

PARRETT AND AXE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10th March 2011 at 7.30pm at Chedington Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs Anthony de la Poer (Chairman), Mike Johnson (Vice Chairman), David Lines, Kate Organ and Peter Simmons. County Cllr Rebecca Knox, District Cllrs Janet Page and Caroline Payne, 1 footpaths officer, clerk Angela Gillingham, and 5 residents.

1033. **APOLOGIES** were received from Cllr Ewan Alexander, PCs Tim Poole and Alex Bishop, Dominie de la Poer (footpaths officer) and Bob Buckland (Millennium Green trustee).

1034. **MINUTES** of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th January 2011 were approved and signed as a correct record. (Proposed by Cllr de la Poer, seconded by Cllr Simmons)

1035. **Reports from County & District Councillors and Police Officers**

County Cllr Rebecca Knox reported that a rural protest had succeeded in keeping concessionary bus fares in villages where there was no bus service before 10/30am. There is a campaign to retain Beaminster Library. Cllr Knox advised that there was a proposal to substitute a free-standing library instead of a mobile one and she requested feedback on the use made of the mobile library. (Members responded that the mobile library was well used in both Chedington and South Perrott.) Cllr Knox reported that Bridport Recycling Centre was reducing its opening hours, with the disposal only of green waste on Saturdays, and that DCC was still considering whether to support the Crewkerne site.

District Cllrs Janet Page and Caroline Payne reported that despite the District Council grant from the Government being cut by 25%, the DC's portion of the Council Tax will remain the same for 2011/2012, and services will not be cut. The DC will be funding the cost of keeping the concessionary bus fares free for 9.30am travel. The DC have agreed a scheme to pay the planning costs of any builders who wish to build affordable housing, in order to help reduce the waiting lists.

PC Poole submitted a written report stating that there continued to be heating oil thefts and reminded members and residents of the Stop That Oil scheme which is designed to prevent thefts from fuel tanks. PC Poole suggested that most rural crime is preventable and offered to give comprehensive crime prevention advice to anyone who contacted him.

The Chairman thanked the above representatives for their reports.

1036. **MATTERS ARISING**

- a) Community Resilience Plan – the Clerk reported on progress with the Plan, which was designed to help the community to help itself in an emergency. The key risks, such as flooding and isolation, had been identified and the availability of equipment, tractors and emergency accommodation had been assessed. Maps of the two villages had been produced. A question had arisen over the necessary insurance to cover all persons named in the plan. Cllr Simmons offered to check with NFU insurers and Mrs Gillingham would check the Parish Council insurance. A further question related to reimbursement for any costs incurred during an emergency, e.g. cost of tractor fuel used. Mrs Gillingham to ask Carly Galloway at DCC.
Action: Cllr Simmons / Mrs Gillingham

- b) Millennium Green – the Chairman explained that the Parish Council had been approached by the Millennium Green Trustees to take over the Trusteeship of the Green. Members of the Parish Council had met with Roger Green, Solicitor at WDDC, who had advised that this would not be the best way forward. In view of this the Parish Council has decided not to accede to the request. Subsequently two residents have made it known that they would be willing to put themselves forward to become Trustees. After discussion, it was agreed that the two volunteers should be encouraged to approach the existing Trustees and discuss the matter with them.
- c) Parish Council Elections – the Clerk reminded members and residents that Parish Elections were due to take place on 5th May 2011. Notices of election had been posted on the Parish and village hall notice boards and a front page article would shortly be appearing in The Source newsletter.
- d) A letter had been received from the Head Teacher of the Parrett & Axe Primary School requesting financial support towards a worthwhile project at the school, such as the annual visit from the Dorset Life Education Van. It was agreed that a donation the same size as the previous year [£50.00] should be made to the school, and to enquire as to whether donations from the PC had reduced the cost to parents. (Proposed by Cllr de la Poer, seconded by Cllr Johnson.) *Action: Mrs Gillingham*
- e) A356 Road Scheme – Cllr Kate Organ reported the concerns from residents about the perceived dangers to pedestrians using the new pavement through South Perrott. Andrew Brown, the Highways officer in charge of the works, was reported to be reluctant to having signage erected to indicate the two pinch points at Swing Gate Cottage and at Hill Farm. It was agreed that the Parish Council should write to the Highways Department requesting the DCC to reconsider the position and erect suitable signage, if only temporarily, until a safety inspection has been carried out. *Action: Mrs Gillingham*
 Concerns were raised that the finished surface of the pavement would not be in a contrasting colour to the road surface. It was agreed to request a finished surface colour of Buff to contrast with the road. There was also concern that the pavement would not continue east out of the village beyond Picket Lane, as had been originally agreed. Cllr Knox had lobbied the Cabinet Member for Highways about this cut-back. She had received a petition signed by more than 20 residents in support of the continuation of the pavement. The Chairman thanked Cllr Knox for her support with this project.

1037. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence In

1. DAPTC Chief Executive's Circulars nos. 1/11, 2/11, 3/11 and 4/11
2. DAPTC Newsletter – Winter 2010/11
3. DCC - 2010/11 Winter Season December Snow Event Review Questionnaire
4. DCC's Partnership for Older People Programme – Locality Planning
5. Parrett & Axe Primary School – request for funding (agenda item)
6. Somerset, Devon & Dorset Community Land Trust Project – invitation to seminar
7. WDDC - District Elections 2011 leaflet
8. DCC – Budget 2011/12 and medium term financial strategy
9. DCC Engineering Consultancy – notification of A356 road scheme
10. DCC Western Highways Office re. temporary closure of A356
11. Letter from Donald Hargreaves re. A356 road scheme
12. Copy letter from Kate Organ re. A356 road scheme
13. DCC Public Notice re. temporary closure of A356
14. WDDC – District and Parish Elections 2011 – nomination forms
15. Letter from Peter Hinton re. Trusteeship of Millennium Green
16. WDDC re. Christmas Tree Collections - £20 remittance

Correspondence Out

1. Letter to Bridport Delivery Office re. non-delivery of post in Chedington
2. Letter to Millennium Green Trustees

1038. PLANNING

- a) Applications handled since last meeting: none
- b) Decisions notified by WDDC since last meeting: none
- c) New applications:
1/D/11/000299 Keepers Piece, Chedington – application for listed building consent to install conservation roof lights. Members discussed application and raised no objections.
- d) Tree Applications:
CA/11/00005 6 Parrett Mead, South Perrott – application and approval.
CA/11/00010 Maple Cottage, South Perrott - application and approval.
CA/11/00018 Hunters Hatch, South Perrott – application and approval.
CA/11/00040 The Old Rectory, South Perrott – application.
CA/11/00044 2 Parrett Mead, South Perrott – application.

1039. FINANCE

a) Income received:	
WDDC remittance for Christmas Tree recycling	£20.00
b) Payments made since the last meeting:	None
c) Payments to be made:	
South Perrott Village Hall – hire of hall	£60.00
Clerk's salary for Feb & Mar 2011	£267.00
Clerk's expenses (including new toner cartridge for printer)	£93.39
Donation to Parrett & Axe Primary School	£50.00
Bank statement as at 18 th February 2011	£2,581.23
Balance after above cheques agreed	£2,110.84

The above payments were proposed by Cllr de la Poer and seconded by Cllr Simmons.

1040. MATTERS OF REPORT

- a) Chairman – none.
- b) Clerk – reported that the Bridge Maintenance Team at DCC was planning to clear the silt and debris under the Parrett Mead bridge in Picket Lane, in May/June this year. The Clerk to write to the owners of the properties bordering the bridge, reminding them of their riparian duties.
- c) Members –
 - Cllr Johnson requested that copies of The Source newsletter be delivered to him as soon as possible after printing, for distribution in Chedington. Mr Lucas offered to assist with the distribution.
 - Cllr Organ raised a concern that the increased traffic in Pipplepen Lane was causing a deterioration of the road surface, and suggested that the Highways Authority be asked to repair the road when the road works were complete.
- d) Footpaths Officer – None.

1041. **PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

- A356 Road Scheme. A concern was raised that the new footpath would give a false sense of security to pedestrians, when the design of the kerb was such that a vehicle could drive over it if necessary in order to pass another vehicle.

1042. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Thurs 12th May 2011 in South Perrott Village Hall – to include AGM.

The Chairman advised that there may be some new members on the Parish Council by the next meeting and thanked the current members for their work and support.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed

Date