

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1 MARCH 2005 IN THE JUBILEE ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors J. Hobson (Chairman), D. Poole, L. Wilcox, C. Prout, S. Mather, H Targett (Clerk)

REF		ACTION
	<p>OPEN FORUM</p>	
	<p>Mr R. Carter commented on the state of the road in The Ham and in particular to the problems of water often running in front of Stream Leaze. During the cold weather ice was forming and proving hazardous to the elderly resident of the property. Mr Carter also advised that although some of the ditches had been dug out by GCC, there was no culvert to take the water collected away and so ditches were overflowing. He also referred to the overgrown hedge at the side of Tickshill. In the course of his farming operations involving the transport of silage or straw, laden vehicles were being forced to drive on the opposite side of the road to negotiate the hazard. Horse riders were also experiencing difficulty negotiating the hedge. Cllr Poole advised that he had in the past passed photographs of the hedge to the previous Clerk and the matter had been passed to the village Tree Warden for further action.</p>	
	<p>County Cllr Margaret Nolder advised that an increase of 3.9% would be levied on the council tax at county level. Extra money would be made available for highways. There had also been serious growth in the need for elderly care provision for which extra funding was required. A new Chief Executive had been appointed at GCC. Peter Bunyard who had previously led the Environment Department at GCC will take up the position. Cllr Nolder advised that she had been appointed as the Stroud District representative on the area review body for schools.</p>	
	<p>District Cllr Janet Wood advised that the council tax at district level would rise by 2.5% giving a total increase of 3.7% overall. Janet referred to the affordable housing units currently under construction in Trenley Road. SDC were keen to inform as many local people as possible about the opportunity. Grazing would take place on Uley Bury for the first time in many years. This had been made possible by the erection of fencing partly funded by DEFRA.</p>	
204/05	<p><u>Declarations of Interest by Councillors</u></p>	
	<p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
205/05	<p><u>Apologies</u></p>	
	<p>Apologies had been received from Cllr's Chalmers and Bryant.</p>	
206/05	<p><u>Minutes</u> of the meeting held on 1 February 2005 and the extraordinary meeting held on 15 February 2005 were approved and signed as a true and correct record by those present at the meeting.</p>	

207/05 PlanningCouncil discussed:

- a) S.05/0274/FUL. Balmoral, The Street. Conversion of existing detached garage/workshop to office ancillary to the existing dwelling. Erection of new front garden wall.

Two letters from residents were read out regarding the application. The Council resolved to object to the application with reference to the conditions imposed on the original garage planning permission notice. This stated that the garage was not to be used for any 'industrial, commercial or business use'. The Council also referred to their response to the original garage application. Council had resolved to object to the application, as the size of the proposed garage was not in keeping with the dwelling house. The Council also resolved to object to the proposed new front garden wall as it was out of keeping with the dwelling and surrounding area. A covering letter to be sent as a response to the Case Officer at SDC advising of the above.

- b) S.05/0300/FUL. 1, The Close, Coaley. Erection of a conservatory. Council resolved to support the application.

Council had received a Certificate of Lawfulness for:

- a) S.04/2574/CPE. Riverside, Halmore Lane, for breach of conditions for occupation of a dwelling by persons not employed in agriculture.

Council had received notification of appeal withdrawal

- a) S.04/1621/COU. Land at Silver Street Farm. Change of use from agriculture to grass landing strip.

208/05 AccountsThe following monies were received:

John Carter	£45.00	Newsletter Advertisement
Heritage Gardeners	£45.00	Newsletter Advertisement

Payments for authorisation

Buckstop	£185.00	Newsletter printing
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H. R. Targett

H.R. Targett	303.24	Clerk's salary
Newsletter	30.32	Feb/March

Expenses

Parish Line	39.52
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Total £463.08

Council approved the accounts.

**CLERK**

### Appointment of internal auditor

The Clerk reported that Mr Martin Hall who had acted as the internal auditor for the past two years had agreed to act as the same for the 2004/2005 council accounts. Council approved the appointment.

### 209/05 Clerk's Report

- Cllr Prout had agreed to attend the Highway Maintenance area parish meeting on 23 March 2005.
- The final published version of the Glos. Waste Local Plan 2002-2012 had been produced. An information sheet about this was included in the circulation envelope.
- A copy of the Glos. Structure Plan, Third Alteration, Proposed Second Modifications had been received. Included in the circulation envelope.
- Two discussion documents had been received from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister entitled 'Citizen Engagement and Public Services' and 'Why Neighbourhoods Matter and Vibrant Local Leadership'. Included in the circulation envelope.
- Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Bill. Correspondence had been received including an outline of the measures provided within the bill. Included in the circulation envelope.
- An update had been received from Standish Mutual Care. This group had put forward a bid to secure the former Standish Hospital site and continue to operate it as a medically based centre. The group had encountered various difficulties since the submission of their bid, but was hoping their vision for the future use of the site would come to fruition. Information included in the circulation envelope.
- The Clerk reported that she had attended a training day on 23 February 2005. The training covered Annual Audit issues and risk assessment. The Clerk felt that the Council would benefit from a few minor changes in its procedures, which would be advised at a later date. The current risk assessment document approved by Council would need reviewing at the next meeting.
- Area Reviews of School Provision. Advice had been received that a meeting would be held 10 March 2005 at Ebley Mill. This would be a first panel meeting which would be held in public but public contributions would not be permitted at this stage.
- Correspondence had been received from Mr P. Sullivan about a crime and disorder report he was compiling. He requested a response from the Council. Cllr Poole took the letter for his attention.
- The tenant at Waterend Farm had advised that GCC were attempting to find a solution to the dog problem attributed to the travellers currently in residence on Wisloe Road.
- Paul Lane, the tree surgeon who had felled the lime tree on the Recreation Field, had confirmed that work to grind the resultant stump would commence shortly.

### 210/05 Affordable housing properties in Trenley Road

The Clerk reported that unfortunate misinformation had been given out regarding allocation of the properties. The properties still remained unallocated and anyone in the village interested in securing one of the houses on a shared ownership basis, should be encouraged to apply. Any applicants needed to first register on the Housing Waiting List for SDC. Their details would then be sent to the Glos. Housing Association who will send out an information pack and application form. On completion of the forms, interviews would take place of all prospective occupants and the allocation will be made

in accordance with the criteria, which must give preference to people with a connection with the village. The properties will be ready in early June 2005. Posters encouraging people to apply had been put up in the Community Shop, on the parish notice boards and an article will appear in the next newsletter.

211/05 The speed of buses travelling through the village

The Clerk had been contacted by a resident who was concerned at the speed the Rail Link, the 210 service bus, travels through the village. She felt that the bus was often driven in excess of the 30mph speed limit. She had contacted Applegate's Coaches the bus operator, but had not felt she had received a satisfactory response. The Clerk was instructed to send a letter to Mr Applegate raising the concerns. County Cllr Nolder to provide a suitable person involved in public transport at county level to which a copy of the letter should also be sent.

**CLERK**

212/05 Bledisloe Cup 2005 – Best kept village competition

Information had been received about the competition for this year. Coaley had not entered into the competition in 2004. Council resolved to enter this year.

213/05 Parish plan

Cllr Prout reported that the Parish Plan Group had made no contact, so no update could be given to Council.

214/05 Allotments check – February 2005

A report had been produced by Cllr Prout and had been previously circulated to Councillors. Cllr Poole reported badger-digging activity at the Far Green allotment on the corner at the entrance to The Ham. The Clerk to source information on what, if anything, can be done about this.

**CLERK**

215/05 Village Maintenance

Mr R. Plumb had been reminded that the bus shelters still require attention. The overhanging trees at Tickshill were also referred to again. Cllr Prout agreed to speak to Mr. D. Portlock of County Highways to ascertain if it was their responsibility to keep them cut back. If that proved fruitless, the Clerk to pursue other avenues of enquiry.

**CP**

216/05 Highways repairs and maintenance

Cllr Prout had produced an updated report of highways matters outstanding in the parish. The report would be discussed with Mr. D. Portlock of County Highways at their next meeting.

217/05 Annual Assembly 2005

The Clerk confirmed that the Village Hall had been booked for the proposed date of 19 April 2005. The Clerk to invite representatives from the Severn Vale Biodiversity Project to speak at the assembly.

**CLERK**

218/05 The Golden Jubilee Award 2005

Due to the nature of the business, this item was held in camera.

Through the process of a secret ballot, Lesley Chalmers was named as the recipient of the Golden Jubilee Award for 2005.

219/05 Matters for forward consideration

- 1) The tree seat to be sited outside the Community Shop.
- 2) End of 2004/2005 accounts.
- 3) Risk assessment document.
- 4) Parish grants
- 5) Update on Coaley Community Action Group
- 6) Loose gravel on rear Village Hall car park.

220/05 Items for press release and publication on web site

The newsletter to highlight the problems with cars parking on pavements and dogs being allowed to run free in fields. Cllr Wilcox to provide a publication about this issue to the Clerk.

**LW**

221/05 Date of next meeting

Parish Council meeting Tuesday 5 April 2005. The Annual Assembly 19 April 2005.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm