

PARRETT AND AXE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14th July 2011 at 7.30pm at Chedington Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs Mike Johnson (Chairman), Kate Organ (Vice Chairman), Sue Coutanche, Liz Fray, Anita Legg and Peter Simmons. District Cllrs Janet Page and Caroline Payne, clerk Angela Gillingham, and 5 residents.

1062. **APOLOGIES** were received from County Cllr Rebecca Knox, PC Tim Poole and PCSO Alex Bishop, Dominic de la Poer (footpaths officer), Paula Hutchings (footpaths officer designate for Chedington) and Bob Buckland.

1063. **MINUTES** of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th May 2011 were approved and signed as a correct record. (Proposed by Cllr Organ, seconded by Cllr Coutanche)

1064. **REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND POLICE OFFICERS**

The Clerk read out a written report from County Cllr Rebecca Knox. Cllr Knox apologised for her absence, explaining that she had been appointed Chairman of Dorset Fire Authority and a clash of dates prevented her from attending the parish council meeting. Cllr Knox reported that she had put in a request (raised at the previous meeting) for a 'no right turn' into Lecher Lane, South Perrott, to be implemented, and had reported the pot holes in Chedington. She also encouraged councillors to attend a street lighting consultation meeting on 15th August in Mosterton. IT WAS AGREED that Cllrs Coutanche, Legg and Organ would attend this meeting. *Action: Cllrs Coutanche, Legg and Organ*

District Cllr Caroline Payne reported that no significant issues had arisen since the amalgamation of West Dorset and Weymouth & Portland District Councils. She had attended a presentation at the Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy, given by Lord Coe, and described some of the varied events planned in Weymouth during the Olympics. District Cllr Janet Page reported that West Dorset DC was concerned that the proposed discontinuation of housing benefit and replacement by a universal credit and pension credit scheme could lead to increased homelessness.

The Clerk read out a written report from PCSO Alex Bishop. He reported on a theft of hosepipe which was likely to have been stolen for use in oil thefts, and reminded attendees of the "Stop That Oil" scheme aimed at preventing thefts from oil tanks. In addition, a vehicle had been stolen from Chedington and a copper tank from Chedington Lane, Mosterton.

1065. **MATTERS ARISING**

- a) **Parish/Town Development Survey** – the Clerk reported on the results of the survey which had been distributed to all households in both villages. Sixteen responses had been received for South Perrott and 13 for Chedington. The responses from South Perrott residents indicated that generally they would like between 1 and 3 new units of employment, community facilities, affordable housing, farm diversification and tourism accommodation over the next ten years. The responses from Chedington residents indicated overwhelmingly that they wanted no changes to their village. In discussion, a concern was raised that the responses received may not have been representative of the residents as a whole.
- b) **Chedington Notice Board** – The Chairman explained that the notice board was in need of replacement and he suggested an approach should be made to a cabinet maker in Halstock who, he understood, undertook local projects free of charge. It was also noted that the bench in The Pound in South Perrott was in need of replacement. *Action: Mrs A Gillingham*
- c) **Public Session at parish council meetings** – Cllr Coutanche proposed that the timing of the public session should be moved to the start of parish council meetings as this might encourage

greater participation by the community and give them the opportunity to raise matters coming up on the agenda. After discussion, IT WAS AGREED that this proposal should be deferred to a future meeting when the Standing Orders are updated.

- d) **"The Source" newsletter** – Members considered whether the parish newsletter should be continued and what form it should take. After discussion, IT WAS AGREED that a newsletter should be produced six times a year, following each parish council meeting, and it should take the form of printed A4 sheets. It was agreed that Cllrs Organ and Coutanche should compile the next edition of the newsletter. *Action: Cllrs Organ and Coutanche*
- e) **Telephone Box in South Perrott** – Cllr Coutanche reported that the telephone box in South Perrott was only equipped to make emergency calls and she proposed that the parish council considered "adopting" the kiosk. Cllr Johnson advised that in addition to emergency calls, a credit card call could be made from the box by dialling a certain number. IT WAS AGREED not to progress the Adopt a Kiosk scheme because of the potential costs of maintenance and insurance, and because it would mean that the telephony equipment would be removed from the box.
- f) **Parish Online Mapping** – Cllr Coutanche reported that she had investigated a low-cost web-based mapping tool and proposed that the parish council considered subscribing to it. However, she also advised that most of the information was freely available from DCC's Dorset Explorer and Ordnance Survey. IT WAS AGREED not to progress this further at the present time.
- g) **A356 Road Scheme** – Members considered the following issues:-
- Traffic noise outside Bakers Arms - Mr and Mrs Thackwell of Bakers Arms, South Perrott, attended the meeting and were invited to speak. They explained that the short section of footpath and the cross-over bar outside their property was causing much nuisance to them because the slightly raised kerbs caused passing vehicles to create a loud "clunk-clunk" sound as they travelled over the kerbs. This was exacerbated by the traffic also driving over the new manhole cover which caused one half of the cover to clonk against the other half. Cllr Organ advised that she had contacted Andrew Bradley, the Highways officer in charge of the A356 road scheme, who advised that he will need a letter from the PC and then will ask Dorset Works to investigate the problem. IT WAS AGREED that a letter should be sent to DCC Highways. *Action: Mrs A Gillingham*
 - Safety Audit – Members expressed their concerns that the village was less safe than before the road works due to the lack of signage and the need to educate drivers. A final safety audit had not yet been carried out. IT WAS AGREED that a senior officer from DCC Highways should be invited to attend the next parish council meeting to answer questions. *Action: Mrs A Gillingham*
IT WAS ALSO AGREED that Members would compile a list of the main danger points in the village and send this to DCC Highways. *Action: All*
 - Reduction in size and weight of vehicles – Peter Larkman attended the meeting and was invited to present his report. He advised that it would be possible for the parish council to seek a voluntary or advisory routing agreement from the Freight Transport Association (FTA) which would have the effect of routing HGVs away from the A356. He considered this preferable to having the A356 downgraded to B classification, or to obtaining a Traffic Regulation Order giving a blanket weight/width restriction. After discussion, IT WAS AGREED to progress this idea by making contact with the FTA. *Action: Mrs A Gillingham*
 - Speed Restriction – Cllr Organ reported that the residents at Sockety Farm were concerned that the constriction of traffic through the village was causing drivers to accelerate faster as they left the 30mph area and drove past Sockety, and requested that the 30mph restriction should be extended to beyond Sockety. IT WAS AGREED that a letter should be sent to DCC Highways requesting this. *Action: Mrs A Gillingham*
IT WAS ALSO AGREED to ask PC Tim Poole if a Speedwatch exercise can be conducted to monitor traffic entering and leaving the village. *Action: Mrs A Gillingham*

- The Pound – Cllr Organ reported that she had arranged for the greenery to be cut back from the high wall at the back of The Pound. The bench needed to be moved back but was fixed to the ground with a metal bracket. Cllr Organ offered to arrange for a temporary repair to be made to the bench, and the clerk was asked to write to WDDC requesting that the litter bin is moved further away from the bench. *Action: Cllr Organ and Mrs Gillingham*
- Road markings at the new Gateways – this item was deferred.

1066. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence In

1. DAPTC Extraordinary Chief Executive's Circular (May 2011) and Circular no. 9/11
2. WDDC notification of a new byelaw for Good Rule and Government
3. DCC re: Revised Draft Minerals Core Strategy consultation
4. WDDC re. declarations of acceptance of office/registration of interests for parish council
5. Letter from DCC Highways re. condition of road surface in Chedington
6. Clerks & Councils Direct newsletter, July 2011

Correspondence Out

1. Letter to DCC Highways Dept re. condition of road surface in Chedington

1067. PLANNING

- a) Applications handled since last meeting:
 - 1/D/11/000717 Bridge Farmhouse, South Perrott – listed building consent for internal and external alterations - application and approval.
 - 1/D/11/000775 Dairy House & Mill House, Chedington – listed building and planning consent for repairs and alterations - application.
- b) Decisions notified by WDDC since last meeting:
 - 1/D/10/001510 Lower Farm Cottage, Chedington – approval of additional details supplied.
 - 1/D/11/000372 Sockety Farm, South Perrott – change of use of agricultural land to site two yurts (May to Sept) for holiday accommodation. Approved.
- c) New applications:
 - 1/D/11/000958 Keepers Piece, Chedington – erection of car port and change of use of associated land to extend residential garden. Members discussed this application and expressed their concern at the size of the proposed new building, and did not accept the need for the new building to be sited outside the existing residential curtelage of the main property.
- d) Tree Applications:
 - CA/11/00123 7 West Side, Chedington - approved.
 - CA/11/00198 Winton Cottage, South Perrott – application.

1068. FINANCE

- a) Income received: None
- b) Payments made since the last meeting:

DAPTC (annual subscription 2010/2011)	£120.15
Footprintz (photocopying expenses)	£66.24

c) Payments to be made:	
DAPTC (new councillor's training seminar)	£20.00
Sue Coutanche (photocopying expenses)	£8.40
Clerk's salary for June & July 2011	£267.00
Clerk's expenses	£24.48
Bank account at 17 th June 2011:	£3,090.96
Balance after above cheques agreed:	£2,771.08

The above payments were proposed by Cllr Johnson and seconded by Cllr Organ.

1069. MATTERS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- a) Chairman – requested Members to let the clerk know of any areas of maintenance work for the Parish Maintenance Unit to undertake on their next visit in September.
- b) Clerk – none.
- c) Members –
 - A concern was raised regarding the dangerous stretch of road between Misterton crossroads and Lecher Lane. *Clerk to flag up concerns with Mosterton PC.*
 - A concern was raised regarding the beech trees overhanging the road leading into Chedington. *This item to be added to PMU form.*
 - A concern was raised regarding the plant pots placed on the footway outside Hunters Hatch in South Perrott. *Cllr Organ to speak to property owner.*
 - It was reported that there was an increase in litter in South Perrott. *Cllr Coutanche to organise a litter clear-up.*
 - A concern was raised about the blind bend near the former Golf Club, following a recent traffic accident.
- d) Footpaths Officers – none.
- e) Bob Buckland, Tree Warden, had submitted a written report regarding the diseased horse chestnut tree at Winton Cottage and the need to monitor the other horse chestnut trees in South Perrott.

1070. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

- Anthony de la Poer thanked the parish council for funding the circular regarding Himalayan Balsam but reported that the numbers attending the two working parties had been disappointingly low.
- David Lines submitted a written request for the parish council website to be regularly updated. *The Clerk to liaise with Karen Caille.*
- Ian Wylie had submitted a written comment regarding the narrow stretch of road past Swing Gate Cottage and the damage caused to his vehicle by the new high kerb.
- An email was read out regarding the lateness of the postal delivery in South Perrott.

1071. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 8th September in South Perrott Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm

Signed

Date