



PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting on 28 October 2014 held in the Parish Shop at 7.30 pm.

Members present: Cllr R. Nevins (Chairman) Cllr M. Hobbs
Cllr E. Eason Cllr M. Jackson
Cllr S. Fidgett Cllr R. Richmond

In attendance: L. Graham (Clerk)

1. To Receive Members' Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr C. Newman and Cllr G. Jackson (GBC).

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

Cllr Eason made a personal declaration of interest re item 8:4 as a school governor and 10:1 as a member of the Periwheels committee.

3. MINUTES

3:1 To Approve the Minutes of the Previous Meetings

ACTION: *it was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 30 September should be approved and the Chairman signed them.*

3:2 To Receive the Clerk's Report (for information, unless further action is specified)

3:2:1 Overhanging vegetation in School Lane (3:2:1, September): the section for which PPC is responsible has been trimmed back.

3:2:2 Injured Egyptian gosling: the Swan Sanctuary has thanked PPC members and the Clerk for their personal donations in recognition of help in removing fishing line from the gosling's leg.

3:2:3 Liquidambar (8:5, October): the new tree donated by the Suter family, in memory of Ben and Marguerite, has been planted on the Green near the village sign.

3:2:4 Christmas tree recycling: GBC will again provide a collection facility for Christmas trees in the car park of Lord Pirbright's Hall between 29 December 2014 - 15 January 2015.

3:2:5 Precept dates: GBC has provided key dates for submission of the 2015-6 precept:

1. The amounts approved for 2015-16 Grant Aid schemes will be confirmed by 26 November.
2. The Local Council Tax Support Scheme grant will be the same as 2014-15.
3. The Parish tax base figure will be advised on 1 December 2014.
4. The Precept figure for 2015-16 must be submitted to GBC by 20 January 2015, at the latest.

4. REPORTS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

4:1 To Receive Reports of Crime in the Parish

4:1:1 No one from the police was in attendance at the meeting but crime statistics for the month have been received, showing two burglaries and three thefts in the parish plus one child protection report, three domestic reports and one non-crime (including drink drive and drunkenness offences).

4:2:2 Members expressed concerns about lack of neighbourhood policing, attendance at meetings and the regular surgery at LPH, and suggested writing to the Police Commissioner to ask about the current policy.

4:2 To Receive Reports from the County Councillor

- Aldershot Road has now been resurfaced from Swallow Corner to Normandy;
- SCC's leader, David Hodge, has issued statement expressing concerns about shortfall in funding for new school places in the county;

- The first cluster meeting of Guildford Local Committee's western parishes has been held. One suggestion was to spend £17,500 allocation for this financial year by adopting a theme common to all the cluster parishes, e.g. for flood relief measures such as jetting out drains and ditches.
- Ash PC has employees, certificated for highways maintenance work, such as clearance of ditches and rights of way, who are available for hire by other parishes.

4:3 To Receive Updates on Activities at Lord Pirbright's Hall

Members received the minutes of the LPH AGM, which provided an update on the progress of the reconstruction of the Green Hut and the issues caused by misuse of the car park by people not currently using the facilities.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

To Consider Communications Sent & Received Since the Previous Meeting

GBC & SCC issues

5:1 Scrub clearance on Dawney Hill: scrub clearance on the heathland between the military cemetery and Dawney Hill has been funded by the SITA Trust as part of a conservation project for the heath tiger beetle (*Cicindela sylvatica*). Concerns have been raised that while this area is Green Belt, it isn't an SSSI, although it is one of the top sites in the country for silver studded blue butterflies and numerous rare insects. The Heathland Project officer is to raise these concerns with the SCC Ecologist.

For information

5:2 Footpath 420 (Ash Road to Aldershot Road): the Countryside Access team has confirmed that the overgrowth was cleared by volunteers during September.

For information

5:3 Footpath 410 (Stream Farm to Admirals Walk): the Countryside Access team has confirmed that a boardwalk will be reinstated. It will be engineered to make it less easily dismantled so, if the pieces are removed, SCC will know that it is an act of sabotage and not theft. The team has also confirmed that, as the Highway Authority, it does not need permission to do surface improvements on footpaths, but would discuss it with the landowner first as a matter of courtesy (landowners cannot prevent improvement works but they can of course object).

For information

Other topics

5:4 Sandpits 1: in response to complaints about overhanging foliage on the footway past the Sandpits, the Tennis Club has confirmed that the conifers will be cut back soon. The Club's committee is also looking into the possibility and costings of a members' car park on the site.

For information

5:5 Sandpits 2: Surrey Wildlife Trust has replied to PPC's letter and requested a risk assessment for the car park. A resident has supplied photos of vehicles blocking the right of way to her gate.

ACTION: to be discussed under item 8:4.

5:6 New bench: the family of a former resident has offered to supply a memorial seat in the children's playground at LPH.

ACTION: Members agreed that they would be delighted to accept the kind offer.

5:7 Remembrance Sunday: members of PPC have been invited to attend the service at the church on 9 November. The Chairman has also been invited to a later ceremony in Brookwood Cemetery for the St James Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

ACTION: several members of the Parish Council will attend the ceremony at the church while the Clerk will lay a wreath in Brookwood Cemetery on behalf of the council.

5:8 The Pond: a local specialist in fish and ponds has offered to remove non-native fish species from the pond on the Green because of concerns about them moving into the Hodge Brook/Hoe stream and the Wey Navigation, leading to possible alterations in the natural ecosystem.

ACTION: seek official advice from the Environment Agency.

6. **FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES**

6:1 To Approve PPC Payments Made During October 2014

ACTION: Members approved the schedule of receipts and payments for October and the Chairman signed it. The Chairman also signed the bank reconciliation for the month.

6:2 To Review the Financial Statements for the Half Year

Members received the financial statements for the half year, showing that expenditure was approximately 50% of the budget for the year.

6:3 To Review Allocated Reserves and Make Appropriate Adjustments

Members reviewed the allocated reserves and agreed to transfer £10,000 previously designated for a future new Peribus to the building fund for the new Green Hut.

6:4 To Approve a Donation to the Royal British Legion

ACTION: Members agreed unanimously to make a donation of £120 to the Royal British Legion.

7. **PLANNING**

To Receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee

ACTION: Members received the minutes of the meetings held on 30 September and 14 October.

8. **HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT**

8:1 To Receive an Update on the Progress of the Village Road Safety Scheme Phase 2

The realigning of the footway and safety features have been installed in the southern entrance from the Green to Church Lane but the contractors are waiting for the gas board to relay pipes in the main road before the next stage of work can begin.

8:2 To Receive a Report on the SDR and VAS

Cllr Hobbs is waiting for completion of the safety scheme in Church Lane before erecting the SDR and VAS to check the effects on driver behaviour.

8:3 To Approve the New Equipment for the Children's Playground under a S106 Payment

The manufacturer's representative has visited the playground and advised that a zip wire (first choice in the children's survey) would not be suitable for the location, although a trampoline (second choice) was possible and could be installed within the budget of the S106 agreement.

DECISION: the choice of trampoline was approved.

8:4 To Discuss Parking Issues at the Sandpits and at Lord Pirbright's Hall

8:4:1 The letter from SWT asserts that the Parish Council has continued to allow parking by school parents over the right of way in the Sandpits car park and wishes to ensure its legal access is not diminished by this use. A follow-up email requests a risk assessment for the car park.

ACTION: Members agreed that it is essential to establish a parking strategy that covers the whole village, because restrictions in one place merely transfer the problems from one area to another. A major concern is the safety of children attending the schools while being dropped off and collected.

DECISION: a) to ascertain the exact width of the right of way and have it certified legally;

b) to decide how many vehicles the site can safely accommodate as a basis for a risk assessment;

c) to arrange a meeting with the holders of the right of way;

d) to have the right of way tarmaced and marked.

8:4:2 Parking by parents attending school events has started to cause problems around the Green and at Lord Pirbright's Hall, when hirers of the Hall have arrived to find the car park already full.

ACTION: Members agreed that hirers of the Hall have priority use of the car park, because it is one of the site's amenities.

DECISION: a) when it is known that a school event is to be held, Hall hirers could place temporary signage at the entrance of the car park stating that parking is available for current LPH users only;

b) to fix permanent notices to the railings to each side of the entrance;

c) to revisit the idea to move back the posts along the western edge of Avenue de Cagny (deferred in May 2014) but to seek advice from the Highways Community Officer about installing some form of surfacing to prevent it from becoming unsightly and from mud transferring onto the road surface.

9. **NEWSLETTER**

To Agree Items for the December Issue

Items for the December issue of PeriNews will include the results of the children's survey to select the new play equipment and how it will be funded.

10. **CHAIRMAN'S CONCLUSION**

10:1 To Receive the Chairman's Notices and Members' Questions

The Chairman reported that she had received a request from the Periwheels treasurer for a £500 grant to maintain liquidity while the scheme becomes established.

10:2 To Note Items for Inclusion on the Agenda for the Next Meeting (25/11/14)

The Precept for 2015-16 and the grant application from Periwheels will be included on the agenda for November.

The meeting closed at 21.16 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....