

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7 May 2002 IN THE JUBILEE ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors C Dickinson (Chairman), J Hobson, D Chalmers, L Wilcox, C Prout, D Poole, M Burgess, S Smith (Clerk)

REF

ACTION

OPEN FORUM

The Chairman welcomed residents and two new Councillors to the meeting.

Mrs Targett outlined her various concerns regarding a planning application at West Winds, Far Green to be discussed later on the agenda.

Mrs Green spoke about the same planning application and drew Council's attention to the size of the proposed extension being disproportionate to the size of garden.

The Chairman thanked both ladies for their comments.

42/03 Declarations of Interest by Councillors

There were no declarations made.

43/03 Apologies were received from District Councillor Wood and County Councillor Nolder, who indicated she would be late. Four parishioners attended the meeting.

44/03 Minutes of the meeting held on 2 April 2002 were approved as a true and correct record by those present at the meeting.

45/03 Matters Arising

The Clerk updated Council on progress regarding Phase II of the children's adventure playground project. Playbark had been cleared from the site and was selling well. No one had volunteered to paint the swings. A donation had been made to Council for the purchase of an additional bench.

A summary of the combined opinions of Councillors on the Best Value Travellers Consultation was given by the Clerk.

A report was still awaited on the lime tree adjacent to Bramble Cottage.

46/03 Annual Assembly 2002 – Matters Arising

The main item to be carried forward for further consideration was the production of a Parish Plan. Cllr Hobson circulated information from the Countryside Agency website. The Clerk passed on comments she had received about the availability of minutes at the Annual Assembly and gave details of numbers attending between 2001 and 2002.

47/03 Update on CoSPA

Cllr Wilcox gave her report of the CoSPA AGM held on 24 April 2002. A further report was circulated in the monthly envelope.

48/03 Allotments at Far Green

Mr & Mrs Howard tenants for many years had given notice that they did not wish to renew the tenancy. Tenants for three plots had been found and Council discussed terms for the new agreements.

Cllr Chalmers proposed that the plots should be offered rent free for the first year and that the rent should be fixed at £6 per plot for the following year; seconded Cllr Dickinson and agreed by all. The Clerk was instructed to issue the necessary agreements.

Clerk

49/03 Report on Police & Community Consultative Meeting 1 May 02

Mr Billett advised that this was the last meeting he attended in his role as Councillor. He

reported that Inspector Priddy, recently appointed to the Dursley Neighbourhood Area, had been seconded to the Home Office and that Paul Donovan was Acting Inspector in his place. The meeting was addressed by Phil Sullivan, Community Safety Officer,. There was discussion on crimes in Uley, frequency of visits by the Mobile Police Station and news that regulations were about to change that enabled abandoned vehicles to be removed from the highway within 24 hours instead of 7 days. The Chairman thanked Mr Billett for attending the meeting on behalf of Council.

The meeting was adjourned to enable County Councillor Nolder to give her report.

OPEN FORUM

County Councillor Nolder gave details of the rearrangements of portfolios at the County Council to enable Social Services department to be split into Family & Childcare Division and Mental Health & Adult Services Division. She apologised that she would be unable to attend the meeting with GCC Estates Department and the Parish Council on 8 May and said she would be interested to learn more about their plans and the implications for Coaley. The traveller's site at Coaley Peak had been under discussion but no firm conclusions had been reached as to where they should be moved. The picnic site had recently been closed due to a recent aggravated assault on property. It was deemed to be a non-recurring incident but raised concerns as to who might be attracted to the site if the travellers remain. The District Council court case involving its policy towards housing travellers had yet to be determined.

The Chairman thanked County Councillor Nolder for her report and reconvened the meeting.

50/03 Housing Needs Survey

The Clerk reported that the survey had been approved by the Housing Development Manager at SDC and was now with the printers. The Rural Housing Enabler at Gloucestershire Rural Community Council (GRCC) had agreed to analyse completed questionnaires and prepare an independent report to Council.

Following discussion it was agreed that Councillors would personally deliver and collect the survey forms to residents and answer any questions they may have. A full briefing would be given to Councillors when the forms and covering letter were available.

Clerk

51/03 Review of Cornhill Insurance Policy

Renewal documentation had been received indicating that the play area on the Recreation Ground may not be adequately insured. The Clerk advised that the current Audit regulations required Council to hold a schedule of assets and in the course of preparing the schedule she had discovered some anomalies in the insurance policy. It was agreed that the insurance schedules should be updated to reflect replacement values and a revised premium requested. In view of the amounts spent on Phases I and II of the play area projects the Clerk warned that the premium was likely to increase.

Clerk

52/03 Phase III Coaley Adventure Playground

A report was given of a recent consultation meeting called jointly by SDC and the Parish Council for residents of Betworthy to give their views on a proposal to site BMX equipment on the green. Although the meeting was poorly attended the organisers were left in no doubt that BMX would not be welcomed. Other options were discussed for Betworthy and a more suitable site for BMX facilities. Cllr Wilcox pointed out that SDC had funds available for play equipment on Betworthy and if a decision was not made quickly those funds would go to another parish. It was agreed that the Clerk would arrange with SDC for a more representative survey to be carried out by post giving several options and inviting residents to state their preference.

Clerk

53/03 NALC Annual Conference 14 – 16 June

Details were given of the interesting and relevant Conference agenda however there were no Councillors available to attend.

54/03 Village Maintenance

The Clerk had received a complaint from a resident in Hamshill regarding the number and frequency of bonfires being lit in that area. SDC produce an information leaflet on disposal of garden waste but could not provide one for each household in the village. It was agreed that Hamshill residents only should receive the leaflet with the next newsletter. Council discussed the new kerbside recycling scheme for which there had been an overwhelming response resulting in delays and a backlog of collections. Some parts of the village were not on the collection route at all and there was confusion over the future role of the Village Hall recycling site. It was agreed that a newsletter article should explain the situation and encourage patience with the new contractors.

Details of the Bledisloe Cup competition were given and it was agreed that the village should enter the same area as last year. The Clerk gave details of various items of minor maintenance requiring attention. The Chairman agreed to spray weeds in the pavement between the school and Little Orchard. It was agreed that an odd job person was required. The necessity for a noticeboard in Silver Street was discussed and it was agreed that residents should be asked for their opinion via the newsletter. Ecoblock surfacing around the Coronation Oak would be attended to by the installing contractors.

Clerk/CD

Clerk

CD

55/03 Highways Repair and Maintenance

A Highways Maintenance newsletter (Issue 1) and an information leaflet were distributed to Councillors.

Mr Gage's report dated 24 April, his last as Councillor, was given to the meeting and the current position regarding Elmcote Lane discussed. An up to date list of matters outstanding as at 2 May was handed to Cllr Prout for follow up and liaison with Mr Gage newly appointed as Highways Warden.

The Clerk undertook to notify Mr Portlock, GCC Highways Supervisor of the personnel changes.

Clerk

56/03 Report on Footpaths

Cllr Prout reported that three estimates had been received for works required at Norton's Alley: Ringway Highway Services £865, D Longstreth & Son £570 and M Conyers £380. Cllr Chalmers proposed that Mr Conyers be instructed to proceed with the work; seconded Cllr Hobson and agreed by all.

Cllr Prout was advised of a kissing gate on CCO38 requiring attention and undertook to investigate.

CP

CP

57/03 Report from Council's Representative on Village Hall Committee

Cllr Dickinson's report is appended to these minutes as Appendix I

58/03 Planning

A report was given of the planning sub-committee meeting on 20 April 2002. Council discussed S.02/229 Lower Silver Street Farm – revised plans for change of use of redundant barn to residential and holiday lettings. Council supported the application.

Council discussed:

- a) S.02/557 Spring Tynning, Ticks Hill – erection of extension to form garage with study over; replace velux windows with dormers; erection of a conservatory.

Council supported this application

- b) S.02/566 West Winds, Far Green – erection of two storey extension

Council objected to this application commenting that a single storey extension would be preferable on the site and be more considerate to neighbouring properties in terms of light and shadow in gardens.

- c) S.02/387 Sage Cottage, Far Green – change of use from agriculture to equestrian with the erection of an L shape stable block and manège (revised plans)

Council supported this application commenting that the manège should not be used commercially and that it would not wish to see floodlighting.

Council received permission for:

- a) S.01/1569 Betworthy Farm – construction of garden walls and amendment of existing garden levels following revised plans
- b) S.02/229 Lower Silver Street Farm – change of use of redundant barn to dwelling and conversion of barn to holiday lets

Conditions attached to the permissions were read out.

Council received notification of refusal on appeal to the Planning Inspectorate for:

- a) S.01/1131 Land adjacent at Far Green – outline application for erection of one dwelling

59/03 Correspondence

There were no items of correspondence

The following items were circulated in two circulation envelopes:

- a) Best Value review of County Library Services 2001/2
- b) Appeal Decision dated 26 March 2002 on The Bungalow, Far Green
- c) SDC The News – April 2002 & Stroud District Town & Parish Partnership News
- d) Grass Routes – Issue no 23 - Spring 2002
- e) SDC The News – May 2002 & Stroud District Town & Parish Partnership News
- f) DEFRA Campaign against the illegal poisoning of wildlife
- g) Cotswold Way Voluntary Wardens recruitment leaflet
- h) The Cotswold Lion & Grassland News Issue 6 – Spring 2002
- i) Rural Voice Issue 86 – Spring 2002
- j) The Clerk May 2002
- k) CoSPA report

60/03 Accounts

Details of the accounts are not published on the Web and can be obtained from the parish clerk.

61/03 Matters for Forward Consideration

- a) The Parish Council had been nominated to provide refreshments on Jubilee Day Monday 3 June. Cllrs Wilcox, Hobson and Dickinson offered to assist the Clerk.
- b) The Clerk drew Council's attention to an e-mail received from an individual researching his family history in Coaley and requested that the Parish Council be separated from the village website.
- c) Production of the Parish Plan

**LW/JH/CD
Clerk**

Clerk

62/03 Items for Press Release

Details of the new Council and Councillors' portfolios

Appeal to residents of Silver Street for comments on a new noticeboard

Report on Council finance to explain the increase in precept 2002/03

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

63/03 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 11 June 2002

The meeting closed at 10.35pm