

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF
IRON ACTON PARISH COUNCIL
MONDAY 15th JUNE 2009**

The meeting of Iron Acton Parish Council was held in the Marshall Rooms, Iron Acton commencing at 7.30pm.

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

Action

01-06-09 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Fifteen members of the public attended the meeting to voice their deep concerns in connection with the recently announced Gypsy & Traveller consultation document and the proposal to consider a site at Little Acres, Dyers Lane within Iron Acton Parish. The response deadline is 13th July 2009. Councillor Gawler confirmed that SGC will have a look at the site, but will need to consider, amongst other issues, the access, sustainability and drainage of the proposed site. There is a 'drop in' session on 29th June at Yate Sports Centre, Courtside Suite from 4.00pm to 8.00pm. Planning officers and experts will be present. The Parish Council agreed that they would be supporting the group in their objections to this site being used.

02-06-09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Weldrake, Taylor, Blanchard and Heal.

03-06-09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - Personal and/or Prejudicial

Councillor Bellis declared an interest in Agenda Item 13-06-09 and took no part in the decision.

04-06-09 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Copies of the minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2009 had been circulated. Councillor Bellis proposed and Councillor Gawler seconded that these minutes be approved and signed. All agreed.

05-06-09 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported that works had commenced on 319 North Road.

The Chairman also reported that he and the Clerk had met with Chris Wright (tree surgeon). Mr. Wright inspected the Eucalyptus tree in the drive-way of Sea Harvest (Mr. and Mrs. Tovey). Mr. Wright considered that the tree was diseased and needed to be felled as it was dangerous. This tree overhangs a right of way to the Parish Meadows. After speaking to the PROW section of SGC, the way forward is to provide a report to the house owner identifying the danger. The onus is then on the house owner to rectify the situation. The tree to the bottom of the garden in Buttercup House (Mr. and Mrs. Mace) was also considered to be overhanging the parish meadows, and could potentially become dangerous. **It was agreed** to ask Mr. Wright to provide a report on both these trees to be submitted to the house owners.

Clerk

Councillor Bellis asked the Chairman when the benches in the parish meadows would be secured. **It was agreed** that one bench would be secured outside the tennis courts and the other three would be secured in the middle of the play area, and would be done as soon as possible.

Clerk

06-06-09 CLERK'S REPORT

Village Green - Access Track (behind Fairview Terrace):- The Clerk had spoken with ALCA, DEFRA and South Gloucestershire Council regarding the legal status of this area and the proposed works. Basically, the Parish Council need to ascertain whether there is a "Scheme of Management" imposed upon the village green, and if there is, then the Parish Council has to comply with it. If one does exist, then the Parish Council may ultimately have to apply to the Secretary of State for approval to the works. If one doesn't exist, then as long as the Parish Council satisfy themselves

that they are not contravening Section 12 of the Enclosures Act 1857, or Section 29 of the Commons Act 1876, then the works can go ahead. The Clerk had asked South Gloucestershire Legal Department to check their records, which they have done, and can find no Scheme of Management. However, to cover all possibilities, they have requested their Archive Department to retrieve any records that they have. The Clerk had received confirmation on 15th June 2009 that there was no Scheme of Management in force upon the village green. **It was agreed** that Councillor Bellis would therefore put together a proposal for the suggested type of surfacing for the access track to alleviate the wear and tear and ponding of water. **It was also agreed** that this would be placed on the July 2009 agenda by the Clerk.

PB

Clerk

The Clerk had also been asked to remind Landscape Services that the narrow grassed area along the back of the access track needs to be strimmed in accordance with the tender.

Parish Meadows:- The Clerk had received a quote from Rob Peters of Tremendous Gardens in connection with the repair to the broken fence on our boundary with Mr. and Mrs. Bourns. The quote was for £280 for an 8m stretch of post and rail fencing. I accepted this quote (following consultation with the Chairman). Mr. Peters has now completed the work and the invoice is presented for payment.

Further to the report provided by the Chairman and the Clerk met with Chris Wright following a telephone call from Mr. Tovey of Sea Harvest. Mr. Tovey has had some gardening work carried out, and his tree surgeon had stated that one of the trees in the play area was dead and should be cut down. The tree in question was inspected and it was agreed that this would be done. Mr. Wright will be supplying a quote for this and some further thinning work to trees in the area. The planting of the Parish Meadows edges, which will be carried out in the autumn was also discussed.

Footpath - LIA32 - Churchyard to Station Road:- The Clerk reminded the Councillors that in September 2008 the Parish Council reported the bulge in the walls either side of the Ha-Ha. SGC sent an engineer out to inspect the walls and it was reported *"eventually both walls will fall if the trees continue to grow. As far as a timescale is concerned that is impossible to say. I would have thought that under normal tree growing conditions that stones and mortar will become loose before the wall falls into the path. However if the trees were caught in a freak storm anything could happen"*. The Clerk emailed Mr. and Mrs. Huish who said that the area in question did not belong to them and that it was the responsibility of Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter of Mulberry House. On visual inspection of the area (from the churchyard), it was apparent that the tree causing the problem is in the grounds of the Old Rectory. The Clerk has been contacted by Rebecca Chidley of the PROW section of SGC. It has been reported to them that the bulge has increased and something now needs to be done. Ms. Chidley asked for a contact telephone number of Mr. and Mrs. Huish, which the Clerk provided her with.

Chilwood Woodlands:- The Clerk received a telephone call on 28th May 2009 from a resident stating that there was a 'fire' in the woodlands. The Clerk's husband visited the woodlands on behalf of the Clerk and straightaway discovered that it was a camp fire and unfortunately a couple of the logs used to sit on had been pushed into the fire itself and were smouldering. Mr. Evans kicked soil over the embers and waited for the fire to go out.

Allotments - Station Road:- The Clerk had received a number of complaints from tenants about the state of number 7 allotment. Following an inspection, the Clerk has written to the tenants (Mr. and Mrs. White) about this and given them one month to start cultivating the allotment, in accordance with Clause 7 of their agreement. Another visit will be made on 10th July to ensure that the situation has been rectified.

Cemetery - Dog Bin:- The Clerk had emailed Streetcare and asked that the dog bin in the cemetery be relocated to the stone wall adjoining the church yard. They have allocated a ticket number for this work, and if there are any issues they will contact the Clerk.

07-06-09 **SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Discussed under Public Participation.

08-06-09 **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Clerk reported balances as at 10th June 2009 of:-

National Westminster Current Account	£7,037.29
National Westminster Reserve Account	£8,457.15
National Savings Accounts	£16,418.35

The Clerk confirmed that the Annual Return had been signed by the Chairman and sent off to Mazars for their consideration. The Notification of Inspection of the accounts will go onto the notice boards on 6th July 2009 stating that the accounts can be inspected from 20th July through to 12th August.

09-06-09 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS/PRIOR NOTIFICATIONS/TREE WORKS**

PK09/1027/TCA - Cairn Lodge, High Street, Iron Acton - Works to fell 1 no. Judas tree and 25% crown reduction to 1 no. Cherry tree situated within Iron Acton Conservation Area. No objections.

PK09/0862/F - 16 Engine Common Lane, Yate - Change of use of land from agricultural to residential, demolition of existing dwelling and erection of new dwelling with access and associated works. No objections, however ask SGC to consider placing a planning condition to use sustainable drainage on tarmac areas.

10-06-09 **PLANNING CONSENTS**

- PK09/0440/F - Units 45-48 Waverley Road, Yate.
- PK09/0795/F - The Old Chapel, North Road, Yate.
- PK09/0016/F - The Laurels, Stover Road, Yate.

11-06-09 **PLANNING REFUSALS/WITHDRAWALS/APPEALS**

None received.

12-06-09 **PLANNING APPEALS**

- PK08/2770/O - 314 North Road, Yate - Appeal dismissed by Planning Inspectorate.

13-06-09 **REQUEST FOR DONATION**

- The Parish Council had received a request for a donation towards a fund-raising concert being organised by the British Legion on 28th November 2009. The Parish Council donated £250.00 towards the Poppy Appeal last year, therefore it was felt that the Parish Council were unable to donate on this occasion.
- The Parish Council had received a request for a donation towards the South Gloucestershire Senior Citizens Forum. **It was agreed** to donate £50.00. Proposed Councillor Aplin, seconded Councillor Lomas. All agreed.
- The Parish Council had received a request for a donation towards the Alzheimer's Society. **It was agreed** to donate £100.00. Proposed Councillor Bellis, seconded Councillor Gawler. All agreed.
- The Parish Council had received a request for a donation towards their 'Stepping Out' nail cutting service for the over 50's. **It was agreed** to donate £50.00. Proposed Councillor Sheppard, seconded Councillor Gawler. **It was also agreed** that the Clerk would write to Age Concern asking for a report on the take-up of this service.
- The Parish Council considered a donation towards the Iron Acton Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and their proposal to erect new Neighbourhood

Watch signs at prominent places around the village. **It was agreed** to donate £100.00 towards this cost. Proposed Councillor Sheppard, seconded Councillor Gawler. All agreed. Councillor Bellis to no part in the decision making.

14-06-09 **PLANNING APPLICATION - PT07/3653/F - 2 NO. TRANSMITTERS, FRAMPTON END ROAD**

The Clerk had received notification from SGC of their permission for the construction of 2 no. 50.5m high cable stayed mast antenna, 2 no. antenna tuning units, a radio transmitter building, alterations to access, hardstanding, fencing and associated works. Condition 7 of the permission stated that 'prior to the commencement of the development hereby approved, full details shall be submitted to the Local Planning Department demonstrating the construction programme relating to the development and shall include details demonstrating the route to be used for construction/delivery vehicles during the construction of the approved development'. **It was agreed** that the Parish Council would write to SGC stating that it would be inappropriate and dangerous for vehicles to use the Iron Acton access to Frampton End Road for the following reasons; there is an unmanned railway crossing; there are weight restrictions on the road; the Mill Bridge is on a sharp bend and would be unsuitable for larger vehicles.

Clerk

15-06-09 **X27 BUS SERVICE**

The Clerk had prepared a questionnaire to be delivered to all residents on Algars Drive, Chilwood Close, Nibley Lane, High Street, Holly Hill, Park Street and the Green. The questionnaire asked the following questions:-

1. Yes I would like to see the X27 Bus Service re-routed back through the High Street.
2. I would like to see a bus service to Frenchay Hospital.
3. I would like a Traffic Management Survey of the High Street to be undertaken.
4. No, I am happy with the X27 Bus Service stopping at Station Road only.

It was agreed that this questionnaire be delivered. Responses would be asked for in time for the July meeting. This item would also be placed on the July agenda for further discussion.

Clerk

16-06-09 **DISUSED FILTER BED, IRON ACTON**

The Clerk had received a letter and plan from SGC Property Services in connection with the disposal of a small area of land, being a disused filter bed of 0.13ac/0.05ha in size. The land in question is situated in the corner of a field in front of the mineral railway line next to Chilwood woodlands. **It was agreed** that the Parish Council had no objections to the disposal by SGC of this land. However, the Clerk was instructed to remind SGC that the Parish Council has timber management rights underneath the mineral railway line and across the field in question, although this does not impact on the disused filter bed area.

Clerk

17-06-09 **SEVERN ESTUARY PARTNERSHIP**

The Clerk had received information and correspondence from the Severn Estuary Partnership, asking if the Parish Council wished to become involved with the organisation. It was unclear in the information whether this would be of benefit Iron Acton. **It was agreed** that the Clerk would write to the organisation asking for further details.

Clerk

18-06-09 **PERMISSIVE FOOTPATH**

The Parish Council had received a request via SGC regarding the creation of a permissive link from LWE1 to the corner of Frampton End Lane, along the track that leads to the dam. This would include the installation of a kissing gate next to the heavy duty field gate to facilitate permissive access linking LWE1, 2, the recently diverted LWE4, and LWE5. **It was agreed** that the Parish Council would support this. Proposed Councillor Sheppard, seconded Councillor Gawler. All

agreed. The Clerk will email SGC confirming this.

Clerk

19-06-09 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Tremendous Gardens	Fence – Parish Meadows	£280.00
Landscape Services	Grasscutting	£691.89
Mrs. P. Taylor	Bus Shelter Cleaning	£29.00
Mrs. P. Evans	Clerks Salary, Mileage & Broadband (x3)	£1,857.12
Age Concern	Donation	£50.00
Alzheimer’s Society	Donation	£100.00
Senior Citizens Forum	Donation	£50.00
Neighbourhood Watch	Donation	£100.00

Proposed Councillor Bellis, seconded Councillor Sheppard, all agreed that the above accounts be paid.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday 20th July 2009 in North Road School Hall, commencing at 7.30pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Signed:

Dated:
