

PILNING & SEVERN BEACH PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held on Tuesday 3rd January 2012, commencing at 7.00 pm,
in PILNING VILLAGE HALL

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

Also Present:- J C Rawlinson (Clerk), Mr R C Griffin (S Glos Councillor), and
3 members of the public (Mr John and Mrs Anne Rollings of The
Glebe, Mr Peter Tyzack of Little Green Lane).

1. APOLOGIES for ABSENCE

Mr R W Hampson (unwell), Mr A J Lewis (prior charity commitment).

2a MINUTES of the PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 5th December 2011 were approved as a true
record. 1. FCAB 2. YG All agreed.

2b MINUTES of FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Copies of the minutes having been distributed, approval was sought from
council for maintaining precept level at £56,000. 1. ILR 2. FCAB All agreed.

3. ACTION/RELATED MATTERS

3 – 1 Playing Fields/Youth Activities

Clerk has contacted former councillor Mrs Nicole Bendall regarding the
money raised by the public participation event. He is to make contact again if the
money is not forthcoming.

3 - 2 Bus Services, Shelters & Signs

Odd job man has been asked to clean the shelter at Wick Road. Recent bad
weather and the holiday period have delayed action. The hardwood slats (for bench
repairs) have now been received and OJM informed.

3 - 3 Liaison with the Public

For convenience, a number of points raised in several letters by former
councillor Mr Doug Nethercott are dealt with here. Concerns expressed by DN re
earlier letters being dealt with *In Camera*, have been addressed by the Clerk. The
feeling of being ignored was covered in an apology by ILR and the Clerk. DN has
accepted the apology and this matter is now closed. Clerk spoke with members
regarding DN's thoughts relating to contact by the public. All members are aware of
the need to acknowledge, and respond to, approaches by any member of public.

DN feels the council is operating as a closed shop. Members dispute this.
Meetings are open to the public and vacancies for councillors are always advertised.
Most of the public know nothing of council activities but if anyone was really
interested surely they would make enquiries, as did Mrs Fennell, co-opted onto
council to fill the most recent vacancy. When matters of particular interest arise,
resulting in public meetings being held, attendances are often high.

3 - 3 Liaison with the Public (cont)

A radio news item on 3rd January reported on the national *malaise* influencing attendances at local public meetings and the difficulty in encouraging interest in local affairs. One thrust of the Localism Bill is to try and combat this apathy.

The recommendation that land to the rear of SB playing fields might be claimed for designation as a village green was discussed. It was generally agreed that there is no justification for making such a claim, a point supported by former district councillor Peter Tyzack. Casual use by dog, and other, walkers is insufficient for the site to realistically qualify. Council expressed their gratitude to DN for information relating to ownership of the site.

DN asked whether sound amplification techniques could be employed. He is one of several attendees who have experienced difficulties in following proceedings. This has previously been tried, not wholly successfully. Generally felt that microphones placed in front of members can be inhibitive and amplification might prove to be counter productive. Agreed not to pursue this at present.

DN also suggested that a council break in August could not be justified, this no longer being the traditional holiday month. IR agreed with this point but in general members welcome this break in the year. As has happened previously, a meeting can be called during August should the need arise.

3 - 4 Waste Dumping/Disposal/Landfill

Debris in Bank Road is still not cleared. RCG to follow up on this.

4. CORRESPONDENCEAudit/Precept

- 15061.01 HMRC advise overpayment of income tax.
15062.02 S Glos advise arrangements for payment of precept funding.

Avon Local Councils Association

- 15063.03 Minutes of group meeting held 10th November at North Common.
15064.04 ALCA meeting to discuss Localism Act, 26th January at Charfield.
15065.05 Invites to Buckingham Palace Garden Parties.

Building-New Developments-Housing

- 15066.06 Comment sought on Strategic Tenancy Policy.
15067.07 Clare Burchell seeks comment on affordable housing proposals.

Campaign to Protect Rural England

- 15068.08 *Fieldwork*, Winter edition - circulated.

Employment/Opportunities

- 15069.09 Tax code notification for Cemetery Clerk.

Footpaths

- 15070.10 Residents in a property adjacent to the Beach Avenue/Gorse Cover Road footpath ask to erect new boundary fence outside their own boundary. Parish Council will not agree to this.

- 15071.11 Grass Cutting
S Glos offer services for 5-year grass cutting contract.
- 15072.12 Health Authority and Care Services
Reach, Winter edition, for health care in Bristol.
- 15073.13 Local Facilities & Amenities
New working hours for Registration service.
15074.14 Mr D Nethercott provides details of town green registration.
- 15075.15 Local Industry
Power Lines, Winter issue – copies distributed.
15076.16 Consultation on nuclear decommissioning.
15077.17 Agenda for Site Stakeholder group meeting, 18th January at Oldbury.
- 15078.18 Medical
Comment by Andrew Barrow re work at entrance to surgery.
- 15079.19 Parish Projects & Related Matters
Comment by Mr D Nethercott re previous correspondence.
15080.20 Mr D Nethercott comments on *in camera* discussion.
- 15081.21 Police
Agenda for Safer Stronger meeting at Almondsbury, 12th January.
15082.22 Budget Consultation survey for 2012/13.
- 15083.23 Railways
Response from Managing Director re cancelled services.
15084.24 FoSBR contacts Bristol City Council re service improvement.
15085.25 Comment re ownership of land next to SB station.
- 15086.26 River, Seawall & Environs
FCAB comment on flood plan.
15087.27 Response by James Cooke re info above.
- 15088.28 Roads/Road Signs
Response re notified local problems.
15089.29 Response re 30 mph marker at Pilning cross roads.
15090.30 Notified problems logged for action.
15091.31 Response re illegal parking at Beach Avenue/Road junction.
15092.32 Concerns re speeding in Little Green Lane.
- 15093.33 Schools
Invitation from Marlwood School to Speech Day.
- 15094.34 Traffic Problems/Transport Policy
Mr R Walker comments on various local problems.

Travellers

- 15095.35 Mr D Nethercott acknowledges apology; and, comments on travellers.
 15096.36 Mr D Nethercott provides info on ownership of land off Church Road.
 15097.37 Dawn Russell comments on traveller activity at Severn Beach.

Utilities - Electricity

- 15098.38 Nick Webb confirms wind farm plan likely to be submitted in April.
 15099.39 Meeting in Colston Hall, 14th January, re low carbon energy.
 15100.40 REG Windpower complain re opposition to development plans.
 15101.41 Mrs H Rickards of Meadow View confirms support for wind farm.

Village Halls

- 15102.42 Mr D Nethercott comments on trusteeship of SB Village Hall.
 15103.43 Mr D Nethercott comments on various matters.

Waste Dumping/Disposal/Landfill

- 15104.44 Options for Spring Clean initiative in 2012.

Planning

- 15105.45 Delegated decisions, w/e 1st Oct 2011.
 15106.46 Delegated decisions, w/e 8th Oct 2011.
 15107.47 Delegated decisions, w/e 15th Oct 2011.
 15108.48 Delegated decisions, w/e 22nd Oct 2011.
 15109.49 Delegated decisions, w/e 29th Oct 2011.
 15110.50 Delegated decisions, w/e 5th Nov 2011.
 15111.51 Delegated decisions, w/e 12th Nov 2011.
 15112.52 Delegated decisions, w/e 19th Nov 2011.
 15113.53 Delegated decisions, w/e 26th Nov 2011.
 15114.54 Delegated decisions, w/e 3rd Dec 2011.
 15115.55 CPRE booklet, "Planning Explained".

Accounts/Donations

- 15116.56 Neptune, hardwood bench slats. Item 5-3 refers.
 15117.57 S L C C, annual subscription. Item 5-4 refers.
 15118.58 H M R C, Clerk's income tax. Item 5-5 refers.
 15119.59 M J Fisher, grass cutting. Item 5-6 refers.
 15120.60 Marlwood School, letter of thanks. Item 5-10, minutes 5/12, refers.
 Christmas cards were received from AstraZeneca & Planet Turf.

5. ACCOUNTS for PAYMENT

5 - 1	£ 791.00	J C Rawlinson	Clerk's wages (Dec)	112
5 - 2	£ 50.00	J C Rawlinson	Petrol allowance	111
5 - 3	£ 320.83	Neptune	Hardwood slats	111
5 - 4	£ 140.00	S L C C	Annual subscription	143
5 - 5	£ 591.00	H M R C	Income tax	111
5 - 6	£ 630.00	M J Fisher	Grass Cutting (Dec)	*
5 - 7	£ 200.00	Mr I Roberts	Chairman's Honorarium	15(5)
	<u>£2722.83</u>			

5. ACCOUNTS for PAYMENT (cont)

Payments in accordance with Local Government Act 1972, sections as shown, except:
5 - 6)Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1979, s19
)Public Health Act 1875, s164

Items 5-1 to 5-3 inclusive, paid as one cheque.

Bank balance, prior to payments above = **£40,038.25** (interest to Sept inclusive).

Accounts above were approved for payment. 1. FCAB 2. CEW All agreed.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Tyzack spoke to members concerning the letter from Claire Burchell. Council pointed to the difficulty in identifying any 'exception sites' as there is a presumption against any development within the area due to the flood risk. Council agreed to support the initiative providing that the possibility of developing an identified site was clarified before any funds were spent on the project. Clerk to contact Claire offering support but asking for the problems to first be considered.

7. AGENDA

7 - 1 Local Major Developments

RCG informed members that the application for Marsh Common had been called in to committee. The matter is likely to be discussed on 2nd February. One matter of particular annoyance to members is the insistence by S Glos Council on doing nothing. The 1957 agreement clearly indicates that any development within the 200 yard boundary strip has to be agreed upon by the planning authority. S Glos are not involving themselves in this, their view being that any costs were not justified due to the small number of local residents effected.

Noise detectors have been placed at Warburtons. They are intended to provide a before/after comparison of noise generated by the wind generators planned for Ingst.

7 - 2 Village Halls/Playing Fields

YG stated that the SB VH committee were looking to complete tree planting along the boundary. Several suggestions were made as to where free trees could be obtained.

NAC sought advice regarding a request to use the playing field as a 'boot camp' for members of a local keep fit and martial arts group. Members agreed she was correct in not providing a gate key as they were not paying a hire fee. There is nothing to stop use of the field but cars could not be brought on site unless an official booking (when a key could be provided) was made. However, as IWH pointed out, the field is currently unfit for use due to recent wet weather. Any such usage would be detrimental to use by the football club who pay their fees for the facility.

7 – 3 Travellers

ILR thanked MDP for his invaluable assistance in setting up anti-access measures designed to keep travellers from getting onto the site behind SB playing fields. RCG thanked both councillors for their efforts. Local residents also expressed their gratitude for this initiative.

7 - 4 Standing Orders

Following on from Item 7-5, minutes of 5th December, Clerk presented 4 motions aimed at updating the orders. Copies were distributed to members and changes summarised by the Clerk. Proposed FCAB, seconded ILR, all agreed, the alterations will be made to the orders, presented to council at the February meeting and duly authorised on that date.

7 - 5 Village Matters

Roads/Road – YG commented on reports of children using the church path and entering onto Cross Hands Road without due care and attention. School to be notified, copy to AJL for benefit of Governors.

ILR asked for road markings at the junction of Little Green Lane and Church Road, speeds along the re-laid surface of the Lane now proving to be excessive.

Diamond Jubilee – NAC queried the council's intention for celebrating the jubilee. Agreed to bring this up as an agenda item in February.

Sickness – In response to an enquiry by JAF, council confirmed it is not usual to mark absences with a card. RWH's operation is now due on 6th January.

Footpaths – Via RCG, a resident has asked to move his boundary fence onto the Beach Avenue/Gorse Cover Road footpath area. Council cannot sanction this.

7 - 6 Reports

HORSES – RCG reported on a letter from Jack Lopresti MP in which it is promised that horses brought into the country will be subjected to checks for electronic identity chips – subject to sufficient staff being available. There are a number of horse problems within this area. Reported that some horses on the river bank have died due to a lack of fresh water.

BUILDINGS-NEW DEVELOPMENT-HOUSING. RCG reported on the recent meeting at Ableton Court, also attended by ILR and CEW. No action regarding the future of the court will be taken until April. Meanwhile all units, save one, are occupied – the power of advertising! There is now an option available for unit sizes to be increased should the need arise.

PONDS at WESTERN APPROACH – Shooting of water fowl continues to be a problem in an area intended to be a wildlife refuge. There is some confusion over the precise ownership of the area.

PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT – The presence of a caravan on the old school grounds in Bank Road was queried. PT feels this is a permitted development right. Agreed this question would be raised with S Glos Council.

FOOTPATHS – FCAB has sought action by S Glos in response to perceived infractions by the owner of Mayburn Villa. S Glos has confirmed their belief that all actions at the villa are lawful, but enquired about ownership of the adjacent lane. In response to this enquiry, FCAB has informed S Glos that the lane alongside Mayburn Villa is owned by Mr Reason of Southworthy Cottage. He permits walkers to use....

