

# Portbury Parish Council

## MINUTES

**Minutes of the meeting held 7th November 2023**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** Cllr Mr Chilcott Cllr Mr Campbell Cllr Mr Lanham  
Cllr Mr Penn Cllr Mr Cheek

**Chairman:** Cllr Mrs Cowlard

**Clerk:** Minutes taken by Mrs Dawn Drower – Clerk

**Representatives:** Nigel Ashton

**Others** One member of general public

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Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

No	Item	Action
PC/1123/01	<b>Declaration of Interest by Members</b> – Cllr Mr Cheek declared an interest in PC/1123/06 item (d) PC/P/2213/LDP.	
PC/1123/02	<b>Apologies received</b> – No apologies.	
PC/1123/03	<b>Minutes</b> of PPC's monthly meeting held on the 10th of October 2023 were presented. Cllr Mrs Cowlard went over the action points of the last meeting:  Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that the letter was written to the Leader of the Council re the Traffic Scheme and also the lack of communication and responses from NSC agreed at last month's meeting.  All other action points are covered under the agenda.  The minutes were:  Proposed Cllr Mr Campbell Seconded Cllr Mr Penn	<b>WC</b>  <b>DD</b>

	<b>Resolved that:</b> Minutes were agreed by all.	
<b>PC/1123/04</b>	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p><b>(a) Payments for authorisation</b> – As per schedule presented prior to meeting. Clerk Mrs Drower commented that all payments were in line with the finance sheets. Clerk Mrs Drower went over the bank account balances and figures on the finance sheets.</p> <p>There are five payments for authorisation – Clerk October administration and expenses, K&amp;E (lengthsman) October maintenance. Mr Gardiner – allotment expenses.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:</b> The payments as scheduled in the Finance Report were approved.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Mr L. Seconded Cllr Mr Chilcott</p> <p>Agreed by all Cllrs.</p>	<p><b>DD</b></p> <p><b>DD</b></p>
<b>PC/1123/05</b>	<p><b>Crime and Disorder</b></p> <p><b>(a) Crime Stats</b> – none reported. <b>(b) Local crime</b> – none reported.</p>	<b>WC/DD</b>
<b>PC/1123/06</b>	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p><b>Applications received:</b></p> <p><b>(a) 21/P/0474/MOD – Land at Moor Farm</b> – Deed of variation to modify mortgagee exclusions Clause – no update.</p> <p><b>(b) 22/P/0130/FUL – Racecourse Farm</b> – retrospective planning for change of use from agricultural to light industrial use, alterations to external appearance of building, insert 2 No mezzanine floors – no update.</p> <p><b>(c) 22/P/1956/FUH – Bracken Barn, Sheepway</b> – Construction of double garage with room over. Cllrs agreed to make no comment.</p> <p><b>(d) 23/P/2213/LDP – The Barn, Portbury Lane</b> – Cert of Lawful Development for proposed installation of 40 solar panels to provide energy to dwelling. Cllrs agreed to make no comment.</p> <p><b>(e) Enforcement notices</b> – Caswell Cross Cottages, Racecourse Farm - no update.</p>	<b>DD/WC</b>
<b>PC/1123/07</b>	<p><b>Maintenance</b></p> <p><b>(a) Lengthsman</b> – Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that Kevin has removed the grit bin despite repeated requests to NSC to remove (their grit bin).</p>	<b>WC/DD</b>

<p><b>PC/1123/08</b></p>	<p><b>Council Administration/Correspondence</b></p> <p><b>(a)Horse signs – removal and replacement –</b> Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that signs which had been put up by PPC to assist our horse riders have been removed at the request of NSC. The signs had been placed on the public highway and David Bailey NSC explained that the signs need a TO. We can if we wish place the signs on private land. Cllrs agreed to not reposition the signs at present.</p> <p><b>(b)Footbridge repairs and street light maintenance –</b> Clerk Mrs Drower commented that the footbridge has been repaired, however the warning signs have not been removed. Clerk Mrs Drower has asked NSC to remove them. Clerk Mrs Drower has asked Phil Bush NSC if the repairs are permanent or temporary, and also asked to see the engineering report on the condition of the footbridge. Nigel Ashton will follow this up for us – Clerk Mrs Drower will forward communications to Nigel Ashton.</p> <p>Clerk Mrs Drower commented that after complaining to NSC – Centregreat have now responded that they would send an electrician to repair the lights within a week, and also send us a maintenance agreement. Clerk Mrs Drower commented that no electrician has been to site, and no maintenance agreement has been sent. Cllr Mr Chilcott commented that the lights being out represented a health and safety and a crime risk, and we should advise NSC about our concerns about their contractor.</p> <p><b>(c)Traffic scheme –</b> Mr Larder commented on behalf of Cllr Mr Penn that he and Cllr Mr Penn had met with Liam Fox MP and Chief Inspector Steph McKenna in the village and witnessed the ongoing speed and volume of traffic. Three things were discussed – writing to the Chief Executive of Bristol airport, write to the Chief Executive of NSC and write to Chief Constable of Avon and Somerset Police. The volumes of traffic come from Nailsea and Bristol Airport, not from the CAZ. A response was received from Bristol Airport stating they were unable to help. (Cllr Mr Penn commented that this may change if we can prove the increased traffic is largely due to the airport expansion.) A response was received from Steve Thorne – NSC which did not really address the problem and used the matrix that there has not been a traffic accident resulting in death in Portbury to assess the safety. Mr Larder commented that daily traffic through Portbury had increased from 7,500 vehicles (2018) to 9,500 (2023). Mr Larder commented that he was contacted by Radio Bristol and asked if we would like to speak with the Chief Constable. The data that NSC has does not link up with the data that A&amp;SP have. The date that PSC collect is not relevant to NSC.</p>	<p><b>DD/NA</b></p> <p><b>DD/WC</b></p> <p><b>SP</b></p>
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	<p>The Chief Inspector acknowledged that NSC and A&amp;SP need to compare their data. The Chief Inspector is also advising NSC that no accidents does not equate to a safe route. We were offered a speed camera; however we must collect ourselves. We could also have some increased signage from the A&amp;SP budget. We are trying to make Portbury an unattractive route to drivers. Cllr Mr Penn commented that NSC suggested that Portbury is a neighbourhood distributor route and as such should have 4000-6000 cars per day, but as the traffic has increased to over 9,000 we are now a primary route and as such could access a different funding source. We should also be able to get a survey done to assess what can be done to make the roads safer.</p> <p><b>(d)Speedwatch and weight limit – update</b> – Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that the training is available online, and then Mr John Hunter will visit and finish off the training. Cllr Mrs Cowlard will contact Kylie and push this forward.</p> <p><b>(e)Moorgate parking issues</b> – Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that residents were having problems with parking on the entry to Moorgate which was preventing rubbish and emergency vehicles from getting into Moorgate. Cllr Mrs Colward has advised the residents that as a council we cannot do anything, but that they should report bad parking to the police.</p> <p><b>(f)Mill Lane overgrown trees from Hillside</b> – Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that residents from Mill Close have complained that the lighting along Mill Lane is obscured by the trees. Cllr Mrs Cowlard has visited site, and the lights are too high for Kevin to reach. Clerk Mrs Drower will report to Western Power as there are also electricity cables entangled in the trees.</p> <p><b>(g)Brittan Place – condition of verge</b> – Cllr Mrs Colward commented that NSC had done a really poor job of cutting the overgrown vegetation at Brittan Place and had not cut the vegetation away from the road sign. Clerk Mrs Drower will let Shelley Lee – NSC know.</p> <p><b>(h)Priors Wood - management plan</b> – All councillors had been forwarded the proposed management plan. Cllr Mr Chilcott commented that he had several queries: - The clear felling mentioned – will that leave open scrubland that would lead to overgrown brambles etc; - clear grazing mentioned –what will it be grazed by and will stock proof fencing be put up; squirrel management how will this happen; also more clarity needed about the ash management. Cllr Mr Cheek commented that the amount to be cleared is vast – nearly 50 hectares. How will the new trees being planted be protected? There is no mention of badgers being protected. Cllr Mr Cheek also commented that there is no mention of the bluebells.</p> <p>Cllrs also thought that residents should be consulted including the two house that are at the entrance to the</p>	<p><b>WC</b></p> <p><b>DD</b></p> <p><b>DD</b></p> <p><b>SC/ALL</b></p>
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	<p>woods.  Cllr Mr Chilcott will draft a letter of response and will circulate to Cllrs for approval before sending, and also suggest that they meet with us to discuss.  <b>(i)Newsletter – update</b> – Cllr Mr Campbell has contacted everyone who contributed last time and asked them to have their input early December.  <b>(j)To do List</b> – Clerk Mrs Drower commented that the allotments and Village Green have now been registered with Land Registry to the Parish Council.  The fencing at the end of Station Road by the M5 has now been repaired.</p>	<b>SC</b>
<b>PC/1123/09</b>	<b>Sheepway</b> – no issues.	
<b>PC/1123/10</b>	<b>Allotments update</b> – No issues	

**Meeting finished at 9.00 p.m.**

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

**The next meeting is on Tuesday December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**