

PULBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the Recreation and Open Spaces Committee was held at the Sports Pavillion on Thursday, 28th June 2007 at 7.40 pm.

Present: Mrs C Barnett (Chairman)
Mrs J Botting
Mr D Boulton
Mr J Denison
Mr L Ellis
Mrs A Lawson

Mr R Paterson (District Councillor)

48. APOLOGIES

No apologies for absence were received.

49. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

50. MINUTES

Mrs Botting wished it to be known she had attended the Meeting but had arrived late. The Minutes of the Meeting of the 31st May 2007 were received and signed.

Mrs Botting **PROPOSED** Cllr. Paterson should be allowed to speak next, rather than wait until later in the meeting. This was seconded by Mrs Barnett and **AGREED** by the Committee.

51. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Paterson advised members he had attended a meeting of the Chanctonbury County Local Committee on 26 June 2007 with Mr Ellis. It had been most informative and disclosed s106 Agreements to be spent on transport issues in the Pulborough area. It was a long list of improvements and appeared to contain everything to do with transport on the Parish Council's Wish List. Cllr Paterson thought it was imperative a meeting was arranged with Tom Crowley, Paul Rowley and Howard Collins of HDC and the Councillors of Coldwaltham Parish to ensure future s106 Agreements met with the Councils requirements. He suggested making a list of top priorities for Pulborough before the meeting.

He then advised the Committee that the Pharmacy building was up for sale with no controls and the Lower Street Surgery was also to be vacated with an application of change of use to retail.

The closure of the Post office was then discussed and Cllr Paterson informed members no new tenant had been found and Post Office Counters had no plans to cover the gap in service.

The Clerk was instructed to write to the Co-op suggesting they take over the Doctors' Surgery in Lower Street as a pharmacy and a post office, as is successfully trading in Yapton. It had originally been planned as a supermarket and was close to the car park. The Clerk was also requested to

ask Charlie Ebers at the County Times to do an editorial asking for volunteers to take over the post office to come forward.

The Clerk was instructed to ensure Polycomp fixed the electronic sign as a matter of urgency. Cllr Paterson stated he would also contact Polycomp.

51. MATTERS ARISING

51.1 Various odd jobs in the village –

The Clerk reported that no quotations for the work had been forthcoming and so she had asked the caretaker, Arnold Martin to supply a quote. He would be available to do the odd jobs in July. He was also quoting for the repair to the wooden bridge in Pocket Park.

51.2 Lighting at the Moat –

The Clerk advised members that she had had a site visit with the Committee Chairman and had advised EDF Energy of the exact location for the new lamppost. A quotation from Andy George of EDF Energy was awaited.

51.3 Fencing Quotations for Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground-

The Clerk informed the Committee that two more quotations had been received that day and another fencer had been asked to provide a quote.

51.4 Bridge in Pocket Park

It was reported that the Assistant Clerk had an appointment with a representative of JB Corrie of Petersfield at the bridge on Monday 2 July 2007, concerning railings to be installed.

51.5 Various Highways Matters-

Mark Whitwell of WSCC Highways had responded to the various requests from Councillors.

51.5a He thanked Mr Noble for collecting all the out-of-date signage from along Dyke Farm Road and advised his staff would be collecting it that day.

51.5b He asked for further details of the siting of the rut in Glebelands. The Committee Chairman gave more information which the Clerk would pass back to Mr Whitwell.

51.5c He advised he had written to the occupier of the Court House, enclosing photographs and stating the hedge should be cut flush with the barrier. The Highway Rangers had trimmed it and other hedges in the Twitten but did not have the authority to cut it back further without giving the occupier another chance to do it. Mark Whitwell confirmed the Rangers would cut it right back if not done within the next three weeks.

51.5d Mr Whitwell stated he was aware of the potholes in Nutbourne and had plugged some ready for patching.

51.5e Concerning Pocket Park, he advised that the Rangers had the clearing of the culvert on their list of tasks. He was unable to quote for replacing the bridge without a detailed specification and he gave the name of the person the Pocket Park Association should contact at WSCC. Mr Denison stated they did not know what specification was needed so the Clerk was instructed to speak to WSCC to ascertain what was required and to arrange a site visit for the Association.

51.5f Mark Whitwell finally stated that the signs for Cobbetts Mews had been removed and the Highway Rangers would look out for any other out-of-date ones. For future reference, the Clerk was told to contact Mike Horton at WSCC Highways concerning any developers' signs.

52. PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

53. ESTIMATES FOR PLAY EQUIPMENT, PLAY AREA RECREATION GROUND

The Committee agreed to carry this item forward to the next agenda.

54. ALLOTMENTS

The Committee Chairman advised members that she had had a meeting with an allotment holder and the Clerk had visited the allotments with Peter Cooper, the former representative. Various issues had come from both meetings and it was agreed to invite all allotment holders to a meeting on 23 August 2007 at the Sports and Social Club for a discussion. Members agreed it should be an informal meeting and the Chairman and Clerk should attend and report back to the Committee at the September Recreation and Open Spaces Committee meeting.

55. REPOSITIONING OF COUNCIL BENCHES

After a lengthy discussion, members agreed to put a request to the Finance and Policy Committee for two new benches, one to be positioned on the Recreation Ground, near Pocket Park and the other at the top of Glebelands, offering a good view over the Brooks. In the meantime, the Clerk was instructed to arrange to have the hedge trimmed right back to allow the use of the two benches on the Recreation Ground, where it backs onto Chestnut Walk.

56. ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR THE RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

56.1 Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground

Members noted the information received in a telephone conversation between the Clerk and Betty Withers, who had lived at Floats from 1961 to 1994.

56.2 Additional Bus Shelter

The Committee agreed the new bus shelter should be erected by Stane Street Close, outside Sainsbury's.

56.3 AES Electrical Services

Members received a quotation from AES Electrical for a periodic inspection report. It was agreed this was a matter for the Finance and Policy Committee.

56.4 Byelaws

Councillors each took a notice that needed erecting on the following day on the Parish Council's Recreation Grounds and Open Spaces.

56.5 Electronic Sign

This item had been discussed earlier in the meeting.

56.6 Pulborough Cricket Club – Renewal of Licence

Members were asked to discuss the request from the Cricket Club for a long-term agreement. It was agreed to offer the Cricket Club a seven-year rolling lease. It was stated that no problem could be foreseen in the lease being automatically renewed every seven years.

57. CORRESPONDENCE

57.1 The Allotments Regeneration Initiative.

The Committee received a letter from ARI introducing their new mentor to the area. Previously copied to Committee.

57.2 Kompan – Brighton Seminar on Play Tuesday 17 July 2007

Members received an invitation to attend a free seminar on the importance of play but no one was available.

57.3 Pipes under the Recreation Ground

The Committee noted the contents of the report from CJ Uden and the reply from Southern Water. The Clerk was instructed to ask Mr Graham Allfrey, who was on the Council at the time when the Sports and Social Club was built, if he knew who owned the storm water drain. After further discussion, it was agreed to request the Finance and Policy Committee to look into diverting the drain in the car park, in order to prevent further flooding of the Social Club.

57.4 Signage along Footpath 2432 Nutbourne Common

Members noted the contents of a letter from Mr Stephen Osborne to the 6th Earl of Abergavenny. Copied to Committee.

57.5 Pulborough Village Online Forum

The Committee noted a new online forum was to go online the following day. Members wished it to be made public it was nothing to do with the Parish Council.

58. URGENT MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

Mrs Barnett stated there would be a meeting of the Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground sub-Committee on 26th July 2007, when a statement of intent concerning the Council's plans would be issued. This would also be placed in the next newsletter.

It was then suggested that Finance and Policy would be asked to arrange for reserves to be made for each recreation ground or open space, so funds would be available in case of emergencies.

Mr Denison reported the Sussex Greensand Project was expiring shortly and would not be renewed.

He also asked Mark Whitwell to see about asphaltting the footpath at the back of the school. The Clerk advised that the school should contact Mrs Delicata at Public Rights of Way on this matter.

He finally mentioned that roadworks signs from where the road was closed for two weeks in May, were still on either side of the road by the station. The Clerk was instructed to contact WSCC Highways to have them removed.

Mrs Botting advised members she had received complaints concerning huge lorries, with trailers as large as the lorry, using Blackgate Lane to get to the Scrase Farm storage units. She said there was no room for a pedestrian as the lorries were so wide and that the top end of Blackgate Lane was actually a bridleway. The Clerk was instructed to ascertain whether there were any planning restrictions concerning the storage units.

59. PAYMENTS

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

A Martin	£62.00
Allianz Insurance	£131.27
Primus	£20.90
1 st CityLock	£109.27
Staff Wages	£546.45
HMRC	£536.25

The Meeting Closed at 9.41 p.m.

..... Chairman

..... Date