



PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held in the Parish Shop on Tuesday 29 September 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).

1. To Receive Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Cllr M. Nevins.

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

Cllr R. Nevins made a prejudicial declaration of interest in Item 6:1.

Cllr Bohling declared a personal interest in Item 6:4

Cllr Richmond and Cllr Standing declared a personal interest in Item 8:1.

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

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting, held on Tuesday 28 July 2009, should be approved and the Chairman signed them.

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

No Police report was available.

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

A summary of items 5:1-5:11 had been circulated in advance to members.

5:1 GBC (Electoral Services) has stated the conditions under which the updated electoral register may be supplied to parish clerks. All parish councillors may also apply for a register and would be bound by the same strict regulations, which restrict use of the information other than for the purpose of either to establish who is entitled to attend and participate at parish meetings or to take action on behalf of the parish.

For Information.

5:2 GBC's Licensing Unit is holding a consultation until 9 November about the new statement of principles in respect of gambling licensing within Guildford borough, which will replace the previous policy adopted in January 2007. A response form may be completed on the GBC website.

For Information.

5:3 SCC (Kevin Orledge) sent details of work to be carried out in the Parish by the Guildford Community Gang during August, but said he considered the footway repair near Cunningham House to be a low priority, to be done only if funds become available. The next scheduled visit for the gang is 16 November.

Suggestions for tasks for the Community Gang will need to be sent to Cllr M. Nevins at least a week in advance.

5:4 British Telecom is planning to decommission the telephone kiosk on The Green and has written to ask PPC to consider adopting it for £1, because it is no longer sufficiently used to be economic.

This was discussed under Item 9.

5:5 The Cricket Club has written to thank PPC for the grant towards the cost of the new shutter at the pavilion.

5:6 Surrey Council for Voluntary Youth Services (Mike Abbott, Chief Executive) has supplied some clarification about the new Independent Safeguarding Authority and how it might affect some of the parish clubs and societies, where children and adults participate together (such as the Players and Cricket Club), and organisations such as the Peribus, where some of the passengers might be classed as vulnerable adults.

The Clerk will keep a watching brief.

5:7 Surrey Police has contacted PPC to ask for use of Lord Pirbright's Hall before and after their parade to Brookwood Military Cemetery on 8 November.

Members agreed that no charge would be made to the Police for use of the Hall. A entry about the parade will be placed in the November newsletter.

5:8 Some residents of **West Heath/Church Lane** have responded to the piece in the newsletter inviting suggestions for safety improvements in Church Lane.

The suggestions will be considered at the next meeting of the Highways & Environment committee.

5:9 Residents have again reported problems with the rear door to **Brookwood Station** being closed in the mornings. Cllr Preshaw (Brookwood member on Woking Borough Council) has now been told by Southwest trains that the lock has been removed completely on instructions from Network Rail after concerns that the fence was becoming damaged by frustrated commuters climbing over it. The Cemetery owners are installing their own gate near the station entrance, to be opened by themselves at standard cemetery hours (7am-7pm in the summer and 7am-5pm in winter).

The Clerk will continue to liaise with affected residents and Cllr Preshaw.

5:10 PPC has received a copy of a letter to **GBC** from a resident in Aldershot Road asking for help in persuading neighbours to clear the ditch that runs past several gardens in the area, because failure to do so causes flooding on adjacent land.

A plea to residents to keep ditches clear will be placed in the newsletter.

5:11 Surrey Police (Steve Cake) has sent report of burglaries in the Guildford area recently (none in Pirbright), stressing that the number of cycle thefts appears to be increasing and advising that cycles should be secured at all times when not in use. He has also offered to bring a shed along for display with extra security features.

A reminder to secure cycles at all times will be placed in the newsletter.

5:12 A resident has asked for permission to camp on the edge of the former football pitch.

Members refused this request because it would contravene the Parish bye-laws.

6. Hall & Finance

6:1 To Approve Cheques Issued During August and September

Cllr R. Nevins left the room for this item. The cheques issued during August and September were approved and the list was signed by the Vice-Chairman.

6:2 To Receive the Minutes of the Hall & Finance Committees

Minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2009 had been circulated to members. There were no matters arising.

6:3 To Adopt the Audited Accounts for Financial Year 2008-9

The report from the official auditors on behalf of the Audit Commission stated that no matters had come to their attention that required a separate additional issues-arising notice. A similar report for Lord Pirbright's Hall charity had been received from its auditors, Maxwell & Co.

It was resolved unanimously to adopt the audited accounts for the financial year 2008-9.

6:4 To Consider the Quote for Repair of Pavilion Cladding

Members considered the quote for the repair of the pavilion cladding, which recommended use of Douglas fir pine to replace the elm boards.

It was agreed to accept the quote of £680 for the replacement cladding plus £790 for micro porous stain. It was also agreed to accept the quote of £250 from the same contractor to install the posts and barway on the track to the pavilion.

7. Planning

7:1 To Receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee

Minutes of the meetings held on 28 July, 11 August and 2 September 2009 had been circulated to members.

7:2 A neighbour of the Sandpits site has expressed concern that Guildford Borough Council had been made aware of an alternative position for the new court suggested by the Parish Council. The Clerk has reassured the resident that it was not a formal proposal but the idea had been mentioned to the planning officer because the Parish Council felt unable to support the existing application and were reluctant to be completely negative about the idea of a third court.

Members agreed to hold further discussions with the Tennis Club and neighbours when the outcome of the current application has been decided.

8. **Highways & Environment**

8:1: To Agree Remedial Action for the Horse Chestnut Tree on the Little Green and approve a quote for the work

Work had previously been carried out on the tree to reduce its canopy, following a picus test in 2006 that showed the presence of the fungus Ganoderma, which causes internal decay. A recent inspection by Cllr Standing shows the decay is increasing and pollarding should now be carried out and the appropriate permission will be obtained from Guildford Borough Council.

Members agreed to accept the quote of £720 to carry out the work.

8:2 To Update the Highways Maintenance Action Schedule

Members reviewed the schedule and a minor addition was made.

9. **Telephone Kiosk on The Green**

To Discuss Adoption of the Kiosk and Consider Ideas for Its Future Use

British Telecom is planning to decommission the red telephone kiosk on The Green and has contacted the Parish Council to suggest adopting it for £1, because it is no longer sufficiently used to be economic. BT proposes to remove the telephony and transfer the ownership to the parish. Apparently there are 350 kiosks throughout the country that have been successfully adopted by local communities and they are used for such purposes as miniature art galleries, meeting places and local information booths.

Members agreed to adopt the kiosk and will discuss any suggestions for use in October.

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

Items for the newsletter will include the police march to Brookwood Military Cemetery, a plea to residents to keep their ditches clear and a reminder to secure cycles at all times.

11. **Chairman's conclusion**

11:1 The Chairman announced that Pirbright Village Primary School had won an award as the best allotment for Guildford in Bloom.

11:2 The next meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 27 October 2009.

The meeting ended at 8.30pm.

Signed.....

Date.....