

Portbury Parish Council

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held 1st March 2016
Village Hall, High Street, Portbury

Present:

Councillors: Cllr Weekes Cllr Langdon Cllr Romanski
Cllr Randall Cllr Longstaff

Chairman: Cllr Phipps

Clerk: Minutes taken by Sara Thompson

Representatives: Mandy Bishop – NSC (arrived at 7.40pm)
Les Summerfield (footpaths)
Mr J Painter NSC (left at 8.40pm)

Others: One member of the public

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

No	Item	Action
PC/03/01	Apologies Received. Cllr Hale and PC Clark	
PC/03/02	Traffic Calming Scheme – Presentation by Mr J Painter NSC Since attending PPC's November 15 meeting, Mr Painter had drafted a traffic calming proposal that would meet the criteria for designating Portbury village as a 20mph traffic zone. Councillors discussed areas of importance with Mr Painter and, after taking his advice into consideration, requested that the proposal be revised/agreed as follows; 1. Caswell Lane (approach from Clapton-in-Gordano) currently national speed limit, reducing to 30mph at The Lodge. PPC request – The national speed limit be reduced to 30mph at the first defined 'passing place' on the right hand side of the lane. 30mph then be reduced to 20mph at the second defined 'passing place' on the left hand side. This extends the speed reduction zones suggested by Mr Painter further out	

of the village.

2. High Street (approach from the A369) currently 30mph.

PPC agree with the proposal that the current 30mph be reduced to 20mph at No24 High Street. This position would compliment the change from 'rural' to 'urban', as defined by frontage development.

3. Mill Lane (approach from Portbury Lane). Currently national speed limit, reducing to 30mph at Mill Close.

PPC request – The national speed limit be reduced to 30mph at a point located between the junction of Mill/Failand Lane and the current 30mph signage. The current 30mph signage located at Mill Close be changed to 20mph. This again extends the speed reduction zones suggested by Mr Painter further out of the village.

4. Mini roundabout - High Street/Mill Lane junction. It was agreed that the installation of a roundabout would not improve traffic flow and, if anything, could cause gridlock at the Mill Lane pinch point.

5. Kerb – Mill Lane in to High Street (Portbury Lane approach/left turn). Moving the kerb line out could reduce the speed of traffic turning in to the High Street but concern was raised that this could also force traffic immediately in to the path of oncoming vehicles.

Other subjects discussed included;

Physical speed restrictors. The speed pads recently installed in Clapton-in-Gordano had proved to be successful, reducing the average speed by 9mph. An alternative to this, and maybe considered to be more suitable in Portbury, would be transverse road markings at the village 'gateways'.

High Street – Church Lane to the A369 junction. Where the pavement terminates consideration is given to a pedestrian 'refuge' along the road, defined by a solid white line.

Mr Painter agreed to advise the Council of an estimated cost of works for the main items mentioned above, which would also include the statutory fees due for a Speed Limit Order. He would endeavour to provide costs by w/c 21/03/16.

Whilst it is acknowledged that, at this time, there is no funding within NSC's budget to proceed with this scheme, PPC will request a meeting with Cllr Ashton and, in his capacity of District Councillor, ask him for his support in securing funding at the earliest opportunity.

<p>PC/03/03</p>	<p>Minutes of PPC meeting held 2nd February 2016 – approval</p> <p>RESOLVED that: The Minutes were a true record of proceedings and duly signed.</p>	
<p>PC/03/04</p>	<p>Chairman’s Report</p> <p>Gordano Rugby Club - The club currently uses the playing field for rugby practice and is seeking permission to erect some type of storage facility. Cllr Phipps has requested that a more detailed proposal is submitted to allow the Council to comment.</p> <p>Portbury Wharf Nature Reserve – A reply has been sent to a resident’s enquiry regarding the Council’s views on the handling of the Nature Reserve’s management changeover.</p> <p>At a recently held meeting with Cllr Ashton, Cllr Phipps was updated with regard to Central Government plans to devolve further financial controls to local levels and to adopt a ‘Metro Mayor’ form of structure - consultation is currently underway .</p> <p>Green Recycling – It is now most probable that the bags will be replaced by green wheelie bins, due to H & S concerns raised by contractors.</p>	
<p>PC/03/05</p>	<p>Finance</p> <p>(a) Payments for Authorisation - As per the attached schedule. Cllr Weekes declared an interest and abstained from voting.</p> <p>(b) Additional items for Authorisation – Two hall rental invoices from Portbury Village Hall covering period Oct 15 through to March 16 – Total £126.00</p> <p>RESOLVED that: The payments as scheduled (and additional) were approved.</p> <p>(c) Church Donations - The Church would like to use the funds allocated to the church clock repairs (£100) to go towards the installation of an outside safety railing instead. The clock repairs are now considered to be a long term project, as costs are in the region of £1800.</p> <p>On a broader note, Cllr Phipps requested Councillors consider setting aside a sum of money each year towards ‘church infrastructure’ costs, drawn down against specific requests. This was agreed in principle subject to the Church indicating each year what their priority needs were. PPC could then allocate a sum of money to be used by the Church more “flexibly” to tackle items that they could proceed with. Cllr Phipps will correspond with the Church to set this in motion.</p>	<p>MP</p>

PC/03/06	<p>Crime and Disorder</p> <p>(a) Although the Council was advised that no crimes had been reported to the police, Cllrs Randall and Romanski were aware of several vehicles that had been broken into, and that these incidents had been reported. PBS to invite PC Clark to April's meeting to discuss further.</p>	
PC/03/07	<p>Parish Plan and Website</p> <p>(a) Website – Nothing new to report</p> <p>(b) Parish/Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Phipps had circulated an updated draft and requested councillors to carefully consider its contents, which now included local green space references. A further draft will be issued soon which will form the basis for the May Village Meeting.</p>	MP
PC/03/08	<p>Planning</p> <p>(a) Applications received. 16/P/0357/HHPA 15 Priory Road. Councillors agreed that the application appeared to be non-contentious and that no comment would be made.</p> <p>(b) Local Green Space - NSC had advised that they are proposing to designate Conygar Hill as local green space and will be including the site in a forthcoming public consultation. Cllr Phipps had already indicated his support to this proposal as it would give an extra level of protection to this important village asset.</p> <p>(c) Court Farm Development – NSC's closing date for replies is the 18th March 2016. Cllr Phipps will respond requesting that due consideration is given to light pollution which may be an issue.</p>	MP
PC/03/09	<p>Maintenance</p> <p>(a) Mandy Bishop NSC advised that the High Street ironworks issues raised at February's meeting had been addressed.</p>	
PC/03/10	<p>Council Administration/Correspondence</p> <p>(a) Task Monitor – PBS had circulated an updated maintenance monitor for review.</p> <p>(b) Resignation of Cllr Lange – Due to work commitments, Cllr Lange felt he could no longer offer the time to be a Parish Councillor and so had submitted his resignation. NSC had been advised and had issued a fourteen day Casual Vacancy Notice for display on the village boards. Cllr Phipps will write to Mr Lange thanking him for his service up to now.</p> <p>(c) Model Standing Orders – A concise version had been circulated to Councillors as it appeared to be more suited to the needs of a smaller parish</p>	MP

	<p>council. ALCA had been requested to review the document to ensure that it met with applicable governance legislation.</p> <p>(d) Annual meetings – The Annual Meeting of the Council would be held on 3rd May 2016 at 7.00pm, and the Annual Meeting of the Parish would be held on 10th May 2016 commencing at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.</p> <p>(e) Port Liaison Meeting – Cllr Hale had represented the Council at the meeting held 10.02.16. and had advised attendees of the concerns raised by PPC with reference to the proposed Court Farm development.</p>	
PC/03/11	<p>Transport and Traffic</p> <p>(a) M5 Footbridge Barriers – Cllr Longstaff had met with Joshua Terry, an NSC Office, to discuss the reinstatement of the barriers, and a drawing of the proposed scheme had been provided for discussion. Drwg No 1 Planned Layout North appears to be acceptable but Drwg No 2 Planned Layout South would obstruct access to a field – NSC would be informed. Cllr Longstaff will continue to work with NSC to develop a suitable barrier arrangement that would act as a deterrent to fast cycles and motor cycles on running off the bridge. Councillors agreed that the only real prospect for stopping motor cycles on the bridge remains through enforcement rather than physical barriers.</p>	DL
PC/03/12	<p>Allotments</p> <p>(a) An invitation had been extended to all allotment holders inviting them to a meeting be held 5th March 2016 at 10.00am in the Village Hall.</p> <p>(b) Cllr Randall suggested that, for ease of management, some allotments holders could consider halving the size of their plot. He would suggest this option at the above meeting. PPC felt that any alterations to the lease arrangements that made things easier to attract allotment holders should be welcomed.</p>	SR
PC/03/13	<p>Community Reports</p> <p>(a) St Mary's School – Nothing new to report</p> <p>(b) St Mary's Church – Mrs Marshall advised that a cleaning/maintenance programme was currently underway</p> <p>(c) Village Hall – The Village Hall would be increasing the hourly room rental fee to ensure that running costs were covered.</p>	
PC/02/14	Date and time of next meeting – 5th April 2016 at 7.30 pm	

Meeting finished at 9.55 pm

Portbury Parish Council

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Signed as a true record of proceedings;

Name:

Position:

Date: