

PILNING & SEVERN BEACH PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held on Monday 4th February 2008, commencing at 6.30 pm,
in SEVERN BEACH School

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), 4 members of the public
(Mrs Frances Barr MBE of Beach Road, Mrs Gill Cox and Mrs Jane Davey both of
Ableton Lane, Mr Ian McDowall of Cross Hands Road).

Also in attendance:- PC Daryl Lodge, A&S Constabulary; Mr
Richard Capp, Anti-Social Behaviour Team @ South Glos Council.

1. APOLOGIES for ABSENCE
 Mr A Webber (away on business)

The Chairman read a letter from Gordon Moore, dated today, in which he tendered his resignation. Mr Moore has served as a parish councillor since October 2005. Applications to fill the vacancy are to be sought.

**The Chairman asked that members join in remembrance of Mr Kevin Lewis of
Redwick Road, and former parish resident Mr Nigel Greening,
both recently deceased.**

2. MINUTES of the PREVIOUS MEETING
 The minutes of the meeting of 7th January 2008 were approved as a true record.
 1. IH 2. DH All agreed.

3. ACTION/RELATED MATTERS

- 3 – 1 Waste Dumping/Disposal/Landfill

The waste tipping notified at the January meeting has now been cleared.

- 3 - 2 Roads/Road Signs

In the absence of AW there is no indication of any progress that may have been made regarding improper use of local roads by HGVs. Notification to Highways of the previous weight limit at Northwick Road bridge has been noted. Regarding comment on problems at the roundabout, junction 17, M5, Mark Shearman has indicated that an initiative has already been commenced to change road markings and allocate extra time between light phases. Lay by markings at Easter Compton are also to be renewed.

- 3 - 3 Website/IT

Following contact with Ryan Dickerson (863893) Clerk forwarded minutes file for inclusion on website, there being little point in forwarded to NB for her to submit the information. NB will, however, extract the relevant information from her mailing for submission to *In View* magazine. Consideration is currently being given to re-formulating the website, so that future changes in the system may become necessary.

4. CORRESPONDENCEAudit/Precept

- 12111.01 Council Tax base and Precept Arrangements, 2008/2009.
12112.02 Mazars again appointed as internal auditors.

Bus Services, Shelters & Signs

- 12113.03 Timetable for bus service 615, Thornbury.
12114.04 *Sustainable Transport Newsletter*, issue 3 – circulated.

Campaign to Protect Rural England

- 12115.05 *Fieldwork*, December 2007 – circulated.
12116.06 *Countryside Voice*, Winter edition 207 – circulated.

Elections/Applications for Parish Council

- 12117.07 Monthly update of electoral roll, Pilning ward.
12118.08 Monthly update of electoral roll, SB ward.
12119.09 Letter of resignation from Gordon Moore.

Environment/Conservation

- 12120.10 Environmental Link Group meeting, Pilning VH, Tuesday 12th February.

Footpaths

- 12121.11 Order for extinguishment of ORN 53 (part) now confirmed.
12122.12 PRoW issues report, Sept 07 – Aug 08.

ICI, Zeneca and other Industries

- 12123.13 Report on activities at Oldbury power station (& various other reports).
12124.14 Magnox North, report by socio-economic sub group.

Local Facilities & Amenities

- 12125.15 Draft Community profiles: response 23rd January.

Playgrounds/Youth Activities

- 12126.16 Wicksteed Playscapes brochure.
12127.17 Neptune price guide, 2007.
12128.18 Letter from Becky Cooper re youth provision, response 14th January.

Police

- 12129.19 Response by Inspector Ellis to points raised in report by DN.
12130.20 Response by PC Daryl Lodge to points raised above.
12131.21 Crime statistics, December: email from PC Lodge – circulated.

Railways

- 12132.22 Response by Steve Webb, MP;
12133.23 Response by Andrew Haines, MD of First Great Western;
12134.24 Response by Andrew Griffiths, Severn & Solent Area Manager, FGW;

Railways (cont)

- 12135.25 Response by FGW Complaints line;
12136.26 Response by FoSBR; - all in response to report by DN.
12137.27 Schedule of services: Yate; Abbey Wood; Keynsham; and Patchway.

Roads/Road Signs

- 12138.28 Response re lay by, Main Road, Easter Compton.
12139.29 Response re weight limit proposals for Northwick Road bridge.
12140.30 PT comments on parking restriction markings in parish.
12141.31 Response by Dennis White re comments above.
12142.32 Street name proposals for New Passage/Green Lane (original).
12143.33 Comment by PT on driveway application, 40/42 Redwick Road.

Rural Area/Local Plans

- 12144.34 S Glos Economic Development Strategy -circulated.
12145.35 Bristol Development Framework – Involvement Statement – circulated.
12146.36 Further comment re framework above.
12147.37 CD Rom re above framework.

South Gloucestershire Council

- 12148.38 Local Agenda 21 Forum; report on October forum.
12149.39 Consultation on orders and regs re conduct of authority members.

South Glos Internal Drainage Board

- 12150.40 Support for comments by John Miller, Salthouse Farm Park.
12151.41 Response by SGIDB in respect of above notified problems.

Street Furniture & Lighting

- 12152.42 Products brochure from Neptune of Winchester.

Traffic Problems/Transport Policy

- 12153.43 Mark Shearman response to enquiry re M5 junction 17 roundabout.

Travellers

- 12154.44 Traveller site issues and options. Initiative underway.

Village Halls

- 12155.45 Response from Charity Commission re school-site enquiry.

Planning

- 12156.46 Delegated decisions, w/e 20th November 2007.
12157.47 Delegated decisions, w/e 27th November 2007.
12158.48 Delegated decisions, w/e 4th December 2007.
12159.49 Delegated decisions, w/e 11th December 2007.
12160.50 Delegated decisions, w/e 18th December 2007.
12161.51 Delegated decisions, w/e 1st January 2008.
12162.52 Delegated decisions, w/e 8th January 2008.

Planning (cont)

12163.53 Delegated decisions, w/e 15th January 2008.

Accounts/Donations

12164.54 Letter of thanks, Citizens Advice Bureau. Item 5-8, minutes 7/1, refers.
 12165.55 AOL, internet charges. Item 5-4 refers.
 12166.56 Comet, copier paper. Item 5-5 refers.
 12167.57 SGlos Council, dog bin service. Item 5-6 refers.
 12168.58 mlm services, electrical work at SB VH. Item 5-7 refers.
 12169.59 Sutcliffe, new climbing frame at SB playing fields. Item 5-8 refers.
 12170.60 Allianz, insurance for new climbing frame. Item 5-9 refers.

5. ACCOUNTS for PAYMENT

5 - 1	£ 570.00	HMRC	Income tax	111
5 - 2	£1170.00	J C Rawlinson	Clerk – Wages (Jan)	112
5 - 3	£ 50.00	J C Rawlinson	Petrol	111
5 - 4	£ 15.99	AOL	Internet charges (Jan)	111
5 - 5	£ 6.98	Comet	Copy paper (3 for 2)	111
5 - 6	£ 368.89	S Glos Council	Dog bin services	DFLA
5 - 7	£4466.54	mlm services	Electrical work, SBVH	LGMP
5 - 8	14363.20	Sutcliffe	Play equipment, SB	RCA58
5 - 9	£ 62.06	Allianz Insurance	New play equipment	111
	<u>£21073.66</u>			

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

5 - 6 Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996
 5 - 7 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, s19
 5 - 8 Recreational Charities Act 1958

Items 5-2 to 5-5, inclusive, paid as one cheque.

The accounts above were approved for payment.

1. NC 2. DH All agreed

Current bank balance, prior to payments above

£41,044.56 (Interest to December included)

Funds in hand boosted by grants received, as follows:-

Severn Beach VH	£3,395.00	for payment of electrical work (mlm-7/1)
Severn Beach VH	£1,027.50	payment for play surface (Technix-7/1)
Severn Beach VH	£7,000.00	payment for climber (Sutcliffe-4/2)
Pilning VH	£ 395.50	payment for stage steps (Felix-7/1)
The Village Players	£ 395.50	payment for stage steps (Felix-7/1).

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None requested.

7. AGENDA

7 – 1 Police

Following the reading of the letter from Inspector Ellis, PC Lodge commented on the main points raised, indicating some of the actions taken to eradicate the problems caused for local residents. PC Lodge has met with Gazeley and other local land bank owners. He confirmed there were 30 logged calls to Western Approach during 2007, and 40 to Severn Beach. The combined number for Pilning and Northwick was much lower. In regard to nuisance behaviour there were 43 calls to SB and 20 to Pilning.

Mr Richard Capp, of the Anti-Social Behaviour Team at S Glos Council, spoke of his department's efforts to deal with local problems and their cooperation with the Police. The department dealt with 600 reports during 2007. Their contact number is 01454-868586. The ASB team works standard office hours so that evening and weekend problems must be referred to Police.

One option available to Police is the Anti-Social Behaviour Contract. This is a voluntary contract and 3 sets of parents have recently refused to take part. Refusal, however, leads to placement into a higher category, and thus the wrongdoer could be subject to A-SB orders (ASBOs).

PC Lodge confirmed that Western Approach is currently being targeted, there was a Police presence on Saturday and Sunday, Insp Ellis being involved. It is, however, particularly difficult to apprehend off-road bikers without a member of the off-road motor bike team being present. With only 2 officers on-staff there are many other calls upon their time. Even so, 1 stolen bike has been recovered. Other bikes have been seized.

7 - 2 Railways

Having considered the response to the report drawn up by DN, it becomes obvious that the enhancement of the Suburban Bristol Railway service will come at a cost. In order to run 3 trains from Temple Meads every 2 hours, 2 must turn at Avonmouth, so trains to SB will be every 2 hours, rather than, as currently, hourly.

Further funding by S Glos would be the only remaining option to prevent the curtailment of this service. With their stated reluctance to provide further funding this is unlikely, and with the bulk of the customer base within the city boundaries, a 2-hourly service is perhaps the best available option.

7 - 3 Sevenside Development

IH confirmed that Terra is now virtually closed. However, one of the occupants was not given the relevant notice, so fertiliser stocks and a small related operation will remain, continuing in action for the next 12 months.

7 - 4 Village Halls/Playing Fields

NC is concerned over the amount of litter uncovered by the recent hedge cutting. NC will check with the Environmental Link Group when they meet next week, to see whether they are able to provide a skip.

IH questioned the registration of the Cross Hands entrance. Is it included with the main body of Pilning playing fields or does it need to be recorded by the Land Registry? We need to ensure that ownership is properly registered before any calls are made upon the council for access rights.

7 - 5 Parish Plan

JD confirmed that efforts are being made to raise funds. An application is in for a £2,500 grant towards the heating at SB VH. The funding body is impressed by the scope of the parish plan, including the responses, and particularly those by children. Other opportunities being explored include: Razzle, a performing arts group, that puts on plays and concerts and provide a percentage of the take to the hosts; Adult IT classes, provided by a company that provides free laptops and training to over-50s; Community Action, who are liaising to provide a link with farmers markets – a trial event is to be held at the Kings Arms – the publican kindly making no charge.

7 - 6 Playgrounds/Youth Activities

NB commented upon a letter from a resident at Northover Court, in which views were expressed against the provision of play facilities close to the residents of the court. One of the early play equipment fund-raising activities is due to take place. Guides are to take part in a night-hike to Aust.

The Youth Bus is to be visiting SB weekly over the next 8 weeks, and will park at SB VH on Thursday. DH registered his protest at this, Thursday being the long established senior citizen day, and previous visits by the bus having been noteworthy only for the lack of discipline shown by those supposedly using the bus. This was countered by the comment that, as the bus is being supplied without any funding demand being placed upon the council, and with a different and well-qualified host in charge, the initiative should be encouraged.

NB asked for permission to meet with representatives of the school authority to discuss what joint youth facilities the council might be willing to request or sanction. It was felt that with the fabric of the new school having a somewhat ethereal quality at present, such a meeting is a little premature and would have little chance of achieving anything realistic.

- JD left the meeting at this point –

Paul Godwin has let it be known that funding is available to provide 2 full-time youth workers during the summer. The requirements would be the provision of suitable premises and some relevant equipment. Though the premises can probably be provided, (expensive) equipment possibly cannot. However, agreed the offer should be considered and that PG be invited to attend our next meeting – CW to arrange.

7 - 7 Audit/Precept

Minutes of the Finance Committee have been provided for all members. Clerk summarised the content, explaining how decisions had been reached, and how the precept requirement of £52,000 had been arrived at. Small increases have been made to the cemetery fees. Proposed JB, seconded NC, all agreed, that the recommendations by the committee be approved without change.

Discussion regarding the appointment of an Odd Job Man followed from the penultimate paragraph of the minutes of the committee meeting. This was also agreed, and Chris Thompson to be appointed. NC wished it to be noted that although CT currently worked for both village hall committees, this appointment is on behalf of the parish council and there should be no confusion over his status with each body.

The minutes of the Finance Committee meeting are filed prior to these minutes, monetary details appearing in Appendices I – III.

7 - 8 Utilities - Gas

NC and IH both commented on the condition of grass verges in Redwick Road, following recent excavations on behalf of British Gas. Despite being requested to cut turfs so the site could be fully reinstated afterwards the contractors refused to do this. As a result the site, though since levelled, is now a muddy mess. A complaint is to be registered.

7 - 9 Schools

Following contact with members of the recently appointed Governors of St Peters School, CW has received an apology for the attendance of Ed French prior to the recent Finance Committee meeting. Ed French has since tendered his own apology for any inappropriate behaviour. Council members have been invited to meet with governors. Mr Tucker, whose land is under threat, has had verbal contact, but no written communication. Council, despite Pilning playing fields being listed as one of two from which the choice would be made, have had no form of contact, even to confirm the field is no longer under consideration. Agreed that whilst it is difficult to comment when no precise details are available, we should be prepared to meet and listen to whatever the governing body has to say.

7 – 10 Footpaths

NC asked that a request should be made for clearance of the cycle track/footway across the overbridge from Church Road to A403. At the foot of the ramp (Church Road end) overgrowth is hindering free passage, and at the end of the ramp to the north east side of the bridge a depression has formed, making it particularly difficult for prams to be pushed from the bridge to the footway. Following the railway bank work of the past few months there many bollards and signs cast into the hedgerow. All need clearing.

7 – 11 Village Matters

Local Facilities & Amenities - Following enquiries, DN has obtained information relating to the provision of an all-weather bowling green. Copies issued to all members for their consideration. Properly and expertly constructed, a 4-lane green is likely to cost around £97,000.

Roads/Road Signs – IH again raised the question of the sign at the junction of Ableton Lane with Severn Road (A403). Complaints have been made concerning this sign, which, it is claimed, obstructs the view of traffic travelling from Avonmouth thus making a right turn from Ableton Lane into a dangerous manoeuvre. The mounting of the “Western Approach, straight ahead” sign has also not helped matters. Locals still consider the lights at Western Approach to be a danger, and feel the emphasis on the light change is wrong, favouring traffic leaving the site rather than traffic using the main, A403, road.

Bus Services, Shelters & Signs – IH drew attention to complaints received regarding the 625 service. There have already been inordinate delays with the Saturday service and evening runs have been cancelled. IH phoned S Glos to report this. Although the contact person seemed concerned, promising to investigate and call back, there has been no contact to date.

Parish Projects & Related Matters – CW reported the Regeneration Group has now obtained the necessary licence to mount local information signs. Accordingly the signs have been ordered. It is proposed to mount 1 by Stride Close, the other by the sea wall path. The Environment Agency has already expressed a reluctance for mounting a sign on the tarmac path and John Miller has refused to permit the sign to be placed on his land. Council agreed the sign could be mounted on their land at the former swimming pool site, providing it is mounted in such a position as to cause no hindrance to the grass cutting process.

Police – Several members attended the recent ‘Safer Stronger South Gloucestershire’ meeting at Easter Compton. As the group is seeking a venue for their next meeting, agreed council would be willing to pay for the provision of a local facility, probably SB School, should that be necessary.

7 – 12 Reports

RIVER, SEAWALL & ENVIRONS - Mrs Barr MBE stated that in her capacity as Flood Warden she had been informed that the stainless steel railings, stolen from the vicinity of Darts Bungalow site, are scheduled to be replaced in the near future.

8. PLANNING

8 – 1 Comments of PC sent to S Glos Council

PT07/3599/F	Plot 8010, Govier Way – building as Bakery	Comments
PT08/0153/CLP	Warehouse on land off Central Avenue	No comment
PT08/0163/RVC	Plot 7, Church Road, SB, condition variation	No comment

8-2 Decisions by S Glos Council

None.

8 - 3 Planning Appeals (against refusal)

PT07/1265/F	Extension/balcony/conservatory, 56 Redwick Road, Pilning
PT07/2695/F	Extension, 3 Northwick Road

Next Council Meeting to be held at Pilning Village Hall on Monday 3rd March 2008

[illegible]

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED @ 9.39 PM

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

JCR