



PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held in the Parish Shop on Tuesday 30th October 2007, at 7.30pm. Present were Cllr B. Clinton (Chairman), Cllr J. Bohling, Cllr M. Jackson, Cllr A. King, Cllr R. Nevins Cllr R. Richmond, Cllr S. Toller and Lindsay Graham (Clerk). PCSO Catherine Wheeler and the Revd. Chris Musser were also present.

The Chairman welcomed the visitors to the meeting.

1. To Receive Apologies for Absence

1:1 Apologies were received from Cllr M. Nevins.

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

2:1 Cllr King made declarations of personal interest on items 9:3 and 10.

3. To Approve Minutes of the Previous Meeting as a True Record

3:1.a It was resolved that the minutes of the previous monthly meeting held on 25th September 2007 should be approved and the Chairman signed them. There were no matters arising.

4. To Approve Cheques Issued During October

4:1 It was resolved that the list of cheques issued during October as per the attached sheet, should be approved and the Chairman signed the list.

5. To Discuss Correspondence Sent & Received During Month

5:1 Correspondence summarised as per the attached sheet had been circulated to members.

5:2 Re item 5:1, no reply has been received from Guildford Borough Council about PPC's concerns about the line agreed for the new position of the fence in Chapel Lane, which apparently transfers a ransom strip to the owner and increases the potential for future development. Members agreed to wait for GBC's response and also to study some historical evidence provided by a neighbour.

5:3 Re item 5:6, the blocked gate from the cemetery to the enclosed area of Brookwood Heath has now become accessible informally and the issue is in the hands of Woking BC, Surrey CC and Natural England. The Chairman has been told about concerns that a grave has been sited in a SSSI, possibly illegally, within the cemetery.

6. To Discuss Police Matters

6:1 PCSO Catherine Wheeler reported that there had been six crimes in the village, including motor vehicle theft, assault, criminal damage and an incident with an explosive; there were also two non crimes involving fireworks and a domestic. In Pirbright and Bisley Camps there had been four crimes, including public order, fraud, motor cycle theft and criminal damage; there were also two non-crimes.

6:2 The Chairman thanked Catherine for arranging a grant from the Surrey Police Community Fund for purchase of a pool table for Lord Pirbright's Hall.

6:3.a Catherine reported that a new organiser for Community Speed Watch (CSW) in the Parish is needed and Cllr Richmond offered to help.

6:3.b Tickets have been issued to speeding motorists in Gole Road on a recent Sunday and Cllr Toller commented that the presence of the CSW team had made a considerable calming of the of traffic on that day. He also recommended that a reduction to 30 mph and improved signage might help with the danger to residents from the narrow footway outside the houses and the need to cross the road to reach their parked vehicles. Members agreed that the request for the speed limit reduction should be removed from Phase II of the safety scheme and made a separate issue with the Highways Authority.

7. To Receive Report of Planning Committee

7:1 The minutes of the meetings during the month had been circulated to all members. The Clerk reported that the application for Gibbs Acre had been withdrawn and those for Goose Green Cottage and Grove Villa, Chapel Lane, had been approved.

8. To Discuss Hall & Finance Issues

8:1 Members approved a donation of £50, under S137, to the Royal British Legion.

8:2 Members recommended an overall increase of 3% to basic costs in the 2008-9 precept which, with lower expense on projects, could keep the total close to that of 2007-8. The Hall & Finance Committee meeting has been rescheduled in order to present the detailed proposals to next meeting of the full council.

8:3 Chris Musser told members that the Royal Anglians are attending several special welcome home events, including a march up the High Street in Guildford. It was agreed to increase promotion of the Carol Concert in December, the proceeds of which are to be donated to the Royal Anglians Afghanistan Memorial Fund.

8:4 Notes about the meeting with Pirbright Cricket Club had been circulated to members. The issues raised will be discussed in detail by the Hall & Finance Committee at its next meeting.

9. To Discuss Highways & Environment Issues

9:1 It was agreed to defer discussion on flooding issues until the next meeting of the Highways & Environment Committee, to be held on 5th December.

9:2.a Members had been circulated with copies of correspondence between PPC and Derek Lake (SCC Highways) about signage at the junction of Cobbett Hill with Aldershot Road.. The misleading 20 mph sign has been removed and a newspaper report was circulated on the prison sentence given to the motorist who had caused fatalities at the junction where give-way signs were covered by trees. Some dismay was expressed at the severity of the sentence.

9:2.b It was agreed to raise a question about the signage of the junction at the next meeting of the Guildford Local Committee and also discuss the matter with Normandy Parish Council.

9:3.a The Chairman's letter to Humfrey Malins (HM) was well timed because it arrived just before an Opposition debate on the recent outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in the House of Commons. The debate was extensive, with an important contribution by HM who received assurance that the necessary funding for improvements at the Institute for Animal Health (IAH) would be made. The Chairman will write to Mr Malins with thanks for the copies of Hansard covering the debate. Members were gratified by HM's comment that he "had had many conversations with the local Pirbright Parish Council—an excellent organisation, which has been concerned for many years about the lack of funding."

9:3.b Cllr King said that it was important to remember that the Institute for Animal Health is part of BBSRC (Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council) and not actually a Government-run site, as often described in the press. Although the link between outbreaks in Normandy and Egham had been proved scientifically, it was not known how it had physically spread between the sites. Funding for current security improvements is being received.

9:4 A plan showing new kerbing along the bank outside the hedge of Crimscote at Berry Lane, Fox Corner had been circulated to members. It was agreed that additional quotes for the work should be sought and that SCC Highways plus the nearest neighbours should be contacted about the proposal, with notices also to be placed on the board.

10. To Receive Report of Sandpits Committee

10:1 Completion has still not taken place on the purchase of the site, and Mr Taylor of Hedleys believes that the delay is in the offices of Pirbright Tennis Club's solicitors.

10:2 A meeting with residents with rights of way across the site will be arranged to discuss the several issues of concern, including parking by Surrey Wildlife Trust and an application from another resident to the MoD for access past Bexon and then presumably through the Sandpits track.

11. To Agree a Date for the December Meeting

11:1 It was agreed to defer the December meeting until Tuesday 8th January 2008.

12. To Discuss the Newsletter

12:1 The Chairman gave a verbal report on the meeting of the joint newsletter forum (members of PPC plus the Parochial Church Council) held in the Parish Shop on 3rd October. It had been agreed to send a joint letter from PPC and PCC to regular contributors inviting them to make a annual donation to the costs of printing the newsletter.

12:2 Ideas for PPC's entry for the December issue are to come.

13. Chairman's Conclusion

Members agreed that it was time to deliver letters to specific householders requesting that they cut back vegetation overhanging the footway outside their properties.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25pm.

Signed.....

Date.....