

PARRETT AND AXE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10th November 2016 at 7.30pm at South Perrott 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 Cllr Tony Alford, Clerk Angela Gillingham and 8 residents.

1421. PUBLIC SESSION

James Harris, landlord of the Coach & Horses Inn, raised the issue of a noise nuisance caused by heavy vehicles travelling over the edge of the raised kerb outside his property. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Highways. *Action: Mrs Gillingham*

Ann Studley asked if something can be done about the unkempt flowers in the planter in The Pound. The Chairman advised that, although the PC had contributed to the cost of building the planter, it did not own it, and suggested that this issue could be discussed at the next village meeting in May. Cllr Anthony de la Poer offered to speak to the Flower Show Committee to see whether they may be willing to take on the responsibility. *Action: Cllr de la Poer*

Dave McSkelly provided an update on the work to repair the roof of South Perrott village hall. Repairs were underway and it was hoped that the props could be removed within two/three weeks.

1422. APOLOGIES / DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST / GRANT OF DISPENSATIONS

Apologies were received from District Cllr Peter Barrowcliff, PCSO Alex Bishop and Dominic de la Poer.

Grant of Dispensations – the Clerk advised that the applications which members signed last year for a dispensation to enable them to speak and vote on the setting of the parish Precept, were still current.

1423. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th September 2016 were approved and signed as a correct record. (Proposed by Cllr Coutanche, seconded by Cllr Fray)

1424. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND POLICE OFFICERS

District Cllr Tony Alford reported on the following issues –

- Local Government re-organisation - the District Council is undertaking another piece of consultancy work: "The Case for Change" which will look at how the financial work is done and how the new Unitary Authorities will work. A report summarising the previous "Reshaping your Councils" consultation will be published on 5th December and the recommendations published by 15th December. The report and recommendations will be considered by the nine councils in the New Year.
- Planning policy – the District Council is starting work on the Local Plan. When it was approved in 2015, the inspector had said that the housing plan was only just acceptable and must be revised by 2021. The allocation of land for housing was not quite sufficient and the District Council is looking at possible options for land for additional housing, but had no specific proposals yet.

- Railings in Picket Lane – Cllr Alford confirmed that the District Council had no sources of funding to assist with the repair of the railings.

In a written report, PCSO Alex Bishop advised that crime-wise there was nothing to report. The majority of local issues relate to scam communications and he asked residents to be very careful with any correspondence that seems “too good to be true” or is phishing for personal/financial details. If you believe it to be a scam, call Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or online at www.actionfraud.police.uk. PCSO Bishop advised that he will be leaving the Beaminster team at the end of the week and moving to Bridport. He and his colleague will be replaced by PCSO Luke White and PCSO Pete Smith in the coming weeks. Alex thanked “everyone in the Parrett and Axe area for making this an incredible place to work and live”.

The Chairman thanked the above representatives for their reports.

1425. **MATTERS ARISING**

a) Matters arising from minutes

The Chairman and Clerk reported on the following matters –

Highway issues – The Chairman reported on the progress on a number of Highways issues, logged with the Highways Dept, as follows:

10599849 – potholes in Pipplepen Lane – patch repairs to be undertaken (up to the County boundary) within the next few months. The Lane is also listed for surface dressing within the next 1-3 years.

1061509 – A356 overgrown hedges at both ends of South Perrott – some of the hedges have now been cut back.

1061510 – removal of spray paint on wall of Pattens Cottage – this has been chased.

1064636 – Lecher Lane – depression in road surface has been repaired.

1064637 – Pretty Box Farm to Winyards Gap – the drains and gullies have been cleared.

1064898 – Keepers Peace to Pretty Box Farm – the drains and gullies have been cleared.

Peter Simmons requested that Highways are asked to clear the lowest drain in Pretty Box Lane.

Action: Mrs Gillingham

Other Issues -

Cars parked in The Pound – The Chairman advised that she has not managed to discover who owns the land under the tarmac, but Highways have confirmed that they have rights over the carriageway up to the kerb in The Pound.

Mobile Phone Mast – in response to a question raised at the last meeting, the Chairman advised that South Perrott is served by two radio masts, one near Corscombe and one near Crewkerne, but that due to the terrain the mobile signal is very poor in the village.

Picket Lane Railings

The Chairman reported that all nine of the new wooden posts had now been made and the railings were scheduled to be repaired by Highways in the next few weeks.

Fingerposts

The Chairman advised that the cost of a complete renewal of the two posts would be prohibitive, but that each post needs one new arm. It was agreed that Mike Charles in Chedington would be approached to undertake the work.

Action: Mrs Gillingham

b) Development Management and Local Councils: Electronic Consultation

Members discussed the report which had been previously circulated. The report is a consultation document proposing, amongst other things, that all planning applications are now dealt with online and the planning department will no longer print and post copies of planning applications to parish councils, as from 1st April 2017.

Members expressed their concern about not being able to properly view application plans without the benefit of seeing paper copies. The report suggested a variety of ways in which this could be overcome, such as asking the applicant or their agent for a printed copy, using a local High Street printers or projecting the plans onto a screen.

It was agreed that the PC's response to the consultation should stress the need for the parish council to obtain paper copies of all applications, if necessary by obtaining them direct from the applicant or their agent.

Action: Mrs Gillingham

The other sections of the consultation report, relating to email contact addresses, online searching for new applications and an online public access page, did not raise any concerns.

1426. CORRESPONDENCE

1. WDDC email re. online submission of comments on Planning Applications.
2. DCC email re. changes to Mobile Library Service.
3. Opinion Research Services re. 'Reshaping your Councils' questionnaire.
4. Email from Blair Turner, Highways, re. Pipplepen Lane.
5. WDDC letter re. Local Plan: Five Year Housing Land Supply.
6. Wessex Water re. Community Awards Fund.
7. Email from Cllr Peter Barrowcliff responding to queries about planning applications.
8. Dorset Police – Poster for Autumn Roadshows.
9. NALC report re. proposed capping of Parish Precepts.
10. WDDC letter re. Budget Setting 2017/18.
11. Email from Cllr Rebecca Knox re. meeting to discuss Local Government Reform.
12. Email correspondence between James Harris, landlord of Coach & Horses, and Highways re. raised kerb.
13. Letter from Life Education Wessex re. request for funding, and PC response.
14. DAPTC Extraordinary Chief Executive's Circular, October 2016.
15. Email from South Somerset District Council re. Historic Environment Strategy.
16. WDDC re. Local Council: Paperless Consultation, October update.
17. Email from PCSO Alex Bishop re. changes to Beaminster team.
18. WDDC re. review of joint Local Plan for West Dorset, Weymouth and Portland.
19. DAPTC Magazine, Autumn 2016.
20. Clerks and Councils Direct magazine, November 2016.

1427. PLANNING

a) Applications handled since last meeting:

b) Decisions notified by WDDC since last meeting:

WD/D/16/001584 Winterhayes, South Perrott – Two storey extension, detached garage/carport and vehicle access. Application Withdrawn.

WD/D/16/001631 Chedington Court, Chedington – Internal and external alterations to include repositioning the entrance drive wall and piers. PC comments – no concerns. Approval of Listed Building Consent.

c) New applications to be considered:

WD/D/16/002173 Rowan Tree Cottage, South Perrott – Replacement outbuilding. Members expressed some concerns over the height of the proposed new building and the lack of detail and information in the application.

WD/D/16/002231 Chedington Court – Re-site existing entrance gate piers and wall. PC response – no concerns.

d) Tree Applications:

None.

e) Other planning issues:

Cllr Organ reported that, following concerns raised about the number of retrospective applications, she had received confirmation from District Cllr Peter Barrowcliff that retrospective applications were treated no differently to applications submitted prior to building work starting. and that it is not an offence to apply retrospectively except where a building is Listed where unauthorised works are a criminal offence.

Cornerways, South Perrott – following reports that unauthorised work was still continuing on this property, it was agreed that the planning department would be asked for an update on the retrospective planning application.

Action: Mrs Gillingham

1428. FINANCE

a) Income received:	
Precept (2 nd half)	£1,863.00
Council Tax Support Grant	£37.00
VAT Refund	<u>£46.32</u>
	£1,946.32
b) Payments made since the last meeting:	None
c) Payments to be made:	
Footprintz (photocopying for newsletter)	£50.00
Sunnyside Web Design (website maintenance)	£160.00
Sunnyside Web Design (email domain registration, 2 years)	£90.00
Vicky Reed (payment as Acting Clerk)	£27.71
T W Ellis (oak posts for Picket Lane railings)	£190.00
Clerk's salary for October & November 2016	£291.84
Clerk's expenses	£40.70

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

Bank account stands at:	£7,476.66
Balance after payment of the above cheques:	£6,626.41

d) Approval of Budget and Precept for 2017-2018

Members discussed the likelihood that the parish council will need to fund more highway non-essential maintenance works in the future and decided that more information on likely costs should be obtained before the budget could be approved. This item was therefore deferred until the next meeting.

Action: Mrs Gillingham

1429. 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 20th November.
- d) Footpaths Officers – None.
- e) River Warden – Martyn Gillingham advised that he will be attending a Flood Wardens’ seminar on 30th November.

1430. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members agreed the following dates for next year’s meetings –

- Thursday 12th January 2017 – South Perrott
- Thursday 9th March 2017 – Chedington
- Thursday 11th May 2017 (incl AGM) – South Perrott
- Thursday 13th July 2017 – Chedington
- Thursday 14th September 2017 – South Perrott
- Thursday 9th November 2017 – Chedington

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Signed

Date