

PARRETT AND AXE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12th May 2016 at Chedington Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs Kate Organ (Chairman), Liz Fray (Vice-Chairman), Chris Birtwhistle, Jane Cooper, Sue Coutanche, Anthony de la Poer. Also in attendance: District Cllrs Tony Alford and Peter Barrowcliff, clerk Angela Gillingham and 12 residents.

1391. PUBLIC SESSION

Peter Simmons raised a concern about the broadband fibre cabling strung along the telegraph poles from Winyards Gap to the old Golf Course, which could accidentally be pulled down by a farmer loading silage bales. It was agreed that a site meeting should be arranged with BT Openreach. *Action: Mrs Gillingham*

Sue Lucas asked where she could recycle tetrapaks. Cllr Alford offered to investigate the current position, but advised that tetrapaks were very difficult to recycle and cannot be included in kerbside collections. [It has since been ascertained that Crewkerne has a facility.]

David Lines requested that the subject of the Millennium Green is raised at a future meeting with a proposal that the Parish Council takes over responsibility for it. *Action: Mrs Gillingham*

Dave McSkelly referred to the Dorset Clinical Care Commissioning Group which has recommended that the A&E department is centred on Bournemouth Hospital. He is concerned that the A&E department at Dorchester will close. Cllr Organ responded that the Parish Council will raise its concerns when we receive information about the proposal.

Cllr Kate Organ raised a concern that we will soon have no services in the villages except waste disposal. The bus service has been taken away and the library service is under threat. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Oliver Letwin MP and an item placed in "Pump & Pound". *Action: Mrs Gillingham/Cllr Coutanche*

1392. APOLOGIES / DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST / GRANT OF DISPENSATIONS

None.

1393. **MINUTES** of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th March 2016 were approved and signed as a correct record. (Proposed by Cllr Fray, seconded by Cllr de la Poer)

1394. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND POLICE OFFICERS

District Cllr Tony Alford said that Matt Prosser, Chief Executive, sent his greetings. Cllr Alford reported that, as a result of the recent referendum, a new system of government based on a committee system would be implemented in April 2017. There are a number of consultations coming forward – (i) economic growth, and (ii) to develop a devolution proposal, shifting powers from Central Government to local government and reform of local government. In Dorset, it could be a combined authority with all councils working together to improve infrastructure and use powers devolved by Government. Unitary councils might be established covering the existing DCC area or possibly two councils, keeping the existing Weymouth and Portland area. On 1st July a public consultation will begin on the reform proposals. Reform is necessary due to reductions in Government funding. Currently there is one officer structure serving three authorities and this may change to one combined authority. A unitary would have area boards looking after local areas.

In a written report, PCSO Alex Bishop reported that crime had been quiet, though there was a dwelling burglary in Chedington in the early hours of Friday 6th May. Offenders entered a specific room where they stole a quantity of high value silverware. The property is on the market as are the plans of the property and the items stolen were listed. It would appear, because of that, that this was a pre-planned professional burglary and not part of a local series. However, if anyone is concerned about their security and would like a visit, they should telephone 101 and ask for the Beaminster team. Alex's next nearest surgery is at Mosterton shop on Tuesday June 7th at 11.30am. Feel free to pop in if you would like any advice, or to raise any issues.

The Chairman thanked the above representatives for their reports.

1395. **MATTERS ARISING**

a) **Matters arising from minutes**

The Chairman and Clerk reported on the following matters –

Highways – surface dressing on Lecher Lane and Picket Lane is scheduled for 8th-13th June, Chedington Lane on 9th-16th June and Chedington village road on 13th-17th June.

Rural Bus Service – the feedback from users of the new Nordcat bus service is excellent.

HM The Queen's 90th Birthday – commemorative medals have been ordered and a picnic tea has been arranged for Sunday 12th June.

b) **Matters arising from the two Village Meetings**

South Perrott

The Chairman reported on the following matters which had been discussed –

Junction of Lecher Lane and A3066 – the Parish Council should press for action following another near-miss at the junction. *Action: Mrs Gillingham*

A356 – the white lines and cats eyes on stretch of road between South Perrott and Winyards Gap have still not been reinstated. The road surface on Hill Farm bend is breaking up.

Millennium Green – it was reported that expenditure had exceeded income by £107. It was agreed that this subject should be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

Chedington

The Vice-Chairman reported on the following matters which had been discussed –

Millennium Green – (as above)

Mobile Library Service – it is important not to lose this service which is very well supported in Chedington.

Chedington representation on Parish Council – it was felt that very few items on the Parish Council agenda affected Chedington and investigations were beginning into the process needed to come off the council.

c) **Superfast Broadband**

Jill Turner was invited to report. She tabled an analysis of broadband speeds in properties in South Perrott which showed that the existing copper signal had deteriorated since the new fibre cable had been connected. It is believed that the copper signal has been reduced to encourage people to switch to fibre. Chedington is similarly affected and there are still "not-spots" between the two villages. It was agreed to write to Oliver Letwin MP and Jesse Norman MP.

Action: Mrs Gillingham

d) **Picket Lane Railings**

The Chairman reported that, in an attempt to resolve the issue of the damaged railings, Blair Turner of Highways had offered to supply the labour and materials to re-erect the fence, if the Parish Council was prepared to fund the cost of the required number of hardwood posts. It was stressed that re-erecting the fence was not an admission of Highways' responsibility or liability for its future maintenance.

It was agreed that this would be a very good solution to the problem and that the Parish Council should request more information on the actual costs involved. *Action: Angela Gillingham*

[NB: the insurance liability has been checked and any transfer of ownership that might arise if the Parish Council part-funds the cost of the repairs will be covered under the Parish Council's existing public liability insurance.]

1396. **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. NALC Legal Topic Note – Section 137 of Local Government Act 1972.
2. NALC Financial Briefing – Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 – changes to audit appointments and arrangements.
3. Looking after the Jurassic Coast for the future: Consultation paper.
4. WDDC – Local Plan Review.
5. DAPTC – Digital Planning Consultation.
6. The Electoral Commission – publicly funded bodies and the referendum on the UK's membership of the EU.
7. DCC Travel Dorset – changes to bus services.
8. DCC Mobile Library Service.
9. Email correspondence re. Superfast Broadband.
10. Correspondence re. Picket Lane Railings.
11. DCC email re. Minerals and Waste Sites Consultation.
12. DCC press release – Dorset's annual road repairs.
13. DCC – Temporary Traffic Regulation Notices – for South Perrott and Chedington.
14. The Pensions Regulator – re. automatic enrolment.
15. DAPTC Chief Executive's Circular 02/16.

1397. **PLANNING**

a) Applications handled since last meeting:

WD/D/15/001181 (Listed Building Consent) Cornerways, South Perrott – internal and external works to stabilise structural elements. PC comments – significant concerns at the lack of detail in the plans, particularly in respect of the proposed renovation/replacement of the windows.

b) Decisions notified by WDDC since last meeting:

WD/D/16/000100 (Listed Building Consent), Bridge Farmhouse, South Perrott – rebuild garden wall and steps, replacing paving in courtyard and constructing timber pergola on brick piers. Application amended to omit timber pergola. Approval of Listed Building Consent.

c) New applications to be considered:

WD/D/16/000588 (Listed Building Consent), Threshers Barn, Hill Farm, South Perrott – replacement windows (wooden frames). PC comments – no concerns.

d) Tree Applications:

None.

e) Other planning issues:

Coach & Horses – the Chairman reported that the latest plans showed a reduction in the width of the balconies, and that the planning application would be going to committee on 19th May with a recommendation to approve.

The Chairman expressed her concern at the number of recent retrospective planning applications for building works on properties in South Perrott and advised that a letter has been written to Oliver Letwin to request new legislation to discourage homeowners from beginning works before the proper approvals are in place.

1398. FINANCE

a) Income received:

Precept and Local Government Grant (first half) £1,900

b) Payments made since the last meeting:

None

c) Payments to be made:

Footprintz (photocopying for newsletter)	£50.00
Community First annual insurance	£165.71
Clerk's salary for April & May 2016	£288.93
Clerk's expenses	£35.07

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

Bank account as at 22nd April 2016: £7,075.38

Balance after payment of the above cheques: £6,535.67

1399. MATTERS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

a) Chairman – none.

b) Clerk – none.

c) Members – Cllr Coutanche requested items for the Pump & Pound by 23rd May. She advised that the South Perrott village clean-up would be held on Sunday 7th August.

d) Footpaths Officers – none.

e) River Warden – none.

1400. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 14th July 2016, at 7.30pm in South Perrott Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Signed

Date