

## **PILNING & SEVERN BEACH PARISH COUNCIL**

Meeting held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2008, commencing at 6.30 pm,  
in PILNING Village Hall

COUNCILLORS      Mr I Humphries (Chairman), Mrs N Bendall, Mrs N Chappell,  
PRESENT (9)      Mr S Cooper, Mr D Humphries, Mr D Nethercott,  
                          Mr I Roberts, Mr N Webb, Mrs C Woodhouse.

Also Present:-      J C Rawlinson (Clerk), Mr P Tyzack (S Glos Councillor), and 4  
                          members of the public (Mrs Becky Cooper of Northover Court,  
                          Mrs Gill Cox, Mrs Jane Davey, both of Ableton Lane, Mrs Barbara  
                          Matthews of Salthouse Farm Park).

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Ray Wiggins, Wayne Matthews of Property Services, with other colleagues from S Glos Council, and Shaun Pritchard and Swaylee Khan of B3 Architects of Cardiff, were in attendance to speak of plans for the future St Peters School.

To accommodate 210 pupils, the school is intended to provide creative learning in an easily maintained landscape. Every effort will be made to exploit the site to the full as a learning resource. The designers are looking to achieve a high level of sustainability. Options are currently under consideration, though cost will play a large part in the decision.

Hopefully an application will be submitted by early autumn. The public perception is that with the extra children from Redwick & Northwick School traffic problems will be greatly increased. The authorities are working on the assumption that traffic demands will be lowered by the measures included in the proposals. Most people present thought this to be nonsense, considering that insufficient thought had been given to coping with traffic, despite the inclusion of drop-off zones within the grounds. It was suggested that most parents dropping off or picking up their charges were *en route* to or from work and that no amount of encouragement would persuade them to travel to school by alternative methods. Although developers stated that a traffic study will take place, residents urged that new signage and crossing facilities will be an imperative. Concerns were also expressed about the flooding problem at the site. Confirmed that foundations for the building would be raised to combat this and that on-site features such as a pond, planting designed to soak up some of the water and improved drainage into the rhine would alleviate this problem. In respect of the football pitch residents commented that unless measures were taken to raise, or improve drainage from this area it would be flooded and unusable for much of the time.

With the time now 7.10 pm, and no further questions forthcoming, Mr Wiggins and his colleagues departed; the Chairman thanking them for their attendance.

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1.      APOLOGIES for ABSENCE

Mr J Black (holiday). Apologies also received from Mrs Barr MBE (unwell).

2.      MINUTES of the PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 2<sup>nd</sup> June were approved as a true record.

1. IR      2. SC      All agreed.

### 3. ACTION/RELATED MATTERS

#### 3 – 1 River, Seawall & Environs

A sheet issued by the Bristol Naturalists Society was distributed to all members. The sheet contained a listing of feasible and cheaper alternatives to a barrage,

#### 3 – 2 Village Halls

The fence close by the Cross Hands entrance to Pilning playing field is still to be repaired. DH is to speak with OJM over this matter.

#### 3 – 3 Church Road

Following earlier approaches by the Clerk, the church authority has been in contact with IH. With a presumption against development by the planning authority the Church Commissioners are keen to ensure that local residents are not inconvenienced and are actively looking into the possibility of allowing the land – by sale or lease – to be used for allotments.

#### 3 - 4 Parish Plan

Contact has been attempted with the IT specialist. As yet, it has not been possible to make any arrangements for training to be provided.

Clerk confirmed that with no response from the site owner of the Kings Arms he had again written seeking a response. JD informed members of PPG efforts in this regard. The owner has apparently expressed some concerns regarding 'squatters rights', but has promised JD a response very quickly.

#### 3 – 5 Bus Services, Shelters & Signs

S Glos have made no contact with CW re the bus stop(s) at Severnwood Gardens. CW confirmed that all trace of the stop on the north side of Ableton Lane had been removed. The stop on the south side has been refurbished. Speeding vehicles on the slip road from Avonmouth create problems here, 2 recent incidents damaging a fence and the bus standard. Suggestions that the slip might be blocked, access being channelled onto the main section of Ableton Lane, are unlikely to be endorsed. S Glos feel this would be more likely to cause an accident as vehicles slowed to turn. Calming measures on the slip are the more likely solution.

#### 3 - 6 Severnside Development

PT was able to confirm that whilst a planning application has not yet been submitted for Marsh Common, plans are under consideration and a submission is likely in the near future. It was stated that John Hore at Ellinghurst Farm has been served notice to quit by December.

#### 3 - 7 Building-New Development-Housing

Clerk met with representatives of the Internal Drainage Board to examine the Plot 7 site in Church Road. They were apparently concerned by the blockage of the ditch and will be reporting back accordingly. As yet there has been no follow-up from this meeting.

3 - 8 Cemetery/Churches

In response to Mrs Barr's request it was unanimously agreed that Mrs Barr be allowed to remove chippings from memorial sites where they were improperly laid. It was unanimously agreed that council should not obtain bark to replace the chippings. This must be done by, and at the expense of, relatives of the deceased.

A meeting of the Cemetery Committee is to be held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July, at Pilning Cemetery, commencing at 6.45 pm.

3 - 9 Health Authority & Care Services

Following another recent incident involving a Hayes Hospital patient, PT is to arrange a meeting with the unit supervisor Chris Peach, and Steve Webb MP and the parish council.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

12631.01 Avon Local Councils' Association  
ALCA Newsletter, July edition - circulated.

12632.02 Building-New Developments-Housing  
Merlin Housing Society advise new 'phone numbers.

12633.03 Bus Services, Shelters & Signs  
Four Towns & Vale Link Community Transport meeting, 26/6 at Filton.

12634.04 Cemetery/Churches  
Minutes of 4T&VLCT meeting at Thornbury, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2007.

12635.05 Charities & Representation  
Email from Mrs Barr MBE re irregularities at Pilning Cemetery.

12636.06 Clerks/Clerks Society  
Care for the Elderly seek a replacement representative.

12637.07 Employment/Opportunities  
Newsletter, Local Policy; a Life-changing experience.

12638.08 Environment/Conservation  
Email comment by PT re council employment policy.

12639.09 Cultural strategy publication – circulated.

12640.10 Heritage Forum, comments from meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> May.

12641.11 Environment Forum report: Greening your community building.

12642.12 Footpaths  
Path from Gorse Cover Road to Beach Avenue now cleared.

12643.13 Health Authority and Care Services  
Statement by National Autistic Society re Hayes Hospital.

**ICI/Zeneca & Other Industries**  
 12644.14 Rhona Allgood comments on closure of social club.  
 12645.15 Oldbury stakeholder meeting, minutes of 7<sup>th</sup> May meeting in Thornbury.

**Local Facilities & Amenities**  
 12646.16 Response from Alison Richards re toilet facilities.  
 12647.17 Funding and support for rural tourism businesses.

**Parish Projects & Related Matters**  
 12648.18 Report from PP Steering Group re summary of youth questionnaires.

**Playgrounds/Youth Activities**  
 12649.19 Product brochure from Monster Play.

**Police**  
 12650.20 Safer Stronger group meeting, 24<sup>th</sup> July in Hallen.

**Railways**  
 12651.21 FoSBR email re rail and bus services.

**River, Seawall & Environs**  
 12652.22 *Severn Tidings*, issue 10 - circulated.

**Street Furniture & Lighting**  
 12653.23 'Seating Collection' leaflet from Glasdon of Lancashire.  
 12654.24 'Recycling Bins' leaflet from Glasdon.  
 12655.25 Urbanscape of Derbyshire, product leaflet.

**Travellers**  
 12656.26 Response from Brian Glasson re caravans at Mongan site.

**Village Halls**  
 12657.27 VH committee thank council for their financial assistance.

**Voluntary/Community Groups**  
 12658.28 Senior Citizens Forum, meetings in July.  
 12659.29 Alzheimer's Society, annual report 2006-2007.

**Planning**  
 12660.30 Delegated decisions, w/e 7<sup>th</sup> May 2008.  
 12661.31 Delegated decisions, w/e 14<sup>th</sup> May 2008.  
 12662.32 Delegated decisions, w/e 21<sup>st</sup> May 2008.  
 12663.33 Delegated decisions, w/e 28<sup>th</sup> May 2008.  
 12664.34 Delegated decisions, w/e 5<sup>th</sup> June 2008.  
 12665.35 Delegated decisions, w/e 12<sup>th</sup> June 2008.  
 12666.36 Development Control sites inspection committee, 11<sup>th</sup> July.

Accounts/Donations

12667.37 Post Office, postage stamps. Item 5-5 refers.  
 12668.38 Standards Board, cost of training CD. Item 5-6 refers.  
 12669.39 Discount Heating, boilers for SB VH. Item 5-7 refers.  
 12670.40 Screwfix, radiators for SB VH. Item 5-8 refers.  
 12671.41 Screwfix, pipework for SBVH. Item 5-9 refers.  
 12672.42 Grass Cutting Services, grass cutting (June). Item 5-10 refers.  
 12673.43 Felix Design, stages and frames for P VH. Item 5-11 refers.  
 12674.44 S Glos Council, booking charge SB School. Item 5-12 refers.  
 12675.45 Alzheimer's Society, donation. Item 5-13 refers.  
 12676.46 Mr & Mrs Collins, toilet keyholder. Item 5-14 refers.  
 12677.47 Care for Elderly, travel allowance. Item 5-15 refers.  
 12678.48 Village Players, letter of thanks. Item 5-11 refers.  
 12679.49 Pilning Carnival, letter of thanks. Item 5-13, minutes of May, refers.  
 12680.50 SB M&T, letter of thanks. Item 5-15, minutes of May, refers.

5. ACCOUNTS for PAYMENT

5 - 1	£ 757.00	J C Rawlinson	Clerk – Wages (Jun)	112
5 - 2	£ 50.00	J C Rawlinson	Petrol	111
5 - 3	£ 757.00	J C Rawlinson	Clerk – Wages (July)	112
5 - 4	£ 50.00	J C Rawlinson	Petrol	111
5 - 5	£ 5.40	Post Office	Postage stamps	111
5 - 6	£ 38.00	Standards Board	CD –standards code	111
5 - 7	£2131.46	Discount Heating	SB VH	LGMP
5 - 8	£1541.60	Screwfix	SB VH	LGMP
5 - 9	£ 170.91	Screwfix	SB VH	LGMP
5 - 10	£ 400.00	Grass Cutting Svs	Grass cutting (Jun)	LGMP/PHA
5 - 11	£1076.30	Felix Design	Village Players/Pilning VH	137
5 - 12	£ 25.00	S Glos Council	Booking; SB School	111
5 - 13	£ 25.00	Alzheimer's Society	Donation	137
5 - 14	£ 50.00	Mr & Mrs Collins	Toilet keyholders	PHA
5 - 15	£ 152.00	Care for Elderly	Petrol allowance	LGRA
5 - 16	£ 420.40	H M R C	Income tax	112
5 - 17	£ 400.00	Grass Cutting Svs	Grass cutting (July)	LGMP/PHA
5 - 18	£1500.00	Taylor-Made	Repairs at PVH (deposit)	LGMP
<b>£9550.07</b>				

Payments in accordance with Local Government Act 1972, sections as shown, except:

5 - 7, 8, 9, 18 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) 1979, s19

5 -10, 17 )Public Health Act 1875, s164

)Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) 1979, s19

5 -14 Public Health Act 1936, s87

5 -15 Local Government & Rating Act 1997

Items 5-1 to 5-9, inclusive, paid as one cheque.

The accounts above were approved for payment. 1. DN 2. JB All Agreed

**Current bank balance, prior to payments listed above**

**£42,770.62** As at 30<sup>th</sup> June

**6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None requested.

**7. AGENDA****7 – 1 Severnside Development**

Nothing to report.

**7 – 2 Village Halls/Playing Fields**

DN reported on progress at SB VH. Parts have been ordered (see accounts for payment), gas is to be connected on 29<sup>th</sup> June, meters installed the following day. All work should be completed by early August.

IH commented on breakages at Pilning VH. Two broken windows have been replaced, the culprits are known, and bills have been submitted to parents.

**7 – 3 Parish Plan**

The results of the Youth Questionnaire have now been received. Laminated, they are to be bound and distributed.

The PPG is to be addressed by prospective council candidates.

**7 – 4 Youth Activities**

NB thanked GC for her support at the last meeting, questioning the length of time before the council intervened in what she felt had become a 'slanging match'. Problems continue with youngsters and the youth shelter. Recommended that vandal proof paint should be used on the roof to prevent youngsters from continuing to climb onto it. NB is to organise this. Suggested a litter bin (preferably fire proof) should be installed close to the shelter. NB is to ensure that litter is transferred to the main bin. NB confirmed that quiz nights are to be held at The Plough and The Fox to help raise funds. A tennis coach is to attend, contact to be made with the Clerk who currently has the net. The football team has asked to use the hardstanding area and will provide their own nets.

**7 - 5 Village Matters**

**Grass Cutting** – NC reported the need for grass cutting around the edge of sea wall gardens and around the playing fields at Pilning. Agreed that Gibbs Garden Maintenance be asked to deal with this.

**Trees & Tree Planting** – DH stated that sucker growth in Abbott Road again requires attention. A tree in Ableton Lane also requires work.

**Roads/Road Signs** – NW asked that attention should be given to road signs along the A403. Whilst none are yet obscured, many will be if work is not carried out in the very near future. NC observed that the hedgerow at Jackson Close is in need of attention.

**Waste Dumping/Disposal/Landfill** – CW asked why the plastics recycling bin has been removed from SB. This may result from a fire, but following a promise the bin would be empty it was, instead, removed. DH has attempted to make contact, and awaits a response. Hopefully the bin is scheduled for replacement.

**Building-New Development-Housing** – IR confirmed that developers who had started to sell off plots on land between Little Green Lane and Gorse Cover Road had gone into liquidation. Although efforts were being made to sort matters out it appears that investors have lost their money. Meanwhile the land will lie fallow.

IH reported on his attendance at a meeting organised by Almondsbury Parish Council. One of the local residents suggested an alternative system for coping with traffic at the zoo development, though there seems little hope that the authorities will change their minds over the proposals.

**Schools** – IH has received an assurance from the Governors of Pilning School that Robert Griffin will write no more letters, as a governor, without permission from the governing body.

#### 7 - 6 Reports

**LOCAL FACILITIES & AMENITIES** – Reference the letter received from S Glos in respect of the public toilets, PT confirmed that the parish council had the power to borrow money to fund public projects. The council also had the option of taking on responsibility for the toilets, should they wish.

**POLICE** – PT took part in the recent ‘village walk’, commenting that former councillors had accompanied PC Lodge, although no current members had been present. Although a report of the findings was not yet available, it was noticeable how few visual problems could be identified. It is an acknowledged fact that a cared-for environment is the best way of discouraging vandalism.

**ENVIRONMENT/CONSERVATION** – PT drew attention to the Natural Environment of Rural Communities legislation which imposes a duty upon all local authorities to consider and maintain the environment in all that they do.

PT also observed that aid was currently available to all local groups who wished to ‘green-up’ their buildings by utilising the latest environmental power sources to provide their power and electricity needs.

PT recently attended a “Give it Away, Take it Away” event in Thornbury. People were asked to bring unwanted items, and, at the same time, take away any items they wanted, from amongst those deposited by others. Fearing the worst, he had checked back later in the day, being pleasantly surprised to find that very few items were left, and the piles of rubbish that might have been expected were not evident. Overall it proved to be a worthwhile and rewarding experiment.

**EMPLOYMENT/OPPORTUNITIES** – Having recently attended an ‘Equalities and Diversity’ meeting, PT is *au fait* with the latest legislation, and hopefully, will now be politically correct in all dealings with minority or deprived groups!

**RIVER, SEAWALL & ENVIRONS** – There was a recent opportunity to attend an early morning meeting in Bristol and to talk with the Minister responsible regarding proposals for the Severn barrage. Unfortunately the opportunity was somewhat curtailed by the late arrival of the Minister, who was whisked away only 40 minutes later.

The last official meeting has been held at the Bridge Visitor Centre. The centre is to be closed at the end of this season. The display will be moved to Magor.

**TREES/TREE PLANTING** – With approval from council, PT is to make the point at the sites inspection at Wainbridge next Friday that as the Ash is 1 of 5 TPO trees, pruning should take place on all trees rather than just the 1 on the development site.

## 7 - 7 Council Employees

Reference correspondence 12638.08 above, Clerk stated that "disqualification for office" could not apply to IR. Council does not employ a grass cutter and contracts Grass Cutting Services to cut council-owned areas. IR is involved with that firm but cannot be said to be an employee of the council. Council does employ a cemetery caretaker, the post being held by IH. As such this should be a disqualification. When the Clerk gave up the post of caretaker in 2003, advertising failed to draw an applicant. Accordingly IH took on the task temporarily and has done it ever since. Following discussion, no decision was reached. Members to give further thought to the matter.

## 8. PLANNING

## 8 – 1 Comments of PC sent to S Glos Council

PT08/1557/R3F	Elliott Classroom at Pilning School	Comments
PT08/1564/F	Side & rear extensions at Rednend Farm	Support
PT08/1625/F	Portacabin operation at Severn View Industrial Pk	Object
PT08/1716/F	Altered access/gate/posts at Pilning School	No comment
PT08/1850/F	Conservatory at Coningsby House, Pilning Street	Support
PT08/1793/F	Extension for granny annexe, The Firs, Northwick	Comment

## 8 – 2 Decisions by S Glos Council

PT08/0960/F	Rear & side extensions, Bank House, Bank Road	Refuse
PT08/0989/R3F	Replace steel frame curtain wall, SB School	Permit
PT08/1237/F	Side extension, 9 Vicarage Road	Permit
PT08/1381/F	Alter conservatory roof, Cloud Nine, Church Road	Permit

### 8 – 3 Planning Appeal (against refusal)

PT07/0356/RVC Removal of condition re fence colour, Unit 1, Central Avenue

## 8 – 4 Planning Inspection

PT08/1413/TRE Tree work, land at Wainbridge Crescent – sites visit 11 July

## **Next Council Meeting - at Severn Beach School on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008**

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED @ 9.40 PM

Signed..... Dated.....