

MINUTES OF MEETING OF  
IRON ACTON PARISH COUNCIL  
MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2010

The meeting of Iron Acton Parish Council was held North Road School Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Present:- Mr. Bellis (Vice Chairman), Mrs. Aplin, Mr. Lomas, Miss. Weldrake, Mr. Gawler (Councillor & South Gloucestershire Council), Mr. Hockey (South Gloucestershire Council), Mrs. Evans (Clerk)

Action

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr. Rob Taylor addressed the Parish Councillors regarding the proposed 'bandstand' structure in the Parish Meadow. Mr. Taylor had received the information collected by the Clerk and despite comments from SGC Planning and Conservation departments, Acton Aid still felt it was a viable project. Acton Aid have taken advice on building in a conservation area and how to be sympathetic with the surroundings, and are now proposing a 'living' structure with a 'green' roof. It would be built of local materials such as oak with plants growing up the legs. Acton Aid had mocked up a drawing giving an impression of what the structure could look like. Acton Aid was still unable to provide information on size and where it should be located and have not talked to SGC Conservation Department yet. They have spoken to various open spaces organisations and continue to gather advice. The Clerk asked Mr. Taylor whether local residents whose properties bound onto the Parish Meadow and Mr. Taylor confirmed that they had not been consulted yet. Mr. Taylor confirmed that the reason for placing this on the Parish Council's agenda was to form a small working party to get together in order formulate a plan, undertake public consultation and then present this to the Parish Council. Acton Aid would like three Councillors to join. Councillor Gawler suggested that from a planning point of view this is going to be a difficult planning application not purely on size but basically where it is to be located – outside the development boundary, in green belt and washed over by the conservation area. Councillor Gawler also suggested that the working group talk to Mrs. Pat Hockey before talking to the SGC Planning Officer as she would be able to give some good advice as she has a great deal of planning knowledge. Mr. Taylor also commented that Acton Aid would like to see the 'bandstand' erected by November 2010, and planting of the structure would need to take place in the summer of 2010. Councillor Bellis then asked the Councillors if Agenda Item 12 could be brought forward for debate and discussion immediately after Agenda Item 3. All Agreed.

01-01-10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Sheppard, Taylor and Heal.

02-01-10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Personal and/or Prejudicial

None received.

03-01-10 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Copies of the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2009 had been circulated. Councillor Weldrake proposed and Councillor Aplin seconded that these minutes be approved and signed. All agreed.

04-01-10 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

05-01-10 CLERK'S REPORT

Action from December Meeting

12-12-09 – Parish Hall – The Clerk has contacted the VAT office in connection with the reclamation of the VAT element of any purchased equipment which is donated.

The VAT office has confirmed that VAT is reclaimable. The Clerk has therefore sent a letter to the Parish Hall Committee confirming (in accordance with Minute 12-12-09), the Parish Council's intention to donate £5,000 plus VAT for a piece of kitchen equipment, which will be ordered by the Parish Council, with the invoice being addressed to the Parish Council.

13-12-09 – Parish Meadow – The Clerk has emailed Rob Taylor informing him of the Parish Council's decision to support, in principle, the proposed freestanding 'bandstand' structure on the Parish Meadows following confirmation of items such as size, materials etc. This item is further discussed under 12-01-10 of the January meeting.

15-12-09, 16-12-09 and 17-12-09 – SGC Consultations – All consultation responses have been sent.

#### Parish Meadow

The works to the tree behind the tennis courts was carried out on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009. Unfortunately the weather had been so wet that Treemendous Gardens were unable to get their chipping machine across the field. Treemendous Gardens recommended burning all of the off-cuts that were proposed to be shredded. The Clerk consulted the farmer who agreed to this. The Clerk has already sold four lots of wood (3 wheelbarrows full and one trailer amounting to £65.00 in total).

The Clerk has also spent a number of hours gathering information in connection with the Acton Aid Proposal to erect a freestanding 'bandstand' type structure on the Parish Meadow. This is fully reported under Agenda Item 12 of the January meeting.

#### Snow

Following a request from Councillor Taylor, the Clerk has contacted SGC to ask them to refill the grit bins located around the parish as well as replace the grit bin that used to be located on Nibley Lane at the entrance to Chilwood Close. The Clerk has also reported that the 50mph sign at the junction of Bristol Road and Station Road has been knocked out of the ground after being hit by a car.

The Clerk has also received an enquiry regarding a 'Snow Warden' for the Parish. The Clerk has contacted SGC Streetcare who confirmed that there used to be a Snow Warden for each parish many years ago, but not now.

#### Dog Bin

The Clerk has again requested of SGC Streetcare that the dog bin in the cemetery be relocated to the church end wall.

#### 06-01-10 SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Councillor Hockey reported that the postponed Frampton Cotterell, Westerleigh, Coalpit Heath and Iron Acton Safer Stronger Group (SSG) meeting will now be held on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2010 in Iron Acton Parish Hall. Councillor Blanchard mentioned that she had telephoning the Group Co-Ordinator on the afternoon of the 5<sup>th</sup> January to enquire if the meeting was going ahead because of the forecast snow. The Group Co-Ordinator had confirmed that the meeting would be going ahead. Residents had arrived at the hall only to find that the meeting had been postponed. It was agreed that the Clerk would email contact information for the SSG through to all Councillors, as well as the link through to the SGC web page.

Clerk

The Clerk mentioned to Councillor Hockey that she had received information from SGC regarding estate inspection of Merlin social housing in the Coalpit Heath parish. The aim of these inspections is for Merlin tenants to meeting their housing

officer and representatives of SGC. The Clerk enquired whether the same inspection would be carried out in the Iron Acton Parish. Councillor Hockey confirmed that there would. Councillor Hockey also confirmed he would forward emails to the Clerk that he has received on this subject.

Councillors Hockey reported on the findings of the CCTV cameras at the Wotton Road and Latteridge Road traffic light controlled junctions. Councillor Hockey had been in contact with David Buckland of the SGC Highways team and the data received from these cameras is currently being analysed. The first tranche of data that has been analysed is for a 24-hour period 24-25<sup>th</sup> November 2009. There were 570 HGV vehicles on Latteridge Road, and 756 HGV vehicles on the Wotton Road. Of the 570 on Latteridge Road, 25.09% were Morrisons lorries. This data has been broken down by company and weight. Councillor Hockey confirmed that the rest of the data is being analysed.

Councillor Gawler passed to the Clerk various traffic data analysis for Stover Road for May and September 2009; North Road for November 2009; Latteridge Road for November 2009; Wotton Road for November 2009. Additional data supplied for North Road highlights two incidents of a vehicle reaching nearly 80mph.

Councillor Bellis mentioned that there appears to be large number of young drivers in 'hot hatches' in various parts of Yate. Councillors Gawler responded that the Police would be able to go out and check this once a pattern of where the speeding occurs has been identified.

Councillor Gawler also informed the Councillors that the Manor Road footpath had been delayed because of the recent snow. However the work will shortly be commencing and should take approximately 3-4 weeks.

#### 07-01-10 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk reported balances as at 12<sup>th</sup> January 2010 of:-

National Westminster Current Account	£3,427.31
National Westminster Reserve Account	£4,958.20
National Savings Accounts	£16,418.35

The Clerk also reported that confirmation had been received from SGC regarding the Parish Council's precept request of £18,000, which will be paid in two instalments of £9,000 on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2010 and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010.

#### 08-01-10 PLANNING APPLICATIONS/PRIOR NOTIFICATIONS/TREE WORKS

- PK09/6030/PNA - Nibley Mill Bungalow, Hope Road – Prior Notification of the intention to erect an agricultural building for the storage of hay and agricultural machinery. No observations.
- PK09/5988/PNA - The Game Farm, Latteridge Lane, Iron Acton – Prior Notification of the intention to erect an agricultural building for the storage of agricultural equipment. No observations.
- PK09/5924/F - Northmead House, Northmead Lane, Iron Acton – Erection of single storey rear extension to provide additional living accommodation. No objections.
- PK09/6041/F - 2 Lodge Road, Yate – Demolition of existing garage to facilitate the erection of 2 no. dwellings with parking and associated works (resubmission of PK09/5229/F). No objections.
- PK09/5962/O - Bridge House, Bridge Road, Yate – Erection of 1 no. dwelling (outline) with access and layout to be determined. All other matters reserved. No objections, however under Reserved Matters consideration to design and materials to match existing Bridge House.
- PK10/0006/F - Land at Broad Lane, Yate – Erection of 2 no. two storey office blocks for B1a Office Use as defined in the Town and Country Planning (Use

Classes) Order 1987 (as amended) with access parking and associated works (resubmission of PK09/0891/F). To object – remind SGC that similar applications on this site have been refused, traffic movements on inadequate junctions, the application appears to encroach on reserved land, and all new commercial development should be kept to the south of Goose Green Way.

09-01-10 PLANNING CONSENTS

- PK09/5614/TRE – Brookside Cottage, 21 Engine Common Lane
- PK09/5640/TRE – 346 North Road, Yate
- PK09/5821/TCA – Sea Harvest, High Street, Iron Acton
- PK09/5596/F – Watery Lane, Engine Common, Yate

10-01-10 PLANNING REFUSALS/WITHDRAWALS/APPEALS

- PK09/5846/F – The White Hart, High Street, Iron Acton (Withdrawal)
- PK09/5393/CLP – Berkeley Cottage, Yate Road, Iron Acton (Refusal)

11-01-10 PLANNING APPEALS

- None received.

12-01-10 PARISH MEADOW

This item of business was debated immediately after Approval of the Previous Minutes (03-01-10).

The Clerk had provided the Parish Council with information received from SGC Planning and Conservation departments following request for informal advice. SGC Planning stated that as the structure was over 200 cubic meters it would require full planning permission. SGC Conservation had stated it would be highly unlikely that Conservation approval/permission would be granted to such a structure because of visual intrusion; out of character with that of a conservation area; the proposed structure would not improve or enhance the character of the conservation area; the proposed structure is outside the settlement boundary and on green belt land; such a structure would erode the character of the green belt; loss of openness of green belt. The Clerk had also spoken with PC Ian Matthews who felt that the structure would be a magnet for anti-social behaviour, specifically a concrete base could be used to light fires. PC Matthews was also mindful of the anti-social behaviour and problems experienced in the Meadow during the spring and summer of 2009. The Clerk had also had an informal discussion with one of the fire officers at Yate station who mirrored PC Matthews' comments. The Clerk had also been informed by the Parish Council's insurers that an additional cost of £250.00 could potentially be added to the annual insurance premium to insure this structure for up to £15,000, increasing the annual premium by nearly 25%. The Clerk also reported that she had been approached by a number of residents whose properties border the Parish Meadow expressing their opposition to such an application.

Following discussion, Councillor Weldrake pointed out that there have been no problems with fires being lit on the tennis courts, therefore how likely would it be that fires would be lit under the bandstand. Councillor Gawler wished to distance himself from this proposed 'bandstand' as, should an application be put in front of SGC then there was every likelihood that he may well be on the planning committee looking at the application.

Councillor Bellis said he would be happy to be involved, Councillor Aplin was also prepared to be involved and Councillor Lomas volunteered to participate. It was also suggested that Councillor Taylor may wish to become involved. Councillor Blanchard proposed, and Councillor Weldrake seconded that these three Councillors join Acton Aid in the formation of a Working Party to develop the 'bandstand' proposal.

The Terms of Reference for this Working Party would be informal.

13-01-10 SGC CONSULTATION – SPEED LIMIT REVIEW

The Clerk had received a consultation document in connection with a speed limit review of the B4427 Old Gloucester Road, Perrinpit Road, Swan Lane and Trench Lane. The intention of the consultation is to have a beneficial effect on vehicle speeds, improve road safety, protect vulnerable road users, entrance ways and introduce speed limits in keeping with the character and environment of these rural roads. It was agreed that the Parish Council had no objections to the proposed reduction in speed limits. The Clerk was also asked to thank SGC for the notification.

Clerk

14-01-10 REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from Yate & District Heritage Centre requesting a donation towards their Centre. It was agreed that this decision would be deferred until the February meeting. The Clerk to ascertain how much was donated last year.

Clerk

15-01-10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Simon Carney in connection with the Iron Acton Parish With a Heart of Oak book in order to take this matter further.

Clerk

Councillor Blanchard informed the meeting that the Bubble Driving School vehicle and trailer is still blocking the footpath entrance across the village green. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact PC Iain Matthews to take a look at this and ascertain lawful position on the lighting of trailers parked on the highway and whether they need to be connected to towing vehicles.

Clerk

Councillor Blanchard also mentioned the tree at the top corner of the village green had not been cut back as previously requested. The Clerk told the Councillors that because of the recent snowy weather, Mr. Hurley had been unable to attend. This tree would be trimmed as soon as possible as it was encroaching on the footpath.

Councillor Weldrake proposed and Councillor Bellis seconded that the Any Other Business item be taken off the agenda. Any incidental queries or items should be directed to the Clerk during the course of the month for her to deal with. All Agreed.

16-01-01 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

South Glos Council	Dog Bin Collection	£113.62
Viking Direct	Stationery, drum, toner, paper, envelopes	£183.23
Mrs. P. Evans	McAfee renewal, internet connection x 3	£103.96

Proposed Councillor Gawler, seconded Councillor Lomas, all agreed that the above accounts be paid.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2010 in the Marshall Rooms, Iron Acton, commencing at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_