as The Estate as in the past residents have experienced problems with the supply which could perhaps effect operations at the treatment plant. Clerk to contact Western Power.

NO 7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS. The following applications were considered and observations made. PK07/3182/LB external alterations to include extension of existing fire escape platform by 1 metre and installation of disabled access ramp to rear elevation. Flat 1 Beech House, Westerleigh Rd. No objections.

PK07/3330/TCA works to 1no Horse Chestnut tree to thin canopy by 25% and prune back south facing side of canopy by approximately 2m. Works to 1no Sycamore tree to thin canopy by 25% and cut back overhanging branches to the garage by approximately 2m and remove all debris. Both trees situated in Pucklechurch Conservation Area, St. Thomas a Becket Church. No objections.

PK07/3359/F erection of single storey rear extension to provide additional living accommodation, 11 Holly Close, Pucklechurch. No objections.

NO 8. CORRESPONDENCE. A letter was received from Avon & Somerset Constabulary requesting nominations for the Community Policing Awards.

NO 9. An invitation was received to the C.P.R.E. Branch AGM 24th November at Cleeve Village Hall. Mrs. Palmer and Mr. Whittock to attend.

NO 10. An acknowledgement was received from S.G.C. regarding the Conservation Area Review.

NO 11. An invitation was received from Community Action to South Gloucestershire Information day 17th January 2008 at The Greenfield Centre 10am – 1pm.

NO 12. A letter was received from South Gloucestershire Council advising the cost of elections is increasing due to an increased number of postal voters and additional measures introduced by the Electoral Administration Act. S.G.C. suggest Parish Councils may like to consider introducing a rolling four year fund to which they add each year so as to reduce the impact of election costs in the election year.

NO 13. An invitation was received to the Bristol & District NSPCC AGM 28th November at Clifton College.

NO 14. An invitation was received to S.G. 2026 – Our Vision for an Excellent Quality of Life and a new Local Area Agreement for South Gloucestershire meeting 11th December 10am – 12noon Chipping Sodbury Town Hall or 7pm – 9pm Kingswood Civic Centre.

NO 15. FINANCE. Clerk had approached three contractors for quotations to carry out tree work as recommended by Arboricultural Survey and Report. Two quotations have been received as follows:

Greenman Environmental Management Ltd.
St. Aldams Drive & Birch Drive £966.00. plus V.A.T.
Recreation Ground £1498.00. plus VAT.

Chew Tree Care –
St. Aldams Drive & Birch Drive £1400.00. plus V.A.T.
Recreation Ground £2100.00. plus V.A.T.

Mr. Smith said that normally we would accept the lowest quotation unless there was something to suggest it was not best value. It was agreed clerk would wait for quotation from Lawrence Tree Services before making a decision.

Clerk confirmed the Audit of Accounts to end of March 2007 was complete.

The following cheques were agreed for payment and signed. D.W. Parsons £258.73. installation of three new drain covers in Scout Hut area. S.G.C. £3304.39. election costs for May 2007 election. Queensbury Shelters Ltd. £4502.60. supply and installation of new bus shelter Merlin Ridge/Kestrel Drive. Town & Country Services £732.02. installation of base for new bus shelter Merlin Ridge/Kestrel Drive. S.G.C. Village Map £66.98. Mrs. A. Sharpe £155.50. British Telecom £77.51. internet connection. D. Bailey £328.18. salary £294.00. + tel. £30.00. + Stamps £4.18. Town & Country Services £17.62. supply and fit new hinges to gate between Burial Ground and Recreation Field and supply and lay replacement slab in Burial Ground.

There being no further business Mrs. Palmer declared the meeting closed.

Date for next meeting 19th December 2007 and 7.30pm.

