

MINUTES OF MEETING ON 8th SEPTEMBER 2010[/heading]

PRESENT: Sid Bishop, Jonathan Miller, Stephanie Penfold, Gordon Wilson (Chair), Liz Carmichael (Clerk) and Andrew Bennett (Ward Councillor). Also present were 3 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES

David Lomax and Maurice Spillane

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Stephanie Penfold declared an interest in agenda items 11.2 and 11.4 as she is the Parish Council's representative on both the Village Hall committee and the Parish Plan committee.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st July were approved and signed as a true record.

4. GUEST SPEAKER, PC RORY DRAPER (COMMUNITY BEAT MANAGER)

The area covered by PC Rory Draper, and his team of two PCSOs, spans from this side of J16 of the M4, across to Wroughton and Chisledon and down to the other side of Bishopstone. This area includes 6 -7 villages, each with their own Parish Council, with their own differing priorities, which can be challenging for the police.

Jonathan Miller joined the meeting.

PC Draper advised the meeting that he liked to work in partnership with the local parish councils, Swindon Borough Council and highways to solve problems. Crime figures for the last 6 months for Liddington show 2 incidents of criminal damage, 1 house burglary and 1 theft from an outbuilding or garden. PC Draper stated that it would be helpful if members of the public would report any suspicious vehicles or individuals to him. The police are aware of the issue with vehicles parking along Purley road and the traffic management officer has been in contact with the Borough Council. If the Parish Council notifies PC Draper of any vehicles parked in dangerous situations, then if he is on duty or on patrol he can investigate it. The meeting discussed the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and how the Parish Council could stimulate interest in it. PC Draper suggested holding a meeting where members of the public could come and speak to the police about local policing issues and what's involved in being part of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. PCSO Mark Cook agreed to attend the event on

9th October to help promote the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. The meeting then went on to discuss the issues with speeding traffic. If the Parish Council advises PC Draper of the times/days that are the worst, he can arrange for mobile speed checks or for a police vehicle to be parked up. The Parish Council asked for feedback on any speed checks undertaken.

PC Rory Draper and PCSO Mark Cook left the meeting.

7. PLANNING

7.1 S/10/1289RM – Single storey rear extension to 39 The Street. It was noted that the deadline for responses was 21st September. It was agreed that the Parish Council had no response at this point.

7.2 No permissions have been received since the last meeting. Members of the public were invited to discuss any planning concerns with the Parish Council. It was noted that there is a planning application (S/10/1345) to change the Sun Inn back to residential; however, it has never been a residential property. Local residents, particularly those in Purley are not happy losing a pub. The Village Inn is considered more of a restaurant than a pub, whereas the Sun Inn was a 'pub'. It was noted that as a result of closing the Sun Inn, 2 darts teams and 2 crib teams had been forced to move out of the village to go to other pubs.

A member of the public questioned whether or not the building work at 37 Purley road was lawful. Gordon Wilson advised the meeting that planning application S/06/0620 for 37 Purley road had been granted permission on 21st April 2006 for front and rear dormer windows and to raise the ridge height of the existing garage roof. It was noted the work should have begun within 3 years.

10. WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Andrew Bennett informed the meeting that the borough council was focusing on budget issues as it needs to find £4.5million this year. Cuts in adult social care are one thing that is being looked at. A canal festival is being held at Witchelstowe on Sunday 12 September.

Andrew Bennett left the meeting.

5. UPDATE FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Jonathan Miller had gone to speak to the resident about where their vehicle was parked but it had already been moved and parked elsewhere. There was a brief discussion about how to handle all issues with parking and whether or not the Parish

Council should get involved with these issues. It was noted that a standard letter advising offenders to park considerately and without causing an obstruction to other road users could be drafted.

Actions completed

Get costings for website sign Action: clerk

Get permission from Highways to place seat on triangle at the top of the Street Action: clerk

Get costings for cementing in new seat Action: clerk

Walk around village & review parking issues Action: All

Speak to resident about overhanging hedge Action: DL

Invite Robert Buckland MP to meeting & book hall Action: clerk

Send letter of complaint to Thamesdown Action: clerk

Send reply to Mr Conning's letter Action: clerk

Actions carried forward from previous minutes

Arrange meeting with SBC to discuss parking issues Action: AB

Speak to resident about alternate places to park Action: JM

6. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

6.1 Ongoing Matters

(i) Traffic Calming – The traffic survey which will check the effectiveness of the scheme is yet to be carried out.

(ii) Electricity Poles – It was noted that there are still poles without wires attached.

(iii) Flooding & blocked drains – Blocked drains raised with James Garrad. It was noted that the walk around prior to the village clean up is scheduled for 5th October and that during this review all drains should be checked.

(iv) Medbourne Lane road signs – The new signs have still not been installed.

(v) Postal Collection Plates – The post box now has collection plates and this matter is now closed.

Chase SBC regarding the traffic calming project's traffic survey
Action: clerk

Chase SBC regarding the electricity poles which are still not connected
Action: clerk

Chase SBC regarding the new signs for Medbourne lane
Action: clerk

6.2 Communication Activities – It was noted that a 'roast' has been organised as fundraiser for the village hall and the parish plan. The clerk reminded the meeting that if it is anticipated that there is to be any associated expenditure by the Parish council on this or other events, this must be approved in advanced.

6.3 Parking Issues – Following the walk around the village to review the issues with parking, the matter has been raised with the Police and the Borough Council to seek solutions.

6.4 Permissive Path through the coomb – It was noted that there has been no change of ownership. As far as the Parish Council is aware the agreement for the permissive path through the coomb still stands as no communication to the contrary has been received.

6.5 Trough – It was noted that perhaps the trough outside the bungalows could be moved closer to the footpath to allow vehicles parked alongside is to open their doors more easily. Alternately it could be relocated to another part of the village.

Consider ideas of where to relocate the trough Action: All

6.6 Quality Parish Council Scheme – This matter was deferred to the next meeting.

8. FINANCE

8.1 Account Summary – The Parish Council reviewed and approved the account summary. Sid Bishop queried the charges for emptying the dog bin. The clerk agreed to provide Mr Bishop with a breakdown of the previous invoices.

8.2 Quote for installing the bench – The quote of £85 from Mr Archer was approved.

8.3 Quote for website sign – The 2 quotes obtained by the clerk for a website sign were discussed. It was agreed that an additional quote from Swindon Commercial Services should be obtained.

Get quote for website sign from SCS Action: clerk

8.4 Payments – The Parish Council approved payment of the following:

A re-imburement of £21.42 to Gordon Wilson for plants for the Jubilee Gardens

Invoice 2150 from Stratton St Margaret Parish Council for dog waste collection service £6.98

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Correspondence for discussion/action

– Thamesdown Transport – The reply to the Parish Council's letter of complaint was reviewed. No further action is to be taken. It was noted that there is a Passenger Transport Forum on 16th September and that the bus companies would be invited to send representatives to the meeting.

– CPRE Best Kept Village Competition County Round results – It was noted that Liddington had come 5th in the Small Category. It

was proposed that the certificate should be presented at either the village event on 9th October or at the December Parish Council meeting.

– North Wessex Downs AONB Forum on 7th October – Noted.

– Swindon Borough Council/Wiltshire Council Consultation on mineral extraction sites – It was noted that this document was available online.

9.2 Correspondence for information – The Parish Council noted the list of correspondence for information.

Voluntary Action Swindon will be holding an event themed around funding. It was decided that this correspondence may be of interest to the Parish plan group.

Email received regarding changes to the process for reporting issues to Planning Enforcement. It was noted that a new complaint form has been devised and that it should be used for any complaint or enquiry to Planning Enforcement.

11. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

11.1 Playing Field – Sid Bishop advised the meeting that he had carried out safety inspections on the play equipment on the 11th and 15th August and that there were no issues to report.

11.2 Village Hall – Nothing to report.

11.3 Neighbourhood Watch Scheme – Nothing to report.

11.4 Parish Plan – The event on 9th October is not only a fund raiser it is an opportunity to show villagers the plan. The committee is about ready to put out the questionnaire. It was noted that the committee now has a bank account setup and the money that the Parish Council agreed to underwrite could be given to the Parish Plan group.

11.5 Jeffries Land Trust – Nothing to report.

12. PARISH MAGAZINE

It was agreed that the following items be put in the Parish Council's report:

Community /neighbour issues e.g. hedges, car parking, bonfires, noise.

PC Rory Draper's visit

Speed camera check

13. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA

The map from Swindon Borough Council which shows where the public section of Church road ends was reviewed.

The clerk advised the meeting that the minutes for Swindon Borough Council's Standard Committee's July meeting were available on the web.

The meeting concluded at 9.40pm

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th September 2010.