

## PILNING & SEVERN BEACH PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2011, commencing at 2.00 pm  
in PILNING Village Hall

COUNCILLORS      Mr I W Humphries (Chairman), Mrs F C A Barr MBE,  
PRESENT      (6)      Mrs N A Chappell, Mr D T A Humphries,  
                         Mr I L Roberts, Mrs C E Woodhouse.

Also Present:-      J C Rawlinson (Clerk).

### 1. APOLOGIES for ABSENCE

None. All those summoned were in attendance.

The meeting was called to discuss 2 specific matters: the new allotments at Severn Beach; and, the grant of easement across the bridge onto the school grounds.

### ALLOTMENTS

The allotments at Severn Beach are in use, all plots having been let but there is an option to open up further plots in due course. IWH was critical of activity at the former club house building. As he indicated, the lease required that the building should be secure and unused, yet the security board had been removed from the doorway and people had been seen entering and leaving the building. Clerk informed members that the water connection had been made within the building and, of necessity, access into the building had been required. Some of the leaseholders had taken the opportunity to help in clearing debris and painting some of the surfaces. The premises had only been opened when work required it. Clearance of the encroaching brambles and demolition of the outside ramshackle hut exposed the rear door. For security this had been removed and the gap blocked up. Any work carried out had been done voluntarily and all costs were being borne by Mr Robin Kirby.

IWH was critical of the Clerk, believing that he had exceeded his authority; incurring costs that had not been authorised by council. Clerk responded by claiming that he always promoted and enhanced the role of the parish council, using his initiative when carrying out work on behalf of the council. Four water tanks have been installed rather than 3, as agreed in the lease. He had looked at the benefit to allotment holders in providing the extra tank. Two tanks had been costed at £500 and on this basis 4 tanks had been installed at a cost of £1000. This is extremely good value for money. The cost of pipework, plinths and extra work being paid for by Mr Kirby.

IWH was also critical of 2 skips being obtained without reference to the parish council. Clerk responded by stating that common sense had dictated the need for a skip to be provided, there being much metal, glass and many stones found on the 'unimproved' site. The skip had been filled within 7 days and accordingly the Clerk had arranged for a second skip to be obtained. This is now almost full but council will not sanction use of a third skip, despite the Clerk's recommendation.

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