

PILNING & SEVERN BEACH PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held on Monday 3rd March 2008, commencing at 6.30 pm,
in PILNING Village Hall

COUNCILLORS Mrs C Woodhouse (Chairman), Mr J Black, Mrs N Bendall,
PRESENT (8) Mrs N Chappell, Mr S Cooper, Mr D Humphries,
 Mr I Humphries, Mr D Nethercott.

Also Present:- J C Rawlinson (Clerk), Mr P Tyzack (S Glos Councillor), and 3
 members of the public (Mrs Gill Cox and Mrs Jane Davey, both of
 Ableton Lane, and Mrs Barbara Matthews of Salthouse Farm
 Park). 2 PCSOs were present, including local PCSO Kirsty
 Flicker, as was Michelle Dixon of S Glos Council.
 Mrs Frances Barr MBE and Mr Roger Barr arrived at around 7.30,
 remaining until public participation, after which they both left, as
 Mrs Barr was suffering from a recently broken ankle.

1. APOLOGIES for ABSENCE
 Mr A Webber (family bereavement).

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At 6.30, Ray Wiggins of S Glos Council spoke of his previous visit to council in November. His co-visitor from that meeting, Clare Medland, has now prepared a proposals document for submission to the Education Authority. RW spoke of the discussions leading to the choice of Sage Cottage as the site for St Peters School. Accessibility was the major consideration, but other issues were also dealt with, one being the sharing of facilities. More recently he has spoken with NB, regarding shared facilities, in particular a hard surface ball court, though the possibilities are endless. NB felt that the provision of the school computer suite for public use would be a popular option. . Funding may also be available when Trinity Hall is sold. The provision of a nursery facility, attached either to the new school or the VH, would be a valuable development.

CW suggested the need for a separate council meeting, the proposals put forward by NB warrant more than a 10 minute slot, requiring full consideration and serious thought concerning finance. Talks with Governors will continue, hopefully to mutual benefit. IH stated that talks of any future benefit were maybe premature, with the Green Belt site not yet purchased and the planning procedure still to go through.

With the time now 6.51 pm, RW was thanked for his attendance.

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Paul Godwin, Area Manager of S Glos Youth Services, then spoke of his group's work within the community, which focuses on the 13 to 19 year-old group. He expressed his surprise at the number of young people with disabilities, some 32 are known within P&SB. Funding is provided for a full-time rural worker and an activities bus has been visiting SB for several weeks now, with up to 25 youngsters using the facility. This service is scheduled to continue until the end of March. Applications are due for consideration in the appointment of 2 part-time youth workers.

Funding of up to £240,000 for each of the next 3 years has been allocated for youth initiatives. Submissions for youth projects must be initiated by youngsters and these will be considered on their merits by a youth council appointed for the purpose. The scheme to be set up locally will be similar to that already running in Filton for the past 4 months. A possible transport link with Thornbury (Leisure Centre) is also under consideration.

DH spoke of past experiences in youth provision which have proved difficult. GC asked whether any activities/coaching facilities would be available at weekends.

PT commended the adoption of a positive approach in seeking to provide for youth needs. He confirmed that he had been urging S Glos to consider local funding and this had, to some extent, paid off.

With the time at 7.18 pm, PG was thanked for his input and he and RW left, as did NB (due to family commitments). MD remained throughout the council meeting.

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One or two questions were directed at PCSO Flicker who was thanked for her attendance. Having warned of a need to depart suddenly, Kirsty and her colleague were to leave a few minutes later.

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Now 7.21 pm, the regular business of council commenced.

The Clerk spoke of informal approaches by Mr Ian Humphries of Marsh Common Road, and former councillor Ian Roberts in respect of the casual vacancy. Ian H was looking toward a possible involvement with council in the future. IR has already spoken with S Glos regarding his contract with the parish council and his eligibility for office. Under current legislation IR is ineligible, though this could perhaps be overcome in the future.

Clerk read an application from Mr Nick Webb of Gorse Cover Road, in which he sought consideration for the casual vacancy. NW is currently involved with the Parish Plan Steering Group and the SB Regeneration Group. Formerly a parish councillor in Penttyrch, near Cardiff, NW appears to have impeccable credentials. Having confirmed to SC that the other approaches were casual enquiries and the letter from NW was the only formal application, agreed unanimously that NW should be invited to fill the casual vacancy.

2. MINUTES of the PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 4th February were approved as a true record.

1. NC 2. SC All agreed.

3. ACTION/RELATED MATTERS

3 – 1 Footpaths

Work at the A403/Church Road has now been added to the schedule.

3 – 2 Village Halls

Clerk confirmed that Land Registry had informed him that the entrance from Cross Hands Road to Pilning VH is unregistered. This registration will be carried out once relevant forms are received.

NC informed members that following the recent Link Group meeting a skip is to be provided for the April 4th/6th weekend. Much of the litter has already been cleared by a working party organised recently by NB.

DH recently visited SB VH on a Thursday. The youth bus did not arrive on that occasion.

JD confirmed that a grant sought in respect of electrical work at SB VH had now been obtained so that £2,500 can now be added to the fund. IH commented on the poor heating system at Pilning VH. JD stated that the PPSG is even-handed and that should further funding be obtained it would be directed toward Pilning.

3 – 3 Redwick Road/New Passage

Work by BT contractors is now completed. Top soil has been added to the verges and lightly rolled. New growth must await the season. Clerk confirmed that S Glos had apologised for the quality of the grass cutting service in 2007. This had not been due to cutbacks but simply because only 1 member of staff was qualified to operate machinery. This problem is currently being rectified by a training programme.

3 – 4 Roads/Road Signs

Despite the complaint regarding visual impedance at the junction of Ableton Lane/A403, Mark Shearman confirms that proper usage of the junction (there is a 'give way' sign) permits traffic to be seen. The traffic lights at Western Approach are to be checked - there is a problem! The sequence does, however, favour A403 users.

3 – 5 Schools

CW spoke of a recent meeting with Governors of St Peters. It was frank, open and positive, though little was actually achieved. Further meetings are to be held.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Audit/Precept

- 12171.01 Precept arrangements for 2008/2009 – funding request acknowledged.
- 12172.02 HMRC event at Cardiff, 'EmployerTalk 2008'.

Avon Local Councils' Association

- 12173.03 ALCA newsletter, February 2008 – circulated (+ various enclosures).

Bus Services, Shelters & Signs

- 12174.04 Details of the new National Travelcard.
- 12175.05 National Travelcard, application forms.

Campaign to Protect Rural England

- 12176.06 Development in Green Belt: protest letter to MP, 22nd February.

- Cemetery/Churches
12177.07 Complaint from Mrs J Sellick, W-o-T, re damage to grave planting.
- Dog Nuisance
12178.08 Email corres between R Griffin and NB.
- Elections/Applications for Parish Council
12179.09 Confirmation of action re vacancy on parish council.
12180.10 S Glos confirm no application has been received for council vacancy.
12181.11 Nick Webb, Gorse Cover Road, applies for the casual vacancy on council.
- Footpaths
12182.12 Application for map modification set for 6th March (Beach Rd/Seawall).
- Grass Cutting
12183.13 Explanation by S Glos for poor service during 2007.
12184.14 Lister Wilder of Cirencester: Kubota brochure.
- Health Authority and Care Services
12185.15 LINKs (Local Involvement Network) meeting, 20/3, Emersons Green VH.
12186.16 Cabinet papers: Public Health, Annual Report – circulated.
- ICI/Zeneca & Other Industries
12187.17 Oldbury Site Stakeholder Group, minutes of 30th January meeting.
12188.18 Supporting notes, re meeting above.
- Licence Applications
12189.19 Temporary street trading consent sought. Pitch moved due road works.
- Local Facilities & Amenities
12190.20 Draft community profiles – response sent, with alterations.
12191.21 Fair Trade Directory: booklets distributed.
12192.22 Response from Steve Webb MP re local toilet facilities – circulated.
- Playgrounds/Youth Activities
12193.23 Comment by NB re attendance of Ray Wiggins at council meeting.
12194.24 Email corres between NB and Mr B Hood of Northover Court.
12195.25 Enquiry by Mrs A Lear of Ableton Lane, re youth sports facilities.
12196.26 Guidance information prepared by NB.
12197.27 *Childrens Playlink*, Spring 2008 edition – circulated.
12198.28 Brochure & costings from Dales Sports Surfaces – circulated.
12199.29 Inbowls & Leisure of Cadeby provide info re all-weather bowling green.
- Railways
12200.30 Comments by FoSBR re local rail service – response 7th February.
12201.31 Further comment by FoSBR re passenger initiatives.
12202/3.32/3 Response from S Webb MP re local rail service/plus comment on failings.
12204.34 Response from Dr D Naysmith MP re local rail service.

- 12205.35 River, Seawall & Environs
Email contact by PT re ownership of land at SB.
- 12206.36 Roads/Road Signs
Resurfacing work to commence at Marsh Common in mid-March.
12207.37 Comment re perceived problems, Western Approach to Ableton Lane.
- 12208.38 Schools
S Glos school organisation plan, 2007-2012, available on website.
12209.39 'Taking Road Safety into Schools': booklet circulated.
12210.40 Confirmation by education authority: Sage Cottage site for new school.
- 12211.41 South Gloucestershire Council
Council services; satisfaction survey – CW response.
12212.42 Contact details re significant local services.
- 12213.43 Stationery/Circulars/Books
The Clerk, March edition – circulated.
- 12214.44 Street Furniture & Lighting
Glasdon of Blackpool: seating booklet.
12215.45 Glasdon of Blackpool: waste disposal booklet.
12216.46 *Plantscape*, product publication by Plantscape of Penfold.
- 12217.47 Traffic Problems/Transport Policy
"Sustainable Transport News", copies distributed.
- 12218.48 Village Halls
Contact by Land Registry re registration of entrance way.
12219.49 Audit details, Pilning VH, 2007.
- 12220.50 Voluntary/Community Groups
CVS Newsletter 25, and enclosures – circulated.
12221.51 Senior Citizens Forum, meeting with S Glos.
- 12222.52 Waste Dumping/Disposal/Landfill
Briefing Note, Waste Management Client unit.
- 12223.53 Website/IT
Email from Ian McDowall congratulating council on reinstating website.
- 12224.54 Planning
Delegated decisions, w/e 22nd January 2008.
12225.55 Delegated decisions, w/e 29th January 2008.
12226.56 Delegated decisions, w/e 5th February 2008.
12227.57 Delegated decisions, w/e 12th February 2008.
12228.58 Delegated decisions, w/e 19th February 2008.
12229.59 Delegated decisions, w/e 26th February 2008.

Planning (cont)

- 12230.60 Site inspection at 40/42 Redwick Road (PT07/3369/F), 15th February.
 12231.61 Planning application above referred to committee, 28th February.
 12232.62 The Nursery, New Passage (PT07/3605/F) referred to committee, 28/2.

Accounts/Donations

- 12233.63 AOL, internet charges. Item 5-3 refers.
 12234.64 Land Registry, VH entrance enquiry. Item 5-4 refers.
 12235.65 Queensbury, bus shelter repair. Item 5-6 refers.
 12236.66 Queensbury, bus shelter alteration. Item 5-6 refers.
 12237.67 Mr I Roberts, grass cutting (Feb). Item 5-7 refers.
 12238.68 SB School, booking charge. Item 5-8 refers.
 12239.69 BWBSL, water rate at allotments. Item 5-9 refers.
 12240.70 1st Pilning Guides, donation. Item 5-10 refers.

5. ACCOUNTS for PAYMENT

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|-------|------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| 5 - 1 | £ 724.00 | J C Rawlinson | Clerk – Wages (Feb) | 112 |
| 5 - 2 | £ 50.00 | J C Rawlinson | Petrol | 111 |
| 5 - 3 | £ 15.99 | AOL | Internet charges (Feb) | 111 |
| 5 - 4 | £ 40.00 | J C Rawlinson | Payment (see 5-13 below) | ---- |
| 5 - 5 | £ 50.00 | Mr & Mrs Collins | Toilet keyholder | PHA |
| 5 - 6 | £ 605.45 | Queensbury | Work on bus shelters | LGMP |
| 5 - 7 | £ 400.00 | Mr I Roberts | Grass cutting (Feb) | LGMP/PHA |
| 5 - 8 | £ 60.00 | S Glos Council | Booking (SB School) | 111 |
| 5 - 9 | £ 20.40 | BWBSL | Water rate, allotments | SHAA |
| 5 -10 | £ 250.00 | 1 st Pilning Guides | Donation | 137 |
| 5 -11 | £ 200.00 | Mrs C Woodhouse | Chairman's Honarium | 15(5) |
| 5 -12 | £ 860.11 | Signet Signs | Regeneration donation | 137 |
| 5 -13 | £ 40.00 | Land Registry | Survey | LGMP |
| | <u>£3315.95</u> | | | |

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

- 5 - 4/6/7 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) 1979, s19
 5 - 5 Public Health Act 1936, s87
 5 - 7 (part) Public Health Act 1875, s164
 5 - 9 Small Holdings & Allotments Act 1908, s26

Items 5-1 to 5-4, inclusive, paid as one cheque.

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

Current bank balance, prior to payments listed above

£19,970.90 (Interest to December included)

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mrs Frances Barr MBE, Cemetery Clerk, drew council's attention to the distress reported by relatives of deceased following a fire on the adjacent allotments. This had caused damage to a memorial tree, shrubs and flowers. There was some disagreement

over what action should be taken. By a vote of 4 to 3 (SC, DH, IH) agreed that replacements are to be obtained and an apology issued.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (cont)

A copy of the current allotment regulations is to be issued to all members and their comments sought on whether any revisions or additions are required. The allotment holder is also to be contacted.

7. AGENDA

7 – 1 Sevenside Development

The public sculpture (the Salmon Putter) has now been delivered. No detail yet of when the sculpture will be erected.

7 – 2 Village Halls/Playing Fields

NC reported on damage to play equipment at Pilning. Motor bike riders can now gain entry through the damaged fence adjacent to the gate. SB VH committee are to respond to the comment received from Mrs Lear of Ableton Lane. Clerk has already acknowledged the letter.

7 – 3 Parish Plan

JD gave an update on progress. In addition to the grant obtained (item 3-2 above) an initiative is underway to obtain lap tops to provide training for interested parties. No detail is available yet, the meeting is due to take place tomorrow to discuss possibilities. Members who belong to other groups are asked to advertise this potential learning opportunity.

7 – 4 Youth Activities

A special meeting is to be held to discuss proposals by NB. This will be arranged at the next council meeting. The change to British Summertime will provide the opportunity for a field inspection on that evening.

7 - 5 Village Matters

Travellers – SC asked whether any progress had been made in clearing the field in Bank Road. Confirmed that the matter had been referred to a senior officer. PT is to follow up on this. Council is to back this up with a letter to Brian Glasson.

Roads/Road Signs – DH commented on road surface wear on A403 between Ableton Lane and Western Approach. PT has already notified S Glos.

Railways – DH reported on a recent journey in a packed train with standing room only. Payment and ticket issuing were impossible. BM mentioned her journey on the 9.02 from SB this morning. The guard took no fares, claiming he had no ticket machine.

Footpaths – The decision on the path between SB shops and the seawall is due on Thursday. DH confirmed that the owners have already removed the fence.

Street Furniture & Lighting – NC reported that lighting on Green Lane was poor, the area between the overbridges does not benefit from the motorway lights. This causes problems for unaccompanied ladies using the route after dark. There is little likelihood that S Glos will sanction lighting along this route as there is no power source.

PT suggested that a trial of solar powered lighting currently underway could solve the problem. Clerk to contact the engineers department.

Cross Hands/Wainbridge – IH mentioned a break-in at a house across the road from the Cross Hands Inn. Fortunately the landlord observed the break-in from an upstairs window and called the Police who apprehended the culprit. The proprietor of the post office is greatly concerned by the level of theft and IH wondered if there was any funding available to enhance security. Suggested that measures such as those undertaken by the SB Regeneration Group might be useful. CW agreed that the group would be willing to offer help if required.

Code of Conduct – DN asked if council was any nearer to a meeting with an expert who could advise on the code. Following today's 'double-header' a further meeting has already been scheduled for April (Kim Hazeldene, Sports Development Team Manager), but attempts will be made to arrange a meeting soon.

Schools – DN asked what use will be made of the Pilning School site once St Peters is up and running, a question of interest to all. Initial comment has suggested that efforts will be made to return the site to Green Belt, to compensate for the loss of the land at Sage Cottage.

River, Seawall & Environs- Following a prompt from DN, CW asked that the Severn Barrage should be on the agenda as a standard item.

Health Authority & Care Services – Following news reports of a serious incident involving a resident at the Hayes Hospital, and concerns expressed by local residents, CW has been in contact with the director who informed her that whilst different rules apply to different inmates the unit is not listed as high-risk. He is to issue a report to CW who will endeavour to arrange a meeting with him if possible.

Annual Parish Meeting – CW questioned the need to arrange the Annual Parish Meeting. Agreed this should be done at the April meeting. *Legislation requires that the Annual Parish Meeting should be held on any day between 1st March and 1st June. Last year the meeting was held prior to the council meeting of Tuesday 8th May.

Parish Signs – The missing parish sign at Northwick has not yet been replaced. The delay has resulted from the long-term sick leave of the officer involved. PT to follow-up.

7 – 6 Reports

LOCAL TRANSPORT – Money that was to be set aside for providing taxi tokens is now to be channelled into providing more community transport facilities.

MARSH COMMON – PT confirmed that Steve Webb MP has now made a direct approach to the Minister re old planning permissions on flood plain, in particular that at Marsh Common, for land now held by Redrow.

MEDICAL – PT indicated the particular success enjoyed by Pilning Surgery in its anti-smoking campaign launched in 1998. He also mentioned statistics showing local obesity levels in youngsters as 14.9% compared to a national average of 8.2%.

PLAYGROUNDS/YOUTH ACTIVITIES – Further to the earlier discussion of sport equipment provision, PT stated that first provision of facilities should be directed toward teens. Statistics show this helps in reducing teenage pregnancy levels!

LOCAL FACILITIES & AMENITIES – The second tranche of post office closures is commencing in this area. Post offices at Pilning and SB will be retained.

Minutes/PSBPC/3.03.2008 29/2008
 * 9 & final *

Minutes/PSBPC/3.03.2008

RIVER, SEAWALL & ENVIRONS – The River Severn Project mounted by Gloucester City Council and Gloucester County Council has been launched. It seeks to provide art at strategic sites along the river. Locally the resident at 100 Beach Road still seeks to purchase the steps close to the Burger Bar and incorporate them within his garden. In return he will build new steps on parish council land (the former ‘bunker’ site). Proposed IH, seconded CW, 6 For, 1 Against (NC) that this transfer should be approved. PT is first to speak with the Legal Department to ascertain whether a valid agreement can be drawn up.

8 – 1 Comments of PC sent to S Glos Council

8-2 Decisions by S Glos Council

Next Council Meeting to be held at Severn Beach School on Monday 7th April 2008

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED @ 9.39 PM

JCR