

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PUBLOW WITH PENSFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
TUESDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2011 AT 7.15p.m. AT THE  
CHURCH ROOM CHURCH STREET PENSFORD**

**Present: Chairman: Mr T Heaford.** Mr L Seymour, Mr S Filer, Mrs J Jones,  
Mrs S Grimes, Mr P Wareham, Mr J Kelly, Mrs J Gully, Mrs J Stephenson.  
**Clerk:** Mrs J Bragg.

**1) Members of the Public:** None Present.

**2) Apologies for Absence** were received from Cllr P Edwards, Mr B Watson.  
Parish Council were informed that Mr Watson still remains very ill. Parish Council  
were sad to note that G Callway & Mr J Merchant had recently passed away.

**3) Minutes of Monday 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2011** after being circulated and read were  
signed as a correct record.

**4) Matters Arising from the previous minutes:**

**Hursley Hill:** Chairman had prepared a draft letter to be sent to a resident of  
Hursley Hill mentioned in the September minutes as “maybe” being the Landowner  
where tipping was taking place.

**Woollard Notice board:** Chairman has emailed Chairman of Compton Dando Parish  
Council regarding use of the notice board. Email address to be checked as it had  
been returned.

**PCAA:** It was reported that the application for a judicial review had been rejected.  
The Inspector will be holding a Public Hearing on the North Somerset Core Strategy  
to which the PCAA have made representations regarding noise, infrastructure,  
weakness's and climate change. The Hearing takes place on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2011.

**Car Park:** Parish Council have been informed by a resident of Church Street that a  
letter has been received from the Trustees of the Miners Welfare Institute stating  
that neither owner or occupier has any right to cross any of the Trustees Land to  
gain access to their Church Street property. Parish Council have advised the  
resident to obtain legal advice. Parish Council to arrange a meeting with the  
Trustees of the Miners Welfare to establish that a Car Park will remain.

**Affordable Housing:** A suitable meeting date is awaited from English Rural to  
follow up on the results of the Survey.

An offer of a piece of land has been made by a parishioner, details have been  
passed to Project Manager, Development of Somer Housing group to follow up.

**5) Items for Discussion:**

**a) ALCA AGM Update:** The current secretary having been away sick for a number of  
months has now resigned. ALCA are currently looking for a replacement.

**b) Notice Board by Post Office:** Quotes to be obtained for a replacement notice  
board.

**c) BANES Chairman's Fund:** It was agreed as nothing further had been heard from  
the Primary School, that the Memorial Hall Stage Curtains would be nominated to  
receive a donation from the Chairman's Fund.

**d) Defibrillator - Post Office:** There is a problem with the keypad operation on the cabinet. AED had been informed along with Mr Setter. Mr Setter's responsibility is with the Defibrillator only. Clerk & Mrs Stephenson are to visit Patch's who make the cabinets.

**e) Dedication of St Thomas a Becket Tower:** A nice service which was well attended. Teas were served after in the Church Room.

**f) Parish Liaison Meeting:** A good meeting was reported. The Olympics and the Core Strategy were discussed, along with the requirement of 22 Travellers Pitches in BANES (Note: A pitch could be required to accommodate 3 caravans). Health & Education could be an issue within the sites. People living on the River are also now considered a risk and BANES will be looking further into this issue. A presentation was given by the Planning Enforcement Department. Papers were given to the Parish Council for further information.

**g) Remembrance Sunday Update:** A well attended service. It was reported that Mr Seymour was immaculately dressed. The Brownies & Guides paraded down to the War Memorial and the Bugler played very well. The Police were in attendance and played an important role stopping the traffic for the minute's silence. It was reported that cars also turned off their engines. Parish Council agreed to donate £25 to the Brownie Pack, £25 to the Bugler & £50 wreath donation. A letter of thanks will also be sent to Inspector Stuckes. Mrs Gully was thanked for tidying the war memorial area. It was noted that the back of the War Memorial is becoming green due to the overhanging trees. The footpath which runs along from the War Memorial is also overgrown with vegetation.

**h) Patient Participation Group Meeting:** Well attended by people from all over the Valley. Questions and discussions focussed on the requirements of the new surgery. Vehicle access to the new surgery for the elderly was discussed. It was felt that a younger element was needed to attend the Group Meetings. The Practice Manager will email all parties with a date for a future meeting.

**i) PACT Meeting Report:** Crime Rate figures remain low. Opportunist thefts are the most common at present. The PACT priorities from the last meeting had been addressed. The road layout at Stoke Hill may be changed. Stowey Quarry was now resolved, although a revised planning application may be submitted. Mrs Stephenson reported the ongoing problem of traffic turning right from Hursley Hill into Hursley Lane where there is a no right turn. Concerns were also raised regarding turning right onto the B3130 at the top of Pensford Hill and the new layout where traffic filtering left from Pensford Hill onto the B3130 should now give way, but many road users are not giving way.

**Litter:** Around the villages is noticeably worse at present. Wayne Honey is to look into this.

**Vandalism at the Memorial Hall Pensford:** Was discussed but has not been reported to the Police.

Parish Council agreed that a litter sweep is needed around the village. Clerk to contact Council Connect.

**j) Winter Maintenance Pilot Study - Community Snow Warden Pilot:** This is a scheme which BANES want a range of communities involved. Preferably with 250 houses in the scheme in each area. A single Snow Warden and a Deputy would manage. On further consultation with parishioner Mr James, it was thought that

the scheme is at present not suitable for our Parish - at least for this year. Many issues do not appear to have been addressed such as the storage of a pallet of bags of salt and other equipment, also issues of insurance. Another concern would be that over time the Snow Warden Scheme may replace existing Council responsibilities.

Clerk confirmed that an email had been received from Mr Bottin confirming that Pensford High Street is included in the Authorities priority gritting routes. However it should be noted that drivers of pre-salting vehicles may decide not to salt or snow plough a road if access is an issue.

Parish Councillors recently attended a Winter Service Meeting at the BANES Clutton Depot where the storage of the git/salt was viewed.

#### **k) Refuse/Re-Cycling Collections:**

**Bristol Water:** It was reported that Bristol Water did not inform the Emergency Services or the refuse department about the closures. Two weeks of collections from The Orchard were missed.

Calls have been made to Council Connect regarding plastic which has not been collected and other times when it has been collected much of it is left on the pavement. The problem appears to be the use of agency drivers.

Clerk to obtain up-to-date leaflets which state what can/cannot be recycled. Mr Seymour left the meeting at 8.25p.m.

#### **l) Planning Enforcement:**

**Car Sales Site:** Signs are now evident throughout the village. Suspicions raised of persons being on the premises late at night were reported. Enforcement will be notified.

There has been no reply from Mr Curran.

A complaints procedure is now being followed regarding an enforcement issue a member of the Parish Council has with a neighbouring property.

#### **6) Clerks Progress:**

**Pensford Primary School:** Two pupils from the Primary School have written to the Parish Council to express their concern about the problems they are having with dogs mess and traffic lights. They report there has been some dogs mess by the bus stop across the road from the school and also by the entrance steps to the school. There has also been some trouble with the traffic lights, when the button is pressed the little red light doesn't come on to tell the system that someone wants to cross.

I have contacted the dog warden who in response has already put up four signs by the school - 2 on each side of the road, so we hope this helps.

Clerk awaits a response regarding the traffic lights/crossing.

**Pensford Bridge:** Structures Department have now looked at the bridge, they report that cracks have been found but it is not unstable and no concerns are there re: movement. They have looked at the crumbling area of wall on the bridge next

to the boarded shop, they say it is not a concern, or below in the car park area the crumbling brickwork is not a concern.

**Old Wall/A37** - Mohammed Rashid reported that the Parks Department had cleared 40 metres of overgrowth from the wall. However any further works now remain Highways responsibility. I have emailed Highways about this and await a reply.

**Pensford Car Sales:** Contact has now been made with the Environment Agency regarding concerns regarding the disposal of water from the car wash.

**Web Site Enquiry:** A Gentleman emailed via the web site regarding his concerns about the river. He reported that he visits the site of the river at Pensford Bridge at least twice a month to watch and photograph 'Dippers' (a rare bird in these parts). As the river bed is so low now he reports it is littered with plastic bottles and all manner of rubbish. He has witnessed someone throwing garden waste into the river and building rubble being put into the river. He is concerned that if the river quality becomes poor the number of dippers is likely to decline. All of his concerns have also been emailed to the Environment Agency for their attention regarding the river situation.

**War Memorial:** Nothing to update at present.

**Hursley Hill:** The Site continues to be used for tipping. Enquiries with BANES have drawn a blank, they have advised that it is an Environment Agency problem. An email has been sent to them and a reply awaited.

**Land behind Firbank:** Land has now been cleared by the landowner.

**Event Organisation:** A further copy of Event Organisation has received from Geoff Dicker who led the presentation at the recent Chew Valley Partnership Meeting.

**Allotments:** A couple of plots have been passed to a second party to work, this is against the contracts. Clerk to write to all recorded allotment holders and check they are still working their own plot? There are also some which aren't being worked, although they were paid for at the beginning of the year. Confirmation will also be sought with the allotment tenants if they wish to continue with their plot.

**Footpaths Officer:** Has confirmed that he will get comparable prices for a strimmer and pass details to clerk. Clearing work will continue on footpaths where necessary.

**Planning:**

#### **Enforcement Issues:**

**Broadoak Sidings:** A site visit was made but felt it was too intimidating to visit alone. A further visit will be made in company.

**Butts Farm Parsonage Lane:** Requires a planning application. A letter has been sent to the owner requesting this.

**Mountain Stables:** There is no planning permission required to simply lay electric cables. Permissions required will depend on the use of the cable.

**Pensford Car Wash:** A new case has been opened and is being investigated. Parish Council to urge Enforcement to look at this site soon. Signs for the car wash are reported to be put up everywhere around the village.

No reply has been received from Mr Curran following two letters recently sent to him regarding Planning Enforcement.

## **7) Planning:**

### **Applications discussed by Sub-Committee:**

#### **Planning Outcomes:**

**11/03778/FUL** Mr J Rehbein Hillside View Pensford Hill Pensford. Erection of a part 3 storey part 1 storey rear extension to provide additional living and bedroom accommodation and front side extension to provide a new garage and all associated works. **REFUSE.**

**11/03817/FUL** Mrs L Jones Elm Tree Cottage Publow Lane Publow. Two storey side and front extensions. **PERMIT**

**11/03505/FUL** Mr & Mrs Stephenson Mill House Mill Lane Woollard. Installation of 4kw array of ground mounted solar panels on land adjoining Mill House Woollard. **PERMIT.**

## **8) Financial Matters:**

### **Payments to be authorised:**

Mrs J Bragg	Clerk Salary September	555.04
Mrs J Bragg	Clerk Imprest & Computer Ink (10.99)	28.90
Church Room	Hire April, May, June, July, Sept, Oct, Nov	70.00

## **9. Any Other Business:**

**Tennis Club:** Continues to be well supported.

Overhanging vegetation was reported on Pensford Hill outside of Mousehole. Clerk to report.

Log Cabin, Compton Dando: Clerk to obtain an update.

Japanese Knot Weed: An area of this was reported near the Hinton Organic site. Clerk to report.

Pensford Hill: Reply to Nick Jeanes pointing out the poor condition of pavements and footways all suffering from overhanging vegetation problems in and around the village.

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

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING MONDAY 12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2011 AT 7.15p.m.**