

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF  
IRON ACTON PARISH COUNCIL  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2011**

The meeting of Iron Acton Parish Council was held in North Road School Hall commencing at 7.35pm.

Present:- Mr. Lomas (acting Chairman), Miss. Weldrake, Mr. Gawler (South Gloucestershire Councillor and Parish Councillor, Miss. Blanchard, Mrs. Aplin, Mr. Hockey (South Gloucestershire Councillor) and Mrs. Evans (Clerk).

**Action**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Six members of the public were present. A number of residents of North Road attended the meeting to discuss any updates in relation to recent activity in the vicinity of North Road/Mission Lane. Councillor Gawler dealt with their queries, prior to the meeting informing them that there had been no further activity. These residents therefore left the meeting prior to it's commencement.

01-01-11 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Sheppard, Bellis and Taylor and Heal.

02-01-11 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - Personal and/or Prejudicial**

None received.

03-01-11 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Copies of the minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2010 had been circulated. Councillor Gawler proposed and Councillor Weldrake seconded that these minutes be approved and signed. **All agreed.**

04-01-11 **CLERK'S REPORT**

**Action from October Meeting**

15-12-10 - Private Lane, off High Street, Iron Acton - The Clerk has informed all of the residents that the holly hedge will be trimmed back to the same height as the Parish Hall guttering. The Clerk has asked Mr. Alvis to provide a price for this work.

17-12-10 - Frampton End Road - The Clerk had sent a letter to Mr. Allinson of SGC confirming the Parish Council's support for some form of traffic calming/weight restriction/passing-bay scheme rather than a complete road closure solution to the issue. A response was received from Mr. Allinson confirming that this had been discussed at the SGC meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> December and that Mr. Allinson would be walking Frampton End Road himself in due course.

**ALCA** - A letter has been received from ALCA confirming that the organisation will continue, however it will have a leaner, more focussed approach than in the past. ALCA will trim its costs significantly and there will only be a small increase in subscription fees for 2011/2012. It is anticipated that Iron Acton's subscription will be in the region of £239.78, however this figure is based on 2009 electorate figures. The 2010 figures will be released by SGC in late January and an invoice will be sent by ALCA confirming the exact subscription amount shortly afterwards.

**'Handy Van' Scheme** - A new 'Handy Van' scheme was launched by SGC in 2010. The scheme offers a combined subsidised minor household repairs and adaptations service and free home safety and security service. The free home safety and security checks can be made on request or referral for all homeowners and private tenants who are either over 60 years old or of working age with disabilities. The service is not available to Housing Association or Private Landlords. All of this work is carried out free of charge and to British Standards and insurance industry

requirements. The service is funded by SGC and supported by the Avon and Somerset Police and Avon Fire & Rescue Service. The aim of the minor household repair service is to enable people to maintain their independence in their own homes. This service is restricted to jobs of less than 3 hours at a subsidised rate of £10.00 per hour and would typically consist of jobs such as small building repairs (eg fitting curtain rails or shelves), small plumbing jobs (tap washers, leaks, blocked sinks), small carpentry jobs (internal door repairs, flat pack building), and gutter cleaning, cracks in paths, small plaster repairs. A copy of the advertising poster has been put on the Parish Council web site.

**Safer & Stronger Community Group Meeting** - The next meeting of the Frampton Cotterell, Westerleigh, Coalpit Heath and Iron Acton SSCG will take place on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2011 at St. Saviours Church Hall, Beesmore Road, Coalpit Heath at 7.30pm. This has been advertised on the Parish Council web site.

**Cemetery** - The two wheelie bins are now in situ in the cemetery. The sticky labels for the bins cost £24.00. Councillor Blanchard queried the cost of the sticky labels. The Clerk confirmed that the labels had been produced by All Signs and would be waterproof and difficult to remove from the bins. The Clerk had thought about laminating some A4 signs and then taping these to the bins but felt that these would have been too easy to remove. The Clerk would ensure that the bins are placed on the roadside ready for collection for the time-being, but that a rota would be drawn up in due course.

**Flooding** - The Clerk has received numerous reports of flooding around the Parish following the extremely wet weather over 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> January 2011. The Play Area and part of the Parish Meadow were under water, as well as Station Road.

**Web Site** -The Clerk has revisited the Parish Council web site and refreshed and updated the layout. There had been a few glitches which had delayed the web site being uploaded.

**Police Beat Officer** - PC Ian Matthews visited the Clerk and informed her that he would be leaving his position as our Beat Officer and moving on to Filton Response Unit. The vacancy has been advertised within the Police and we will be notified of the successful applicant in due course.

#### 05-01-11 **SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Councillor Hockey reported on the issue of lorry movements along Latteridge Road. David Buckland of SGC had met with SGC Councillors before Christmas and discussed the possibility of removing the Section 52 Agreement requiring Morrisons lorries to use Latteridge Road for a certain number of lorry movement, thereby giving Morrisons' drivers other options to use other roads. SGC are required to inform and consult all parties involved. It is hoped to have this in place by February 2011 and after a period of time to allow this to settle down another traffic count will be undertaken. Councillor Blanchard asked whether complete figures were available for the traffic counts conducted whilst the Latteridge Road was closed. Councillor Lomas asked whether it was known what the normal traffic counts would be. Councillor Gawler informed the Parish Council that if a comparison of Latteridge Road and Wotton Road was made then the counts are roughly 800 movements along Wotton Road and 650 along Latteridge Road.

Councillor Hockey reported that the scheme to put in additional parking bays in Chilwood Close was now underway and the work is well in progress. Residents are pleased.

Councillor Hockey reported that he had recently attended a Partnership Meeting which had included the Police, Fire Authority, Health Authority and various

voluntary organisations to talk about Sustainable Community Strategy. This issue is being looked at again and how changes over recent years have affected communities. Most of the partners involved in this meeting had said that they organised their services to meeting the community strategy in order to compliment each other and share resources. Priority neighbourhoods have been identified by SGC and it is apparent that there are educational gaps and an increase in crime within neighbourhoods. All partners thought it useful to identify Priority Neighbourhoods in order to stop the gap growing wider between affluent neighbourhoods and less affluent neighbourhoods. Currently the focus is on the Kingswood area to see why it has approximately 10 times more crimes than the rest of the SGC.

Councillor Gawler reported that he had spoken to a group of parishioners prior to the commencement of the Parish Council meeting. They had attended in connection with the recent activity by surveyors on the land behind North Road. Councillor Gawler confirmed that this land had not been included in the Core Strategy document, however that would not stop speculative planning applications being submitted by developers. The Inspector will examine the Core Strategy document which will take place in the summer and consultation meetings will be held locally when groups and parishioners can make representations. The Inspector will then make recommendations to the Secretary of State.

Councillor Gawler also reported that the Manor Road footpath is virtually finished. The bus shelter has to be erected and there is a small amount of tarmac to be laid.

Councillor Gawler reported that he had attended an SSCG Chairs meeting today, 17<sup>th</sup> January 2011. This meeting had confirmed that some Police front offices will be closing. Thornbury is due for closure in June 2011 due to lack of use; new main offices will be located at Emersons Park; PCSO's will continue to be funded for at least another two years; there had been discussion about changing the Beats to fit in with Council wards.

#### 06-01-11 **PARISH COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

Councillor Gawler reported that there was a huge puddle on the Wotton Road between Acton Lodge Farm and the telephone exchange. The puddle is in a particularly dark part of the road and presents a danger to traffic. A 'Flood' sign had been placed on the road warning vehicles.

Councillor Blanchard requested that the Clerk obtain a list of all roads within Iron Acton Parish that are covered by the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, as well as a list of all the Co-ordinators from Bridget Bennet.

**Clerk**

Councillor Blanchard also reported that the cable supplying electricity to the star on the Maypole during the Christmas period had not actually been secured all the way to the ground. The cable had been about a foot above the ground and there had been the potential for a trip hazard and a sign had not been present. Councillor Blanchard asked that the Victorian Committee ensure that this does not happen for the 2011 Christmas period.

#### 07-01-11 **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Clerk reported balances as at 13<sup>th</sup> January 2011 of:-

National Westminster Current Account	£4,080.25
National Westminster Reserve Account	£ 160.70
National Savings Accounts	£16,418.35

The Clerk reported that she had omitted to write out a cheque for her December 2010 salary. This had been approved for payment at the 6<sup>th</sup> December 2010 meeting (cheque no. 2263). The cheque was therefore subsequently written and signatures

obtained.

**Precept** - The Parish Council has received notification from SGC of our anticipated precept payment of £18,828 (based on 2010/2011 information). The Clerk has written to SGC informing them that Iron Acton require a payment of £21,600. This figure is based on the same precept as 2010/2011 (£18,000) plus anticipated election costs of £3,600.

**Out of Date Cheque** - The Clerk has received confirmation from Victim Support that the Parish Council's cheque for £100 has been mislaid. Victim Support has therefore submitted a new request for financial assistance, which will be placed on the February agenda. Following discussion, **it was agreed** that despite this cheque being mislaid the Parish Council would cancel the cheque with the bank. Proposed Councillor Weldrake and seconded Councillor Blanchard. **All agreed.** Clerk

#### 08-01-11 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS/PRIOR NOTIFICATIONS/TREE WORKS**

- PK10/3559/F - W.H. Bence Coachworks Ltd, Great Western Business Park, Dean Road, Yate - Erection of single storey extension to provide additional industrial floor space. No objections.
- PK10/3557/CLP - Bramble Cottage, Latteridge Road, Iron Acton - Application for Certificate of Lawfulness for erection of incidental outbuilding. To object - Parish Council consider that a planning application should be submitted rather than a Certificate of Lawfulness; the building has all the attributes of a dwelling rather than an outbuilding; question the appropriateness of this development within the green belt.
- PK10/3300/CLE - Backfield Farm, Wotton Road, Iron Acton - Application for Certificate of Lawfulness for the existing use of the site with no restriction on hours of working and outside storage on site. (Breach of condition 5 and 8 attached to planning permission P95/2684). The Clerk instructed to ascertain confirmation of Conditions 5 and 8 and email to Councillors. A response objecting to the lifting of these restrictions would then be sent to SGC. Also to comment that the Statutory Declarations have not been signed.
- PK10/3453/F - Land at Larks Lane, Iron Acton - Erection of field shelter for horses. No objections.
- PK10/3416/F - Land at Armstrong Way, Yate - Erection of office building and business units (Class B1(a)) Office and (Class B1(c)) Light Industrial as defined in the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended) with access, parking, landscaping and associated works. To object - the proposed access is considered dangerous as it is just down from the elevated Stover Road railway bridge, on a bend and adjacent to the roundabout; the green belt buffer should be maintained; the height of the proposed structures would overlook residential houses.

#### 09-01-11 **PLANNING CONSENTS**

- PK10/3223/TRE - Yate Sewage Pumping Station, 242 North Road, Yate
- PK10/3032/TRE - Brookside Cottage, 21 Engine Common Lane, Yate

#### 10-01-11 **PLANNING REFUSALS/WITHDRAWALS/APPEALS**

- PK10/2833/F - The Stables, Tanhouse Lane (withdrawal)
- PK10/3201/F - North Corner House, Chaingate Lane (withdrawal)

#### 11-01-11 **PLANNING APPEALS**

- None received.

12-01-11 **PLANNING ENFORCEMENT**

- COM/10/0106/COU/1 - Yate Clean Van Centre, Bridge Cottage - The Clerk had reported this to SGC Planning Enforcement following the refusal of planning permission in September 2009. SGC have confirmed that on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2011 they served an Enforcement Notice upon the owner and proprietor giving two months notice to comply and cease the unauthorised change of use. The owner has a 28 day period in which to appeal the Notice, but once this period has passed they have two months in which to comply.
- Councillor Gawler reported that SGC Planning Enforcement had attended Holly Hill farm in connection with the unauthorised use of a mobile home. SGC have reported that they could not identify a problem.

13-01-11 **CEMETERY**

A request for a burial plot had been received in connection with the late Mr. David Hillier of Chilwood Close, Iron Acton. **It was agreed** that approval be granted. Proposed Councillor Weldrake and seconded Councillor Aplin. **All agreed.**

A request for a burial plot had been received in connection with the late Mr. John Fitzell of Holly Hill, Iron Acton. **It was agreed** that approval be granted. Proposed Councillor Weldrake and seconded Councillor Aplin. **All agreed.**

The Clerk had circulated the table of fees as from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011 as produced by The Archbishops' Council. The Parish Council have not increased burial fees since 2003. Following discussion, **it was agreed** that the burial fees for Iron Acton Cemetery would be increased by 15% (and then rounded to the nearest £10). Proposed Councillor Blanchard and seconded Councillor Weldrake. **All agreed.**

The Clerk informed the Parish Councillors that the headstone of William and Mary Gale is unsafe and wobbles when touched. (The headstone was purchased by Mr. W. Gale in 1945). The headstone is next to the access track and it was the opinion of the Clerk that it requires making safe either by laying it flat or securing with a stake and ties. Following discussion, Councillor Blanchard offered to endeavour to make contact with a family member. In the meantime, **it was agreed** that the Clerk would contact Mr. Hurley and request that he make the headstone safe with a stake and ties. Proposed Councillor Blanchard and seconded Councillor Aplin. **All agreed.**

14-01-11 **ANNUAL GRASSCUTTING TENDERS**

**It was agreed** that invitations to tender for the Iron Acton Parish grasscutting contract would be sent out to Landscape Services, South Gloucestershire Council, Frog Lane Farm, Holly Hill Farm, D.R. Howse and Frome Valley Landscaping. The tender documents would be amended to include the bank to the front of Nibley Lane allotments for initial works and regular maintenance during the growing season. Proposed Councillor Weldrake and seconded Councillor Lomas. **All agreed.**

Clerk

15-01-11 **IRON ACTON VILLAGE GREEN**

The Clerk reported that in connection with the Parish Councils decision to pursue the possibility of placing large boulders, she had been in contact with Hansons on a couple of occasions, but nobody had returned her call. Councillor Gawler suggested getting in touch with Mr. David Weakes at Chipping Sodbury quarry. **It was agreed** that this matter would be carried over to the February meeting.

16-01-11 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

South Glos Council	Dog Bin Collection	£82.49
Iron Acton Parish Hall	Room Hire x 2	£38.00

Mrs. P. Evans	Clerk's Salary, web site renewal, McAfee renewal, broadband x 3, cemetery labels	£844.41
South Glos Council	Room Hire, North Road	£25.00

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

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2011 in the Parish Hall, Iron Acton, commencing at 7.30pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

**Signed:**

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**Dated:**

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