

PILNING & SEVERN BEACH PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held on Monday 5th November 2012, commencing at 6.30 pm
in SEVERN BEACH School

COUNCILLORS Mr I L Roberts (Chairman), Mrs F C A Barr MBE
PRESENT (8) Mrs N A Chappell, Mr I D Humphries, Mrs J A Fennell,
 Mr A J Lewis, Mr M D Pruett, Mrs C E Woodhouse.

Also Present:- J C Rawlinson (Clerk), Mrs Victoria A Bywater (Clerk), Mr R C Griffin (S Glos Councillor) and 5 members of the public (Mr Colin Brickell of School Way, Mrs Jill Fysh of Ableton Lane, Mr Dave Humphries of Abbott Road, Mr Doug Nethercott of Beach Road, Mr Kevin Weeks of Prospect Road).

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At 6.30 pm, Matthew Kendrick of Grassroots Planning, accompanied by James McCracken, spoke with members regarding plans for developing an area in Bank Road, on the north side of St Peter's School (previously referred to as the 'Mongan site'). It is proposed to build 21 houses, including 4 'starter homes'. All but the starter homes are provided with garages and there are a reasonable number of parking spaces. Members raised a number of questions. It was generally felt that a small estate of this nature would be a great improvement, activities at the site having created nuisance over recent years.

MK was asked whether there might be any benefit for local residents. MK referred to the Community Constructor levy, the modern equivalent of section 106, whereby developers are required to contribute toward local facilities.

With the time around 6.50 pm, the presentation was concluded. The Chairman thanked MK and JM for their attendance.

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**The Chairman asked for a minute's silence as a mark of respect for
 Miss Doris Friend of Beach Avenue, and
 Mr Eric Morse of Redwick Road, both recently deceased.**

Lloyd David Nethercott has submitted his resignation, expressing his utmost regret. His employers have refused to sanction his membership of council, feeling that it would create a clash of interests. Invited to fill the casual vacancy in July, Mr Nethercott signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office on 14th September. Due to work commitments he had not attended either the September or the October meetings, nor had he surrendered his Register of Member's Interests. Accordingly, he had not officially commenced his term of office as a councillor. South Glos are to be informed and the vacancy will be advertised in the usual way.

Following an invitation to fill the casual vacancy created by the resignation of Mrs Gaulton, Ian David Humphries attended his first meeting. Completing the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and surrendering his signed and completed Register of Member's Interests, Mr Humphries commenced his term of office and on behalf of council the Chairman extended a welcome to him.

1. APOLOGIES for ABSENCE

Mr I W Humphries (away).

2. MINUTES of the PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 1st October 2012 were agreed as a true record.

1. FCAB 2. NAC All agreed

3. ACTION/RELATED MATTERS**3 - 1 Grass Cutting**

S Glos have recently carried out a comprehensive programme of cuts. The complaints previously registered have been dealt with, apart from that relating to disposal of cuttings. This is unlikely to reach a satisfactory conclusion, S Glos having always stated that they do not dispose of the cut grass. To do so would increase the cost of the service to an unsustainable level.

3 - 2 Ableton Court

The council deplores the course of action taken by the Merlin group, feeling the loss of the elderly persons facility to be without justification. A tree preservation order has been placed on the site by S Glos, probably resulting from the efforts of Alderman Peter Tyzack. FCAB and CEW asked for details of the imminent Merlin meeting as they hope to attend.

3 - 3 Travellers

The visit to S Glos Council was not wholly satisfactory. The travellers' legal representatives have adopted a new policy by applying for a certificate of lawfulness regarding occupation of the Bank Road site. Councillors feel that much of the problem stems from a lack of enforcement over the years – had travellers been moved on when they should have been this situation would not have arisen. It is curious that legislation introduced to protect travellers from persecution should give rise to them receiving benefit and privilege that is not afforded to the settled community. It is also something of an anomaly that if householders do not pay their council tax they will be subject to summons. If travellers do not pay their council tax there is no redress and it does not disqualify them from claiming the site as their permanent abode, even though they may not have lived there for the entire period, nor have ever paid the taxes that settled communities have been subjected to. The public meeting previously referred to was not held - at the request of S Glos. They appear to be optimistic that there is a good case in favour of refusal of the application. This remains to be seen.

4. CORRESPONDENCE**Allotments**

15711.01 Miss Abby Elliott-Taylor requests public participation slot.

15712.02 Mr P Barber advises his wish to relinquish his allotment.

15713.03 Comment by Mrs Denise Turner regarding her allotment plot.

15714.04 Weaver of Farrington Gurney quote £4,960 to demolish clubhouse.

Audit/Precept
15715.05 HMRC advise alterations to the PAYE system.

Avon Local Councils Association
15716.06 ALCA advise new level of subscription for 2012/2013.

Building-New Development-Housing
15717.07 Merlin advise that an information event is to be held on 19th Nov.
15718.08 Merlin October news sheet.

Campaign to Protect Rural England
15719.09 *Countryside Voice*, Winter edition – circulated.
15720.10 *Avonside Voice*, December news sheet – circulated.
15721.11 Report to ALCA, general information.

Clerk/Clerks' Society
15722.12 *The Clerk Magazine*, November edition – circulated.
15723.13 *Clerks & Councils Direct*, November edition-circulated.
15724.14 Employers' response to Union pay claim – fourth year of pay freeze?
15725.15 Courses for Clerks; the 'Knowledge' and Allotments.
15726.16 Parishes development workshops day at Kingswood.

Dog Nuisance
15727.17 S Glos advise new bin to be erected at Beach Avenue footpath.
15728.18 Mr/Mrs Williams thank council for concerns over recent problem.

Elections/Applications for Parish Council
15729.19 Lloyd Nethercott tenders his resignation from council.

Environment/Conservation
15730.20 Heritage Forum AGM at Poole Court, Tuesday 20th November.
15731.21 Minutes of Enviro Link Group meeting, 19th June, in Rockhampton.
15732.22 Enviro Link Group, agenda for 9th October meeting at Thornbury.
15733.23 Govt Bill seeks to end 'vexacious' applications for village greens.

Footpaths
15734.24 Local resident reports problems relating to notified injury.

Insurance
15735.25 Refund against insurance premium due to schedule alterations.

Local Facilities & Amenities
15736.26 Comment on request for attention to public toilets at SB.

Local Industry
15737.27 Magnox report on Oldbury Activities, October 2012.
15738.28 EA report to Oldbury Stakeholder group, 24th October.
15739.29 Nuclear Decommissioning Authority monthly report, October.

Police
 15740.30 Notice (posted), Police and Crime Commissioner Election.
 15741.31 Police Authority E-Newsletter, October edition – circulated.

Roads/Road Signs
 15742.32 Response by Rob Wilsher-parking problems at Severnwood Gardens.
 15743.33 Ackn of notified overgrowth (A403) and graffiti (playground) issues.
 15744.34 Ackn of notified footbridge Church Road) and one-way road issues.
 15745.35 Missing 7.5T sign to be replaced as quickly as possible.
 15746.36 Missing name plate (Ableton Lane) to be attended to.

South Glos Council
 15747.37 Next Area Forum meeting at SB School, 5th December.
 15748.38 Friendship Clubs organised by SGC.
 15749.39 Survey of Rough Sleepers: nil return for this parish.

Traffic Problems/Transport Policy
 15750.40 Closure order: stopping up of Ableton Lane.

Trees/Tree Planting
 15751.41 Tree Preservation order placed on trees at Ableton Court.

Utilities – Electricity
 15752.42 Invitation to Hinkley Point Project update event.

Village Halls
 15753.43 Pilning VH balance sheet.

Planning
 15754.44 Delegated decisions, w/e 13th Sept 2012.
 15755.45 Delegated decisions, w/e 20th Sept 2012.

Accounts/Donations
 15756.46 Staples, stationery. Item 5-3 refers.
 15757.47 Post Office, Clerk's telephone/internet. Item 5-4 refers.
 15758.48 Printer Inks, printer inks. Item 5-5 refers.
 15759.49 Colours of the World, toner cartridge. Item 5-6 refers.
 15760.50 J C Rawlinson, travel expenses (Tortworth). Item 5-7 refers.
 15761.51 Mr N Pearce, odd job man. Item 5-8 refers.
 15762.52 S Glos Council, dog bin service (Apr-Jul). Item 5-9 refers.
 15763.53 Care for Elderly, attendance allowance. Item 5-10 refers.
 15764.54 L Liddiatt, grass cutting at Northwick. Item 5-11 refers.
 15765.55 M J Fisher, grass cutting. Item 5-12 refers.
 15766.56 M J Fisher, allotment grass cut. Item 5-13 refers.
 15767.57 Neptune, slats for benches. Item 5-14 refers.
 15768.58 Children's Playlink, donation. Item 5-15 refers.
 15769.59 Total Drainage Services, work at Pilning VH. Item 5-16 refers.
 15770.60 S Glos Council, dog bin service (Jul-Nov). Item 5-17 refers.

5. ACCOUNTS for PAYMENT

5 - 1	£ 791.00	J C Rawlinson	Clerk's wages (October)	112
5 - 2	£ 50.00	J C Rawlinson	Petrol allowance	111
5 - 3	£ 62.38	Staples	Stationery	111
5 - 4	£ 90.65	Post Office	Clerk's telephone	111
5 - 5	£ 21.80	Printer Inks	Ink for computer	111
5 - 6	£ 54.99	C of the World	Photocopier cartridge	111
5 - 7	£ 16.80	J C Rawlinson	Travel expenses	174
5 - 8	£ 30.00	Mr N Pearce	Odd job man	111
5 - 9	£ 608.33	S Glos Council	Dog bin service (Apr-Jul)	CNE
5 - 10	£ 162.00	Care for Elderly	Attendance allowance	LGRA
5 - 11	£ 840.00	L Liddiatt	Grass cutting Northwick	214
5 - 12	£ 750.00	M J Fisher	Grass cutting (Oct)	*
5 - 13	£ 60.00	M J Fisher	Grass - SB Allotments	SHAA
5 - 14	£ 112.00	Neptune	Slats for seats	PCA
5 - 15	£ 150.00	Childrens' Playlink	Donation	137
5 - 16	£1699.80	Total Drainage Ser.	Repair pipe work (PVH)	LGMP
5 - 17	£ 500.98	S Glos Council	Dog bin service Jul-Nov)	CNE
			£6000.73	

Items 5-1 to 5-11 inclusive, paid as one cheque.

Items 5-12 & 5-13 paid as one cheque.

Bank balance, prior to council payments above = **£70,426.78** (interest to Sept incl).

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

5 - 9, 17	Clean Neighbourhood & Environment Act 2005
5 - 10	Local Government & Rating Act 1997
5 - 12	(Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1979, s19 (Public Health Act 1875, s164
5 - 13	Smallholdings & Allotments Act 1908, s26
5 - 14	Public Health Act 1936, s87
5 - 16	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1979, s19

Received:- Insurance refund, due to alteration of schedule = £38.28

The accounts above were approved for payment

1. FCAB 2. CEW All agreed.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Jill Fysh, representing the SB Allotment Association, raised a number of questions relating to the operation of the site at Severn Beach. The Clerk confirmed there are difficulties to counter. Occupants of the plots have all paid in advance and all have contracts. The proper notice has to be issued and despite the problems nothing can happen immediately. However, 5 leaseholders have been warned that a 3-month notice to quit will be issued unless action is taken, 10 others have been asked to bring the plots up to standard. A leaseholder has tendered his notice and this plot will be offered for occupancy. Splitting plots into two is also possible and this will be dealt with in due course.

7. AGENDA

7 – 1 Local Major Developments

NAC and the Clerk attended the Site Stakeholder meeting on 24th October. Notes on the meeting have been distributed to members. A bid has been submitted for the takeover of the Oldbury site. The backers, Hitachi, have enough experience to guarantee a seamless takeover.

A complaint has been registered in respect of piling operations in the Western Approach vicinity. These are happening in the evening, as late as 9.00 pm. At present the source/site is unknown.

7 - 2 Village Halls

ILR commented on the possibility of providing further facilities at Pilning. The survey showed that whilst the walls are sound they are not of sufficient strength to support an upper floor without additional work. It was suggested that a building could be erected alongside the hall and the two then linked. To assist in obtaining funding the venture should be designated as a sports hall. Currently there is no wide spread support but as a first step an artists impression is to be produced. Then, with something specific to see, it is hoped that support will be engendered. The fee for this service will be £1,250, Helm Construction being the firm involved. Proposed CEW, seconded FCAB, all agreed, that Helm be asked to go ahead.

7 - 3 Youth Activities/Playground Equipment

Gary Patterson of The Way Gym has asked if timber can be placed on Pilning field with a view to creating an adult activity area. This appears to be a good idea as it would require no cash input and provide a facility for anyone to enjoy.

‘Age’ signs have now been purchased from Avonmouth Signs. Further advice now indicates that signage should also indicate the need for adults to supervise the use of the equipment at all times.

7 - 4 Timber Yard, Whitehouse Lane

ILR has had further talks with Andy Clarke at S Glos. There has been little activity at the site recently, the owners have instead been active in Avonmouth. Materials stored on the site appear to be at a lower level than previously. The application for a commercial shed on the site has been refused.

7 - 5 In Memoriam

Council agreed the policy suggested under this heading at the October meeting should be adopted. In future council will acknowledge the death of former councillors, or their direct partners, by sending a wreath.

7 - 6 Village Matters

Roads/Road Signs – CEW has contacted S Glos re parking at the corner of Severnwood Gardens/Ableton Lane. The project which led to the parking problem appears to have been completed. S Glos comment merely indicated their inability to act in the circumstances.

Flyposting – CEW drew attention to the response to another matter of concern. All persons posting signs must now obtain permission from council and are required to remove the signs after the event.

Neighbourhood Watch – FCAB reported the next SB group meeting will be held on 14th January. Meanwhile she recommended vigilance following recent break-ins in the village.

Sea Wall – Attention was drawn to an unfortunate event that recently occurred. The wall is a popular place for carers to bring their charges for a walk. One of these persons was seen to bodily lift a local resident and deposit her on the ground, breaking her hip and causing severe trauma. It is felt that carers do not always exercise enough control, possibly feeling they can relax in the open air environment. In this case the carer appeared to be enjoying the company of a colleague rather than paying attention to the whereabouts of the person she should have been looking after.

Advertising – MDP drew attention to a lorry parked along Western Approach. It is covered in notices advising vacancies for HGV drivers. This activity is a contravention of regulations. Streetcare have been advised and one of their officers is to investigate.

Footways – NAC recently became aware of the danger posed by fallen leaves, particularly dangerous in the dark and accumulating in great numbers around the bus shelter at Wick Road. RCG advised that S Glos are about to carry out a clearance programme which should effectively deal with this problem.

Gipsies Plat – ILR has ascertained from Mary Larner that she is the owner of land immediately adjacent to the path. If Mr Kiely fences his land to the other side it will effectively contain the path within a 6 feet wide channel.

Stride Close – The area is scheduled for clearance.

Allotments – Robin Kirby has again advised his willingness to repair the pavilion roof and clear up the front for £2,000. Meanwhile council consensus continues to be against considering any use of the building.

Burger Bar – S Glos have completed a clear-up around the site.

Clerk of the Council - There was a brief summary of the steps to be taken when the transfer of responsibility between the current and new clerk takes place, including the installation of a dedicated direct line for the council.

7 - 7 Reports

TRAVELLERS – RCG reported on his attendance at the S Glos meeting, also attended by MDP. MDP provided summary sheets for circulation amongst members.

It was felt the meeting achieved little. In general, members of the settled community feel that legislation aimed specifically at travellers gives them advantages that the general public do not have. It also seems to come in a “Love thy neighbour” wrapping. The lifestyles of the 2 groups are so dissimilar that the settled community can find little basis on which to ‘love’ travellers and the gap seems destined to remain.

The Farm Lane site is now cleared. The only way to keep it like that will be to erect bollards that will keep out caravans. At least if the site remains clear there will not be any further intimidation of innocent passers-by.

Many more caravans have pulled into Bank Road. The site was already over-crowded and now poses a health hazard.

8. PLANNING8 – 1 Comments of PC sent to S Glos Council

PT12/2928/RVC	Timber Yard, relax condition 3	Objection
PT12/2946/F	Pilning School, fire escapes	No objection
PT12/3105/F	9 Church Road, extension	No objection
PT12/3136/F	St Peters Farm, conversion of 2 barns	Support
PT12/3227/CLE	111 Marsh Common Road, extensions incorrect	Objection

8 – 2 Decisions by S Glos Council

PT12/1632/F	Beach House, Riverside Park, double garage	Permit
PT12/1831/F	Rednend Farm, agricultural to horse use	Permit
PT12/2597/F	Cross Hands Inn, extensions rear & side	Permit
PT12/2873/O	Timber Yard, erection of machine shed	Refuse
PT12/2938/F	31 Marsh Common Road, extension	Permit
PT12/2946/F	Pilning School, fire escapes	Permit

8 - 3 Applications Withdrawn

PT12/2262/F Land off Northwick Road, agricultural to horse use.

Clerk indicated that for some reason the Sage Cottage application (PT12/3179/CL) had not been returned. Accordingly no response has been made and it is now well out of date.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED @ 9.15 PM

Next Council Meeting – Pilning Village Hall on Monday 3rd December 2012

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

JCR

(<http://sites.google.com/site/pandsbpc>) parish website
psbparish@mymailbox.co.uk – parish council email