

Salford Priors Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held in The Memorial Hall, Salford Priors, on Wednesday 18th. August 2010 at 7.30pm.

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

Also in attendance: MJ.Philpott, Clerk, County Cllr. P Barnes, and three members of the public.

Before opening the meeting the Chairman reported the sad death of Mrs Hazel Mitchell, wife of the former Clerk to the Council, Mr Eric Mitchell. Members expressed their sincere condolences to Mr Mitchell which the Chairman agreed to convey on behalf of all the members of the Parish Council.

1. Apologies for absence

Council considered and agreed apologies for absence from District Cllrs. D Pemberton and BW Slaughter due to other 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. JR Stedman declared prejudicial interests in Items 7.2 (Replacement of goalposts); Item 7.4 (Mowing contract); and Item 20.2 (Transaction 8608, payment to the Memorial Hall.)

3. Open Forum

The Chairman moved that the meeting be adjourned for Open Forum and this was agreed.

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

3.2 Public Participation: Mrs Seville reported that the hedge between Cleeve View and Abbotts Salford required cutting as did also the hedge opposite Limebridge Farm and between the School and Ban Brook Road. The Clerk was asked to write to Sandfields and to Eastwood growers respectively.

Jeremy Gascoigne reported that 10 – 12 lorries an hour were passing along the road between Dunnington cross roads and Ragley causing great distress to his parents. He believed this was not allowed under the terms of the quarry routing agreement. He also reported considerable dust nuisance from the operation of the quarry. The Chairman said these points would be referred to the quarry liaison committee.

3.3 Ward Members' Reports Cllr. Barnes reported that Bidford Bridge was to be closed overnight for construction work. He also referred to the good work of Severn Trent in repairing the sewer in School Road and potential grants for people running clubs. He suggested that the Council should write to WCC to request a further speed test at Dunnington when the school returns. Finally, Cllr. Barnes reported that Stratford DC and Warwick DC had decided not to combine their senior manager teams.

The Chairman moved the closure of the adjournment at 7.57pm and this was agreed.

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4. Minutes

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 21st. July 2010 at 7.30pm at The Memorial Hall, Salford Priors, were approved and signed by the Chairman. In response to a comment from Cllr. Stedman the Clerk said he would arrange for the outstanding Minutes to be posted on the website.

5. Clerk's report**5.1 Septic tanks along B4088.**

Council noted that a "Request for a public sewer under Section 101A of the Water Industry Act" for the settlements along the B4088 had been submitted to Severn Trent on 3rd. August. The report contained 40 individual Form A's together with maps to identify each property and a covering letter and form identifying the support of the Parish Council. Subsequently, an additional Form A from Enterprise Inns was submitted. A response from Severn Trent was awaited and it was noted that this could take many months.

5.2. Parking at Dunnington School.

The Clerk reported that a letter had been sent to Katrina Pedlar at WCC expressing disappointment with the response to the request for further control of parking at Dunnington School. The Clerk had liaised with the Chairman of Governors and had requested that Katrina visit the School later in September.

5.3 Planning policy for poly-tunnels.

It was noted that Cllr. Pemberton had informed the Clerk that he was still chasing the Director of Planning for a response.

5.4 Main sewer in School Road.

Council noted that Severn Trent had carried out extensive works in School Road and at the Outfall by the old sewage beds. Some pipes had been lined to repair breakages and provide a smooth barrel. One problem that had been identified was that some of the highway drainage was actually connected to the foul sewer. Much of the work had been concentrated in the vicinity of Hedges Close where foul sewage was discharging from a road gully. Further discharges on 9.08.10 prompted an urgent e-mail to Fraser Pithie, Senior Operations Manager of Severn Trent, and he came out to Salford Priors immediately where he met the Clerk. A meeting was arranged for Friday 13th. August with WCC and ST and Mr Pithie gave every assurance that the problem would be solved once and for all. ST arranged for a closure of School Road from Sunday 15th. August for a fortnight in order to excavate and replace the broken and blocked pipes. Arrangements were made to divert all HGVs and the bus service and an extensive public information campaign was mounted.

The Chairman said he was deeply grateful to Severn Trent and particularly Fraser Pithie for responding so positively. He recognised the work of the Clerk in developing good working relationships with the officers of ST and WCC and also thanked Cllr. Myers for her efforts to ensure the signing was correct.

Considerable work had also been done on the outfall by the old sewage beds. The access had been completely cleared and a new headwall and apron constructed. This would make future work much easier. However, the Clerk reported that the problem would not be solved until a clear route to the river was established. Severn Trent did not have powers to clear the watercourse to the river and this was the owner's responsibility under direction from the Environment Agency. Cllr. Stedman said he

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was most concerned that flood water could not get away and the Clerk agreed to contact the EA regarding this issue.

5.5 Noise issues at Dunnington.

The Clerk reported that he had consulted the Planning Enforcement Officer regarding Condition 1 of the planning consent. He had been informed that the condition goes with the land but even if the new owners still worked the same land as previously owned by Hillers, any change of ownership of that land brings about a breach. It was therefore important to know who owns the land on which the workers were currently working, and that is something which the Enforcement Officer was addressing in his planning contravention notice.

Cllr. Wright reported that a coach was being regularly used to transport workers from the site early each morning and then returning about 6.00pm. Cllr. Stedman said they were probably being transported to Bretforton. The Clerk was asked to pass this information on to the enforcement officer and also to write to Alan Grainger, the CEO of Ragley Estates, owner of the land at Dunnington.

5.6 Hedges Close sign.

The Clerk reported that he had been informed by SDC that they were now using their internal team to do the installations and the delay was due to holidays. They hoped to complete by the end of the month.

5.7 Neighbourhood Watch.

The Chairman reported that he had spoken to Michael Hyde and the scheme was in abeyance. Council agreed that a new co-ordinator should be sought.

5.8 CLA Gamefair.

Council considered a request for feedback regarding the CLA Gamefair and proposed that the Clerk should submit a brief report commenting on some of the signage issues and the rumours of the fair being a bi-annual event.

6. Main Items

6.1 WCC Order to extend the Evesham Road speed limit.

The Clerk circulated a draft response to the Order requesting speed visors at each end of the 30mph limit in Salford Priors and also considered an e-mail from Janis Jansons requesting that the buildout be replaced. Council decided to adopt the response drafted by the Clerk. .

6.2 Adoption of new Standing Orders.

The Clerk had circulated copies of the proposed new Standing Orders. The Chairman commended them to the Council and on a proposal by Cllr. Stedman, seconded by Cllr. Myers the new Standing Orders were adopted.

6.3 Interim report on future footway lighting policy.

A report by the Clerk was circulated with proposals to withdraw footway lighting from all areas apart from the housing estate areas in Salford Priors. Councillors were concerned that the existence of isolated pockets of light in a rural area was dangerous for road users and that the way of life of residents had changed significantly since the lights had been installed 40 years ago. Cllr. Myers reported that there was evidence to show that the crime rate was reduced in areas without footway lighting. Cllr. Penn proposed, and it was agreed, that the 31 lights not within the housing estate areas

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of Salford Priors, as indicated in the Clerk's report, should be switched off and labels should be attached to these lights explaining the Council's policy. The future use of these lights would be further considered after the winter months. The Clerk was instructed to arrange for PD Long to switch off these lights at an approximate price of £30 per light. Council noted that there would be a reduction in the electricity costs and the maintenance charges and the lighting inventory would be updated with Npower following the switch-off.

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

7.1 Playing Field weekly inspection reports.

Inspection reports from Cllrs. Francis and Quiney had been received dated 26th. July, 2nd. August, 8th. August, and 15th. August. The reports showed that the surface underneath the swings required urgent remedial work. Two of the three "No Dogs" around the play area had been vandalised. Cllr. Francis said that he was concerned about the safety of the swings and Council agreed that the Clerk should arrange for a new surface to be laid without delay using contractors recommended by Stratford DC. Council also agreed to replace the "No Dogs" signs.

Cllr. Stedman having declared a prejudicial interest left the room.

7.2 Quotations received

The Clerk reported that a quotation for replacing the football goalposts in the sum of £128.00 had been received from Limebridge Rural Services Ltd. Cllr. Myers proposed this offer be accepted and this was agreed.

The Clerk also reported that a quotation for moving the litter bin from the junction of School Road and Station Road to the bus stop by Hedges Close in the sum of £64.00 had been received from MJ Hackling. Again, Cllr. Myers proposed this offer be accepted and this was agreed.

7.4 Timetable for delivering the next mowing contract.

The Clerk had circulated a timetable and report for delivering the next mowing contract. Council agreed that it did not wish to extend the existing contract as was allowed by the terms of the contract. Councillors were concerned about the overall cost of mowing and wished to explore changes to the specification. It was agreed that Cllr. Myers, Wright, and Penn would meet with the Clerk to review the specification and report to the next meeting of the Council. The timetable proposed by the Clerk was agreed.

Cllr. Stedman returned to the room

7.3 Progress report regarding the Playing Field lighting. (This item was taken after item 7.4)

The Clerk reported that planning consent had now been received from SDC to vary the switch-off time for the three solar lights to 10.30pm. subject to effective and accurate switches being fitted. The Clerk was asked to get the new switches fitted as soon as possible.

In respect of the suggested light by the Youth Shelter, the Clerk reported that replies from the Police and the Youth Club were still awaited. Council asked the Clerk to write again with an indication that a decision would be made in any case at the next meeting.

7.5 Report from Cllr. M Myers regarding the TOPs working group.

Cllr. Myers reported the first meeting of the working group had taken place and she had also met the TOPs committee. The working group would visit TOPs on 6.09.10 and wanted to inspect the building again with the Clerk when he returned from holiday. Cllr. Stedman asked the Clerk to check when the lease of the building expired.

8. Communications

8.1 Newsletter

Nothing reported.

8.2 Website

The Clerk to add recent Agendas and Minutes.

8.3 E-mail newsletter

The Clerk reported that a police newsletter and notification of the School Road closure had been sent during the month.

9. Rights of Way

9.1 Report from Rights of Way Inspector

In respect of the poplar tree at Cleeve view the Clerk reported that he awaited a comment from the new tree officer at SDC. Cllr. Quiney reported there were still complaints about footpath AL11 and Council asked the Clerk to bring in the County Council to deal with the enforcement issues.

10. Planning general

10.1 Site inspection by the Marsh Farm Quarry Liaison Committee.

The Clerk circulated a report of the site inspection held on 14th. August. Councillors were pleased to note the progress made that should result in the strip by Broom Lane being completed by Christmas 2010 with the rest of the site being effectively screened from view. Council noted that that the requested calculations of remaining fill volume showed an estimated life of 5 years. Councillors had also viewed the restoration at the Southern end of the quarry and were minded to support the concept of a permanent water feature in this area that would be subject to agreement from the Ragley Estate and the County Council. Council agreed the Clerk's report for circulation to the liaison committee.

10.2 Response to the WCC Transport Plan

The Clerk had circulated a draft response to the WCC Transport Strategy and this was agreed by the Council.

10.3 Response to the WCC Rights of Way and Recreational Highway Strategy.

The Clerk had circulated a draft response to the WCC Rights of Way and Recreational Highway Strategy and this was agreed by the Council..

11. New Planning Applications

None reported

12. Planning Decisions

Council noted the following planning decisions.

12.1 10/01003/FUL – Extension to existing hardstanding at Orchards Farm, School Road, Salford Priors, Evesham for Sandfields Farm Ltd..

Planning permission granted with conditions.

12.2 10/00724/FUL and 10/00727/DEM - Replacement of existing garage/workshop building with new garage/workshop building with a pitched roof with office/storage in roof. Relocation of existing conservatory from rear of main building on to rear of new garage.

Demolition of existing garage/workshop building with flat roof.

At Hawkfield, Station Road, Salford Priors, Evesham WR11 8UX, for Mrs Nicky Burt

Planning permission granted with conditions.

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12.3 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.

Planning permission granted with conditions.

13. Staffing

13.1 Council noted the Clerk's arrangements for annual leave. The Clerk was asked to pass all relevant keys, passwords, codes, and parish council documents to the Chairman.

14. Matters raised by Councillors

Cllr. Stedman requested that the location of the Council owned Doomsday Book be placed on a future agenda.

Cllr. Penn informed Councillors that drain covers were being stolen from nearby parishes and asked members to watch out for suspicious activity.

The Chairman asked that some recognition of former long serving Councillors be discussed at a future meeting.

15. Correspondence Received

15.1 TOPs, Notification of new committee

Council noted the information provided.

15.2 WCC Winter Service Review

The Clerk reported that WCC was asking for nomination of additional gritting routes but was stating that routes where gritting need not be carried out should also be identified. Council considered that School Road was a crucial route with 3 school buses, a half-hourly passenger bus service, HGVs and large tractors all vying to use the road. The Clerk was asked to send a strong response to the County.

16. Tabled Documents

No documents were tabled.

17. Finance

Cllr. Stedman, having declared a prejudicial interest, left the meeting.

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. Authorisation for payment was proposed by Cllr. Wright, seconded by Cllr. Myers, and carried. Cheques were signed by Cllr. Wolfe and Cllr. Quiney. Council considered the Clerk's proposal to transfer £3000 from No.1 account to the Community account. Authorisation for transfer of funds was proposed by Cllr. Myers, seconded by Cllr. Wright, and carried.

Cllr. Stedman returned to the meeting.

17.2 Report of the External Auditor.

Council was pleased to note that an unqualified audit report had been received.

18. Date of Next Meeting

Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on Wednesday 22nd. September at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall, Salford Priors.

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19. Closure of meeting

The meeting closed at 9.29pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

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

| Tn. No. | Cheque | Gross | Vat | Net | Details |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 6451 | | 1024.87 | 0.00 | 1024.87 | HMRC VAT Refund |
| 6452 | | 150.00 | 0.00 | 150.00 | TOPs service charge |
| 6453 | | 12.00 | 0.00 | 12.00 | SWEA for photocopying |
| Totals | | £1186.87 | £0.00 | £1186.87 | |

20.2 Expenditure transactions for approval

| Tn. No. | Cheque | Gross | Vat | Net | Details |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| 8601 | dd | 18.99 | 2.83 | 16.16 | Plusnet broadband |
| 8602 | 102306 | 470.00 | 70.00 | 400.00 | Clement Keys |
| 8603 | 102307 | 94.00 | 14.00 | 80.00 | PD Long |
| 8604 | 102308 | 27.00 | 0.00 | 27.00 | MJ Philpott (Maps) |
| 8605 | 102309 | 20.00 | 0.00 | 20.00 | MJ Hyde |
| 8606 | 102310 | 925.82 | 137.88 | 787.94 | GBD (Evesham) Ltd. |
| 8607 | 102311 | 88.07 | 13.12 | 74.95 | Staples |
| 8608 | 102312 | 802.50 | 0.00 | 802.50 | Salford Priors Memorial Hall |
| 8609 | 102313 | 536.90 | 0.00 | 536.90 | MJ Philpott, Clerk's salary August |
| Total | | £2983.28 | £237.83 | £2745.45 | |

20.3. Transfers

Proposal to transfer £3000.00 from No.1 account to Community account.

20.4 Account Balances at 10.08.10

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Community a/c | £1,626.53 |
| No.1 a/c | £27,645.80 |
| No.3 a/c | £188.78 |