



# PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council extraordinary meeting held in the Parish Shop on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2007, at 7.30pm. Present were Cllr Clinton (Chairman), Cllr Richmond, Cllr King, , Cllr Jackson, Cllr R. Nevins, and Lindsay Graham (Clerk).

**1. To Receive Apologies for Absence**

**1:1** Apologies were received from Cllr Bohling and Cllr Toller .

**2. To Receive Members' Declarations of Interest on Any Agenda Item Below**

**2:1** Cllr King made a declaration of interest on item 4 as a trustee of Pirbright Tennis Club.

**3. To Discuss the Recent Outbreak of Foot & Mouth Disease**

**3:1** Foot and mouth disease was identified during 3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> August at farms in Normandy and Elstead, and Defra declared a 3km protection zones around the sites. Suggestions followed that the outbreak might have come from the shared site of the Institute of Animal Health (IAH) or Merial Animal Health in Ash Road, and the 3km protection zone at Normandy was extended to include this site also. Access to footpaths in these areas was closed on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> August.

**3:2** The Health & Safety Executive began an initial investigation, but this has so far proved inconclusive, although early suggestions that the virus might have been wind or water borne now seem unlikely. Failure of the effluent system was examined, and the report was also considering release by human movement.

**3:3** As a former head of lab at the IAH, Pirbright, Cllr King agreed to answer press enquiries received by the Parish Council as media interest intensified. Cllr King told members that the IAH and Merial were unable to speak as they themselves were the subject of investigation. He, however, was no longer an employee, had no part in the investigation and was therefore in a good position to counter misinformation in the media about bio-security at the IAH. He explained that the measures have multi layers, including personnel showering when leaving the airtight labs and working in special clothing which is discarded after each shift. Virus is treated with disinfectant before disposal, effluent is treated and accounts are kept of the stock. Cllr King concluded by saying that the outbreak had been a huge shock for the staff, who approach their work with great professionalism.

**3:4** Members approved the motion, proposed by Cllr Richmond, to thank Cllr King for his liaison with the press and presentation to the council. Cllr King left the meeting.

**4. To Sign the Contract for the Purchase of the Agreed Area of the Sandpits Site**

**4:1** The contract and associated papers from Hedleys Solicitors had been circulated to members before the meeting. It was agreed that the queries raised by Cllr Bohling and Cllr Toller could be addressed at a later stage and did not affect the contents of the contract.

**4:2** It was resolved that the contract should be signed as required by the Chairman (proposed by Cllr Clinton, seconded by Cllr Richmond and agreed unanimously).

**4:3** It was resolved that the Transfer Deed and Deed of Covenant should be signed as required by the Chairman plus one councillor and the Clerk (proposed by Cllr Nevins, seconded by Cllr Jackson and agreed unanimously).

**4:4** Members approved the cheque for the purchase price of £8.750 for the agreed areas of the site.

**5. To Agree Siting of a Donated Bench on the Green**

**5:1** The position was agreed as midway between the road and the first bench on the west side of the pond. All costs are to be met by the donor, Mrs Brazil.

Signed.....

date.....