

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1 JUNE 2004 IN THE JUBILEE ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors J. Hobson (Chairman), C. Dickinson, L. Bryant, L. Wilcox, C. Prout, D. Poole, D. Chalmers. H. Targett (Clerk)

REF

ACTION

OPEN FORUM

District Cllr Janet Wood reported that the 30th June was the deadline for groups to apply for District Council grants. The application system had changed whereby there was now one application form for all grants. The applications do not have to come back through the Parish Council, Parish Councils have effectively been cut out of the loop.

A meeting had been arranged and would be attended by the Chief Executive of SDC on the 15th June to be held at Ebley Mill. All Chairs and Clerks had been invited to attend.

A 'mystery shopping exercise' would be taking place at Ebley Mill, where various mystery callers would telephone and pose difficult questions.

The Corporate Plan up to 2008 would be published on the 12th July 2004.

53/05 **Declarations of Interest by Councillors**

There were no declarations of interest.

54/05 **Apologies**

Apologies had been received from County Cllr Margaret Nolder. Cllr Dickinson reported that Cllr Bryant would be attending the meeting but would arrive late.

55/05 **Minutes** of the meeting

The minutes of the AGM and the meeting held on 4 May 2004 were approved as a true and correct record by those present at the meeting. Proposed Cllr Wilcox; seconded Cllr Dickinson; all in favour.

56/05 **Planning**

Council discussed:

- a) S.04/0869/FUL/25322. 3, Hillside, Far Green. Erection of a two storey extension. Cllr Poole proposed that the application be supported; seconded Cllr Dickinson; all in favour.
- b) S.04/0987/FUL/3630. Weavers Cottage, Coaley Peak. Erection of a conservatory. Cllr Wilcox proposed that the application be supported; seconded Cllr Poole; all in favour.

57/05 **Accounts**

a) The following monies were received:

A. J. Wilcox & Sons	60.00	Allotment Rent
Mr A. Greenaway	44.00	Allotment Rent
Mr M. Gabb	6.00	Allotment Rent
Mr Simpson	5.00	Allotment Rent

Payments for authorisation:

Playground Management Ltd	69.33	Play area annual inspection
<u>H. R. Targett</u>	288.20	Clerk's salary May 2004
Newsletter editing	28.82	June/July
Clerk's expenses	25.90	Ink cartridge

Note: Authorised payment withdrawal slip dated 4/5/04, to CPRE Glos Branch, regarding the Bledisloe Cup, returned to Council and destroyed. Payment not required.

Accounts approved by Council. Proposed Cllr Hobson; seconded Cllr Dickinson; all in favour.

c) Annual Return for the financial year 2003/2004.

The Clerk reported that the accounts had been received back from the internal auditor Martin Hall and all had been considered in order. The Clerk explained how some of the figures were arrived at and their significance. Council resolved to approve the Statement of Accounts and the Statement of Assurance. Proposed Cllr Hobson; seconded Cllr Wilcox; all in favour.

Items for discussion

58/05 a) Clerk's Report

- The Clerk suggested that next year the Internal Auditor appointment should be reviewed with a view to appointing a professional auditor who would be paid for their services. Other Parish Councils had decided to adopt this more professional approach instead of relying on a voluntary auditor who may have limited knowledge of Council accounting. A professional auditor would be aware of any changes in legislation and advise accordingly, working in partnership from year to year with a Council. Cllr Hobson advised caution, as the auditing process would then have to be paid for twice, payments being due to both the internal and external auditor.
- An application form had been received inviting entry into the Bledisloe Cup Competition at the last meeting. The Clerk had contacted the President of the Coaley W.I. who after contacting a number of her members, advised that they had not taken any leading role regarding the cup in the past. As discussed at the previous meeting, the application was thus not made.
- A letter had been received from the Glos. Fire and Rescue Service who were campaigning to keep open the TriService Centre in Quedgeley, which houses operational facilities for the Police, Ambulance Service and the Fire and Rescue Service. The proposed changes would mean the relocation of the Fire and Rescue Service into a single South West operational base, thus reducing Fire Control rooms down from 50 to 9. The Council agreed to support the campaign to keep the current TriService Centre open. Proposed Cllr Wilcox; seconded Cllr Poole; all in favour. The Clerk to send a letter of support.
- Information had been obtained regarding 'planning obligation' negotiations in progress with Carlton Developments, who have received preliminary permission to develop the Lanterns site. Known as a Section 106 agreement, a developer who benefits from certain types of development is obliged to contribute back into the community. Jane Breakspear the Planning Officer involved in the application advised that if agreement was reached, a sum of around £8000 would be payable. However Jane advised that this would take some time.

CLERK

- Letters of thanks for Parish and Village Of The Year grants had been received from Coaley Village Playgroup and the Here to Help Scheme.
 - An information sheet from GAPTC had been received regarding guidelines on Planning Committees who responded to planning applications when full Council was unable to do so. The sheet was added to the circulation envelope.
 - The subscription for the 'Local Council Review' the magazine published by GAPTC, had lapsed and had been inadvertently overlooked when the annual membership subscription had been made. Council agreed to continue the subscription. Proposed Cllr Hobson; seconded Cllr Poole; all in favour.
 - The Cotswolds AONB had requested nominees to be put forward to become elected and form part of the Cotswold Conservation Board. Parishes had been put into eight separate groups from each one a successful candidate would be elected onto the Board. Cllr Bryant took the literature for his perusal.
 - An application form had been received from Calor for the Village Of The Year competition. The Council decided not to enter this year.
- Invitations had been received to attend:
 - 1) 'Funding and Managing Community Projects' to be held in Worcester on the 11th June 2004. Organised by the SLCC. No decision was taken by the Council for attendance.
 - 2) Ebley Mill 15th June 2004, meeting with Chief Executive. The Clerk and Cllr Chalmers would attend if possible.
 - 3) The Third Annual Highway Maintenance and Traffic Management Seminar to be held on 14th October 2004 in Barnwood. Cllr Prout indicated he would attend.
 - Advice and information had been received regarding fly tipping from the offices of David Drew. The information was added to the circulation envelope.
 - Requests for donation had been received from the Winged Fellowship Trust and Dursley and District Community Centre. Council agreed not to award grants to either at this time.
 - Correspondence advising of bus shelter grants had been received from GCC. Council agreed that at present no funding was required.
 - The Clerk had received a couple of enquiries about the weeds growing up through the pavement surfaces, which were replaced last year. Cllr Prout confirmed that the weeds were a GCC responsibility and that they normally carried out a weed killing operation on an annual basis.
 - An allotment report compiled by Cllr Prout had been circulated to Councillors. The Clerk advised that the broken latch on the allotment gates at Far Green had been replaced by Mr R. Targett with a more sturdy type of closure.

59/05 b) ROSPA – Annual play area inspection report

Cllr Wilcox reported that the Inspector had raised several points this year. These issues would be discussed with the Leisure and Social Committee later in the week. The Inspector had stated that some form of vertical railing was required along the sides of the clatter bridge. An adaptive part was available from the manufacturers, Playline. The Inspector also noted that the slide access width is not the same as the chute and the seesaw is too near to the ground. Cllr Wilcox had already acquired information and advice from the manufacturers of the equipment. The risks identified were stated as low to medium risk. The wooden seat was also deemed to require attention. Cllr Wilcox would continue to follow up the issues raised in the report.

LW

60/05 c) Kick Wall and youth area project

Cllr Wilcox reported that a meeting had taken place between Phil Sullivan the Community Safety Officer, his colleague, the Clerk and herself. The problems encountered regarding damage to the Village Hall by footballs was explained. Phil had suggested creating a youth area at the bottom of the Recreation Field adjacent to the tennis courts. He suggested installing a kick wall with basketball facility, a hard playing surface and a youth shelter. The Community Safety Department might be able to contribute financially to the project. The Recreation and Leisure Committee would meet at The Laggars on 3 June 2004 to discuss the way forward. The Committee could seek funding in it's own right, after quotes had been obtained and a meeting had taken place with the youth of the village. In the short term Phil had suggested planting prickly shrubs up against the wall of the Village Hall, the District Service Team would be able to provide the shrubs. A fence alongside the wall was also considered a good idea, which the Village Hall Committee had now already gone ahead and installed.

A current problem was that youths had been digging up the grassed areas around the 'humps' at the bottom of the Recreation Field. They had been asked to stop digging any further until the Council had had a chance to discuss the way forward.

61/05 d) Highways repairs and maintenance

Cllr Prout reported that the cutting of the grass verges had begun. Severn Trent Water had apparently attended the water leak in Elmcote Lane. Due to the road repair work at the top of Frocester Hill, Peak Lane would be closed for number of weeks in June. Residents living in Silver Street had requested that signage be placed at the entry to The Ham and Trenley Road advising of the road closure. The Clerk had contacted Norwest Holst the contractors involved who would facilitate the appropriate signage.

62/05 e) CRFC – Request for continued use of the Recreation Field

Coaley Rovers Football Club had requested continued use of the Recreation Field for the 2004/2005 football season. Due to other costs, a request was made that no increase be made to the rent. The current rent was £300 per annum, payable in three instalments. The Council resolved to increase the rent by £10 to £310 per annum. Proposed Cllr Poole; seconded Cllr Dickinson; five votes in favour, one abstention and one vote against. Storage of basketball nets currently at The Laggars, Field Lane was discussed, possibly some arrangement could be made with the Village Hall Committee for storage under the Village Hall.

63/05 f) Village maintenance

There were no further village maintenance issues apart those already discussed.

64/05 g) Peak Lane

The Clerk had been in contact with John Lindsey of GCC Highways Department regarding the possibility of a vehicle weight limit being imposed on Peak Lane. Mr Lindsey suggested that this was not as easy as perhaps expected as it would require a fairly involved process. He requested that Councillors took note of any companies whose vehicles were using the lane in an inappropriate manner and to pass the names on to him. The Council agreed that a request should be made in writing to Mr Lindsey that this issue

should be taken seriously and some action taken.

65/05 h) Future Burial Ground

The Clerk had received information, which confirmed that Parish Councils are not obligated to provide a burial ground at present. A national consultative process is currently being undertaken regarding the whole issue of burial grounds and who should be responsible for providing them.

The next item was held in camera due to the nature of the business.

66/05 i) Parish plan pre publication findings – Council sub committee response

The Council sub committee had met and Cllr Bryant had produced a report, which had already been circulated to Councillors. Cllr Bryant reported that he had discussed the points raised in the report with Bob Hallam the Parish Plan Committee Chairman. The Parish Plan Committee would in turn form a sub committee and arrange a meeting with the Council sub committee to discuss the issues together. The Parish Plan in its final form would have to be adopted by the Parish Council before publication.

Cllr Bryant also made reference to the tree seat, agreed in principle by the Council, to be situated around the tree immediately outside the Community Shop. He had researched and obtained various quotes. The matter to be for forward consideration and discussion at the next meeting.

67/05 **Matters for forward consideration**

- a) Tree seat.
- b) Play area – action following inspection.
- c) Youth area project.
- d) Possible co-option of new Councillor.

68/05 **Items for press release and publication on web site**

The usual minutes except those items held in camera.

69/05 **Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 6 July 2004

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.