



PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held in the Parish Shop on Tuesday 26th February 2008, at 7.30pm. Present were Cllr B. Clinton (Chairman), Cllr J. Bohling, Cllr M. Jackson, Cllr A. King, Cllr R. Nevins, Cllr R. Richmond, and Lindsay Graham (Clerk). Cllr M. Nevins and PCSO Catherine Wheeler were also in attendance.

The Chairman regretfully announced the resignation of Simon Toller from the Parish Council and thanked him for his year's service. The period whereby 10 parishioners could request an election elapsed on 20th February and the new member may be co-opted. Notices have been placed around the parish and also into PeriNews. It is hoped to make the appointment at the March council meeting.

1. To Receive Apologies for Absence

1:1 None.

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

2:1 There were no declarations of interest.

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

3:1 It was resolved that the minutes of the previous monthly meeting held on 29th January 2008 should be approved and the Chairman signed them.

3:2 The Chairman reported that a valuer had come to Lord Pirbright's Hall to assess the pictures and Little Girl Statue and his report is expected soon.

4. To Discuss Police Matters

4:1 PCSO Wheeler reported that there had been 4 burglaries, 2 theft and 1 public order in the village with 1 theft and 1 domestic (ZJ) in the Camp.

4:2 A new Speed Watch co-ordinator is urgently required or the equipment will be recalled for use in another area. It was agreed that a further notice should be placed in PeriNews.

5. To Approve Cheques Issued During Month

5:1 It was resolved that the list of cheques issued during February as per the attached sheet, should be approved and the Chairman signed the list.

6. To Discuss Correspondence Sent & Received During Month

A list of correspondence sent and received had been circulated in advance to members.

6:1 Items 6:1, 6:3 and 6:4 were all items to be discussed later during the meeting.

6:2 Re Item 6:2, the meeting with SCC to discuss the reinstatement of bus stops at Swallow Corner has been arranged for Wednesday, 12th March at 11am.

7. To Receive Report of Planning Committee

7:1 Minutes of the meetings held on 29th January and 19th February had been circulated to members.

7:2 One application was for land adjoining The Willows in Gole Road. Members considered it a more appropriate design than one submitted some years ago, but agreed to object on the grounds that it was on Green Belt and outside the settlement boundary, and might thus set a precedent for more in-filling along other approach roads into the village.

7:3 An objection was also made to an application for The Gardens, stating that a consistent approach should be kept for extensions in this road.

7:4 Cllr M. Nevins has signed off the application for logging at Rails Field with stringent conditions, restricting the licence to the current owner on a small portion of the field and with a ban on bonfires.

7:5 One of the applications made to extend Swallowfield has been refused while the other will be decided by GBC's committee.

8. To Discuss Hall & Finance Issues

8:1. The Principle of Making Grants to Outside Bodies: the council had received three requests for grants and it was decided to consider them individually.

8:1:a Members agreed that the Citizens Advice Bureau performs an essential function, but were aware that the Guildford and Ash offices already receive funding from GBC. It was also uncertain which office might receive most clients from the parish and that some people might go to Woking.

8:1:b Members considered that the Surrey Air Ambulance provides an invaluable service and that two recent incidents in Pirbright had been noted. It was regretted that funding for the service was not provided by the NHS.

It was resolved by a majority of 5-1 that the Parish Council would not support charitable concerns outside the parish.

8:1:c Cllr King said that junior coaching, paid for by parents, was available at Pirbright Tennis Club to all young people in the parish, regardless of age and school attended. It was agreed that grants made by the Parish Council for projects should ideally be accessible by all parishioners if they so wished, and members expressed concern that the PVPS scheme would be restricted to years 1, 2, 5 & 6, and that practice time would be also necessary for the coaching to be effective. However, it might be possible for PVPS to seek a grant from the Lemprière Trust.

It was resolved unanimously that the Parish Council considered it inappropriate to make a contribution to the scheme.

9. To Discuss Highways & Environment Issues

9:1:a Report of the Meeting of the Guildford Local Committee: Simon Toller, in his role as School Governor, asked the GLC about the delay in improvements to pedestrian safety at Pirbright Arch, stressing that the work had become more urgent since the cessation of the coach service for children travelling between the Camp and PVPS and now walking through the Arch twice a day. Cllr Clinton and Mary Laker added further comments and Cllr M. Nevins suggested that the £10,000 contributed by the IAH under a section 106 agreement, should be used immediately for the installation of signage to warn of pedestrians in the tunnel.

9:1:b Minutes from the meeting noted that the question had been received but gave no response. Cllr M. Nevins reported that he had contacted the committee requesting an answer to his proposal. He further explained that part of GLC's budget for minor improvements had been diverted to the repairs budget and that the contribution expected from Woking BC towards the Arch scheme would not be available until 2010.

9:1:c Concerns had been raised about the future possibility of a large housing estate to be built after the closure of Deepcut barracks, and the extra traffic that would be generated through the Arch. Cllr M. Nevins said that any gain under a Section 106 agreement would be kept within Surrey Heath and that he considered that much of the existing accommodation would be reused by the MoD, and there were no immediate plans for civilian house building.

9:2 Protection of the Common near Malthouse Lane: copies of emails between Cllr M. Nevins and James Browne, SCC Countryside Access Officer, had been forwarded to members. Cllr Nevins explained that SCC must state its responsibility towards the BOAT in order for him to be able to claim that the responsibility is not being met. The BOAT is part of the heathland SSSI, and the Right of Way Act of 1984 stressed that character and safety for walkers and horse riders should be protected. It was agreed that this aspect would be re-stressed in a letter to be sent to GBC, with copies to SCC, Natural England and the Heathland Project requesting action such as stumping and signage to keep vehicles off the common.

9:3 Fox Corner improvements: the Clerk reported that revised plans for improvements to the layby at the entrance to Berry Lane had been forwarded to Derek Lake, Kaz Banisaied and John Cheesman at SCC Highways. Cllr M. Nevins stated that the funds from his GLC allowance had already been deducted and paid to the Highways Department.

10. To Report on the meeting of the Sandpits Site Committee

10:1 Minutes of the first meeting of the committee had been circulated to members.

10:2 Cllr Bohling has designed three options for the car park to be discussed at the next meeting, to be held on 11th March, before they would be presented to neighbours.

11. To Receive a Progress Report on Plans for the Annual Parish Meeting

11:1 No response has yet been received from Lt Col Carver, so Cllr Clinton will contact him by phone.

11:2 The choice of photograph of the welcome home parade with the 1 Royal Anglians marching up Guildford High Street was approved unanimously, with two copies to be enlarged to A3 and then mounted and framed. One copy, with an inscribed plaque, will be presented to the regiment and the other hung in Lord Pirbright's Hall.

11:3 Cllr M. Nevins accepted the Parish Council's invitation to plant a tree to commemorate his year as Mayor of Guildford. Members agreed the choice of a liquidambar, to be planted in the grounds of Lord Pirbright's Hall, at a ceremony on Monday 28th April after the pre-meeting reception and before the Annual Parish meeting begins, so that parishioners could attend.

12. To Discuss the Newsletter

A notice about the details of Annual Parish Meeting and a plea for a new Speed Watch co-ordinator will be included.

13. Chairman's Conclusion

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20pm.

Signed.....

Date.....