

**An ordinary meeting of Pulborough Parish Council was held at the Village Hall on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2006 at 7.30 p.m.**

**Present:**

Mrs J Botting (Chairman)	Mr J Denison
Mr L Ampstead	Mr I Kiverstein
Mrs C Barnett	Mrs A Lawson
Mrs H Black	Mr J Noble
Mr D Boulton	Mrs K Watson

**District Councillors**

Mr B Donnelly  
Mr R Paterson

**County Councillor**

Mrs P Arculus

**In attendance:** Mr John Longhorn – Rydon Homes  
Miss C Ebers - The County Times  
Mrs L Hoff - Parish Clerk  
Five members of the public

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

Mrs Botting suggested allowing Mr Longhorn from Rydon Homes to give his presentation earlier in the meeting, although the item was not on the agenda. This was proposed by Mrs Black and seconded by Mr Kiverstein.

RESOLVED: that Mr Longhorn should speak immediately.

The meeting was adjourned at 7.37pm for a presentation by Mr John Longhorn on the Oddstones site.

The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 8.17pm

Mrs Botting thanked Mr Longhorn for his most useful presentation.

The Clerk was instructed to contact HDC to reiterate the Council's view there should be 2 parking spaces per household in the new development and also members wanted a say in the distribution of the S106 monies obtained from Rydon Homes.

### **3. Train Horns**

Mrs Botting suggested that agenda item 8 be brought forward to allow the members of the public to hear the Councillors' discussion without having to wait until the end of the meeting.

Mrs Botting opened the discussion by reminding members that the Council had spoken to Nick Herbert, the local MP; had a meeting with resident Mr Peter Vellacott and written to various departments. Letters from local residents had requested that some of the five footpaths in the vicinity of their homes be closed, so trains would not have to sound their horns so often.

Mr Denison stated it would be a shame for the footpaths to go as he for one walks a round route from Pulborough, which uses those paths. He does that walk at least once a month.

Mrs Black advised members that two and a half years ago, Network Rail had wanted to close all footpaths crossing the tracks for Health and Safety reasons. The rules on sounding train horns are E.U. regulations applying to all of the Union .it would be difficult to alter our rules as we would have to refer right back to Brussels.

Members agreed when Mr Kiverstein stated that the horns should not be sounded when it was dark, as no one would be out walking the footpaths at night.

Mr Donnelly advised Councillors that HDC have very limited options. It was unfortunate the new trains all have louder horns and he did sympathise with the local residents. He stated that both Nick Herbert and Francis Maude, the MP for Horsham were doing all they could to improve matters and there was in fact, a great deal being done.

Mr Denison reported he was working with Rob Aylott, preparing maps of footpaths in the area. Mr Ampstead suggested some were consolidated, as there were five within one mile, which would then mean at least the horns were sounded less.

Mr Denison agreed to see whether any footpaths could be consolidated and Mr Donnelly said he would email Nick Herbert to tell him the outcome of this discussion.

The Clerk was instructed to contact Network Rail to request they tone down the horns and do not sound them after dark.

Mrs Botting then brought forward agenda item 10, as Mr Paterson had to leave the meeting early.

#### **4. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Mr Paterson reminded members he was now the Chairman of the Traders' Group but was hoping one of the traders would soon take over. He advised there was a meeting of the Traders' Group on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2006 in the Tea Rooms and was pleased to report they were getting more involved.

Mr Paterson then spoke about the new village signs, which are for use by the Traders' Group and possibly by the Parish Council. The notices on the signs can be changed and Mr Paterson suggested this should be done quarterly. Mr Ampstead agreed to bring in the photographs to show members who were absent from the last full Council meeting.

Mrs Botting advised members the next meeting of full Council would start at 8pm as it clashed with the Traders' group Open Evening.

Mr Donnelly had nothing to report.

Mrs Botting asked Mrs Arculus about the Local Council grant for repairing fingerposts. Mrs Arculus said the older posts would be expensive to replace, as they were metal and more ornate. She suggested that Parish Councils meet the difference in cost between modern and old-style fingerposts. A survey was currently being carried out by parishes into the state of their fingerposts for WSCC. The responses were required by the end of January 2007.

The traffic calming outside the school in New Place Road was mentioned. Mrs Arculus asked what Pulborough as a whole wanted, as WSCC was receiving mixed messages. Mrs Botting informed members of a meeting with Paul Addison of Highways Department, to be held at the Sports and Social Club on 20 November 2006 at 10am. She stated that anyone could attend. Mr Ampstead suggested that the Sub-Committee formed to discuss the LAT traffic calming proposals be handed back to the Council and discussed with Paul Addison. This was agreed.

#### **5. MINUTES**

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2006 of the full Council be noted and signed.

#### **Matters Arising**

The Clerk thanked those who had paid their deposits for the Christmas Dinner and reminded members deposits and meal choices were required by 14 November 2006. Mr Boulton advised Councillors he would be unable to attend and drive the mini-bus as he was in Birmingham on 14 December.

The Clerk advised only one quote for gates for the Recreation Grounds had been received so far.

Katie Watson was asked to interview Lillian Rhoder about her childhood in Nutbourne and to forward her notes to the Clerk by 20 November for inclusion in the next Parish Newsletter.

The Clerk advised members Shirley Stone is retiring on 20 December 2006. All the Councillors agreed they would be sorry to see her leave, as she had been such a great help in the past.

The Clerk informed members the obtaining of quotations for work to the Sports and Social Club flat roof and the drainage camera report was in hand.

Councillors agreed to carry forward the matters arising from the Committees' minutes to the next meeting on 7 December 2006.

**6. Public Speaking**

There were no public speakers.

**7. Update of Risk Register**

Mr Kiverstein advised members the completion of the risk register was an annual audit requirement.

Mr Ampstead noted there were some duplications. The Clerk was instructed to review the risk register and delete any duplication and update when the register was reviewed.

Mr Ampstead also stated Councillors should go on an annual course held at Dunford House, Midhurst, to update their skills.

**8. Wish List 2007/2008**

Councillors requested certain items were added to the Wish List: -

A footbridge over the railway line

Traffic calming past the school

The "cinder path" from the station to Church Place be surfaced to make into a proper route to the station.

The footpath on Sopers Hill be cleared

Netting along Church Hill to stop land slipping onto the footpath

The trees blocking the east side of Sopers Hill be cut back

A new bridge at Pocket Park as the present one is flooded during heavy rain

Hatching under the railway bridge so only one vehicle at a time can go through, thereby slowing the traffic

Disabled access to the northbound platform by installing traffic lights to allow cars to turn right immediately after the bridge

The Clerk was instructed to add these to the Wish List and prioritise it.

**9. Christmas Decoration grant**

The Clerk advised members that a grant of £1500 towards Christmas Lights had been awarded by HDC.

As only white lights were to be used in Lower Street this year by the traders, the Clerk had obtained a quote for new lights from Blachere. Mrs Barnett suggested the coloured lights were used in the large conifer at the end of Rivermead.

The Clerk was instructed to ask Danny Flynn how many bulbs and how much cable would be required. He should also be requested to put up lights in the conifer.

**10. Payments**

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

CPRE	£26.00
J.Randall	£450.03
Allianz Cornhill	£158.15
Saunders	£305.50
Viking Direct	£40.50
Harwoods	£36.45
Pulborough Social Centre	£66.00
Royal British Legion	£55.00
W.Sx Community Minibus	£400.00
Home Start	£50.00
Horsham C.A.B.	£400.00
Liaise	£100.00
Outset Youth Action	£100.00
Pulborough Comm. Care	£1000.00
Pulborough Bowling Club	£165.00
Pulborough Youth Centre	£500.00
St. Mary's Church	£750.00
Victim Support	£100.00
Volunteer Visiting Scheme	£75.00
WRVS	£350.00
J. Botting	£50.00
David Ogilvie Engineering	£2551.23

**11. CORRESPONDENCE**

**11.1 NHS Primary Care Support Service - Decision**

Members noted the contents of the report

**11.2 HDC – LDF – Alternative Policy Boundaries Representation Form**

Members noted the representation form was to be returned by 15 December 2006. The Clerk was instructed to read the document and complete the form.

**11.3 HDC – LDF – Gypsy & Travellers Sites Representation Form**

Members noted the representation form was to be returned by 15 December 2006. Mrs Botting took the document and form to complete but stated she was unable to attend the meeting at HDC on 20 November 2006.

**11.4 HDC – LDF – Statement of Community Involvement Representation form**

Members noted the representation form was to be returned by 15 December 2006. Mr Ampstead took the document and form to complete.

**11.5 Pulborough Cricket Club Fun Racing Evening**

Members noted the race evening was to be held on 25 November 2006 and tickets were £7.50 to include supper.

**11.6 Pulborough Society Newsletter**

Members received the copy of the newsletter

**12 URGENT MATTERS**

**12.1** Mrs Watson asked whether anything could be done about the helicopter pad next to the White Horse. Mrs Botting advised no planning permission was required if it was not a regular service.

**12.2** Mr Denison advised members the date of the next clearance of Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground was to be on 21 January 2007. The Clerk was instructed to supply a poster for Nutbourne Village noticeboard. Mr Noble stated he was not willing to be on the Sub-Committee dealing with the Nutbourne Common Recreation ground but suggested Mr Frank Riddle be approached to become a member. This was agreed unanimously and Mr Noble agreed to contact him.

**12.3** Mr Noble informed members he had attended a meeting of Nutbourne residents with Roger Harper concerning Nutbourne speed limits. As only four residents had attended, a poll was to be held to see whether they required no speed limit; a 20 mph limit in a small area; a 20mph limit in a larger area or a 30mph limit. Frank Riddle would organise the survey with a covering letter by Roger Harper.

**12.4** Mr Ampstead reported that a recent meeting of HALC had discussed the white paper and HDC would circulate details to all parish councils. He then advised of a meeting he had attended run by SALC. It had been suggested that it should be obligatory for all Councillors to undertake training. It had been felt there should then be a payment to Councillors for fulfilling their role, which may also attract more residents to stand for election.

- 12.5 Mr Ampstead advised members the meetings with Mrs Barnett and the sports clubs were now completed and he would report to the Council when the findings had been collated.
  
- 12.6 Mr Ampstead informed the Councillors that the Community partnership were hoping to purchase the land south of Swan Bridge for green tourism, such as to attract hikers and cyclists. There was to be a public consultation in the Spring of 2007. Coldwaltham P.C. had agreed the parking and there could be up to 20 events a year run on the land, all to be concerning green tourism. He gave the examples of camping and hiking shows.
  
- 12.7 Mr Kiverstein reminded Councillors that new candidates were required for the elections next May. The wish was to become a Quality Council within two years and so 80% of members needed to have stood for election. Mr Kiverstein stated that almost everything else was in place as the Clerk had agreed to study for the Cilca qualification. Mr Ampstead advised members of a SALC initiative whereby a booklet, DVD and posters were being produced to attract residents to become councillors. These should be available in the New Year.
  
- 12.8 The Clerk advised of a meeting to discuss parking issues with Tom Crowley, the Chief Executive on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2006 at 11.30am. Mrs Botting and the Clerk were attending and other Councillors were invited. Mr Ampstead and Mrs Black stated they wished to be included. The Clerk was to inform Mr Crowley's office and obtain three car park passes.
  
- 12.9 Christopher Leaver of the Mary Howe Trust had telephoned the Parish Office to request parking for 8 cars in the Sports and Social Club car park on weekdays, when the Trust had moved into the new medical centre. After a brief discussion, it was agreed to decline the request as the Bowling Club use the car park a lot during the summer and there was also the fear it would open the floodgates to others wanting to use the facility. The Clerk was instructed to let Mr Leaver know the Council's decision.
  
- 12.10 Mr Kiverstein asked the Council to accept the grant payments for this year. Mrs Botting proposed the motion and it was seconded by Mr Kiverstein and passed unanimously by members.

**The meeting closed at 10.10 pm**

..... Chairman

..... Date