

Portbury Parish Council

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held 6th October 2009
Village Hall, High Street, Portbury

Present:

Councillors: Cllr Cooke Cllr Tarr (left at 9.27pm) Cllr Young Cllr Marshall

Chairman: Cllr Summerfield

Clerk: (Minutes taken by Sara Thompson)

Others: Mandy Bishop – NSC
 Roy Ball – Neighbourhood Watch
 Rita Summerfield – ROW (arrived at 7.43pm and left at 8.55pm)
 Dawn Drower - PBS

Meeting commenced at 7.35pm

Apologies received from Cllrs. Meek and Weeks, Mr John

No	Item	Action																																																
PC/10/01	Minutes of September's meeting held 01.09.09 signed as a true record of proceedings. Proposed: Cllr Young Seconded: Cllr Tarr All in favour																																																	
PC/10/02	Finance (a) Accounts for authorisation: <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 80%;"></th> <th style="text-align: right;">Nett</th> <th style="text-align: right;">VAT</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Gross</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>PBS – Admin during Sept 09</td> <td style="text-align: right;">350.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">52.50</td> <td style="text-align: right;">402.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PBS – Coordinator Oct 09</td> <td style="text-align: right;">250.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">37.50</td> <td style="text-align: right;">287.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NSC – Green/Layby cuts August 09</td> <td style="text-align: right;">75.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">11.25</td> <td style="text-align: right;">86.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Osborne Clark – Legal fees re. playing field lease</td> <td style="text-align: right;">500.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">75.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">575.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Haydn John – PPC web domain name</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7.99</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td>David James – laying field lease 4th qrt</td> <td style="text-align: right;">25.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">25.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brian Weekes – strimming allotment</td> <td style="text-align: right;">72.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">72.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Beachcroft – Pro fees July & Aug 10% of £1546 + V AT 154.60</td> <td style="text-align: right;">231.90</td> <td style="text-align: right;">154.60</td> <td style="text-align: right;">386.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Additional items for authorisation:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EDF – Electricity July to Sept 09</td> <td style="text-align: right;">55.17</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2.76</td> <td style="text-align: right;">57.93</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SEC – Light maintenance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">43.88</td> <td style="text-align: right;">6.58</td> <td style="text-align: right;">50.46</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Nett	VAT	Gross	PBS – Admin during Sept 09	350.00	52.50	402.50	PBS – Coordinator Oct 09	250.00	37.50	287.50	NSC – Green/Layby cuts August 09	75.00	11.25	86.25	Osborne Clark – Legal fees re. playing field lease	500.00	75.00	575.00	Haydn John – PPC web domain name	7.99	0.00	7.99	David James – laying field lease 4 th qrt	25.00	0.00	25.00	Brian Weekes – strimming allotment	72.00	0.00	72.00	Beachcroft – Pro fees July & Aug 10% of £1546 + V AT 154.60	231.90	154.60	386.50	Additional items for authorisation:				EDF – Electricity July to Sept 09	55.17	2.76	57.93	SEC – Light maintenance	43.88	6.58	50.46	
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	Proposed: Cllr Young Seconded: Cllr Tarr All in favour	
PC/10/03	<p>Crime & Disorder</p> <p>(a) Crime Log September</p> <p>One aggravated vehicle taking - Moorgate Burglary - an attempt in High Street Burglary (in a garage) - attempt to take quad bikes in Caswell Lane Criminal Damage to a vehicle - Moorgate Container broken into but nothing stolen</p> <p>(b) PACT Surgeries</p> <p>Mr Ball advised that he is to meet with PC Julie Lewis to discuss the implementation of PACT surgeries within the parish. If agreed to, the surgeries would be held once a month and would commence at the end of the year/early 2010. The police would fund the hire of the room etc and so there would be no cost to the residents. Mr Ball felt that in order to make these surgeries a success, they would have to be heavily advertised on the parish web site, newsletter and notice boards.</p>	
PC/10/10	<p>Parish Plan and Website</p> <p>This item was brought forward from the end of the agenda. The Parish Plan, incorporating the parish website, would be item 4 on future agendas.</p> <p>Parish Website – Mrs Summerfield and Cllr Tarr has been working with Haydn John to develop the parish website. Progress had been good and councillors were pleased with the way information was being displayed. The site was proving to be functional and adaptable, complimenting the existing village hall website. It was the intention of the council to promote external links, this would keep the site ‘clean’ and enable the user to go directly to their point of interest; NSC Planning Dept etc.</p> <p>Mandy Bishop advised that she would update the council’s contact information held by NSC with the new website address.</p> <p>It was proposed that the site be launched in its current format, with the understanding that improvements would be made on an ongoing basis.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Tarr Seconded: Cllr All in favour</p> <p>An item still to be agreed is the publication on the website of councillors personal contact information and photo. The general consensus is that photos would be acceptable but the publication of home addresses etc would not be. All councillors in attendance agreed to this but Cllrs Meek and Weeks’ comments would need to be considered. General enquires would continue to be directed to PBS who would pass them on to the appropriate councillor.</p> <p>Parish Plan - Haydn continues to develop the parish plan</p>	MB/ST

<p>PC/10/04</p>	<p>(a) Planning Applications</p> <p>09/P/1268/LB Barns at Moor Farm. change of use from agri to dwelling Granted</p> <p>09/P/1267/F As above Granted</p> <p>09/P/0971/F Combe Cottage – Reinstatement of dwelling house Granted</p> <p>09/P/0972/LB As above Granted</p> <p>09/P/1392/F – Bracken House, Caswell Lane. Erection of 2 no. two storey side extensions and a front porch. Demolition of 2nd floor level of accommodation and alteration to roof. <u>Cllr Weeks declared an interest.</u> Bracken house has been a character landmark residence in this area for more than 20 years set in a very prominent position. In 2007 a planning permission ref 07/P/0165 was granted for a 48% increase in structure volume via extensions to the front / rear which PPC did not oppose as it did not radically affect the overall character or appearance of the building from the valley. To date this 2007 approval has not been constructed. This latest application in conjunction with the 2007 permission will not only completely eradicate the style of this original building but it will look to the bystander as if the whole building has been demolished and rebuilt. The 2007 permission also states that future applications which increase the building in size will most likely be rejected. The increase in absolute size determined by this latest application may not actually reflect the visual impact that this new design will afford by removing the current “dog-leg” layout. It is therefore a matter of personal opinion whether this new building is of suitable character for its rural environment compared with the existing building constructed to the 2007 permission. PPC have taken consideration of all of the above issues and on a narrow majority vote taking into account its overall impact on its rural setting, its appearance from the valley and impact on nearby residents decided to register a vote of “No Objection.” In the event of this application being granted PPC request that all “conditions” applied to the 2007 permission are also applied to this application. Replies were required in between council meetings and therefore an email vote was taken.</p> <p>Proposal – No objection. 3 in favour. 2 against. 1 abstention</p> <p>09/P/1615/F – 51 Caswell Lane. Erection of 1st floor rear extension & balcony. <u>Cllr Weeks has declared an interest.</u> A similar application for this property was submitted and rejected in 2008, the main points for rejection appearing to be the fact that the extension was to be flat roofed and that the exterior was to be wood cladding. The current application has addressed the roof; a pitched, tiled roof has now been applied for but the cladding remains as before. The Council’s initial response is to object to this application as it does not consider it to be sympathetic to neighbouring properties.</p> <p>In favour of objection – 4 Abstaining – 1</p> <p>The council would also make comment to two other points regarding this application; Firstly, the application states that the applicant has spoken to the chairman of the parish council and that the chairman does not object. Cllr Summerfield advises that he has not conversed, or has ever met, with the applicant. Secondly the application is made in the name of a company rather than an individual, the council would seek reassurance that this property is to be used for residential use only and attention is drawn to the fact that the address of the residence is currently used as a company’s registered office. A draft IDOX submission to be prepared for Council approval.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Idox</p> <p>LS / PC</p>
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	<p>Eon – Joint council meeting update. A joint council meeting was held on the 23.09.09 between PPC, PTC and EIG to discuss the proposed construction of a Biomass plant at Portbury Dock. It was apparent that each council had taken a different view as to the environmental impact that this development would have but all agreed that Jct 19 M5 could not support the amount of additional traffic that this development would create.</p> <p>PPC had drafted a letter on behalf of all councils, encapsulating the meeting's concerns for forwarding to DoE, GSOW, NSC and Dr Fox MP. PTC and EIG's input would be most welcome during this process, with the final 'draft' being agreed upon by all councils before despatch. Should the letter contents not be agreed upon, it is assumed that individual councils shall pursue their own lines of thought regarding this proposal.</p> <p>Councillors agreed that the draft letter reflected the concerns of PPC and that no amendments were required.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Tarr Seconded: Cllr Young All in favour</p> <p>Having had preliminary discussions with NSC Planning, it appears that their feeling is that during the construction phase of the plant there may be a detrimental effect on Jct 19 but the operational phase of the plant the impact would be acceptable. The application is expected to go to full committee in December to discuss the environmental impact issues.</p>	
<p>PC/10/05</p>	<p>Parish Coordinator/Task Monitor Standing Orders</p> <p>In line with NALC, and on the recommendation of Mazars, the council need to update their Standing Orders. It was suggested that this should be done over the next couple of months, with each new section being ratified at a monthly meeting as and when they were completed. Mrs Drower (PBS) anticipates that the review and update should take 15 to 20 hours. This exercise would be funded by unused coordinator fees but additional funds would be made available should these fees be exceeded.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Tarr Seconded: Cllr Tarr All in favour</p>	<p>PBS</p>
<p>PC/10/06</p>	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>National Grid – public consultation</p> <p>National Grid is planning a new overhead power line between Bridgewater and Avonmouth to take electricity from the proposed new Hinkley Point C nuclear power station. An exhibition for local councils will be held on 12.10.09 at Trinity School, with the public exhibition being held on the 15th. Several councillors will attend this presentation to ascertain the scope of this proposed project which will allow the council to comment accordingly.</p> <p>Community Policing Awards 2009</p>	<p>PC</p> <p>Noted</p>

<p>PC/10/07</p>	<p>Maintenance Nothing further to report on the Allotments this month.</p> <p>Spring Bulbs are now available for planting and this is scheduled to go ahead in the next week.</p> <p>It was agreed to ask Brain to trim the posts of the Oakham Farm sign.</p>	<p>VM /SY</p> <p>PBS</p>
<p>PC/10/08</p>	<p>Transport and Traffic Sheepway Speeding along the Sheepway continues. NSC will not enforce speed restrictions along this stretch of road but PPC will request that they reconsider due to the proximity of the Moorgate residential estate; adjacent estates, The Vale and Ashlands, have speed limits of 20mph. The council will request another meeting with Frank Cox, NSC.</p> <p>Portbury Lane Further accidents are occurring and it is imperative that PPC reengage with NSC Highway department to organise an urgent meeting in recognition of the impending winter weather.</p>	<p>LS</p> <p>LS</p>
<p>PC/10/09</p>	<p>St Mary's Church and School The Church roof security system funded by PPC is understood to be complete and fully operational. Cllr Meek has been contacted to confirm the status and how the system may be disarmed.</p> <p>Cllr Marshall informed PPC that a quote of £6.600 has been received for church lead replacement but the other two quotes are still outstanding. This is understood to exceed the insurance limit of £5k for lead theft.</p> <p>The Church organ has suffered water damage and it is unclear whether it is attributable to the roof damage. PPC have requested clarification on this issue and if it is secondary damage caused by the leaking roof, is it covered by the church insurance policy?</p>	<p>JM</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>VM</p>
<p>PC/10/10</p>	<p>Parish Plan Agenda item discussed earlier</p>	
<p>PC/10/11</p>	<p>AOB Elm Tree Bus Stop (Portishead bound) As PPC had had no involvement in the discussions regarding the agreement of the final bus stop location, it was unanimously decided that the council would not take a vote on its acceptability, the council are happy to endorse a location that is mutually acceptable to both NSC and local residents.</p>	<p>LS</p>
<p>PC/10/12</p>	<p>Date and time of next meeting – 3rd November 2009 at 7.30pm</p>	

Meeting finished at 9.55 pm
Portbury Parish Council
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