

**An ordinary meeting of Pulborough Parish Council was held at the Village Hall on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2007 at 7.30 p.m.**

**Present:**

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

**In attendance:** Mr B Donnelly  
Mrs L Hoff - Parish Clerk  
PCSO N Warner  
PCSO C Boniface

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Mr L Ampstead  
Mr I Kiverstein  
Miss C Ebers  
Mr R Paterson

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. PRESENTATION BY PCSO NEVILLE WARNER**

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7.35pm for PCSO Warner to do a question and answer session with the Councillors.

The meeting was reconvened at 7.51pm.

**4. BYELAWS**

Members were advised that this item was being carried forward to the next meeting as the Land Registry had still not completed the registration of the Recreation Ground.

**5. MINUTES**

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2006 of the full Council be noted and signed.

**5.1 Full Council**

**Matters Arising**

The Clerk advised members that there were three main "chains" operating pharmacies - Lloyds, Alliance and the Co-op. All three would be approached by the Clerk to see whether there was any interest by one of them replacing Cordens Pharmacy when it relocated later in the year.

The Clerk informed Councillors she was the point of contact for the Parish with regard to the Pulborough Duck Race.

Members were advised the next meeting with Paul Addison, WSCC Highways will be Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2007, 10 am at the Sports & Social Club.

The Clerk informed members the first meeting of the Nutbourne Common Sub-Committee is on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2007, 7pm at the Sports & Social Club. An email from Frank Riddle was copied to Sub-Committee members. Councillors were reminded the next clearance of the Common was to be on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2007.

The Clerk advised members a letter had been sent to Mr Leaver, Mary Howe Trust, reiterating the Council's regrets they were unable to offer car parking for his staff at the Sports & Social Club.

Members were informed that WSCC Highways had been requested to repair the holes in the railings on the railway bridge. Mr Denison stated two sets of railings were actually missing. These were on the north side of the bridge.

Mrs Botting asked for an update on the gates for the recreation grounds. The Clerk informed members that the gates had been ordered from McVeigh Parker and Shane Keen was standing by to erect them. Mrs Botting suggested they be delivered to and stored by Mr Kiverstein.

## **5.2 Planning & Services Committee**

The Council received the minutes of the meeting of the Planning & Services Committee held on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2007.

### **Matters Arising**

Mr Boulton offered to check the paperwork of the occupier of 11 The Moat to ascertain who owned the footpath alongside the property.

Mrs Botting informed members that Mr Addison, WSCC Highways, was to inspect the overgrowing hedge belonging to the Court House and would report back at their next meeting.

The Clerk advised the Council that the potholes in Nutbourne Lane and the flooding in Church Close had been reported to WSCC Highways and reminded members there may be some delay in repairing these, as Shirley Stone's replacement would not be in situ for three months. Councillors felt this was no excuse as WSCC Highways had had plenty of notification that Mrs Stone was retiring.

Copies of a reply from Compass concerning the Council's notification of a speeding bus was issued to all present.

Mr Donnelly advised members the appeal for the planning application for Longlands was to be contested.

**6. Public Speaking**

There were no public speakers.

**7. Electrical Inspection of the Sports & Social Club**

Members accepted the quotation from AES Electrical for the electrical work required at the Sports & Social Club. The Clerk was instructed to produce the confirmation from all electricians called in that they could find no evidence of the showers giving electric shocks.

**8. Repairs to the Roof of the Sports & Social Club**

Members compared the three quotations received for the repair to the roof of the Sports and Social Club. As all three were within a few hundred pounds of each other, Mrs Black proposed that the work went to the first contractor who could start the repairs. As this was such an urgent matter, Mr Boulton seconded the motion.

The full Council **RESOLVED** that the work for the repairs to the Sports & Social Club roof should go to the contractor who could start soonest. The Clerk was instructed to contact the contractors as a matter of urgency.

**9. Pulborough Fairtrade Group**

Mrs Botting read out the resolution:-

“Pulborough Parish Council **RESOLVES** to contribute to the campaign to increase sales of products with the FAIRTRADE mark, by striving to achieve FAIRTRADE status for Pulborough, as detailed in the FAIRTRADE Foundation’s FAIRTRADE Towns Initiative

- by committing to widely offer FAIRTRADE marked food and drink options internally and make them available for internal meetings
- and by promoting the FAIRTRADE Towns Initiative in internal communications and external newsletters”

It was proposed by Mrs Botting, seconded by Mr Denison and passed by a vote of 5 members for the resolution and 3 abstaining.

**10. Additional Item for the Full Council**

**Quotations for Insurance of the Sports & Social Club**

Members were asked to receive the two quotations for insuring the Sports & Social Club as a whole, to include the Bowling Club and to note the present insurance expired on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2007. The Clerk advised members that AON would backdate cover to 14<sup>th</sup> January.

Following a brief discussion, it was **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation from AON as it proved to be £1500 approx. cheaper than the quote from Cornhill. The Clerk was instructed to get the insurance in place as a matter of urgency.

**11. Payments**

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

D J Flynn	£881.25
Mazars	£669.75
Crowther & Co	£366.13
Pulborough Social Centre	£400.00
Auditing Solutions	£399.50
Candela Consulting	£180.66
NRG	£249.46

**12. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Mr Donnelly advised members that at the meeting of the Pulborough Local Action Team on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2007, Mr Jones was away but the numbers of attendees was up.

He went on to mention that the workmen laying the traffic counters had been intimidated by residents of Rectory lane, close to the bottom of the road and had been unable to finish laying the counters. The results available, as the count was obviously incomplete, had shown that the busiest times were the beginning and end of the school day. Mrs Botting stated there was to be a registration plate survey when the evenings were lighter. All Councillors were dismayed to find that a few residents could influence the accuracy of the count, when this was what the Pulborough LAT had requested.

Mr Donnelly advised the next meeting of the Pulborough LAT was on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2007.

He also informed the Council that Nick Herbert MP was holding an open public meeting in the Village Hall on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2007 and both Roger Paterson and himself had consented to stand on behalf of the Conservative party in the May elections.

**13. REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS**

There were no representatives of other organisations present.

**14. CORRESPONDENCE**

**14.1 Pulborough Village Hall**

Members noted the increase in room hire charges.

**14.2 Willmers of Pulborough**

Members noted the letters of complaint, directed at the Council, concerning the Christmas lights. Mrs Botting had been very angry when reading the letters, as the Council had done everything the Traders' Group had asked with regard to the lights. The only compliments received had been for the lighting in the large fir tree, which had been arranged by the Council. The Clerk read out a note from Mr Ampstead

stating the Traders had been horrified to receive a copy of the letter, as the gentleman concerned attended no meetings and did not want to become involved with the Traders' Group. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should respond to the points raised in the letters to explain to the gentleman the Council was not at fault. It was agreed that in future, the Traders should be given free rein and the Council would not be involved, other than paying. Mr Ampstead had left a message that the next meeting of the Traders' Group was on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2007.

**14.3 WSCC Highways Department**

Members noted the contents of a letter from Vincent Tipper, Highways Manager.

**14.4 Shirley Stone**

Members received an email from Shirley Stone, thanking them for the flowers on the occasion of her retirement.

**14.5 Sussex Day – 16 June 2007**

Members noted the contents of the letter and agreed to support Sussex day. Unfortunately a Sussex Martlets flag could not be raised on the day as the Council has no flagpole.

**14.6 Network Rail**

Councillors noted the contents of the letter from Network Rail concerning train horns.

**14.7 “Become a Councillor – Make a Difference”**

Members noted the venues and dates for the launch and elected that the Clerk should attend on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2007 at Tangmere Village Hall. This item would be carried forward to the next agenda and would include the Clerk's report on the launch.

**14.8 Village Directories**

Members noted the reply to letters requesting a copy of the compliments slip regarding mis-information allegedly given by the Parish Office to Village Directories, concerning the entry about the Parish Council in the last edition.

**14.9 Invitation to all Councillors from the Bowling Club**

Members received the invitation to a Bowling match to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2007.

**14.10 HDC- Nomination Papers for Parish Elections**

Members elected the Clerk to be the person to undertake to supply and help prepare the nomination papers in the Parish. The Parish Office was chosen as the place where nomination papers could be obtained.

#### **14.11 Victim Support Sussex**

The Council was pleased to receive a letter of thanks from Victim Support Sussex for the recent grant.

#### **15 URGENT MATTERS**

Mrs Barnett advised members that a car with no lights had been seen driving along the bridleway running parallel to Rectory Lane one evening. This was thought to be due to contractors' vehicles making the entrance wider outside Lane End. After a brief discussion it was decided the Clerk should contact HDC when all work was finished, to request that the bridleway be reinstated to its original condition and a bollard placed to prevent vehicles using the bridleway. The police would follow-up any complaint if there was a registration number taken.

Mr Denison advised members that the Governors of St Mary's School were looking for the Council's approval to allow access to the back of the school, using a footpath as a walking/cycling route from Glebelands, thereby easing traffic congestion at the front of the school, as well as being a healthier option. Mrs Botting stated this had been Mrs Barnett's idea at an earlier meeting with Paul Addison, WSCC Highways and the Council gave their full approval. She also advised members that any school that put forward a walking travel plan would automatically receive £1000 to help fund it. The Clerk was asked to contact Alyson Heath, the head teacher to suggest that another drop-off point could be the Strawberry Fields/Spinney North area to lessen the increase of traffic in Glebelands.

Mr Denison advised members of an email he had received showing that Rob Free was worried about residents of Nutbourne being unhappy about the work being done on the Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground. Mr Noble stated there would be no problem as what the Council was doing and to whom the land belonged was well-known in the village. Mrs Lawson asked about the closure of the footpath for the tree surgery and was advised by the Clerk it was all arranged.

Mr Ampstead had sent in a message that the Pulborough Community Partnership had made contact with a village similar in France to Pulborough and with similar problems. Representatives of the French village were coming over on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2007 and Mrs Botting and any other Councillors were invited to attend. They would meet at noon until 7pm and there was no agenda as yet but would include a pub lunch. Mrs Botting would attend and all Councillors agreed the pub lunch should be in Pulborough and not at the Rising Sun in Nutbourne, being in a different village from the one the visitors wanted to view.

Mrs Barnett advised members the Council were having problems with the Rugby Club. Shortly before Christmas they had driven a car onto the Recreation Ground and it had become stuck, causing a lot of damage. Two weeks ago they had rung Mr Leadbeater, the

Groundsman, at 1pm to ask if they could play on the field that day at 2pm. Mr Leadbeatter had said it would not be possible but they had gone ahead and played anyway. The reason they cannot use their own site is due to the amount of flints on the ground. They apologised for using the pitch when told not to and then asked if they could extend their lease by another year. Mrs Barnett pointed out that they bring nothing to the Sports & Social Club, as they have their own clubhouse.

After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the Council would not make a decision until a month before the lease expired, to see how they behaved in the meantime. Three quotes should be obtained to see what would be the cost of repairing their damage to the Ground and they would be expected to recompense the Council for the cost. They should also be informed that as a result of their actions, Mr Leadbeatter was thinking of retiring. In a letter to them, the Clerk was instructed to inform them that Mr Leadbeatter's decision on whether the Ground was suitable for play was final.

**The meeting closed at 9.14 pm**

..... Chairman

..... Date