

PAWLETT PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Pawlett Parish Council was held at the Village Hall, Old Main Road, Pawlett on Monday, 18th January 2016 at 7.00 pm
(in the format to be submitted to the next meeting for approval as a correct record)

Present: Parish Councillors C Freeman (Chairman), R Winter (Vice-Chair), A Baker, T Heap, M Neale. Clerk C Morrison-Jones, together with five members of the public.

Public Speaking Time: Topics raised:

- Thanks from the Pavilion Trustees for the Parish Council's conduct at December's meeting and for the subsequent letter of apology from the Parish Council
- Reports of a conifer branch down on the A38 on New Years Day
- Request for assurance that the play equipment was being monitored
- Reminder that the next Coastal Cluster meeting is 17th February
- Suggestion received for name for new development, "Sants Close"
- Last two recycling bins (air ambulance & shoes) are soon to be removed from the Pavilion car park

137. Welcome by Chairman

Colin Freeman welcomed those present and proceeded to conduct public speaking time.

138. Apologies of Absence and Disclosures of Interest.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Cllr M Ritson and Cllr W Barnard (both due to illness) and accepted by the Parish Council.

Disclosable pecuniary interests were stated by:

C Freeman in item 147 b) as he had provided a quote for repairs.

A Baker in item 141 b) due to family land ownership

M Neale in item 147 d) due to land ownership

Cllr R Winter arrived at this point and apologised for his late arrival

All councillors present signed a dispensation form, valid for the meeting on 18th January 2016 and any subsequent meetings prior to April 2016, to enable the precept discussions, item 146 c), to take place.

139. Minutes.

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 21st December 2015 were presented.

After discussion, it was agreed in minute item 132 a), at the end of paragraph 4, to add the sentence 'R Winter refused to apologise for his actions.'

Minute item 132 f) vi, was altered to read 'Lippits lane is un-walkable during the winter months due to muddy surface conditions. It was previously thought that resurfacing would be able to be paid for from the Health and Wellbeing budget but this was not now needed as Somerset CC offered to pay for it. The clerk is to write to the Area Footpaths Officer to see if it will still be funded by Somerset County Council.'

Minutes Pawlett Parish Council – Meeting 18th January 2016

Signed and DatedChairman

Following these amendments, the minutes were unanimously approved by the Parish Council and signed as a true and correct record by the Chairman.

140. Matters Arising.

a) 91 a - Health and Wellbeing projects

No work yet done due to the bad weather.

b) 91 b - Miscellaneous Works

The painting of the blue swing has not yet commenced due to the bad weather.

c) 91 d – Provision of an electricity supply and Illuminated Christmas Tree

The feedback from residents of Pawlett on the tree was positive and encouraging. Unfortunately storm 'Frank' blew the tree over after Christmas. The requirement for more stable 'foundations' for next Christmas was discussed. The Chairman reported that he currently had the Christmas Tree and lights. Councillors agreed that he dispose of the tree and store the lights until needed again.

d) 91 e - Uneven surfaces on Parish Council land

The post has not been erected by the contractor yet

e) 121 Chapel Road Development – suggested removal of pathway

The Clerk read out an email from Stoneway, via Sedgemoor DC, that indicated that there was no intention to remove the proposed footpath and that representation should have been made at the initial planning application stage. Councillors requested that the clerk respond, covering the following points:

- There is no access to the Pavilion from the proposed path
- Security concerns
- The Parish Council would support an application to amend the planning permission granted with respect to the removal of the proposed footpath

The meeting was adjourned during this item to allow a member of the public to speak

f) 116 Welcome Pack to new residents

It was noted that the Post Office was not marked on the map. In addition 'Wyvern Waste' is now 'Virador' – C Freeman agreed to amend.

The Clerk handed round a copy of the proposed text, annotated with suggested changes. These were all approved by councillors and T Heap is to amend the text and send to M Sims for insertion in the 'Welcome Pack'.

g) Recycling Bins

The impending removal of the 'Air Ambulance' and 'Shoe' recycling bins from the Pavilion was noted and possible new sites were discussed. The feeling was, as there was already a 'Shoe' bin by the Post Office, that a new site was not necessary in the village.

h) Any other matters arising

- i. It was reported that the Chapel Road development is due to be finished in September and in August the properties intended for shared ownership would become available. The Residents Association intend to draw up posters alerting villagers to the timescales and giving information on how to apply. The Parish Council agreed that this information needed to be shared and villagers kept up to date.
- ii. **Minute item 133 R** Winter reported that the original deed of gift regarding the Village Green had been copied and that he would collect.

Minutes Pawlett Parish Council – Meeting 18th January 2016

Signed and DatedChairman

- iii. R Winter reported that he had been contacted by CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale) regarding placing a 'Assets of Community Value' registration on the Legion – would the Parish Council support this application?
The Council agreed that in principle it did not want to see facilities lost to the village but would need to see the completed application form before offering its support.

141. Planning Matters

a) Application – Consider response to Local Planning Authority on:

Reference: 41/15/00009

Proposal: Conversion of attic to living accommodation and installation of front and rear dormers

Location: Tamarisk, 2 Quantock Rise, Pawlett, Bridgewater TA6 4SD

Applicant: Stretcholt Builders Ltd

All councillors agreed to support the application as the proposals were in keeping with similar developments to other properties in Quantock Rise

A Baker left the meeting at this point due to a declaration of interest

b) Application – Consider response to Local Planning Authority on:

Reference: 41/15/00010

Proposal: Erection of stable block with hardstanding and post and rail fence surround

Location: Land to the north of Collins Farm, Sloway Lane, Stretcholt, Bridgewater TA6 4SR

Applicant: Mr J Reason

All councillors agreed to support the application as shelter for horses was needed and it was not out of keeping with the area.

A Baker rejoined the meeting

c) Decisions notified by Local Planning Authorities to be recorded.

None

d) Any other planning related matters

The renovations on the house on Bristol Road were raised – was this new development or renovation? It was considered that it was renovation as it was rebuilding what had originally existed.

142. District Councillor's Report

None

143. County Councillor's Report

None

144. To Receive Reports from Members of Meetings attended

No meetings attended

145. Financial Matters.

a) Approve/confirm payment of creditors.

The following payments were approved :-

- i. Clerks salary £331.56 gross. As there had been some difficulty with the HMRC RTI information transfer between the outgoing and incoming clerks, to enable the Clerk to resolve and draw salary for January, two cheques were signed - chq 807 made out to C Morrison-Jones and chq 808 made out to HMRC with authorisation for the combined total of the two cheques not to exceed £331.56
- ii. Westpoint Electrical £59.55 (£49.63 + £9.92 VAT), chq 806. To fit timer to Christmas Tree lights

b) Agree cancellation of monthly Standing Order payment of Outgoing Clerk's salary.

A letter to NatWest was signed by C Freeman and T Heap requesting the cancellation with immediate effect the salary, made as a monthly Standing Order payment, made to G Jarvis, outgoing clerk.

c) Agree Budget for 2016/17 and set Parish Precept for 2016/17.

It was unanimously resolved that the Parish Precept for 2016/17 be set at £18,500 which equates to an annual charge of £47.37 per band D property, a increase of £2.34. The majority of the increase was to balance the decreased value of the grant from Sedgemoor District Council , which is expected to be totally phased out over the next three years. The draft budget for 2016/17 was unanimously agreed.

d) Any other financial matters notified to the Clerk in advance of the Meeting.

None

146. Roads and Footpaths.

a) Fly posting – update 132 a)

The Clerk reported that as requested by the Parish Council at the December meeting (minute 132 a) a letter of apology was sent to Pawlett Pavilion and a copy was also sent to the Enforcement Officer at Sedgemoor to clarify the Parish Council's position on this matter.

R Winter stated he wished to set the record straight and proceeded to read a statement that he had prepared in response to comments made in public speaking time at the December meeting by J Thorne, representing the trustees of Pawlett Pavilion. Points he raised included:

- confirming that he had filled out a Register of Interests form upon taking office declaring his involvement with the Legion
- he had not emailed but telephoned the Enforcement Officer at Sedgemoor regarding the fly posters
- after talking to the enforcement officer, he discussed the matter with the Clerk (G Jarvis) and his advice was to do nothing more
- his only reference to the Enforcement Officer regarding the Parish Council was in regard to the letter received earlier in the summer
- when contacted by C Freeman he refused to apologise for his actions because fly posting is illegal

Minutes Pawlett Parish Council – Meeting 18th January 2016

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- the secretary to the Pavillion Committee (T Heap) also sat on the Parish Council and he felt that she should have advised the Pavillion Committee that fly posting was illegal
- fly posting is an offence and he would continue to report it to the relevant authority

T Heap responded to R Winter's comment regarding her – she is secretary to the Committee of the Pavilion and was not present at any of the meetings where this issue had been discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at this point to allow a member of the public to confirm that the complaint had been raised by the Trustees of the Pavilion, not the Committee of the Pavilion.

The Chairman then stated that he felt that the 'setting the record straight' agreed by the Parish Council at the previous meeting referred to the Parish Council, not personally to R Winter, and by writing to the Pavilion to apologise and confirm that the Parish Council had not initiated the complaint with the Enforcement Officer this had now been done. Therefore the issue was no longer a Parish Council issue and as such it is not appropriate for R Winter to address personal issues within a Parish Council meeting.

b) Bus Shelter repairs, Old Main Road - Update.

C Freeman declared an interest in this item but confirmed that work on the repairs had not commenced due to the bad weather.

c) Provision of extra Dog Waste Bin, Stretcholt – Update

The Clerk had received an email from Sedgemoor DC to requesting confirmation as to if new posts were required? It was agreed that the Clerk respond saying that no new posts were required as fixing could be to the existing posts, however the post on Old Main Road was leaning and so request that it be re-set before the new bin was attached.

d) Land adjoining A38 between Old Main Road and Manor Road - Update.

None to report

e) Consider street name for new Development off Chapel Road.

Various names were suggested:

- Sants Close – Mr & Mrs Sants were (now both deceased) villagers that had a huge impact on the community
- Edifying Close
- Springfield Close
- Lockyer Close – Mr Lockyer originally owned the field on which the development is sited and was a past chair of the Parish Council

These names were noted and A Baker offered to research what the original name of the developed field was.

The name Lockyer was provisionally proposed, with a final vote to be taken next meeting to allow for more opinions to be sought / research to be done.

f) Any other matters relating to roads and footpaths in the Parish.

- i. T Heap raised the issue of a telegraph pole situated outside 23 Manor Road which has been driven down through a surface water drain, causing flooding outside the property. Western Power are aware of the situation and are going to rectify it.

- ii. **minute 132 f) v)** The Clerk reported that the request for additional mobile speed cameras had been made to Bridgewater Police Station and had been passed on to the relevant authority
- iii. Grass area between the pavement and the road in Gaunts Lane between Quantock Rise and the school: Concerns were raised about the amount of dog fouling in this area causing a health hazard and the also damage caused to the grass caused by parking vehicles. It was agreed that the Clerk write to request that the grass is removed and the area tarmac laid.
- iv. **Minute 132 f) vi)** The Clerk confirmed with Councillors the location of Lippits Lane on a map sent by Somerset County Council in regards to the request to the Rights of Way Officer to resurface the lane
- v. Concerns were raised regarding the poor state of some of the street name signs. T Heap agreed to survey the signs within the parish and report back to the Parish Council
- vi. The pot holes outside the new development on Chapel Road have been temporarily filled

147. Correspondance

The following items were in the bundle for members to circulate:

- 1. Sedgemoor District Council:
 - i. Clean for The Queen
 - ii. Email - Chapel Road development in respect of footpath
 - iii. Look Ahead – February 2016 newsletter
- 2. Somerset Waste Partnership: Monthly Briefing – January 2016.
- 3. Fish & Chip supper – email and publicity material
- 4. Community Energy Co-op – email, information and events regarding solar farm, Puriton
- 5. NALC/SALC - Beacons for The Queen's 90th Birthday
- 6. The Future of External Audit for Smaller Authorities
- 7. Correspondence from Cllr M Ritson

148. Topics for Future Meetings

- i. Parish Paths Liaison Officer – C Freeman wishes to step down from this role
- ii. Play Equipment Inspections – C Freeman wishes to step down from this role

149. Date and time of next meeting

15th February 2016 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall, Old Main Road, Pawlett

Meeting closed at 8.53 pm

Minutes Pawlett Parish Council – Meeting 18th January 2016

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