

Portbury Parish Council

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held 2nd November 2021

Present:

Councillors: Cllr Mr Romanski Cllr Mr Phipps Cllr Mr Cheek
Cllr Mr Mangnall Cllr Mr Coles Cllr Mr Lanham

Chairman: Cllr Mrs Cowlard

Clerk: Minutes taken by Mrs Dawn Drower – Clerk

Representatives:

Others: 1 member of general public

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

No	Item	Action
	<p>A resident and allotment holder attended the meeting to raise an issue concerning the rules concerning the use of weedkiller at the allotments. She took issue with the suggestion that she had broken allotment rules by using weedkiller without permission and pointed out that the published rules on the Council Website only asked for care to be taken when using such chemicals. She felt that she ought to be able to rely upon the website as the source of the correct information and rules. Therefore, she felt that the exchange of e-mails she had been involved in with the Allotment Group representative was not correct and she further objected to the tone of the mails. She also commented that the mails had been circulated to all Councillors and The Allotment Working Group and was not happy with that. The resident felt aggrieved about the complaint against her and asked for a public apology from Mr Coles. Cllr Mrs Cowlard clarified at this point that the e-mails had in fact not been circulated to all councillors, only to the Clerk and herself.</p>	

PC/1121/01	Declaration of Interest by Members – There were no declarations of interest.	
PC/1121/02	Apologies received – None	
PC/1121/03	<p>Minutes of PPC’s monthly meeting held on the 5th of October 2021 were presented. Cllr Mrs Cowlard went over the action points of the last meeting. Cllr Mr Phipps commented that currently there are no regular local groups renting the Village Hall. Cllr Mr Phipps commented that we have secured the domain portburypc.org.uk which is linked to our website. All other action points are covered under the agenda.</p> <p>The minutes were:</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Mr Romanski Seconded Cllr Mr Coles</p> <p>Resolved that: Minutes were agreed by all.</p>	ALL
PC/1121/04	<p>Finance (a) Payments for authorisation – As per schedule presented prior to meeting. Clerk Mrs commented that all payments were in line with the finance notes, and no unexpected expenditure this month. RESOLVED that: The payments as scheduled in the Finance Report were approved.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Mrs Cowlard Seconded Cllr Mr Phipps</p> <p>Agreed by all Cllrs.</p>	ALL
PC/1121/05	<p>Crime and Disorder (a) Crime Stats -Clerk Mrs Drower commented the local crime stats showed no crime in Portbury. (b) Local crime – Clerk Mrs Drower commented that there had been no local crime.</p>	WC/DD
PC/1121/06	<p>Planning Applications received: (a) 21/P/0474/MOD – Land at Moor Farm – Deed of variation to modify mortgagee exclusions Clause – no update. (b) 21/P/2410/FUH -1 Mill Lane – Proposed erection of two storey and single storey rear extension – no update.</p>	

	<p>(c)21/P/2370/FUL – The Old Barn – Application to remove condition 8 of planning permission 01/P/0564/F – approved.</p> <p>(d)Enforcement notices – Paddock Lakes, Wharf Villas and Elm Tree Park – Cllr Mr Lanham commented that NSC have visited site at Elm Tree Park and are observing activities there. Planning permission has not been applied for into the developable area, although permission would probably be given. NSC will follow up on this and revisit the site. Cllr Mr Lanham will write to Nigel Ashton to express concerns that planning should be applied for in advance not retrospectively. Clerk Mrs Drower commented that she had followed up with NSC on all current enforcements outstanding. There had been no response from NSC yet on Paddock Lakes. Clerk Mrs Drower commented that a response had been received about Caswell Cross Cottages and NSC will follow up on the enforcement notice and visit site. Cllr Phipps agreed to make a visit to site himself in order to ascertain whether there is any evidence of the stable being used for the purpose stated in the approved planning application.</p>	<p>MAP</p> <p>KL/DD/MAP</p> <p>MAP</p>
<p>PC/1121/07</p>	<p>Maintenance (a)Lengthsman – Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that there were no issues.</p>	<p>WC/DD</p>
<p>PC/1121/08</p>	<p>Council Administration/Correspondence (a)Felling tree at the playing field – Clerk Mrs Drower commented that HE are looking to adopt the land alongside the playing field. Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that she will call Sean Walsh of HE. Clerk Mrs Drower commented that she has received two quotes for the removal of the dead Ash trees at the allotments. King Tree Services quoted £580 and Mr C Meecham quoted £2000. Clerk Mrs Drower will accept the quote from King Tree Services. (b)HGV's using Portbury Lane/speeding - Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that after a conversation with Avon and Somerset Police they are now actively looking into this issue and have recently carried out two speed watches. Cllr Mr Phipps commented that we should request the data from the speed watches. Without data we have a much weaker case to make in relation to traffic calming measures. (c)Portbury Sea Wall/Nature Reserve update – Cllr Mr Mangnall commented that the Nature Reserve was flooded to a height of 2m in places in 1981, and when it floods its rapid. The report from Bristol and Wessex</p>	<p>DD</p> <p>TC/WC</p>

	<p>Water commented that we should expect flooding approximately every two years. Work to the sea wall to protect the sewage works is starting now.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Cheek commented that Royal Portbury Dock are monitoring the situation closely.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Phipps commented that we should write to Liam Fox to help us deal with this problem.</p> <p>Clerk Mrs Drower commented that we should write to Nigel Ashton in the first instance as he is a member of the Sea Wall commission.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Mangnall will write in the first instance to Nigel Ashton.</p> <p>(d)New equipment for both play parks – Cllr Mrs Cowlard suggested that now that we no longer need to reserve funds towards the Local Plan, could we allocate these funds towards new equipment.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Phipps will investigate if there are any grants available to fund more equipment.</p> <p>Cllrs agreed to allocate £2000 towards new play equipment.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Mrs Cowlard Seconded Cllr Mr Phipps</p> <p>(e)Neighbourhood Plan and site assessment – Cllr Mr Phipps commented that the professional site assessment report recently commissioned and circulated to Councillors states that there is virtually no site in Portbury Village that could be considered for development. Cllr Phipps went on to explain his concerns that had been fed back to the authors, that this is not a credible or defensible position. From his own experience of dealing with applications, and some that had gone to appeal, this rather entrenched position is easily challenged by a developer. The particular issue is the value that is accorded to views of the landscape around Portbury. Looking southwards, towards Failand the views are exceptional and worthy of preservation. But to the North views are compromised already by the presence of the M5, the docks and even Avonmouth beyond. The setting of the Church is also seen as a constraint, and yet Natural England have no requirement to consider the setting of a listed building. The listing itself is the main protection for such assets.</p> <p>Cllr Phipps therefore had challenged the draft version of the report in a number of ways and it had been accepted that the restrictions in the land to the North and East of Portbury were probably too onerous given the setting overall of the Village. A second draft of the report will be available shortly.</p> <p>Cllr Phipps went on to explain that, whilst it seems risky to suggest the possibility of development in the Village, it is much better to have a defensible set of options that would set restrictions on what is possible. This would give stronger protection, in the way that a full Neighbourhood</p>	<p>JM</p> <p>WC/MAP</p> <p>MAP</p>
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	<p>Plan would have done. We need to remember also that development in this area would allow some housing along the High Street that could create a more distinct gateway, to help traffic calming. It would also have the potential to provide a car park for the Village Hall and Service Station.</p> <p>Cllr Phipps reported also that he had been contacted by NSC to see if we wished to allocate some land for a Village Car Park amenity. He had replied positively and indicated that the unused field next to the village hall would be appropriate as it is not used for agricultural purposes any longer. NSC will propose a change in the green belt boundary in order to make this land available as a designated community space. Cllr Phipps has contacted Newcombe Estates to inform them of this. They have not objected to the proposal, but may yet do so once the new local plan is issued in December.</p> <p>(f)Councillor emails – as previously mentioned in PC/1121/03 – the domain has been secured and the emails will be set up as soon as this is active.</p> <p>(g)To do list – Clerk Mrs Drower commented that she would like to follow up on two items on the list - The original play park was going to be fenced in, and Clerk Mrs Drower asked Cllr Mr Cheek if this was still going to proceed. Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that the maintenance around the fencing at the toddler play park is quite high. Cllrs agreed with the experience of the fencing around the new play park then fencing the old play park may not be necessary on reflection. Cllr Mr Cheek will find out the current price of materials for fencing in the old play park. Clerk Mrs Drower commented that we have never seen a maintenance contract from Centre Great. Cllr Mrs Cowlard will follow up with them.</p> <p>(h)Jct 19 update – Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that the donkey field has almost been restored now.</p>	<p>DD/MAP</p> <p>DD</p>
<p>PC/1121/09</p>	<p>Sheepway – no issues</p>	
<p>PC/1121/10</p>	<p>Allotments update – no issues</p>	

Meeting finished at 9.30 p.m.

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