

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PUBLLOW WITH PENSFORD PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON MONDAY 12th JANUARY 2009 AT 7.15p.m. AT CHURCH ROOM  
CHURCH STREET PENSFORD**

**Present: Chairman: Mr T Heaford Vice-Chairman: Mr B Watson**  
Mr D Chilcott, Mr L Seymour, Mrs S Grimes, Mrs J Stephenson,  
Mrs J Gully, Mr P Wareham, Cllr P Edwards

**1) Welcome Chief Superintendent Gary Davies:**

The Parish Council welcomed Chief Superintendent Davies to the meeting. Chief Superintendent Davies gave a brief report of his service to date informing the Parish Council that he has completed twenty-seven years service in many different departments. He is now based at Bath. Important Policing issues are Performance: Reducing/Detecting Crime, because of the economic crisis crime is likely to rise. The force have seen an increase of 12% in shoplifting crime. Domestic crime is also an increased issue. BANES are reported to be a helpful community with the highest detection rate in the force of 31% being achieved. Trust & confidence in the Police: This was defined as not only the quality of the service provided by the Police and the timeliness to 999 calls but response to lesser things such as services online. Follow-ups to victims of crime helps to build the confidence in the Police. PCSO's provide a good service building this trust within the community and carrying out a lot of the follow ups required.

Openness: The Safer Stronger Neighbourhood initiative encourages the public to engage and build relationships with the Police and PCSO's. The PACT meetings help to build and shape the future with many local issues being discussed at each meeting. Questions and observations made were:

- a) Communication - More should be done to encourage Neighbourhood Watch groups. Supt. Davies reported that it is very difficult to get the balance right.
- b) PCSO'S: Were reported to being a key factor in local policing as they have access to local information and knowledge.
- c) What extent is the force under-resourced? Supt. Davies reported that 40 PCSO's have been put in place in the last 18mths which is the greatest improvement in 25 years. The need for PCSO's to have more powers was raised by a Parish Council member and although the PCSO's are visible around the village the need for the Beat Manager to be more visible was raised.
- d) Monthly Newsletter: Clerk to look into receiving this newsletter which has been produced since July.
- e) Time Spent in Schools: It has been agreed that the Sergeant/Beat Manager and Deputy/Headmaster of each school are to meet up together in the near future to discuss working more closely together. A Parish Council member reported that PC Glenn Lord does visit Pensford Primary

School.

f) High Street Parking issues were raised and vehicles parking on the pavements were discussed.

**2) Members of the Public:**

None present at the meeting.

**3) Apologies for Absence** were received from Mrs Loney and Mr Filer.

**4) Minutes of Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2008** after being circulated and read were signed as a correct record.

**5) Matters arising from the previous minutes:**

**Mr P Baxter, St Thomas A Becket's Church:** Chairman reported that the planning application for the conversion of the former church into a single dwelling had been permitted by the planning authority.

**Memorial Hall:** It was reported that the refurbishment of the Ladies WC was now completed. An overload of power had recently occurred and necessary emergency electrical work had been carried out.

**Car Park:** There was no further update.

**Footpaths Officer:** Mr Wilkins of Woollard Lane had expressed an interest in this position. Mr Wilkins has had experience working for the Woodland Trust. Parish Council agreed to pursue.

**6) Items for Discussion:**

**a) Police Lane:** A new Electoral Role had been obtained and the matter raised that properties along Policeman's Lane are omitted from the register. They are identified under either The Common or Hillcrest addresses. The Street Naming and Numbering Officer at BANES reports that they are unable to confirm whether the lane was ever officially named 'Police Lane'. The name was obtained from old Avon County Highway records and was incorporated into the Councils Street Naming and Numbering Gazetteer for location purposes only. The Parish Council would like the road to have its own nameplate - Policeman's Lane. Mr Seymour to follow this up

**b) Quarterly Financial Report:**

The financial summary showing bank balances and reconciliation to 31.12.08 was circulated with no questions arising. The income and expenditure report was circulated and it was noted that the precept money is now in and we await allotment rental. Clerk's computer and the Tennis Club Lights are now fully depreciated.

**Budget 2009/2010: Precept 2009/2010:** A draft budget had been prepared. It was agreed to raise the Precept to £10,750.

Allotment Rental: Parish Council agreed to raise the rental to £20 from this January. Clerk had six people on a waiting list for plots and Mr Watson has one person waiting. Further plots will be marked out soon. The possibility of purchasing a water trough will be looked into.

**c) Affordable Housing:** It was agreed that the Parish Council would meet with Gary Ward, BANES and James Read, Somer prior to the Parish meeting.

**d) 4 x 4 Vehicles:** Concerns regarding 4 x 4 vehicles had been received from a resident in Ringspit Lane regarding the Off Road Vehicles using the lane. It was reported that a number of the vehicles possibly did not have road tax. A copy of the email was sent to the Police who have responded and will be monitoring the situation. A report from the PCSO stated that vehicles monitored to date do benefit from current road tax. It was reported that the road surface on the bottom half of Ringspit Lane is broken up with large potholes and the top end the surface is breaking up.

**Birchwood Lane:** Is to be re-classified so that no traffic can use it, not even tractors. The process of re-classification is reported to take a long time.

**e) Play Area:** A Meeting was held with Andy Chard on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2008 to discuss the given plan and any alterations thought necessary. The Pathfinder budget total is still not known and a disappointing meeting was reported. The deadline is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009. A further meeting is to be held on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at 10.00a.m. Mr Watson to attend Cllr Edwards reported that Francine Haerberling would be a useful contact to progress this matter.

**Memorial Hall:** An informal meeting was held between the Chairs and Treasurer of the Memorial hall and the Financial Officer of the Parish council. Financial matters directly relating to the hall were discussed and it was suggested that a five-year plan for ensuring the well being of the hall, playing field, toddlers play area, new children's play area should be steered by one or two members of the hall committee and one or two members of the Parish Council.

**Electrical Sockets:** The query raised as to why the electrical sockets at the memorial hall did not have RCD's on them has now been looked into. Two new sockets installed at the time of the re-wire have RCD's fitted, the remaining sockets did not have them added as it was agreed at the time of the re-wire that anything that did not need replacing would not be. Therefore there was no question over the specification being wrong.

**Neighbourhood Watch Scheme:** An email had been received asking for financial assistance with the setting up of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. The Parish Council were of the opinion that many neighbours already look out for one another and declined to make a donation. It was reported that the scheme in Station Approach was set up with minimal cost and those involved made donations.

## **7) Clerks Progress Report:**

### **Icy Roads:**

It was reported that complaints had been received by a member of the public regarding lack of gritting along an icy High Street, Pensford. Information from BANES reported that the High Street was not on the route for gritting. Clerk had obtained copies of the gritting routes from the BANES web site. [www.bathnes.gov.uk](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk) BANES were also asked to look at the problem of a drainage pipe coming out of a property in Woollard causing a lot of ice on the road during the cold snap. Clerk awaits a reply. It was reported that the footway along the High Street was very icy. A grit bin remains at the top of the High Street.

### **Log Cabin, Memorial Hall:**

Building Control have been unable to obtain any further information regarding the fire resistance of the log cabin. If no information regarding its fire resistance can be produced the owner will have to submit an application. Building Control will be following up the issue and reporting back to the Parish Council in due course.

Land Registry: Clerk has contacted the Land Registry office in Plymouth, however they do not hold any further information than that the Parish Council already hold. Clerk to speak to Terry Phillips and ask if he has any documents relating to the boundary.

### **Floodgate Prize:**

This is to be donated to Janette Stephenson and details regarding the hand over will be arranged soon.

### **Planning Guide for Householders Booklet:**

Clerk has requested the up to date copy of this publication.

### **Planning:**

The Parish Councils' reply to application 08/04317/FUL made last month did not appear on the planning web site. Clerk reported that further copies had to be sent to Building Control to register the Parish Councils' objections. It was reported that a site visit had been made by the case officer assigned to this application.

### **Speed Camera:**

Traffic & Safety report that working from the current criteria set out by BANES they may not be able to justify a new camera in the original location. Alternative locations have been looked at. A site meeting has taken place and a meeting has taken place at the garage site. Traffic & Safety will update the Parish Council with any further progress.

### **Belluton Junction:**

Traffic & Safety report that money has been set aside to improve this area. BANES now have a new officer called an Accident Investigator and Prevention Officer who is currently looking at the recent accidents and ways to improve the road layout.

### **Allotments:**

Water bills still have not been received from Bristol Water, they reported to clerk that they had not been able to find the meter.

### **Play Area:**

The quarterly inspection report had been received and a copy given to the Memorial Hall Chairman.

### **Youth Team:**

Clerk has spoken to Graham Baker and reported to him concerns that the Youth Bus was not turning up regularly on a Tuesday evening. Mechanical problems and staffing problems were reported. However the clerk was informed that the Youth Team do not always visit on the bus, they park at the Memorial Hall and will walk around the village and engage with youngsters either at the Play Area or other areas of the village. The Youth Team visit Chew Valley School twice a week on a Tuesday and Thursday Lunch time and are therefore getting to know more youngsters in the valley. The Parish Council remain concerned about the bus not turning up and youngsters being left at the Memorial Hall without supervision. Clerk to follow up with Youth Team.

### **Planning & Enforcement:**

Clerk reported that an e-mail sent to Cllr Edwards reported that Enforcement have now closed their files in relation to the Access created at Wick Lane.

### **Parish Enforcement Issues:**

Clerk reported that another email has been sent to Enforcement requesting an update, copies have been sent to Mr A. Pegler and Cllr P Edwards. No reply has been received. Cllr Edwards suggested that the Chief Executive should be contacted and agreed to raise this problem on behalf of the Parish Council.

### **Highways:**

Parish Council were informed that sadly Spencer Toghill, Highways Inspector had passed away in the New Year. A sympathy card had been sent. **Mr Bond:** Clerk reported that Mr Bond had extended his thanks to the Parish Council for their card and appreciates the minutes which are sent to him each month.

## **Airport Consultative Committee:**

Mr Ian Bell has decided to stand down as a Councillor and is no longer able to represent the group on the BIA Consultative Committee. The next meeting takes place on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2009 at 2.30p.m. Mr Wareham will attend this meeting.

## **Incoming Post:**

a) Information regarding a BANES Information Event being run by Community Action had been received. The event takes place on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2009 9.30 am till 12.00 pm. The purpose of the event is to bring together agencies and organisations that provide services to local residents and groups.

b) BANES Transportation & Highways Book had a page dedicated to the Highway Code for Mobility Scooter Users, this was an issue which was raised at a recent PACT Meeting. Mrs Stephenson was given the book.

c) Bristol Airport: Prior to the application to North Somerset, BIA are holding a six-week consultation commencing on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2009 during which interested members of the public can view the proposals and provide comments. Further to this they have invited the Parish Council to visit on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2009 7pm - 9pm. Parish Council were reminded that BIA representatives will be attending the February meeting.

## **8) Planning:**

### **Applications looked at by Sub-Committee:**

**08/04679/FUL** Mr J Packer Conversion of barn and outbuildings and new extensions to create residential dwelling (Resubmission). Parish Council Support

**08/04629/FUL** Mr & Mrs Tremlett 49 Hillcrest Pensford. Two-storey side extension (Revised application) Parish Council Support.

### **Application looked at:**

**08/04710/FUL** Mrs M Bignell Development Site Police Lane Pensford Pair of semi-detached houses with garages and parking (revised scheme). Parish Council object to this application Comments to be sent to planning will be in relation to the over-development of an inappropriate site. An increase in traffic on a very small narrow lane. BANES will be asked to refer to their previous comments where they report a development "oversized for its location".

## Outcomes:

**08/04093/FUL** Mr A Hucker Railway Bungalow Bristol Road Pensford.  
Two storey dwelling to replace existing single storey dwelling.  
**REFUSE.**

**08/03743/FUL** Ms L Hurley Publow Oak Barn Blackrock Lane, Publow.  
Single storey garage extension (Retrospective). **REFUSE**

**08/03741/LBA** Ms L Hurley Publow Oak Barn Blackrock Lane Publow.  
Internal and external alterations to include single-storey garage  
extension and provision of new opening to link main building to  
converted garage (Regularisation). **REFUSE.** The case officer  
reported that Ms Hurley has the right to appeal to these decisions  
within six months.

## **Appeal Submitted:**

**08/02926/FUL** Mr K Showering Mountain Stables Publow Lane  
Publow. All weather horse-riding arena for personal use.

## **9) Financial Matters:**

### Payments authorised:

TC Building Services	Bus Shelter Repairs	587.50
Jerome Harvey Trust	Donation	25.00
TC Building Services	Refurb Ladies WC Memorial Hall	2415.00
Mrs J Bragg	Clerk Salary December	502.90
Mrs J Bragg	Clerk Imprest	28.15
Mrs J Bragg	Computer Ink refill	10.00

### Payments Received:

Allianz	Insurance Claim Bus Shelter	375.00
HM Revenue & Customs	VAT Claim	144.26
Memorial Hall	Donation Ladies WC works	2100.00
Nat West	Reserve a/c interest 31/12/08	0.36
Nat West	Capital Reserve a/c interest	57.73

## **10. Any Other Business:**

**Bus Shelter:** The orange barriers still remain uncollected.

**Vandalism:** Vandalism problems were reported to the Police during the Christmas Break. Catapults and ball bearings were used to break windows of a local business causing an expensive amount of damage.

**Finger Post, Woollard:** David Swift has been written to regarding this. Clerk informed parish council that David Swift has moved authorities and advised Mrs Stephenson to contact Maria Pinches.

**Woollard Lane:** During heavy rain a large amount of water flooded down Woollard Lane bringing with it a lot of rubbish, this needs litter picking. Clerk to contact BANES.

**Amercombe House:** Parish Council to reply to a letter received raising concerns about the traffic and accidents on the A37 near this property.

**3 Hillside Cottages:** It was reported that the owner is using wooden blocks to enable the car to mount the pavement and park outside of the property. The Parish Council are aware that although permissions applied for were not received, works have been carried out and a car is parked here regularly.

**Church Street:** The poor condition of the road surface will be reported to BANES.

**Pensford School 20mph Limit:** A request had been made for a 20mph limit outside of the school, however this is already in place during school times.

Mr Watson to follow up with the school.

**Tennis Court Update:** The lights have been repaired and the courts are being cleaned and washed. Contact has tried to be made with the LTA although unsuccessfully to date.

**February Meeting:** Mrs Grimes gave her apologies for the February Meeting.

#### **11. Notice of Future Meetings:**

**PACT Meeting, Tuesday 13th January 2009 - Pensford Memorial Hall, Pavilion Room. 7.00 pm.**

**PCAA Meeting 27<sup>th</sup> January 2009.**

**BANES ALCA Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> February 2009**

**Chew Valley Partnership 11<sup>th</sup> February 2009**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING MONDAY 9th FEBRUARY 2009 7.15 pm**