

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7 SEPTEMBER 2004 IN THE JUBILEE ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL

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

REF

OPEN FORUM

ACTION

Mr Peter Hendy, the Chairman of the Folk Camp Society, had been invited to speak to the Council regarding the request for use of the Recreation Field, in conjunction with the Village Hall for a Folk Camp dance event.

Peter explained that the Folk Camp Society organises weekend and week long events for its members. Members suggest suitable venues for these events around the country and these are then followed up, the feasibility of their use ascertained. Between forty and a hundred people would normally attend an event. If an event were held in Coaley, the Village Hall would be used for musical activities and workshops, with singing and dancing taking place in the evenings. The camps are self-catering, field kitchens were sometimes set up on site by those attending. The Society had arranged twenty different camps this year. The age of people attending ranged from eight to eighty. A central council governs the society.

Cllr Poole enquired if any of the camps had experienced any trouble, or if anything had gone wrong. Peter quoted one instance in Soudley in the Forest of Dean when local teenagers had stolen from the camp. The camp preferred practice was to encourage local youngsters to join in with their activities. There had been no problems with others moving onto sites used by the camps after they had departed.

Mr Tony Eve, Chairman of the Village Hall Committee reported that the Committee were open to the idea of the Village Hall being used for a camp event.

Peter explained that the Society employs an administrative manager to deal with financial matters. He felt that an event held at Coaley would be limited to a maximum of seventy people. This would involve some twenty to twenty five units, of which approximately ten would be tents and fifteen caravans. When a camp is set up a warden ensures that the units are situated in the right place on the site. Peter had picked Coaley out as being a possible venue site as he had held several barn dances in the Village Hall and so was familiar with the site.

The Chairman thanked Peter for his attendance.

Mr J. Goman spoke regarding his strong objection to the planning application for a grass landing strip for microlights at the back of Silver Street. He stated that microlights were classed as aircraft and provided a pictorial example of a microlight. Mr Goman reported that the application took a long time to read all the way through. He felt that there were better sites already in existence; Kemble, Hartpury, Moreton Valence, Swindon and Long Marston were among examples given. There were also unconsidered health and safety issues in his view, for instance the site was not free of power lines. In the application there were no accounting notes, any operational details or limitations on flying put forward.

County Councillor Margaret Nolder reported that two conferences had been arranged to address shaping the future of education in Gloucestershire. Primary schools would be looked at and new initiatives for rural schools would be explored. Other ways of using school premises would be considered. Cllr Bryant commented that the recent Parish survey had shown that there would possibly be a place for adult education to be conducted at Coaley School. Margaret hoped that the new building developments at both the Mawdsleys and Lister Petter sites would bring more children into the area and thus pupil numbers would increase.

Cllr Poole agreed that the Coaley School Governors were aware that some form of extended use of the school made sense. Other units in the village were however also trying to hold events, such as the church and the Village Hall. He felt that the school would have to have regard for other venues.

Cllr Nolder suggested that computer training might be made available in schools. This is a service that other venues might not be able to provide. She agreed that usage of schools should be complimentary not competitive.

98/05 **Declarations of Interest by Councillors**

There were no declarations of interest.

99/05 **Apologies**

Cllr's Chalmers and Wilcox. District Councillor Janet Wood.

100/05 **Minutes** of the extraordinary meeting held on 3 August 2004, were approved as a true and correct record by those present at the meeting. Proposed Cllr Hobson; seconded Cllr Poole; all in favour.

101/05 **Folk Camp 2005 – Request for use of Recreation Field**

The Council resolved to support the idea of a camp being held, in partnership with the Village Hall Committee. Proposed Cllr Bryant; seconded Cllr Prout; all in favour.

102/05 **Planning**

Council discussed:

- a) S.04/1789/FUL Foxlea, The Street. Erection of single and two storey extensions. The Council resolved to support the application. Proposed Cllr Poole; seconded Cllr Hobson; all in favour.
- b) S.04/1740/FUL The Old Forge. Erection of extensions, alterations/modernisations to existing cottage. The Chairman read out the design statement. Council resolved to support the application. Proposed Cllr Bryant; seconded Cllr Poole; all in favour.
- c) S.04/1806/FUL Lochinver, The Street. Erection of a conservatory. Cllr Hobson proposed support for the application; seconded Cllr Poole; three votes in favour, one abstention.

Council had received permission for:

- a) S.04/1292/COU Pinnells End Farm. Change of use of barn to agricultural workers dwelling and associated farm processing room.
The conditions attached to the permission were read out.
- b) S.04/1320/FUL Danesway, Far Green. Erection of a double-detached garage and installation of new LPG gas tank. The conditions attached to the permission were read out.
- c) S.04/1249/FUL Harmers End. Erection of an extension to form an annexe. The conditions attached to the permission were read out.

Council had received refusal for:

- a) S.04/1370/FUL Fox House, The Street. Reasons for the refusal were read out.

103/05 **Accounts**

a) Gratuity payment to previous Clerk

The Council considered the kind offer from the previous Clerk Sian Smith to defer her gratuity payment until the next financial year. The Council resolved to make the payment now. Proposed Cllr Hobson; seconded Cllr Prout; all in favour.

b) Review of Clerk's salary, new pay scales received from NALC

The Clerk reported that she had received the new pay scales for Local Council Clerks. Under the terms of the Clerk's contract a Spinal Column increment of one point was due on 1st April, from 15 to 16. Due to this change the Clerk's hourly rate would rise from £7.205 up to £7.581. The increase would be due to be backdated to April 2004. As the Clerk was currently paid for an extra eight hours for editing the newsletter on a bi-monthly basis, this cost would rise slightly as well. The Council resolved to implement the salary increase. Proposed Cllr Prout; seconded Cllr Bryant; all in favour.

c) Income and Expenditure

The following monies were received:

Bristol & Glos Gliding Club	60.00	Newsletter Advertisement
Payments for authorisation		
Buckstop	185.00	Newsletters August/September
Public Works Loan Board	1500.42	Rear car park loan
Moore Stephens	170.28	Audit fee
<u>H.R. Targett</u>		
H. R. Targett	303.24	Clerk's salary (August 2004)
Newsletter	30.32	Editing August/September
Salary increase	45.12	Back dated to April 2004
Newsletter increase	4.50	Due for May, June, July

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

Items for discussion

104/05 a) Clerk's Report

- In Trenley Road, building work at the proposed site for affordable housing had appeared to have started. The Clerk had not received formal notification that planning permission had been granted and the neighbours had not received any notification either. The Clerk to ascertain from the contractors the current situation.
- Travellers had appeared on the old Wisloe Road. Cllr Poole had received a call from a resident enquiring what could be done about this. Councillors were unsure as to who the landowner was. The Clerk to contact the Clerk at Cam Parish Council and Glos. County Council to establish this.
- Invitations had been received for:

Workshop to discuss DEMOCS project for affordable housing. Wednesday 29th September 10.30- 4pm, Minsterworth Village Hall. No Councillors able to attend.

Final request for nominations for appointment to the AONB conservation boards due by September 16th. No nominations put forward by the Council.

Bus conference Saturday September 11th, St Matthews Church Hall, Cainscross. Cllr Prout took the information for his perusal.

Stroud & District CVS Wednesday 15th September, Cotswold Care Hospice. No Councillors able to attend.

Revised charter for Parish and Town Councils workshop end of September/beginning of October. Cllr Hobson agreed to represent the Council.

Home Start – 5th birthday, Monday 13th September Berkeley Town Hall 12-2pm. No Councillors able to attend.

NALC conference to be held in Scarborough, 1st-3rd October. No Councillors able to attend.

GRCC AGM to be held on Monday 13th September. University of Glos. Cheltenham. No Councillors able to attend.

Other matters:

The Electric Cinema Company, Wotton Under Edge had requested a financial donation and a representative to act as conduit for information. The Clerk agreed to act as a representative for the Council.

Correspondence had been received regarding grants for war memorials. Cllr Prout took the information to share with the P.C.C.

CLERK

CLERK

A final draft document regarding licensing powers was brought to the Council's attention. It had been placed in the circulation envelope.

105/05 b) Vehicle misuse of front and rear car parks at Village Hall

Cllr Poole reported that PC Croot was aware of the problems being created in the rear car park of the Village Hall, particularly in the evenings and involving youths. The police needed names and addresses of the perpetrators. Police manpower as ever was stretched. Cllr Poole passed on the advice from the police that if anyone using the Village Hall felt threatened by the behaviour of those outside that a 999 would be legitimate. The Clerk suggested that some of the troublemakers were coming in by car from outside of the village. Cllr Bryant suggested a gate be installed halfway down the side road. Cllr Wilcox had already managed to obtain a quote for a vehicle barrier, the cost being estimated at £1257.41. Cllr Poole hoped that the 'fear factor' of an increased police presence would help. Registration numbers of cars causing a nuisance should be taken down. The Council discussed problems, which might occur if a gate was installed. Someone would have to take responsibility for the locking and unlocking. It could affect the users of the Village Hall. It was agreed that an item would appear in the next newsletter informing residents that the police were aware of the problem and that registration numbers of certain vehicles had already been passed to the police. The Clerk was requested to find out the cost of installing a chain and padlock system in the first instance and the cost of suitable bollards.

CLERK

106/05 c) Vehicles not complying with 30mph speed limit

Cllr Poole had also discussed this issue with PC Croot. A new radar gun had been made available for use by the Police in the Dursley and Stonehouse areas. It had been used in Far Green and a motor cyclist had been pulled over. PC Croot had agreed to use the gun during the evenings he visits Coaley as well as checking the rear car park. PC Croot would be willing to attend a Council meeting if requested to do so. The Parish Council could have the use of a hand held speed gun to monitor the speed of vehicles, the information gained from which could be used to build up a data base of persistent offenders and an indication of the overall scale of the problem.

107/05 d) Games wall and youth area project

The Clerk explained that all the quotes for the equipment required had now been obtained. ROSPA would be contacted with the proposed plans to ensure that all regulations were met. Fund raising activity would continue.

108/05 e) Lime Tree on Recreation Field

The Clerk read out a copy of a letter addressed to Mr & Mrs Hobson residents at Bramble Cottage. Essentially Mr and Mrs Hobson's insurers would take on the liability if the tree was felled and there was subsequent 'heave' damage to Bramble Cottage. The Parish insurers Allianz Cornhill had agreed that the tree should be felled, if the assurance was given that no further liability would rest with them and thus the Parish Council. A further quote was needed by a tree surgeon in order for the Council to consider three for comparison at the next meeting. Cllr Bryant suggested that in his role as tree warden, he

should be involved in considering planning applications in the vicinity of trees.

109/05 f) Highways repairs and maintenance

Cllr Prout reported that six inches of tarmac had been put up the sides of Lapley Pitch. The Clerk reported that there were still deep ruts in Trenley Road and Peak Lane. The Clerk had received a letter from John Lindsey, County Council Highways regarding the requested weight limit on Peak Lane. His conclusion was that adequate signage was already in place and if vehicles were using the lane in an inappropriate manner that he should be advised of the companies involved.

110/05 g) Little Green Bus – Future operation

A decision would need to be made by the Steering Group. GCC who were currently funding the Little Green Bus, had advised that the service would need to be put out to tender. At the end of the process, Colin Hoskins the current operator might not be awarded the contract and a new operator would then take over. The choice facing the group was either to agree to the tendering process going ahead by GCC, or taking the service back into the control of the three villages involved. The Council agreed that they would prefer to see the service returned to the control of the villages.

At 9.35pm Cllr Poole drew the Council's attention to the time. All agreed to carry on with the meeting.

111/05 h) Allotments check – July/August 2004

A report had been previously circulated to Councillors. No action required at present.

112/05 i) Village Maintenance

The grass cutting contractors had reported that residents with hedges bordering public footpaths had not been keeping them cut back in various places. An item to be put into the newsletter reminding residents of their responsibilities. The Clerk reported that two of the children's swings had been chained together with a padlock.

113/05 j) Parish Plan – Update on progress

Cllr Bryant reported that he had spoken to Bob Hallam the Chairman of the Parish Plan Group. It was hoped that the Parish Plan Group would meet up with Parish Council representation, to come to an agreement on the wording of the document. A meeting would hopefully be set up during the next week. Cllr's Bryant and Prout to attend. The Clerk read out a letter from Krista Harris, Regeneration Officer at SDC who suggested a meeting between herself and all parties involved in the Parish Plan process. She also advised that funding for various projects within the village might be helped by a need being demonstrated in the Parish Plan.

114/05 k) Councillor vacancy

Formal permission had been received from SDC to proceed with the co-option of a new

Councillor. Cllr Hobson proposed that Sara Mather should fill the vacancy; seconded Cllr Poole; all in favour. Sara would formally join the Council at the October meeting.

115/05 **Matters for forward consideration**

- 1) Precept.
- 2) Vehicle speed monitoring.
- 3) Lime Tree on Recreation Field.
- 4) Access to rear car park, Village Hall.

116/05 **Items for press release and publication on the website**

The usual minutes to appear on the website.

117/05 **Date of next meeting**

Due to the Chairman being on holiday when the next meeting would be due, Wednesday 13th October was put forward as an alternative. The Clerk to ascertain availability of Councillors not present at the meeting for that date.

The meeting closed at 9.52pm.