

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PUBLW WITH PENSFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 7.15 pm AT THE MEMORIAL HALL PUBLW
LANE PENSFORD**

Present: Chairman Mr T Heaford Vice-Chair: Mrs J Stephenson
Mrs J Jones, Mrs L Cains, Mrs S Grimes, Mr L Seymour, Cllr P Edwards,
Clerk: Mrs J Bragg.

There were seven members of the public present.

1) Welcome Paul Baxter to discuss proposals for a new local approach to Planning: Mr Baxter brought to the Parish Council his idea for a Planning Mute. The idea is for the Mute to help the residents of the Parish to have a greater say with regard to planning, however if the application is a large application or in the green belt a public consultation would take place. The Parish Council would continue to consider the applications they receive in the normal way. The Mute process would take a majority vote on each plan.

2) Members of the Public: Concerns were raised regarding the parking on the pavement outside of the new Lock Up Cottages. The cars parked are on the blind bend of Publow Lane causing a dangerous obstruction. The Parish Council have talked about parking restrictions here and along the High Street, Church Street and Publow Lane. Double Yellow Lines for these locations have been discussed in the past with B&NES, and will the Parish Council will continue to explore other possibilities.

A map of the Parish and the Parish Footpaths was given to a member of the public for further consultation with regard to Village Boundaries.

Bus Stop & Centre of the Village: Member of the Public reported that he regularly picks up the litter from the bus stop and around the village. Clerk will arrange for the Village to be swept. Members of the Public were informed that the Parish used to have a regular road sweeper which was a paid position. If anyone is interested this could be looked into again.

3) Apologies for Absence were received from Mrs J Gully, Mr J Kelly, Mr S Filer

4) Minutes of Monday 8th JULY 2013 after being circulated were signed as a correct record

5) Matters Arising from the previous minutes:

Hinton Re-Organics: Nothing further has been heard regarding the Anaerobic Converter.

Gypsy Site: The Application went before the Development Control Committee in July and was unanimously rejected.

Chew Valley Area Partnership: The next meeting takes place on 18th September 2013 where the subject of Connecting Communities will be discussed. The intention is to build Clusters. There could be a Keynsham Cluster and a Chew Valley Cluster. Publow with Pensford has been added to the Keynsham Cluster which the Chairman will argue and request that our Parish is included in the Chew Valley Cluster.

6) Items for Discussion:

a) **Affordable Housing:** A meeting was held on 30th July at 10.30am with Curo however nothing concrete had been established.

It was agreed that the outcome of the Gypsy & Traveller Site would be waited on before progressing further.

b) **RNAV Consultation - Bristol Airport:** This is a consultation being run by Bristol Airport for the CAA which relates to the arrivals from the South and is a proposal that will try to narrow the channel in which the aircraft fly prior to landing. This

will hopefully eradicate rogue aircraft. The proposal means that there will be a more gradual descent at a higher level and therefore aircraft noise could possibly be slightly less. Chairman will prepare a response to the consultation document.

c) Memorial Hall Update following meeting 1st August 2013: A meeting had been held to discuss the correct licensing procedures. A review of the CRB check procedure had been discussed and conditions removed.

Toddlers Play Area: Responsibilities of the owner of the Play Area have now increased. Weekly inspections of the play area have to be undertaken and monthly photographic evidence should support this. There should be on-site information for a point of contact in case of a fault or damage to the equipment.

BMX Track now requires further attention. Suggestions are to level it and do away with it as it is no longer fit for purpose and is not used.

Insurances for Play Areas will be looked into. **Wooden Hut** has been taken down by local parishioners.

Showers: Are no better but they have been cleaned. No updating will take place at present.

Updating of the Hall: A quote from J Rigby Builder to carry out exterior works at the hall had been received and agreed at a cost of £1,140. However the work was started by a local builder who will now continue to finish the work, the three windows will be supplied by J Rigby Builder at a cost of £520.00. An invoice for the exterior work will be sent to the Parish Council. The Painting is complete on the outside. Payment is awaited from the Ward Councillors Initiative Grant to reimburse the Hall with this cost.

Parish Council were asked if they could make provision for helping with the costs at the Toddlers Play Area. Chairman of the Parish Council agreed to this. The cost will be approximately £100 to supply and fit two new flat seats and chains.

Hall Floor: Is to be sanded and two coats of sealant put down at a cost of £1,100. Terry & Geoff remain in office until March 2014. They are looking for two people with an active interest in the hall to take over from them.

Gents Toilet needs refurbishing. Quartet will be applied to for a grant.

Wild West Weekend: It is hoped that this could be held over the Easter Weekend. A meeting is to take place in October with the event organisers.

Dogs running on field: This will be addressed.

Emergency Lighting Certificate: Two additional emergency lights have been installed to the rear of the stage. Clerk has a copy of the completion certificate for Parish Council files. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 16th October 10.00am.

Memorial Hall Tables: It was reported that some tables had gone missing from the hall. These tables are still missing.

d) Chairman's Community & Business Awards: It was suggested that the most successful Community Activity had been the opposition of the Gypsy & Traveller Site proposal put forward by SWAG. A suggestion was made to jointly nominate a member of SWAG by Publow with Pensford Parish Council and Stanton Drew Parish Council. Members of the Parish Council will give the nomination further thought.

e) Bristol Airport Consultative Committee Meeting 31st July 2013: At the last meeting a presentation on RNAV was given. It was reported that there had been a small increase in passenger figures which coincided with a small decrease in the number of flights. Ryan Air are reported to be cutting back winter flights. The passenger per year figure has remained static for the last few years.

f) Financial: A financial update of the balances in the Current Account, Capital Account and Defibrillator Account were given by the Chairman. The second part of the Precept is to be paid in October. Clerk reported that there had been a pay award of 1% to be back dated to April 2013. Parish Council agreed to the scale point rise for the Clerk following completion of another year of service last December.

g) Footpaths/Colin Hudson/Church Farm: Mr Seymour, Mrs Stephenson & Mrs Bragg walked the footpath around Church Farm with Colin Hudson from B&NES. Walking from Publow Church along in front of Church Farm there was an obstruction to the footpath. This was noted by Colin. The footpath from Publow Lane past the farm, revealed a sign which is very unclear. This will be made more

prominent. The agricultural bridge had a fence on the West Side of the river which walkers have to climb over. As the walk continued towards Woollard on the East Side of the river it became apparent that a lot of work needs to be done to make this footpath accessible. A land slide had occurred during the wet weather last year. Walking on the East Side of the River there is an electric fence with a handle but a shock was received from the wire through the handle. Not satisfactory. Colin will put together a report and recommendations on how to improve the footpaths.

Footbridge in Woollard: It was reported that the access to the footbridge has been washed away and fallen into the river. The footbridge is now out of action. Clerk to follow up with Public Rights of Way.

Clerk reported that Colin will be taking early retirement and his leaving date will be 4th October 2013.

h) Defibrillator: Due to a fault with the key pad the cabinet had not been locked for a number of weeks. AED were contacted but even after three days nothing had been done. The key pad has now been replaced at a cost of £90.00

The Parish Council were reminded that the Defibrillator has a five year warranty after which it will need servicing or maybe replacing. The Defibrillators owned by the Parish Council currently have three more years before they are out of warranty. Heart Sign have a defibrillator which has a 10 year warranty but carries a cost of £973.00.

l) Web Site: It was reported that the Parish Council web site currently has 700 hits a day. It was proposed by the Chairman that there will be a secure section on the Web Site for Parish Councillors only who would access this with a password. This facility can then be used to add planning applications etc. Parish Council members supported this. The Webmaster has secured a Java Free Site to provide the necessary software. The large amount of work that the Webmaster undertakes on the web site was acknowledged and the recent statistics circulated.

j) Placemaking Plan workshop: Saturday 28th September 2013 Somerdale, Keynsham, 10am-4pm: Chairman reported that two places have been reserved for this workshop. If any other Parish Council member wishes to attend can they contact the Clerk. An advert will be placed in the Parish Mag for help with a Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Edwards reported that Whitchurch Parish Council have made a start on their Plan and produced a questionnaire sent to all residents in the Village. A 28% return rate was reported.

k) Local councils EXPLAINED - NALC's new book: It was agreed not to purchase this book. Any queries raised are often dealt with through ALCA.

l) Application to designate Stanton Drew Neighbourhood Area: Stanton Drew Parish Council are in the process of preparing their Neighbourhood Plan and have placed an advert as part of the process.

m) Pensford Garage - Noise - Environmental Services: The noise from the vacuuming of cars at the garage has been reported to the Environmental Services. It is a constant humming/buzzing noise. It appears that there is a complete lack of Enforcement with this case. Parish Council to ask for an Enforcement Process to be implemented.

n) Hydro fracturing Presentation: All Parish Council members have had a copy of this presentation. It is also on the Web Site.

7) Clerks Progress Report: Community Facilities Survey: This survey detailing information regarding services within the Parish was completed and duly returned to the Planning Services Department.

Footpaths: Clerk has spoken with the Footpaths Officer and detailed the problem areas. i.e. By Leigh Farm Old Road, around the area of Church Farm, the allotment site. The footpath from behind Viaduct View to the allotments. The footpaths officer will also undertake the cutting of the village green on a regular basis. The footpaths officer will trim around the bench by the Lock Up and keep the areas around all of the other benches owned by the Parish Council clear.

Footpaths Officer had been called to clear the footpath at side of the allotments. Also the footpath at the side of the Old School House.

Mr Seymour will make contact with the footpaths officer to discuss the matter further.

Village Green: An exchange of emails has taken place between the Clerk and volunteers who used to cut the village green but as the Parish Council are aware questions were raised regarding the health & Safety, Public Liability implications and the provision of equipment. On discussion the Parish Council agreed that the footpaths officer would undertake the work, given that he carries all the necessary Public Liability Insurance and uses equipment provided by the Parish Council. Clerk received an email to say "that this is a disappointing outcome and one that will cost the Council money to get a job done which could be done for free and for the good of the village." A further email received on the 28th August had a picture of the Village Green attached. The grass was in need of cutting, but a telephone to the footpaths officer informed the Clerk that it was all in hand.

Overhanging trees by the lock up were reportedly to deter large trucks and vans parking on the narrow bit between the green and the bank. It does not stop the cars parking there. The overhanging vegetation has now been cut back and it has been reported that large vehicles are once again parking there. Clerk has informed Highways about the vehicles parking here as it has been a problem for many years along with the concern of an Emergency Vehicle being able to get through.

Pensford Churchyard: Clerk has emailed PCC again to raise further concerns regarding the crack in the wall. A discussion will now take place with the Churchwarden and the possibility of getting an architect to have a look at it will be discussed.

Highways: Overhanging vegetation opposite Station Approach has been reported to the Highways to cut back.

Back Lane: Highways have reported that structures have been out and have reported back that the wall is stable at the moment, so at present nothing further can be done. Clerk has questioned if they looked at the correct location as there are parts of the wall falling down. No reply has been received back as yet.

Mr Seymour called round to speak to the resident here but no reply.

Reply from Highways: Hillcrest, the footway is highway, I will pop out and have a look at the condition and order any works required, and I have put it on the consideration list for resurfacing.

Church Street: Highways have spoken with parking services, they advise that there is not much they can do at the moment as the lines etc are only advisory, they have suggested that the Parish Council write in advising them of the problems with a look to changing the regulations, this would be a lengthy process.

Back lane: Highways have asked the structural engineer to assess the stability of the wall. If they advise it is stable and is not falling onto the highway there is nothing further highways can do, however, if it is unstable and falling onto the footway, highways will contact them and ask them to make safe (that doesn't mean they have to rebuild it but barrier it or cone it off so the public don't go onto it).

Peats Hill: Highways have contacted Bristol water and it is not a water leak, the gullies have been jetted and it would appear that the gullies drain into a ditch on the opposite side of the road, the land owners will be contacted to get permissions to clear this ditch.

Finger Posts: There is no ongoing list of ones to be done and they are only being done as parishes request them. (and due to financial restraints we are only able to rub them down and repaint them) There is a possible problem with the one from the high street junction. Highways are unable to get the new finger on without removing the post back to the yard, and the cost for this would be excessive, the contractor has been asked to look again and try and find another way of doing the work in situ to resolve the problem.

Culvery Lane: A problem of someone burning toxic rubbish in a field up Culvery Lane occurred at the beginning of August. The fire brigade attended one morning at 5am.

War Memorial: Quotes for the cleaning of the Memorial have been chased up again

by the Clerk.

Post Box High Street: Mr Seymour has cut back the ivy surrounding the post box.

Mobile Library: A reply to the Parish Councils points raised have been addressed as follows: We have chosen the new route - going to Pensford, then to Norton Malreward, then back to Pensford because of the difficulties of turning the vehicle round in Pensford. We are also restricted in the times we can be at Pensford because we are keeping the stop near the school at a convenient time for the school children. I am told by the current driver and library assistant that there has been no-one using the Publow stop for a long time and the people at Woollard use it very infrequently therefore it was decided to cut both stops. We have had to cut 50% of the stops due to the service going down to one vehicle. Clerk has been encouraged to reply if we have any further concerns.

Land at Hursley Hill: Cllr Edwards has received a call from the owner of a piece of land below Mr Pearce's land at Hursley Hill. The owner has been accused of having motor cycles on his land at weekends and told if it continues he could be liable for a fine of £5,000. Clerk confirmed to Cllr Edwards that a telephone call supporting a resident in Gibbett Lane was made to the Environmental Health Authority giving the information of motorcyclists on the land belonging to Mr Pearce.

Planning Enforcement: Milestone Bungalow, Bristol Road: Planning Enforcement reported on the 9th August that they have consulted Highways regarding the access created onto the slip land off the A37 and they are content that it is used on an informal basis as it doesn't create any highway safety issues and is possibly safer than the current access. In terms of the garage Planning Enforcement are still trying to get an application from the owner. Should he decline to submit an application the Council will then need to decide if the breach is considered harmful enough to warrant formal action. Clerk has replied to Planning Enforcement requesting that the owner should be required to submit an application. The Planning Enforcement officer replied to say that he has had no response from the owner but is of the opinion that the property is in the green belt and that the garage harms the setting of the green belt. The owner will now be given 14 days to reply before formal enforcement action proceeds.

Blossom Cottage: Planning Enforcement were notified of the installation of Roof Windows and a Roof extension to this property. No update so far.

Holly House: It was reported to the Parish Council that building work was underway again at this address, a platform was put from the property out to the road making it very difficult for vehicles to negotiate/ Clerk notified Planning Enforcement as a matter of urgency. No reply was received from them.

Railway Bungalow: A further reminder has been sent to the Enforcement department asking if a site visit has been made and if so please can the Parish Council be informed of the outcome.

It was agreed that the Enforcement Department should be reminded about Milestone Bungalow and Railway Bungalow to try and obtain a satisfactory outcome.

Planning Appeal: An appeal was submitted for Chapel Mill Lane Woollard on 10th July 2013. An email has been sent to the Planning Appeals department seeking the outcome of the appeal, Appeals have replied to say that no decision has been made as yet.

Incoming Post Circulated:

Bristol City and North Somerset Councils have submitted a planning application for the South Bristol Link. All P.C. Members have received a copy of this newsletter which gives an overview of some of the information in the South Bristol Link planning application.

A letter of thanks has been received from the Stowey Sutton Action Group thanking the Parish Council for their donation of £100.00 they report that there has been two days of the enquiry and there is now an adjournment until 3rd & 4th October.

Comments following the Progress Report: Vegetation is overhanging the wall onto the footway from Riverside Cottage. The Paths around the centre of the village need weeding. The road has been swept in Woollard, however the Bridge has not been painted as yet.

8) Planning: Pegasus Group: Request for comments re: reduced scheme of 200 dwellings on Fields North of Orchard Park, Staunton Lane Whitchurch. Parish Council discussed this and are concerned regarding the Green Belt issue, the impact on the highway creating heavy congestion with extra traffic movements. The date of the hearing will be awaited. A response has been made. It was reported that on the opposite side of the road Horseworld wish to build 120 new homes. On the Barratt Site in Sleep Lane the construction of 47 new homes has started.

Applications discussed by Sub-Committee:

13/03214/FUL Clearacres Cattery, Woollard Lane Publow. Proposed partial conversion of existing garage to form new clinic facility. Parish Council Support.

13/03276/FUL Mrs A Chilcott Windy Willows 3 Publow Lane. Proposed demolition of rear single storey kitchen, conservatory, bedroom and en suite and construct a new rear single storey kitchen and bedroom in association with internal alterations. Including raising roof by 700mm to form 2no. Dormer bedrooms and bathroom. New entrance lobby with associated Pentice. Parish Council Support.

Planning Outcomes:

13/01965/FUL Mr T Smart Old Colliery Yard Wick Lane. Use of land for 12 pitches for Gypsy & Traveller use. REFUSED

Notification of Tree Works:

13/03154/TCA Viaduct View Back Lane 1 x Ash Fell. Parish Council Support.

9) Financial Matters:

Payments authorised in August:

Mrs J Bragg	Clerk Salary July	576.96
Mrs J Bragg	Clerk Imprest	15.40
Mrs J Bragg	Computer Ink	15.99
Stowey Sutton Action Group	Donation	100.00

Payments to be Authorised:

Mrs J Bragg	Clerk Salary August	576.96
Mrs J Bragg	Clerk Imprest/computer ink	25.99
Underwood Lamb	Audit 2013 Accounts	216.00
DCM Computers	Remote Support Service 2013 - 2014	60.00
HMRC	Clerk NI & Tax - October 2013	13.40

Payments Received:

10. Any Other Business:

Woollard: Concerns were raised as two lorries have become stuck in the Village of Woollard. Large Stobbart lorries have been directed here by their Sat Navs. Clerk to take this up with B&NES and also report it to Compton Dando Parish Council.

Woollard Lane: It was reported that the white lines need painting where Charlton Fields Lane meets Woollard Lane. Clerk to report.

Tennis Club: A letter of thanks was extended to the Parish Council for nominating the Tennis Club to receive a grant from the Ward Councillors Initiative Grant.

Interactive Diary for Web Site: Mrs Grimes to produce this to help describe shortened words such as PCAA, ALCA etc.

Toddler Group: A letter of thanks had been received from the Toddler Group following their nomination for a Ward Councillors Initiative Grant.

August Meeting: It was suggested that the Parish Council should consider having an August Meeting to prevent a long agenda in September. This will be considered at the Annual Meeting.

11. Notice of Future Meetings:

ALCA AGM 30th October 2013

PCAA - 28th January 2014

Chew Valley Partnership Meeting Wednesday 18th September 2013

DATE OF NEXT MEETING MONDAY 14th OCTOBER 2013 AT 7.15p.m.