

Salford Priors Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held in The Memorial Hall, Salford Priors, on Wednesday 21st. July 2010 at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors, AW Wolfe (Chairman), M Myers (Vice-Chairman), DC Penn, RA Francis, A Quiney, and L Wright.

Also in attendance: MJ.Philpott, Clerk, County Cllr. P Barnes, District Cllr. B Slaughter, and four members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

Council considered and agreed apologies for absence from Cllr. JR Stedman due to another commitment.

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. Wright declared a personal interest in item 10.1 as a member of South Warwickshire Environmental Association.

3. Open Forum

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

3.2 Public Participation: No items from members of the public.

3.3 Ward Members' Reports Cllr. Barnes reported on the decision made by the County Council regarding the Fire Service Review and particularly the decision to retain Bidford Fire Station. He said that a major factor in the decision was the very positive campaign mounted in Bidford. Cllr. Barnes also reported on the five new buses being introduced to the No. 28 service, all with wheelchair access. Finally, Cllr. Barnes reported that the County Council were facing a 25 per cent cut in services; nursing homes were being privatised but details of other cuts were not yet available. He asked to be kept informed of the progress on the sewerage improvements along the B4088. Cllr. Slaughter said the District Council was also examining cuts but decisions had not yet been made. He also commented on the support given by new MP Nadim Zahawi in the fire service campaign.

4. Minutes

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 16th. June 2010 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 Highways maintenance issues.**

The Clerk reported that David Elliston of WCC Highways had confirmed that some planings had been levelled and compacted on the Harvington footway but agreed that it was not satisfactory. He had submitted a scheme to tarmac the surface for consideration in next year's programme of works. He also confirmed that he had ordered his contractors to erect new give way signs at the School Road junction.

5.2 Speeding issues.

The Clerk reported that the results of speed tests in Broom Lane carried out between 11.06 and 21.06 had been received. The tests were carried out between Tothall Lane junction and the Hillers junction

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on the B4088 just opposite the school. Of 1398 vehicles measured, 117 were travelling between 31 and 36 mph and 20 were travelling between 36 and 41 mph. No vehicles exceeded 41mph. All but one of the vehicles travelling between 36 and 41 mph were travelling in a westerly direction. Council noted that the Order for Evesham Road had still not been published. Richard Elbourne had informed the Clerk that it was now with WCC lawyers and the Council would be informed as soon as he had a definite date. The Chairman said he had received a complaint from Mr Cane regarding the time taken to process the Order and the Clerk was instructed to write to WCC expressing the Council's strong dissatisfaction with the lack of progress. Cllr. Penn reported that a cable had been cut on the speed visor between Salford Priors and Abbots Salford.

5.3 Septic tanks along B4088.

A public meeting was held on 24.06.10 for residents from Pitchill, Rushford, and Iron Cross to hear from Severn Trent about the prospects of improving the sewerage arrangements in these settlements. The meeting was told that an application under S101A of the Water Act could be made and Severn Trent would then carry out a full feasibility study to determine the best course of action. Volunteers from the settlements had been helping residents to fill out the necessary forms and these would be sent off with a completed application form by the Clerk with the full support of the Parish Council within the next two weeks.

5.4. Parking at Dunnington School.

A meeting was held on 21.06.10 with the Head Teacher, the Chairman of Governors, Cllr. L Wright, and the Clerk to discuss ways in which parking by parents could be better controlled. It was agreed that letters should be sent to the Highways Authority pressing for additional double yellow lines in the critical areas. Letters had been sent but the reply was unhelpful. Cllr. Wright proposed that Katrina Pedlar be asked to come out to the site next term at 3.20pm on a school day to see the problem for herself and this was agreed.

5.5 Light at School Road, Evesham Road junction.

The Clerk reported that a quotation for repairing the damaged light had been received from PD Long in the sum of £496.60. This had been passed to RSA (Formerly Royal Sun Alliance) which was the company insuring the vehicle that damaged the light. An order had been placed with PD Long to obtain the replacement light.

5.6 Planning policy for poly-tunnels.

Cllr. Pemberton had been chasing the promised policy statement but it had still not arrived. Cllr. Wright said that there was a court case pending at Ross on Wye that may set another precedent and it was possible the planning officer was awaiting the result of this case. The Clerk agreed to e-mail Cllr. Pemberton to try and progress the issue.

5.7 Main sewer in School Road.

A television survey of the main outfall pipe was carried out on 6.07.10 and a meeting was held on 7.07.10 with Geoff Timms of Severn Trent, Cllr. Stedman, and Don Penn. A further inspection was carried out on 13.07.10 attended by Severn Trent, Cllrs. Stedman and Penn and also Don Penn. A very detailed inspection of all the options was made and notes made by Cllr. Stedman were circulated to Councillors. The Clerk said that he had received confirmation that Severn Trent had agreed to reconstruct the headwall and outfall and cleanse the pipe. However, the reed bed was silted up and this was not in the company's ownership. Work was still underway to identify the owner of the reed bed.

5.8 Noise issues at Dunnington.

Cllr. Wright reported that a meeting was held with Roger Thatcher, Planning Enforcement Officer, Nick Ellison, Environmental Health Officer, Cllr. L Wright, Cllr. D Pemberton, and J Fenlon, and C Beamish regarding the noise and other problems emanating from Dunnington Heath Farm caravan site. It was clear that SDC were working on the problem and they agreed to intensify their investigations on the planning and licensing issues as a result of the information provided at the

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meeting. They agreed to identify a point of contact for residents to report complaints quickly. Residents were also asked to monitor and log all incidents. Residents had noticed that coaches were travelling to and from the site and this appeared to be not in accordance with the planning condition that the site should only be used for workers on Hillers Farm. The Clerk was asked to seek clarification from the planners as to the successor company to Hillers.

5.9 Hedges Close sign.

SDC had assured the Clerk that the sign had arrived at their depot and would be installed shortly.

5.10 Neighbourhood Watch.

In spite of several attempts the Chairman had still been unable to contact Mr Hyde.

5.11 Affordable Housing

A mail from Phil Ward, the rural housing enabler had been circulated to all Councillors. It was noted that a meeting was being arranged with Stratford DC Planners, Warwickshire CC Highways, the Architect, and other interested parties to finalise the scheme layout. This would be followed by a Public Consultation Event. However, the future funding was in some doubt although affordable housing remained a priority for the Homes and Communities Agency.

6. Main Item

6.1 Financial Report for Quarter 1.

The Clerk introduced the financial report for the first quarter that had been previously circulated. Income was in line with budget but additional unbudgeted expenditure had been forecast on the election, water tank at allotments (work approved in previous year), and possible further grants and donations. Council noted that the amount available for projects might be reduced. The accounts for the first quarter were also considered and agreed. Cllr. Myers inspected and agreed the bank reconciliation provided by the Clerk.

The Clerk suggested that members might wish to examine the accounts systems in the office and this was agreed.

6.2 New Standing Orders.

The Clerk had circulated a discussion paper showing how the new Standing Orders published by NALC could be implemented. In respect of the Standards Committee, Council considered this should be the SDC Standards and Ethics Committee. In order that all Councillors should have the opportunity to review the Orders it was agreed to hold a separate meeting to discuss the detail and then to formally approve them at a future PC meeting.

6.3 Format of Minutes and Agendas.

The Clerk had circulated a document comparing the Agenda and Minutes with a model CALC document provided by Cllr. Stedman. The Clerk had noted that the Minutes were the only documents that would be preserved in the archives and they were therefore important historical documents that should “tell the full story” of the work of the Parish Council. Councillors present supported this view. As Cllr. Stedman was not present it was agreed to hold a separate informal meeting to discuss this item further.

7. Environment - Amenity, Highways, Allotments, and TOPS

7.1 Playing Field weekly inspection reports.

The Clerk reported that inspection reports had been received from Cllr. Francis and Cllr. Quiney dated 18.06.10, 27.06.10, 4.07.10, 5.07.10 and 19.07.20. No serious problems were identified but Cllr. Francis had reported that youths had re-erected the goal where the damaged ground was under repair. Cllr. Quiney said that the bins were not being emptied regularly and it was agreed that he and Cllr. Francis and Mrs Dare should monitor when the bins were emptied so that the Clerk could write formally to the District Council with the benefit of firm information.

7.2 Playing Field and other maintenance.

The Clerk reported that Anthony Hathaway had been asked to provide a quotation for installing 4 steel sockets to re-erect the goal posts but was having difficulty finding a suitable method for installing the sockets. The Clerk was asked to obtain an alternative quotation from Mr Hackling. The Clerk also reported that a quotation had been received for a replacement notice board at the shop from Greenbarnes Ltd. At a cost of £1015. Council considered this cost was excessive and it was agreed that quotations should be sought from Neil Stedman and Mick Hackling for cleaning up and re-varnishing the three timber noticeboards.

7.3 Playing Field lights.

The Clerk reported that an amendment to the planning consent for the lights to vary the required switch off time from 10.00pm to 10.30pm had been circulated for consultation by SDC. A meeting was held with PD Long and Advanced LEDs on 15.07.10 and two new timers were fitted to turn the lights off at 10.00pm. Advanced LEDs had explained that proprietary products for the low voltage switchgear were difficult to obtain and they had constructed the timers in-house. At the last meeting the Clerk had been asked to investigate various issues regarding the possibility of providing an additional light by the Youth Shelter. He explained that the environmental body for Warwickshire was now Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action and it was possible that a grant from CEMEX or other operators could still be obtained for this project. The Clerk had also written to the Police and to the Youth Club to seek their views and it was agreed that no action should be taken until their comments had been received.

7.4 TOPs.

Cllr. Myers reported that she would be speaking to the TOPs Management Committee shortly and that the committee of councillors agreed at the previous meeting would be convened after this meeting.

7.5 Date for inspection for street lights

Council agreed to carry out the inspection of the streetlights on Wednesday 28th. July at 10.00am starting from the Parish Office.

8. Communications

8.1 Newsletter

The Chairman said he had been holding the Newsletter until the outcome of the Fire Station review and now hoped to go to print in the following week. The Chairman also proposed a competition be announced for photographs on the theme of "A Year in the Life of the Village" and this was agreed.

8.2 Website

Nothing to report.

8.3 E-mail newsletter

The Clerk reported that the Police Newsletter had been circulated during the month.

9. Rights of Way

9.1 Report from Rights of Way Inspector

Cllr. Quiney reported on the state of AL10 where the grass was very long and also where a poplar tree was overhanging the road and a nearby property and was dangerous. The Clerk was asked to investigate with the SDC tree officer and also try to locate the owner.

10. Planning general

10.1 Marsh Farm Quarry Liaison Committee.

Councillors had received minutes of the liaison committee meeting for information. The Clerk reported that he had written to Mr Rowley of CEMEX requesting the information as to the remaining

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void space at Marsh Farm. He also informed Council that the legal agreement had still not been completed and Cllr. Wright said that this meant potential members of the Liaison Committee were being disenfranchised. The Chairman stated that the new members should attend the inspection of the site and Sue Broomhead should be informed that this would happen. The Chairman also proposed that the third representative to be nominated by the Parish Council should remain open and flexible in case particular expertise was considered necessary and this was agreed. Cllr. Wright proposed that a line needed to be drawn under the past history of the Liaison Committee and this was agreed with all members looking forward to a new start.

11. New Planning Applications for Council's consideration

11.1 10/01140/VARY – Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 03/02991/FUL to allow solar powered lights to remain on until 10.30pm (formerly 10pm) at Parish Playing Fields, School Avenue, Salford Priors for Salford Priors Parish Council. No representations were made but SDC were informed that new timers were being fitted.

12. Planning Decisions

None to report.

13. Staffing

The Clerk reported that a new filing cabinet had been obtained and he had made good progress re-organising the filing in the Parish office. As a result of this change the old fridge needed to be disposed of and it was agreed this should be arranged by Mr Don Penn.

14. Matters raised by Councillors

No matters were raised formally but the following observations were made:

Cllr. Myers reported that she had attended the launch of the new buses for the number 28 route and they were a big improvement on the previous vehicles.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to write to Bidford PC on behalf of the Parish Council expressing appreciation for all the effort put in to preserve the Bidford Fire Station.

The Chairman also requested that a review of the mowing contract be placed on a future agenda. Cllr. Wright expressed his considerable disappointment with the behaviour of the CLA Gamefair organisers in that they had failed to deliver on promises made; however, he did not wish to take matters further.

15. Consideration of Correspondence Received

15.1 WCC, consultation on reviewing the charges that customers pay towards the costs of their adult social care services.

Councillors noted the information provided and expressed their concern for needy residents in the parish.

15.2 SDC, decision on membership of Council's Standards and Ethics Committee.

Cllr. Myers confirmed the decision was in accordance with the Parish Council's consultation response.

15.3 NALC, Legal Briefing on the Local Authorities (Indemnities for Members and officers) Order 2004.

Council noted the information provided.

15.4 Salford Priors Village Fete Committee.

Council noted the appreciation of the Fete Committee for the donation from the Parish Council.

15.5 Salford Priors Primary School.

Council noted the appreciation of the School for the donation from the Parish Council.

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15.6 Mrs Milward, field opposite Cleeve View.

The Clerk was asked to respond to Mrs Milward and to seek information from her regarding ownership of the field opposite Cleeve View.

16. Tabled Documents

Councillors noted the following tabled items.

- 16.1 The Clerk, July 2010.
- 16.2 Clerks & Councils Direct July 2010.

17. Finance**17.1 Consideration and approval of 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 Items 20.2 and 20.3.

Authorisation for payment was proposed by Cllr. Myers, seconded by Cllr. Francis, and carried. Cheques were signed by Cllr. Wolfe and Cllr. Wright.

Council considered the Clerk's proposal to transfer £5500 from No.1 account to the Community account. Authorisation for transfer of funds was proposed by Cllr. Myers, seconded by Cllr. Wright, and carried.

17.2 Risk Management

Council considered the statement on risk management submitted by the Clerk and considered it represented a realistic and robust statement of the Council's policy. Cllr. Myers proposed, Cllr. Francis seconded and it was agreed that the statement be adopted.

18. Date of Next Meeting

Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on Wednesday 18th. August at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall, Salford Priors.

19. Closure of meeting

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

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

None to report

20.2 Expenditure transactions approved between meetings

Tn. No.	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net	Details
8587	dd	18.99	2.83	16.16	Plusnet, Office Broadband
8588	102293	74.31	9.72	64.59	BT office phone

20.3 Expenditure transactions for approval

Tn. No.	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net	Details
8589	102294	125.00	0.00	125.00	Warwickshire County Council
8590	102295	45.01	6.70	38.31	Digital Copier Systems
8591	102296	20.00	0.00	20.00	Michael J Hyde
8592	102297	50.00	0.00	50.00	The Bridge (Fete prize)
8593	102298	1786.81	266.12	1520.69	GBD (Evesham) Ltd.
8594	102299	32.58	4.85	27.73	Staples
8595	102300	117.44	17.49	99.95	Viking Direct
8596	102301	302.33	45.03	257.30	E.ON UK
8597	102302	98.10	4.67	93.43	Npower, TOPs electricity
8598	102303	1540.33	0.00	1540.33	Stratford on Avon DC
8599	102304	536.90	0.00	536.90	Clerk's salary July
8600	102305	768.65	114.48	654.17	Npower, street lighting energy
Totals 20.2 & 20.3		£5516.45	£471.89	£5044.56	

20.4. Transfers

Proposal to transfer £5500.00 from No.1 account to Community account.

20.5 Account Balances at 13.07.10

Community a/c	£1518.67
No.1 a/c	£31958.93
No.3 a/c	£188.78