



PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held in the Parish Shop on Tuesday 24th February 2009, at 7.30pm. Present were Cllr R. Nevins (Chairman), Cllr J. Bohling, Cllr B. Clinton, Cllr M. Jackson, Cllr A. King, Cllr R. Richmond, Cllr J. Standing and Lindsay Graham (Clerk). PCSO Catherine Wheeler was also in attendance.

1. To Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr M. Nevins.

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

There were no declarations of interest.

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

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 27th January 2009 should be approved and the Chairman signed them.

4. Police Matters—To Receive Reports of Crime in the Parish

PCSO Catherine Wheeler reported there had been 2 burglaries, 3 thefts, 3 incidents of criminal damage and one of public disorder in the Parish during the month. One of the criminal damage cases was of graffiti to the Peribus, which is parked at Lord Pirbright's Hall.

5. Communications—To Discuss Communications Sent & Received Since the Previous Meeting

A summary of items 5:1-5:7 had been circulated in advance to members.

5:1 Pirbright Players have complained about the pool and table tennis tables, which are kept on the stage at LPH for use by the Junior Badminton Club on Monday evenings, and also to query the charge made for stage lighting and the PA system. PPC's reply explained that the tables are actually used by club members on the stage and that to remove them elsewhere would cause inconvenience to other Hall users on the intervening days until the stage is required by the Players on Sundays. The charges for the stage lighting and PA had been omitted from a previous invoice in error but correctly included in the most recent invoice.

5:2 Cllr M. Nevins has sent PPC a copy of an email to SCC requesting a seasonal closure of the Malthouse Lane BOAT because it has become muddy and damaged during the wintery weather. The Clerk reported that vehicles are again and driving on the common along an unauthorised parallel track which is being churned up. Members agreed that this should be reported to GBC and measures to prevent access to the track should be discussed.

5:3 PPC has written to Hedleys Solicitors to ask advice about the Parish Council's legal liability if an accident should occur after it has gritted paths etc. Mr Taylor's reply said that if work is carried out it should be such that does not create a further danger. In his view, there could be liability if, knowing there was a danger, nothing was done. He also stated that there is no obligation to carry out any work on an area that is the responsibility of the highway authority.

5:4 PC Patey has supplied PPC with information about a road traffic accident that took place in Guildford Road, probably caused because one vehicle was on the wrong side of the road trying to avoid floodwater from Rowe Lane, and then hit by a car coming from Fox Corner.

5:5 Surrey Wildlife Trust has sent outline details of its plan for a second portacabin and is asking PPC to comment. Members agreed that areas for concern would include the long-term nature of the portacabins, the number of parking spaces to remain available and the optimisation of external space.

5:6 Surrey Wildlife Trust has notified PPC of permission given to a local log merchant to remove larger logs and tree trunks from Burner's Heath. Cllr Bohling reported that he had been told by GBC that there are no common rights in Pirbright and that no one is allowed to take fallen/dead wood without a specific licence. The Trust is also asking for comments about how the site should develop in the longer term and Cllr Standing is to meet a representative in March.

5:7 Surrey Heathland Project has informed PPC that Woking BC are restoring a section of the cattle-proof fence line at the northwest corner of Brookwood Heath.

5:8 GBC has forwarded an email from a young resident requesting that a bench might be built in Rapleys Field “because the kids don’t have anywhere to sit”. PPC’s reply will explain that benches in the village were donated by parishioners, many as memorials to family members, and will suggest that the young resident consults his neighbours about where a bench could be placed and how it might be funded. It will also be necessary to check that this will be acceptable to GBC as owners of the road.

5:9 Surrey Community Action has invited Pirbright to enter the 2009 Calor Surrey Village of the Year competition. Members did not think it would be appropriate to enter this year although it might become possible in a future year.

6. *Hall & Finance*

6:1 To Approve Cheques Issued During February

The list of cheques issued during February was approved and signed by the Chairman.

6:2 To Approve the Appointment of an Independent Internal Auditor

It was resolved to reappoint Maxwell & Co as the Independent Internal Auditor.

6:3 To Approve the Purchase of New Signage for The Green Car Park

The cost of the new signage was approved but it was agreed that only one area of hatching should be created.

7. *Planning*

To Receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee

Minutes of the meetings held on 10th February had been circulated to members. Cllr Bohling noted that there had been several applications for development in Bullswater Common Road lately and there was another pending. Cllr R. Nevins had attended a meeting at GBC about the new permitted development rights on which she would be reporting at the Planning committee meeting to follow the main meeting.

8. *Highways & Environment*

8:1 To Receive the Minutes of the Highways & Environment Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 10th February had been distributed to members in advance. PC Patey had confirmed that he would be able to attend the next meeting to be held in April.

8:2 To Agree a Response to the Official Consultation on the Proposed 7.5 Tonne Weight Restriction on Cobbett Hill Road, Normandy

Members agreed a four-point response, reiterating the Council’s comments when the proposal was first mooted at the meeting of the Guildford Local Committee in June 2008, and stressing concerns that traffic displaced from Cobbett Hill would then use Ash Road and Fox Corner.

8:3 To Consider Mitigating Measures for Fox Corner and Ash Road if the Proposed 7.5 Ban for Cobbett Hill Road is Approved

Members approved Cllr Bohling’s proposal to send a letter to all affected residents in Fox Corner and Ash Road explaining the issue and to invite them to object to the ban either by emailing the Parish Council or completing a section of the letter to be returned to the Council. All the replies would be forwarded on to the Highways Authority by the official response date of 18th March. Cllr Richmond and Cllr Standing offered to help with the distribution of the letters.

8:4 Cllr Bohling reported on encroachment on to the road by a retaining wall, made from sleepers, that has been newly constructed in Malthouse Lane, apparently using the edge of the roadway as its foundation. This will be reported to the Highways Authority.

9. *Mayor’s Award for Community Service—To Make a Nomination for the Award*

Members agreed to put forward a nomination which will be publicly announced when confirmed by the Mayor’s Parlour.

10. *Newsletter—To Consider Items for the April Issue*

The main item for inclusion will be about the Annual Parish Meeting.

11. Chairman's Conclusion

11:1 The Chairman reported that permission had been given to a production company to shoot a scene for a film in the children's playground. All participants were donating their time free of charge.

11:2 The organisers of the Church Open Day 2009 have asked if any members of the Parish Council might be able to help. It was agreed that the Council would be happy to have input on the planning of the day.

11:3 GBC has invited the Parish Council to participate in the review of the Pirbright Conservation Area, beginning with a walkabout to take place on 5th March. Cllr R. Nevins will attend with Cllr B. Clinton and Cllr A. King.

11:4 Cllr Standing will attend a Heathland Project members' guided tour on 5th March. Cllr Clinton will attend the celebration lunch for the completion of the project on 24th March.

11:5 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on 31st March 2009.

The meeting ended at 9.00pm.

Signed.....

Date.....