

PULBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL
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MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF PULBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 18th OCTOBER 2007
AT THE VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Cllr Mrs Barnett (Vice Chairman), Cllrs Barrett, Mrs Black, Boulton, Denison, Ellis, Kiverstein, Mrs Lawson, Noble, Qusted, Reeve, Mrs Roberts, Mrs Watson.

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr. Paterson (District Councillor) and Mrs L Hoff (Clerk).

The meeting opened at 7.30pm

81. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Mrs Botting and Lee.

82. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Mrs Black declared an interest in the agenda item concerning the Table Top Sale, as Chairman of the Village Hall Trustees.

83. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

The Vice Chairman submitted that the agenda item number 11 should be moved forward in the meeting to allow Cllr Paterson to report to the Council, as he had another appointment. Councillor Mrs Black proposed the motion and it was seconded by Councillor Noble. The Council **RESOLVED** to alter the agenda to allow Cllr Paterson to speak at this point.

Cllrs Boulton and Kiverstein arrived at 7.35pm.

84. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Paterson reported on the progress of the regeneration of Lower Street. He advised the Council an advertisement placed in Daltons Weekly had brought forth about 30 enquiries from retailers wishing to open a convenience store and/or post office. He stressed this was at the consultation stage at present.

He reported that, following a presentation by WSCC, a questionnaire had been handed out for the views of members of the public and said the Parish Council's ideas must be included. It was agreed the Planning and Services Committee should discuss these at the next meeting on 1 November 2007.

85. MINUTES

The Council **RESOLVED** to agree and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th September 2007 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and the Chairman of the meeting signed them.

85.1 FULL COUNCIL

Matters Arising from the Minutes, which are not separate agenda items

The Clerk reported that an in-house training session had been held on the 15th October 2007, which had been attended by nine Councillors.

It was also reported that the amenity truck service was to stop. The Clerk was instructed to include an editorial in the newsletter, suggesting residents write to WSCC and HDC to complain about the further reduction of services to Pulborough. A Councillor suggested a monthly visit from the amenity truck would be a good compromise

85.2 PLANNING & SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Council received the Minutes of the Meetings of the Planning & Services Committee held on 20th September 2007 and 4th October 2007.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

85.3 RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

The Council received the Minutes of the Meetings of the Recreation and Open Spaces Committee held on 26th July 2007 and 27th September 2007.

Matters Arising

The Clerk reported that two quotations and a sample of grass reinforcement mesh had been received following the request from allotment holders and would be discussed at the next R&OS meeting.

The Clerk advised members 5 more plumbers had been contacted but was still awaiting two more quotations for the taps in the allotment site to be raised.

The Clerk informed the Committee that various traders had been contacted concerning the erection of Christmas lights. The hairdressers in Station Road had replied plus Bidy Hutcheson had given go-ahead to use her power for the big tree. Alfrey Plat thanked the Council and thought it a lovely idea to have lights on its building.

The Clerk reported Danny Flynn had repaired the ruts in the Recreation Ground with topsoil and no invoice had been received from Thompsons.

It was also noted the current Duck Race Committee would be standing down at their next AGM and a new Committee chosen. Cllr Mrs Barnett has been invited to attend the AGM.

The Clerk informed members that Arnold Martin had repaired the sheds.

A Councillor reported that the Farmers' Market at the Village Hall had not been cancelled and was under new leadership. It was, in fact, booked through until December 2009.

86. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no members of the public who had given notice of wishing to speak.

87. MEETING WITH PAUL ADDISON, WSCC HIGHWAYS

The Councillors had previously each received a copy of the minutes of the meeting with Paul Addison of WSCC Highways.

The Councillors noted Paul Addison would ask for yellow lines in New Place Road and the entrance to Tesco, as both locations were thought to be dangerous at present.

After a brief discussion, it was agreed the Clerk should arrange an appointment for representatives of the Council with the doctors at the Medical Centre to request a covered drop-off bay and to discuss ways other parking problems could be overcome.

88. EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Following the presentation from Phil Montgomery, HDC Emergency Planning Officer at the September full Council meeting, it was RESOLVED to elect a Emergency Planning sub-Committee, that would report to the Planning and Services Committee. Cllrs Mrs Black, Noble, Mrs Roberts and Mrs Watson all volunteered to become members of the sub-Committee and were duly elected.

89. PRIMARY CARE TRUST

Members received a report from Cllr Ellis on the Primary Care Trust's proposals to reduce the health services in West Sussex. All Councillors congratulated Cllr Ellis on an excellent report.

Cllr Ellis proposed a letter should be sent to both the PCT and WSCC. Cllr Mrs Watson put forward that Cllr Ellis's proposal should be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Kiverstein. A vote was taken and the Council was unanimous in its decision. A Councillor also wanted it recorded it was a fact that money was taken from hospitals in the South of England and given to the North.

The Clerk was instructed to send letters to both the PCT and WSCC stating:
Having studied the Primary Care Trust's "Fit for the Future" proposals, Pulborough Parish Council cannot endorse any of the options suggested on the basis of the information that has been made available.

Whilst recognising there may be advantages to be gained by centralising some specialised hospital services, the Council is not satisfied that alternative proposals to ensure the continuation of existing medical facilities have been adequately considered. This particularly applies to the loss of Accident and Emergency cover at either Chichester or Worthing Hospitals.

The Council would be failing in its duty to residents if it recommended a plan that has received such widespread condemnation from all sections of the medical profession and the community in general.

90. POTHOLES AT THE ENTRANCE TO SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB CAR PARK

The Clerk reported this was an agenda item as the MSF Administrator had fallen down a pothole near the pavilion. WSCC Highways had since agreed to fill the pothole and the MSF Administrator had been issued with a torch.

91. FERRETTING ON NUTBOURNE COMMON RECREATION GROUND

Councillors were asked to consider a request from Jonathan Hutcheon to use his ferrets to hunt the rabbits on Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground, as he was already employed by the neighbouring farms. No objection was raised and the Clerk was instructed to contact Mr Hutcheon to advise him of the Council's decision.

92. PULBOROUGH VILLAGE HALL TABLE TOP SALE

It was suggested the Council should attend the table top sale to put on a display showing what the Councillors did for the community.

The Clerk agreed to manage the stall on the 1 December from 9am until 1pm and asked if any Councillors would be able to attend for an hour at a time.

It was also agreed a Communications Team would be set up, to put together a presentation for the event and to organise a monthly press release, advertising the Council's successes. Cllrs. Barrett, Noble and Reeve agreed to be the members of the Team, which would report to full Council.

93. REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

Cllr Ellis, as the Council's representative with Pulborough Local Action Team, suggested the Emergency Committee should form links with LAT.

94. CORRESPONDENCE

The Correspondence is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 1.

95. URGENT MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Ellis advised members Gill Boys was resigning from Pulborough Community Transport, partly because of the extra workload caused by the removal of the pharmacy and Doctors' surgery from Lower Street. A Councillor advised that Pat Arculus had mentioned a bus service from Amberley, which would proceed along Spinney North. It was suggested it would be of more use if it travelled along Lower Street.

Cllr Denison stated the Community Mini-bus Association were experiencing the same problems and had formed a Committee to share the various commitments.

Cllr Mrs Lawson informed the Council that Southern Water had applied to the Environment Agency to allow sewage into an open stream alongside Footpath 2439. The Stream regularly overflowed onto the footpath and pedestrians would be unaware they were walking on sewage. Further up the stream, horses and cows drank the water. Southern Water had other options but this was considered to be the cheapest.

The Clerk was instructed to write to the Environment Agency, voicing its strong concerns.

Cllr Mrs Watson advised members Rosemary Russell of Fairtrade and the United Reformed Church had informed her the Church was looking for new premises. This was because disabled residents could not get up the Church steps and there was not enough room for a ramp. They were willing to share any new site with the community.

Cllr Mrs Barnett informed the Council the hedge by the Court House in Rectory Lane and another in Old Rectory Lane, by the barrier needed cutting

back. The Clerk was instructed to advise Mark Whitwell, WSCC Highways accordingly.

96. PAYMENTS

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

Candela Consulting	£251.16
Harwoods	£39.19
Universal Electronics	£117.50
Blachere Illumination UK Ltd	£79.31
Rabbit	£152.75
EDF Energy	£98.75
Mazars	£646.25
Staff Wages	£2003.33
WSCC	£339.86
HMRC	£567.28

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

.....Chairman

.....Date