

Portbury Parish Council

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held 8th September 2020
via Video Link

Present:

Councillors: Cllr Mr Romanski Cllr Mrs Cowlard
Cllr Mr Coles Cllr Mr Lanham Cllr Mr Cooke

Chairman: Cllr Mr Phipps

Clerk: Minutes taken by Mrs Dawn Drower – Clerk

Representatives: Cllr Nigel Ashton NSC

Others: 2 members of general public

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

No	Item	Action
PC/0920/01	Declaration of Interest by Members – No interest was declared.	
PC/0920/02	Apologies received – none	
PC/0920/03	Minutes of PPC's monthly meeting held on the 4 th August 2020 were presented. Proposed Cllr Mrs Cowlard Seconded Cllr Mr Romanski Resolved that: Minutes were agreed by all.	ALL
PC/0920/04	Chairman's report The agenda for this video link meeting had been publicised in advance on Facebook and via the email distribution list in order to give members of the public the chance to write in with any comments and issues. Prior to the meeting Cllr Mr Phipps had circulated a report for review to councillors. Cllr Mr Phipps commented on crime and disorder, planning, maintenance and council administration. All are covered in the relevant sections. Cllr Mr Phipps commented for information only that the recent exercise by NSC to replace the sodium street lights	MAP

	<p>(NSC owned) to LED was disappointing from PPC's point of view. The lights are far too bright shining directly into some residents' bedrooms, with no commitment from NSC that guards would be fitted, or brightness levels adjusted. Also sadly there had been no communication in advance from NSC to PPC (as requested on several occasions) so that the PPC owned streetlights could also be replaced, and brightness levels and guards discussed. This would have saved not only time and expense for NSC and PPC, but also saved some residents from intrusive levels of light in their homes.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Phipps further commented again for information only that a planning item which came in too late for the agenda about the expanding plasterboard plant at Portbury Docks. Cllr Mr Phipps has put some comments on the Chair's Report for councillors to consider before the next meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Phipps also added that for information that travellers are back again in Portishead again, and asked councillors to be vigilant, especially that field entrances are secure. We now have a list of contact details for most landowners so we can alert them.</p>	<p>ALL</p>
<p>PC/0920/05</p>	<p>Finance (a) Payments for authorisation – As per schedule presented prior to meeting. RESOLVED that: The payments as scheduled in the Finance Report were approved.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Mr Phipps Seconded Cllr Mrs Cowlard</p> <p>Payments were agreed by all Cllrs.</p> <p>Clerk Mrs Drower commented that all finances were in order with no unexpected costs. Clerk Mrs Drower commented that we are behind budgeted spend at present which is down to a reduction in spend on maintenance and grass cutting.</p>	<p>ALL</p>
<p>PC/0920/06</p>	<p>Crime and Disorder (a) Crime Stats -Clerk Mrs Drower commented that the report from our local PC stated no local crime for August. (b) Local crime – Cllr Mr Phipps commented that the scams still continue. Cllr Mr Phipps and Cllr Mr Cooke expressed concerns that Facebook posts and our email distribution list does not get seen by all residents. Clerk Mrs Dower suggested doing the next newsletter printed and distributed to all residents. Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that she was in support of this and had suggested it before. Cllr Mr Phipps commented that it would cost around £500.</p>	<p>WC/DD</p>

	<p>Proposed Cllr Mrs Cowlard Seconded Cllr Mr Phipps</p> <p>All Cllrs agreed.</p>	
PC/0920/07	<p>Planning</p> <p>Applications received:</p> <p>(a)20/P/1281/FUL – 2 Wharf Villas – Change of use from stable block to separate dwelling – Cllr Mr Phipps commented that change of use converts an apparently redundant stable block which can be accessed separately from the main property. Withdrawn by applicant</p> <p>Enforcement:</p> <p>(a)The Old Dairy – Clerk Mrs Drower commented that after speaking to Karen Bartlett NSC all she would say was that all conditions had been satisfied and were available on the planning portal.</p> <p>(b)Paddock Lakes – update – Cllr Nigel Ashton NSC commented that the enforcement remained even though a planning appeal had been lodged. Now that the appeal has been rejected, the enforcement will resume to clear up the site and rubbish. The site owner will have to comply with the inspector’s requests.</p>	MAP/DD
PC/0920/08	<p>Maintenance</p> <p>(a)Lengthsman – Nothing to report. Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that the path down to the school had been cleared by herself and Mr Cowlard. The fence along the High Street to the school on the field side has been cleared by the tenant. This fence could be a project for the National Grid volunteer group.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Romanski commented that the hedges in Mill Close by Brook Cottage are creeping out and is almost forcing pedestrians into the road. Cllr Mr Phipps suggested dropping a note into the owner.</p> <p>(b)Trees behind 17 Priory Road – update – Cllr Mrs Cowlard has had a quote for £1400 to remove two of the trees by the gate and was advised by a tree surgeon that they need to come down. This price does not include tidying up the other trees.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Cooke is still obtaining two other quotes.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that she is happy to help obtain quotes.</p>	<p>MAP/WC</p> <p>PC/WC</p>
PC/0920/09	<p>Council Administration/Correspondence</p> <p>(a)Chairman’s retirement and replacement -</p> <p>Cllr Mr Phipps as agreed when he took chair in May elections wanted to retire in August to enable him to spend more time on the Local Plan, and large planning matters.</p>	

	<p>Clerk Mrs Drower commented that Vice Chair Mrs Cowlard could step up temporarily to the position until May, or we could vote in a new Chair and Vice Chair tonight. Cllrs were happy to vote tonight. Cllrs agreed to vote in Cllr Mrs Cowlard as Chair and Cllr Mr Cooke as Vice Chair.</p> <p>For Chair – Cllr Mrs Cowlard: - Proposed Cllr Mr Cooke Seconded Cllr Mr Coles</p> <p>All Cllrs agreed.</p> <p>For Vice Chair – Cllr Mr Cooke: - Proposed Cllr Mr Phipps Seconded Cllr Mr Romanski</p> <p>All Cllrs agreed.</p> <p>(b)Children’s play equipment update – Cllr Mr Phipps commented that we have been successful in gaining a grant from the National Grid community fund for £19700. All we need to do is agree where the new play equipment will be placed. Cllrs agreed that the new equipment will go on the playing field. Cllr Mr Phipps commented that the preference is for the new equipment to be sited by the church subject to the flooding issue, with the other alternative by the other equipment. Cllr Mr Phipps commented that we need to confirm our intention to erect new play equipment with the landowner.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Mr Cooke Seconded Cllr Mr Phipps</p> <p>(c)A369 layby – Cllr Mr Phipps thanked Cllr Mrs Cowlard and Mr Cowlard for the enormous effort they have both made in keeping the layby clear of rubbish. Cllr Mr Phipps commented that we need to decide what we want to do about the layby situation. The rubbish appears to be an amalgamation of local residents and people throwing the rubbish out of their cars. Cllr Nigel Ashton commented that having discussed the situation with the NSC recycling and waste management, they are willing to put CCTV at the layby. They are also looking at engaging a company for litter enforcement and they would be able to include this area. Cllr Nigel Ashton also commented that the feeling is that if the parking was restricted at the layby, it would just cause a parking problem elsewhere in the village. Cllr Mr Coles commented that as we don’t know where the litter is coming from, a camera would give us this information, and agreed that shutting the layby will just cause parking problems elsewhere.</p>	<p>DD</p> <p>MAP/NA</p>
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	<p>Cllrs were all in agreement for a CCTV camera to be placed at the layby.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that the fencing at the layby is almost completely broken now. Clerk Mrs Drower commented that this is one of the jobs earmarked for the National Grid volunteer group.</p> <p>(d) North Somerset Levels Internal Drainage Board – report on research relating to Portbury/Sheepway issues.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Phipps commented that the question of local drainage has arisen on several occasions in relation to planning applications. The key concern seems to be the raising of the water levels in the Somerset levels, and therefore the North Somerset Levels Internal Drainage Board would unlikely to be interested.</p> <p>(e) National Grid volunteer group – fences</p> <p>Clerk Mrs Drower commented that the volunteer group are earmarked to help with some fencing projects around the village but are not currently doing anything due to Covid restrictions. The fences that need doing are – by the allotments, the High Street and the layby.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that the layby broken fence is really a waste of resources and will likely get damaged again.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Romanski suggested that secondhand crash barriers would be more suitable at the layby, and are reasonable priced on eBay. We could store them and ask the volunteer group to fit.</p> <p>Clerk Mrs Drower suggested asking HE if they could supply us with them.</p> <p>(f) Bristol Port Co – public consultation and update on Shipway Farm proposals – Cllr Mr Phipps commented that with Cllr Nigel Ashton’s help he has obtained the previous planning application for Shipway Farm, which was refused in 2002. Currently Bristol Port Co have not submitted a new application, nor arranged a public consultation. Cllr Mr Phipps asked Cllr Nigel Ashton for his view that there is still no provision in the Local Plan for taking that piece of land out of the Green Belt for development. Cllr Nigel Ashton commented that although there is a new White Paper coming for planning rules, ministers are still in favour of the Green belt being protected. However, Bristol Port Company have been advised that any application in the future would have to clearly demonstrate with evidence that they had consulted extensively with the local communities that would be affected. Currently this has not happened and may be some way in the future because of the current Covid situation we are in. Furthermore, the need for storing more cars is questionable.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Phipps will contact Portishead TC to discuss their views</p>	<p>DD</p> <p>TR</p> <p>DD</p> <p>MAP</p>
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	<p>Cllr Mr Lanham commented that several Sheepway residents are concerned about the Bristol Port Co proposals and would like to keep residents informed</p> <p>(g)Review of grey rubbish sacks - update - Clerk Mrs Drower has contacted John Carson NSC re the proposed withdrawal of free grey rubbish sacks. John has agreed to keep in communication with us and let us comment in any decision making process.</p> <p>Clerk Mrs Drower will post about his on Facebook for residents</p>	<p>DD</p>
<p>PC/0920/10</p>	<p>Sheepway issues – no issues</p>	
<p>PC/0920/11</p>	<p>Allotments update</p> <p>(a)Allotment Working Group minutes and arising matters –</p> <p>Cllr Mr Phipps commented that the minutes were really useful and would like PPC to continue receiving them</p> <p>(b)Green bin – additional</p> <p>Cllr Mr Phipps commented that an extra green bin was required at the allotments as per the minutes. Clerk Mrs Drower will procure an additional green bin.</p>	<p>TC</p> <p>DD</p>

Meeting finished at 9.05p.m.

Portbury Parish Council Adcroft House, 15 Roath Road, Portishead, BS20 6AW