

Salford Priors Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall, Salford Priors, on Wednesday 19th. August 2009 at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors, KA James (Chairman), AW Wolfe, JR Stedman, RJA Francis, RM Pane and DC Penn.

Also in attendance: County Councillor P Barnes, District Councillors BW Slaughter and D Pemberton, MJ.Philpott, Clerk, and eight members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Myers due to business commitments.

2. Declarations of Office and Disclosure of Interests

2.1 Register of Interests: Members were reminded of the need to keep their register of interests up to date.

2.2 Declaration of Interests: Members were reminded that they were required to declare and disclose any personal or prejudicial interests in items on the agenda. Councillors with a prejudicial interest were required to leave the room for the relevant agenda item.

Cllr. Stedman declared interests in item 5.4 as Chairman of the Memorial Hall Management Committee and in item 20.2, payment to Limebridge Rural Services.

3. Open Forum

3.1 Have your say: No under 18's were present.

3.2 Public Participation: Mr J Fenlon queried responsibility for the overgrown hedge by the post box at Dunnington School. The Clerk was asked to write to the School. Several parishioners raised queries about the proposed Marsh Farm extension. Concern was expressed regarding the timing of the application and whether restoration of the existing site could be enforced. Also, the application had not been available at SDC when a resident called to view the plans. Mr Gascoigne asked if the Environment Agency enforcement order was still in place but the Chairman said that the new plans submitted to WCC had caused the order to lapse. Mr Gascoigne then asked why the application indicated that only Grade 4 land would be used whereas he believed it had previously been Grade 2 land. It was agreed that Mr Gascoigne would research this further and the Clerk would raise the issue with the County Council.

3.3 Ward Members' Reports Cllr. Barnes informed the meeting that he would receive a petition regarding the Minerals Plan on 8th. September and that Councillor discussions would start soon after. He said that the report on the fire service was also expected shortly. Cllr. Slaughter expressed strong views regarding the Bulldog Bash event. He had attended the event and praised the attendees for the large amount of money raised for deserving causes. He said that over £1million had accrued to the economy of Stratford as a result. Cllr. Pemberton confirmed Cllr. Slaughter's work in support of the Bulldog Bash and drew attention to the proposals by BT to close further telephone boxes including the box at Iron Cross. Cllr. James reported on a well-attended Community Forum and said there would be a special meeting of the Forum to discuss the fire service proposals. He also drew attention to new wind farm proposals in the District and the new Stratford Card for parking. Finally, Cllr. James said that a Cabinet paper on the West Midlands Spatial Strategy had recommended that mineral extraction should take place near areas of growth. Because of the proximity of future development areas in Worcestershire this could condemn Salford priors to years of extraction. On this basis the recommendation was deleted.

The Open Forum closed at 8.10pm.

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4. Minutes

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 15th. July 2009 at 7.30pm at The Memorial Hall, Salford Priors, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes - Clerk's report for consideration by Council**5.1 Delivery of petition regarding Berry Coppice to County Council**

The Clerk was asked to collect together the various petitions and the Chairman agreed to present them to the Chairman of the County Council at the meeting on 8th. September.

5.2 Speed limits.

The Clerk reported that the speed survey conducted on 21st. July had shown that average speeds were Evesham Road, 42.13 mph; School Road, 28.40 mph; Station Road, 29.30 mph. As a result of this work WCC intended to undertake a full traffic survey in Evesham Road allowing data to be collected over a full two week period. WCC were also considering how relevant earlier surveys were in the new circumstances. Cllr. Wolfe said that traffic in Evesham Road seemed to be speeding more than ever and both Cllr. Wolfe and Cllr. Stedman said that the chicane was very dangerous when approaching from Abbots Salford if cars were parked adjacent to Cleeve View. There was also concern regarding the location of the speed measurements and it was suggested that Chris Fossey should be asked to attend the next meeting of the Council.

5.3 Parish Community Emergency Plans.

The Clerk reported that the template for the new format of emergency plan had now been received. Councillors would be circulated with the items regarding input prior to the September meeting. Councillors asked that the template plan should be e-mailed to them.

5.4 Memorial Hall.

Council noted that the meeting with representatives of the Memorial Hall was to be held on 27th. August.

5.5 NALC Conference.

Council agreed that the Chairman and Cllr. Stedman should attend the conference. The Clerk was asked to make the conference reservations and the Councillors would make the necessary hotel and transport arrangements.

5.6 Meeting with School Council.

The Clerk reported that a letter had been written to the School Council requesting dates for a meeting with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council at the beginning of the new term. A reply was awaited.

5.7 Footpath between Abbots Salford and County Boundary, Harvington

The Clerk reported that the new locality officer for WCC, David Elliston, had informed him that an order had been given to their contractor to "use a tractor mounted wire brush to side out the footway to its full width." Apparently, whilst this type of treatment was claimed to very efficient, "it may result in some tarmac material being removed from this path". When the work is completed WCC stated that any necessary repairs will be carried out!

6. Main Item**6.1 Proposed extraction of minerals with restoration to agriculture and a pond at Marsh Farm Quarry land north of Broom Lane.**

The Chairman reported that the Clerk's initial response had been circulated to councillors and agreed. He said that that District Councillors had responded with similar points. It was agreed that the Clerk should write again to WCC with an endorsement of the points previously raised and including the point made by Mr Gascoigne in the Open Forum.

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7. Amenity, Environment, Highways, and TOPS**7.1 Playing Field weekly safety reports.**

Council noted that Cllr. Francis had provided inspection reports dated 20th. July, 27th. July, 2nd. August, 10th. August and 17th. August. One litter bin was reported still missing and repairs to the fence to the play area were awaited. The Clerk confirmed that an order had been placed for this work and Cllr. Francis assured the meeting that the work was in hand with the materials ordered. In respect of the missing bin it was agreed that an insurance claim should be made and depending on the outcome an alternative type of bin considered as a replacement.

7.2 Report on expenditure items approved at previous meeting**7.2.1 Storage area at TOPs**

It was agreed that the TOPs Management Committee be asked to provide the shed with a contribution of £300 from the Parish Council. The position of the shed to be agreed with the Council.

7.2.2 Replacement windows for TOPs

The Clerk reported that quotations had been sought from Centurian Home Improvements Ltd. of Bidford on Avon, 5-Star Windows and Conservatories of Kidderminster, and Minster Windows and Conservatories of Evesham.

The following quotations were received:

Centurian £3574.00 for windows in white PVCu with 28mm. sealed units in Pilkington K glass.

5-Star No quotation received.

Minster £3799 for windows in white PVCu with 6 panes at the front or £3275 for windows in white PVCu but without a lower window bar.

The Chairman proposed, Cllr. Wolfe seconded, and it was agreed, that the quotation from Centurian be accepted.

7.2.3 New dog bins

The Clerk reported that quotations had been sought from Wybone Ltd., Broxap, and Glasdon, with the items to be delivered to Limebridge Farm. The following quotations were received:

Wybone No quotation received.

Broxap £368.00 for two bins. K-Nine 40 litre dog waste bin complete with post.

Glasdon £469.84 for two bins. Glasdon Retriever 35 litre dog waste bin complete with post and fittings in red.

The Clerk reported that a quotation had also been sought from Limebridge Rural Services Ltd. to receive the bins and place them in position. The company had quoted £95.00 to receive and install the two bins and a further £30.00 to remove and dispose of the old bin past the allotments.

The Chairman proposed, Cllr. Wolfe seconded, and it was agreed, that the quotation from Broxap and the quotation from Limebridge Rural Services be accepted.

7.2.4 Salt bin by School

The Clerk reported that quotations had been sought from Wybone Ltd., and Glasdon; with the items to be delivered to Limebridge Farm. The following quotations were received:

Wybone No response received.

Glasdon £131.67. Glasdon slimline grit/salt container.

The Clerk also reported that a quotation had been sought from Limebridge Rural Services Ltd. to receive the bin and place it in position. A sum of £40.00 had been quoted.

The Chairman proposed, Cllr. Wolfe seconded, and it was agreed, that the quotation from Glasdon and the quotation from Limebridge Rural Services be accepted.

Cllr. JR Stedman declared a prejudicial interest in the following item and left the room.

7.2.5 New planters

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The Clerk reported that Ragley Woodlands had been requested to provide a quotation. Eventually a verbal quotation of £103.98 (inclusive of vat) was received. However, the wood would be rough hewn rather than smooth finished as the existing planters. A further quotation had been sought from Limebridge Rural Services on 17.07.09.

Limebridge quoted £148.00 per planter in accordance with the specification and this sum included delivery, placing in position at the time of the winter planting, lining the planters with polythene, and filling with compost.

The Chairman proposed, Cllr. Wolfe seconded, and it was agreed, that the quotation from Limebridge Rural Services be accepted.

Cllr. Pane asked if weeding of the planters on Banbrook Green could be arranged and the Chairman agreed that the contractor should be asked to carry out this work.

Cllr. Stedman returned to the room.

7.2.6 Additional water tank at allotments

Council noted that an order to provide the additional tank was placed with Limebridge Rural services on 17.07.09.

7.2.7 Street lighting report

Specification provided for consideration by Council under Item 7.3.

7.2.8 Painting railings at Abbots Salford

The Clerk reported that quotations had been sought from DJ Sadler of Badsey, PPI Ltd. of Ardens Grafton, and J Hyde of Pebworth. The following quotations had been received:

DJ Sadler No quotation received.

PPI Ltd. £397.70 plus vat. (In full accordance with the specification provided.)

J Hyde No quotation received.

The Chairman proposed, Cllr. Wolfe seconded, and it was agreed, that the quotation from PPI Ltd. be accepted.

7.3 Specification for lighting survey.

Council reviewed the draft specification for the lighting survey and the Clerk was asked to contact Peter Long and obtain a budget estimate for the work.

8. Communications

8.1 Newsletter

Cllr. Wolfe said that the next Newsletter should focus on the Fire Station review and this would set the timing. Council agreed and members were asked to commence producing other items for Cllr. Wolfe.

8.2 Website, outcome of meeting with R Dare.

The Clerk reported that Mr R Dare had agreed to the terms proposed by Council and would be starting to upload information to the website imminently. It was agreed that Cllr. Wolfe and the Clerk would meet Mr Dare when the initial set-up had been completed.

8.3 E-mail newsletter

The Clerk reported that he had circulated information relating to the planning application for the extension to Marsh Farm and several residents had written to WCC as a result.

9. Rights of Way

9.1 Report from P3 Co-ordinator.

Cllr. Penn said there was nothing to report. Cllr. Stedman was asked to write an item for the Newsletter regarding the path opposite the shop and post office. The Chairman referred to complaints about a dog roaming on the allotments; he agreed to pass the name of the owner to the

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Clerk so that the dog warden could be informed. The Clerk said that Cllr. Myers was intending to meet with Alamo Turner regarding AL17.

10. Planning general**10.1 Consultation on Housing Growth Scenarios and Potential Development Options from Stratford on Avon District Council.**

Councillors were concerned about the loss of community and “village” feeling when new developments were thrust into existing rural settlements. Their experience was that too often these developments simply attracted commuters from the urban settlements. The Chairman said that Alcester had several brownfield sites suitable for development and also referred to the high rentals of shops in the high street. Taking these points into consideration, Council completed the consultation document for forwarding to the District Council.

11. New Planning Applications for Council’s consideration

None reported.

12. Planning Decisions

Council noted the following planning decisions.

12.1 09/00968/FUL for a glazed porch and **09/01190/FUL** for the erection of three sheds, a gazebo, and hard standings (retrospective), all at Dunnington School. **Permission granted.**

12.2 APP/J3720/A/09/2100846 being an appeal decision in respect of Land at Marsh Farm for the retrospective change of use of an existing building to B8 storage and the siting of three containers for B8 storage for a period of no more than three years following an appeal by Mr Robert Lewis trading as Celebration Fireworks. **Permission granted.**

Council noted that Arden Special Landscape status had been abandoned.

12.3 09/00966/FUL, Lodge, Pitchill, Evesham, WR11 8SN to knock down the existing dwelling and replace with a new dwelling and to change the use of agricultural land to residential curtilage for Park Farm Homes Ltd. **Permission granted with conditions.**

12.4 Reference to Ombudsman The Chairman reported that the District Council had been taken to the Ombudsman regarding a decision in respect of a cottage at Rushford.

13. Staffing

Nothing reported.

14. Matters raised by Councillors**14.1 Cllr. Francis – Footpath between Ridsdale Close and School Avenue**

Cllr. Francis reported that the hedge from 12 School Road was encroaching onto the path and that the fencing to 15 School Road was in poor condition. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to both owners accordingly.

14.2 Cllr. Wolfe – Future of the Fire and Rescue Service

Cllr. Wolfe enquired as to what action needed to be taken in advance of the new proposals being published. The Clerk was asked to circulate the statement from WCC to members and also to liaise with Bidford PC. All councillors were urged to attend the special community forum meeting to discuss any proposals.

15. Consideration of Correspondence Received**15.1 Bus Services Improvements, Consultation 2009, WCC**

Council noted the response from WCC. The Chairman reported that there was a possibility of bus passes for under 16s’ being trialled in the area.

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15.2 Change to Sunday bus service, WCC.

Council noted the change of service provider to the 166 Sunday only service.

15.3 HM Government, Vetting and Barring Scheme.

Council noted the information provided. The Clerk was instructed to send copies of the scheme to all village organisations.

15.4 Adoption of BT red telephone box at Iron Cross.

Council considered the invitation from BT to adopt the telephone box at Iron Cross where the telephone equipment was to be removed. Council saw no benefits in this course of action and the Clerk was instructed to write to BT declining their offer and urging the company to remove the box as soon as possible for reasons of public safety and the risk of further vandalism.

15.5 WALC Training programme.

Council noted the information provided.

15.6 Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire, Queen's Award for voluntary service

Council noted the information provided.

15.7 WCC Local transport plan, consultation.

Councillors were provided with copies of a consultation document from WCC regarding the new Local Transport Plan to be published in 2011 and were asked to complete it and return directly to the County Council.

16. To Table

Council noted the following tabled items:

16.1 WRCC, Country Matters Issue 42, Summer 2009.

16.2 West Midlands Rural Community Action Network, Greening your community plan.

17. Finance**17.1 To consider and approve the payments and transfers listed in Appendix A.**

Council noted the income transactions in Appendix A Item 20.1

Council considered the expenditure transactions listed in Appendix A Item 20.2. Authorisation for payment was proposed by Cllr. Wolfe, seconded by Cllr. James and carried. Cheques were signed by Cllrs. Wolfe and James.

Council considered the Clerk's proposal to transfer £3500 from No.1 account to the Community account. Authorisation for transfer of funds was proposed by Cllr. Francis, seconded by Cllr. Wolfe and carried.

17.2 Report from External Auditor

Council noted that an unqualified audit opinion had been received from the External Auditor, Clement Keys.

18. Date of Next Meeting

Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on Wednesday 16th. September at 7.30pm at The Memorial Hall, Salford Priors.

19. Closure of meeting

The meeting closed at 9.43 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

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APPENDIX A**20. Finance****20.1 Income transactions for approval**

| Tn. No. | Cheque | Gross | Vat | Net | Details |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 6421 | | 1620.94 | 0.00 | 1620.94 | HM Revenue & Customs VAT refund |
| Total | | £1620.94 | £0.00 | £1620.94 | |

20.2 Expenditure transactions for approval

| Tn. No. | Cheque | Gross | Vat | Net | Details |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|--|
| 8446 | dd | 18.58 | 2.42 | 16.16 | Plusnet, office Broadband. |
| 8447 | 102163 | 842.00 | 0.00 | 842.00 | Salford Priors Memorial Hall, Office rent and hall hire. |
| 8448 | 102164 | 644.04 | 0.00 | 644.04 | Clerk's salary, August. |
| 8449 | 102165 | 1003.84 | 130.94 | 872.90 | GBD (Evesham) Ltd. |
| 8450 | 102166 | 172.50 | 22.50 | 150.00 | Limebridge Rural services Ltd. |
| 8451 | 102167 | 460.00 | 60.00 | 400.00 | Clement Keys |
| 8452 | 102168 | 30.00 | 0.00 | 30.00 | Michael J Hyde |
| Total | | £3170.96 | £215.86 | £2955.10 | |

20.3. Transfers

Proposal to transfer £3500 from No.1 account to Community account.

20.4 Account Balances at 13.08.09

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Community a/c | £796.43 |
| No.1 a/c | £30053.27 |
| No.3 a/c | £163.66 |