

PULBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL
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MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF PULBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 17th July 2008
AT THE VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Mrs Botting (Chairman) Cllrs Barrett, Mrs Black, Boulton, Denison, Ellis, Jolliffe, Kiverstein (from 7.40pm), Mrs Lawson, Mrs Roberts and Mrs Watson.

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Donnelly (District Council) (from 7.40pm), Mrs L Hoff (Clerk) and Mr Paul Clarke.

The meeting opened at 7.33pm

19. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Mrs Barnett and Reeve.

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Mrs Botting declared an interest in agenda item no. 9, stating Cllr Kiverstein would lead the discussion. As the resident mentioned had made a complaint relating to her to the Standards Board, Cllr Kiverstein had been dealing with the correspondence on behalf of the Parish Council.

21. MINUTES

Cllr Kiverstein asked for minute number 12 to be altered to read "acceptance of the tender" along with other parishes". Cllr Donnelly asked it to be noted in Minute number 14 that he and Cllr Paterson were cabinet members. The Chairman noted that Minute number 14. should read "was no longer". The minutes were duly corrected and the corrections initialled by the Chairman. The Council then **RESOLVED** to agree and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th June 2008 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and the Chairman of the meeting signed them.

The Clerk's Report on the Full Council Minutes

The Clerk reported that Licensing Department at HDC had been most helpful and had given her contact details of someone in Crawley BC to contact, with regard to making parts of Pulborough alcohol-free zones. The Clerk had learned that the process is undertaken jointly by the Licensing Authority and the police. Cllr Donnelly reported that the process had already started on a district wide basis. The Clerk also informed members that the manager of Tesco would like to meet them to discuss ways that under-age drinking within Pulborough's open spaces, could be stopped.

21.1 PLANNING & SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Council received the Minutes of the Meetings of the Planning & Services Committee held on 5th June 2008, 12th June 2008 and 3rd July 2008.

The Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported she was awaiting a response from Vince Tipper WSCC Highways, as to whether work done using s106 funding would be undertaken quicker.

21.2 FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE

The Minutes from the meeting held on 10th July 2008 were not ready in time for inclusion on the agenda.

21.3 RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

The Council received the Minutes of the Meetings of the Recreation and Open Spaces Committee held on 26th June 2008.

The Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that the planning application for the new allotments had been returned, as there was not a diagram of a shed or a photograph of the proposed wire netting included. This had now been rectified and the application would be resubmitted.

Members were also advised that the handyman had been employed and had started work.

The Clerk also informed members that the article on Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground had been collated and improvement suggestions had been received. It would be ready in time for approval at the next Planning & Services Committee meeting.

22. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC SPEAKING

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

23. MEETING WITH PAUL ADDISON, WSCC HIGHWAYS

Councillors received the Minutes for the meeting on 14th July 2008 with Paul Addison.

The Chairman was pleased to report that the top was to be taken off the roundabout at the junction with Stane Street Close and WSCC Highways would fill it with soil but not weed it. The Clerk was instructed to write to the manager of Sainsbury's, Pulborough to arrange a meeting with the Chairman, who would ask him whether the company would like to sponsor the planting of flowers on the roundabout and be responsible for its upkeep. It was noted that Vince Tipper was trying to arrange sponsorship of all roundabouts in West Sussex.

The Clerk was also instructed to keep trying to contact Vince Tipper with regard to using s106 funding for smaller highway improvements, as he has a list that will take 10 years to clear.

It was suggested that a survey of local residents in what traffic improvements they would like to see, should be included in the next newsletter, in readiness for the Village Transport Plan. This should also be included on the next agenda.

The Chairman reported that Cali Sparks from WSCC had attended the meeting and had been most helpful in suggesting how the Village Transport Plan should proceed.

24. NEW GROUNDSMAN

The Finance and Policy Committee decided to advertise initially on the noticeboard, as it was hoped to attract a local resident. The new Groundsman

would be required to do the daily playground inspection and maybe take over the village litter clearance, which would then make it a full-time occupation.

25. MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDICAL CENTRE

The Chairman reported that she and Cllr Ellis had met with Liz Coulthard, the Practice Manager and Dr Fooks to discuss parking issues at the Medical Centre.

The new planning application by Tesco was discussed and it was hoped these measures would ease the situation. It was noted that this store was the busiest of its size in the country but there were problems such as blood collection when a lorry had arrived to unload, which had not previously been taken into account. The Chairman had stressed the situation for patients, trying to access the Medical Centre, was extremely dangerous.

It was AGREED to wait until the Tesco plans had come into effect to see if there was an improvement.

26. EXPLANATION OF EVENTS FROM RESIDENT MR NIGEL PAGE

All Councillors had previously received Mr Page's written presentation. Cllr Kiverstein gave a brief resume for Councillors.

He advised that Mr Page had a number of different complaints. He had written to the Council concerning these but before the Parish Council had time to respond, he had taken the matter to HDC, and sent a copy of his letter to the County Times.

His main issue appeared to be his desire for a right of way through the allotments. He also had complained about the conduct of the allotment tenants and about the increase in the precept, the details of which he quoted incorrectly.

He was invited to a private meeting at which all the issues he raised were discussed. Explanations were provided during the meeting and he was promised a full response on each matter in writing. Again however, before Cllr Kiverstein had had a chance to provide this written response, Mr Page had sent letters to all Councillors and made a complaint about the Chairman to the Standards Board.

Cllr Kiverstein had now responded in full on all issues raised by Mr Page except that relating to the claimed right of way, where we were awaiting legal advice.

This advice had now been received. Following consideration thereof it was AGREED that Cllr Kiverstein should write again to Mr Page, quoting the advice of the Council's solicitor and confirming that there was no right of way for Aston Rise residents over the allotment. It was also AGREED that no further action was necessary concerning Mr Page's written presentation.

27. SALE OF CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TO AMBERLEY VILLAGE

Councillors noted the Christmas lights that Amberley Village borrowed were off-cuts which they had spliced together. These had not been used by Pulborough at Christmas and so it was RESOLVED they should be donated to Amberley at no cost.

28. VACANCY ON THE PARISH COUNCIL

Mr Paul Clarke was asked to speak briefly on his background. He advised members he had joined Southwater Parish Council in 1995 and been Vice Chairman since 1999 as well as Chairman of its Finance Committee. He had played a large part in the redesign of the village centre. He looked forward to helping the Pulborough community in a similar fashion.

He was asked to leave the room whilst a discussion took place. This was followed by a vote with eleven members backing the co-option of Mr Clarke and one abstention.

It was RESOLVED Mr Clarke should be co-opted onto the Council as a non-voting member.

29. QUALITY COUNCIL WORKING GROUP

After a brief discussion, it was agreed to shelve the election of a Working Group until 2009 but the Clerk was still to go ahead with obtaining the CiLCA qualification.

30. STEAM FAIR

Councillors noted that the original contact for a steam fair had passed the details on to Showtime Amusements, who ran a traditional family funfair.

Following a discussion, the Clerk was instructed to ascertain a few more details before a decision was made as to whether the fairground should be invited to the village.

31. UPDATE ON THE NEW PAVILION

The Chairman asked Cllr Ellis to inform members of his visit to see the Sports Halls in Storrington, Southwater and Rudgwick. He stated that both Storrington and Southwater had gymnasiums with state of the art equipment. However they were unlicensed and both running at a loss. Rudgwick only had superb changing rooms but was licensed and was making a profit. Mr Clarke pointed out that Southwater owned the property and due to a covenant on the land, could not get charity status and all of the loss was due to the business rates.

The Chairman advised the Council she had a meeting with Henfield on the 21st July 2008, a meeting at Rudgwick on the 22nd July 2008 and would report back her findings to the Steering Group on 23rd July 2008.

The Clerk was instructed to add the structure required to obtain charity status to the next meeting of the Parish Legal Working Group.

The Chairman informed members that the Council would be ready to present options to the village in October.

32. NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Following a brief discussion, it was RESOLVED the Clerk should attend the National Conference in October 2008.

33. LIGHTING IN CHURCH PLACE

The Councillors had received the quotation from EDF Energy for a new street light in Church Place by the footpath leading from the railway station. A Councillor enquired whether a second quote had been obtained from another source but it was noted that EDF Energy held a monopoly in the area and it

was impossible to get a quotation from elsewhere. It was also noted this was a lower amount than had been offered earlier.

It was RESOLVED to accept the quotation as it stood.

34. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Donnelly advised members that the speed camera in Lower Street had been set on fire at 12.50 that morning. It was hoped something was caught on the Barclays Bank CCTV.

He also informed the Council that the Billingshurst swimming pool looked set to open in September 2008.

He mentioned that new, larger refuse trucks were being introduced in the New Year and would have hoists to lift bins into the back of the truck to empty. There was also to be a new recycling bin, which would probably be emptied fortnightly.

35. REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

Cllr Boulton reported that he had attended the Nutbourne Residents' Association meeting at the Rising Sun in Nutbourne on 14th July 2008. He said it was a packed meeting and the precept was mentioned. One man also wanted to have the word "Recreation" dropped from Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground. It was suggested that Nutbourne residents may wish to attend some Parish Council meetings.

Cllr Ellis spoke of the security exhibition, which four councillors attended. The local police were pleased with the number of residents who attended.

Cllr Barrett advised of a meeting with volunteers of the South Downs Light Railway, based at the Wyevale Garden Centre. He was able to suggest ways of advertising the Railway's existence and was pleased to see an article on Dean Smith's website www.pulboro.org.

The Chairman stated she had had a meeting with Stephen Suter, who spoke highly of the Parish Council and said he wished to be the representative between the traders and the Council. The Clerk was instructed to invite him to attend a meeting of full Council.

Cllr Quedstedt mentioned that four Councillors had attended the meeting at Brinsbury College and informed members it was to be a big development, costing £11 million. Cllr Donnelly stated there was to be a very large agricultural development on the other side of the road.

36. CORRESPONDENCE

The Correspondence is attached to these Minutes as Appendix 1.

37. MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

Cllr Ellis requested a report from the Communications Team be included on the next agenda.

38. PAYMENTS

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

Burgess & Randall	£30.14
EDF Energy	£75.16
Viking Direct	£65.16
Mayfield Nursery	£268.00
EDF Energy	£12.81
Wightman & Parrish	£60.28

The meeting closed at 10.17pm

.....Chairman

.....Date

CORRESPONDENCE

17th July 2008

1. **Bayley & Willmer**
Members received notification of the retirement of John A Bayley with effect from 31st July 2008. His fellow director, Philip Willmer had joined forces with senior members of his team in Chichester to form Studio 5 Architects.
2. **The Boundary Committee for England**
Councillors received the Committee's draft recommendations on future electoral arrangements and noted comments are required by 25th August 2008. The full report is available on www.boundarycommittee.org.uk
3. **NHS South East Coast**
Members noted the launch of "Healthier People- Excellent Care" – a vision for the south coast for the next ten years. A copy will be held in the Parish Office or the report can be viewed at www.southeastcoast.nhs.uk/hpec
4. **Pulborough Community Partnership**
Councillors received a letter of thanks from the Community Partnership for the cheque for £150 to pay for the toilets at the Harvest Fayre.
5. **Southern Water- Draft Water Resources Management Plan**
The Council noted that the consultation period closes on 25th July 2008 and a questionnaire was enclosed for completion.