

An ordinary meeting of Pulborough Parish Council was held at the Village Hall on Thursday 12th October 2006 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Mrs J Botting (Chairman) Mr I Kiverstein
Mr J Denison Mrs A Lawson
Mr J Noble

In attendance: Mrs P Arculus WSCC
Mrs K Watson
Mrs L Hoff - Parish Clerk
Mr H Barrett – Assistant Clerk

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mrs C Barnett
Mrs H Black
Mr B Donnelly
Miss C Ebers
Mr R Paterson

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 28th September 2006 of the full Council be noted and signed.

3.1 Full Council

Matters Arising

The Clerk advised members that the handrails leading down to the Village Hall had been installed.

The Clerk reminded members that the Society of Local Council Clerks South East Regional Conference is on Wednesday 15th November 2006 and Councillors were welcome. No members were able to attend.

The Clerk advised that the Christmas Dinner had been booked at the Rising Sun in Nutbourne for Thursday 14th December 2006 at 7.30pm. Deposits of £5 per head were required as soon as possible. Mr Boulton agreed to call in to the Rising Sun to collect the Christmas menus and to ascertain the last date for the deposits.

The Assistant Clerk had been unable to contact the White Horse with regard to their A-board but members agreed it was placed in a different spot every day and was not always a hazard. It was agreed to monitor the situation before contacting the publican.

Mr Denison reported that the Twitten needs a handrail and the top of Monkey Hill needs resurfacing.

Mr Boulton reported that the footpath behind Moat Lane is too dark by the steps. It is well used and there is concern that an injury could occur. He believes the footpath belongs to WSCC but stated that no one, other than residents, clear it of rubbish or weeds.

4. Planning & Services Committee

The Council received the minutes of the meeting of the Planning & Services Committee held on 5th October 2006.

4.1 Matters Arising

The Clerk reported that Andrew Frost, HDC Head of Planning and HDC Legal Department stated it was in order to revisit DC/06/1547 Haybourne Farms at next meeting.

5. Public Speaking

There were no public speakers.

6. Co-option of New Councillor

Mrs Botting introduced Mrs Katie Watson to the Council and informed members that she had previously been on the Parish Council for approximately three years. Mrs Watson then gave a brief account of her previous work and stated that as she had recently retired, she would be able to commit more time to being a Councillor.

Mr Kiverstein proposed that Mrs Watson should be co-opted onto the Council.

Mr Denison seconded the motion.

Mrs Botting welcomed Mrs Watson to the Council.

Mrs Botting then advised members that Mr Barry Vincent had resigned from the Council due to pressure of work. The Clerk was instructed to write to Mr Vincent expressing the members' thanks for all his support in the past.

Mrs Watson was asked to take his place on the Finance and Policy Committee and she agreed.

7. Village of the Year Competition

The Clerk advised members that she had met a Councillor from Ashington Parish Council, which had won the national Village of the Year Competition in 2003 and had discussed it with her at length.

It was agreed that the Clerk should obtain more details about the competition to see whether it would be feasible for Pulborough to enter

next year. The Clerk was instructed to put this item on the agenda for the meeting of the full Council in January 2007.

8. Land Registry of Common Land

The Assistant Clerk reported on the progress to date.

Mason's Way. The Parish Council holds the title absolute.

Pocket Park. It was unclear which part of Pocket Park was owned by the Council and which by Harwoods. It was agreed that the Assistant Clerk should meet Mr Denison at Pocket Park and should take along all documentation to ascertain which part the Council owns. Mr Boulton stated he would check the deeds held by Harwoods.

Recreation Ground and Bowling Green. Although the Council has the deeds, this is not registered. It was agreed that the Assistant Clerk should treat all registrations with the Land Registry as a matter of urgency.

Cousins Way. Also not registered although the Council has the deeds.

Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground. Although not registered with Land Registry, this land is registered with WSCC under the 1965 Common Land Act. It was agreed that the Assistant Clerk should also register the common with the Land Registry.

The Land behind Rivermead. Registered as belonging to the Council.

9. Quotations for Various Works

It was noted that the Traders' Group had stated that all Christmas lights should be white this year. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that Danny Flynn should be approached to see whether he could supply ropes of small white lights. The Clerk was to apply for a grant towards the new lights.

Mr Flynn had supplied quotations for clearing the ditch in Cousins Way and erecting the 4 benches.

RESOLVED: that the quotation of £180 for clearing the ditch in Cousins Way three times a year be accepted; the quotation of £1900 for erection and maintenance of the Christmas lights be accepted; the quotation of £500 to install four benches was not accepted as it would be easier to have them installed by the supplier.

10. Clearance of Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground

Mr Denison reported that 10-12 volunteers had cleared a space of 25 x30 metres.

Mr Boulton stated that the Cricket Club would like to see another pitch at the Recreation Ground, as there had been many years ago. Mr Denison said it was not feasible, as it was too big a job. It was agreed that over time, part of the common could become a lush sward for games whilst the rest would become a common for wildlife. It was agreed that the Clerk should obtain three quotes for a 12' gate with padlock.

It was also agreed that two new fingerposts were needed and the Council should put a notice on the noticeboard stating what was occurring on the Recreation Ground, to keep Nutbourne residents informed.

Mrs Watson agreed to interview Mrs Lillian Rhoder for an article in the Parish Newsletter, concerning her childhood in Nutbourne over 50 years ago.

The Clerk was instructed to let Mr Denison and Phil Williams, the tree warden, have copies of the Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground map, showing the trees with Preservation Orders.

Mr Kiverstein advised the Council that all members had liability insurance so to have no qualms about signing as Trustees of Nutbourne Common Charity. In the meantime, the Clerk was instructed to write to the Charity Commission to see whether the Parish Council could be registered as a body.

It was agreed that a Sub-Committee should be elected through the Recreation and Open Spaces Committee, to collate and oversee the improvements to Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground.

11. Payments

RESOLVED: that the payments of the following cheques be approved and signed:

Arun Mowers	£1404.83
Viking Direct	£146.77
J Randall	£450.03
D J Flynn	£944.70

12. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Mrs Botting apologised to Mrs Arculus for being unable to attend the meeting at Steyning recently.

Mrs Arculus reported that the Youth Club was still not open, as it was not guaranteed the staff would stay permanently.

She advised members that Roger Harper was returning to Nutbourne to consult with residents concerning the speed limits in the village.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

Members noted there was a letter from WSCC concerning Adult Services. Mrs Arculus reported that this was a change of name and remit along with the PCT relocation. There would now be individual budgets instead of direct payments, which would be in the form of a complete package, agreed with the social worker or family and Adult Services. This would give the individual more freedom of choice and should be cheaper to implement.

14. URGENT MATTERS

Mrs Watson asked if anything could be done to improve access to East Glebe Field as it would be used more following the relocation of the Doctors' surgery. She was advised this was an ongoing problem and WSCC had been requested to install gates that were suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm

..... Chairman

..... Date