

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF  
IRON ACTON PARISH COUNCIL  
MONDAY 17<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2008**

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

Present:- Mr. Sheppard, Mr. Bellis, Mrs. Aplin, Mr. Lomas, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Heal, Miss. Blanchard, Miss. Weldrake, Mr. Gawler (Councillor and South Gloucestershire Council), Mrs. Hockey (South Gloucestershire Council), Mrs. Evans (Clerk)

**Action**

The Chairman addressed the meeting, and paid tribute to Mrs. Elsie Blanchard who had passed away on 20<sup>th</sup> October. Mrs. Blanchard had been a Parish Councillor for many years and had been a great source of local knowledge and information. The Chairman asked for this to be minuted, and offered the Parish Council's sincere condolences to Mr. and Miss. Blanchard.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None. Three members of the public were present.

01-11-08 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None.

02-11-08 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - Personal and/or Prejudicial**

All Councillors declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 9 - Planning Application PT08/2718/TCA. Councillors Aplin and Weldrake declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 12.

03-11-08 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Copies of the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2008 had been circulated. Councillor Bellis asked that the word 'alleged' be inserted into paragraph three of the Chairman's report, to read 'about the alleged building encroachment'; also to insert the word 'not' into minute 10-10-08, planning application PK08/2659/PNA to read 'remains agricultural and not changed to stables'. Following these amendments Councillor Bellis proposed and Councillor Lomas seconded that these minutes be accepted. All agreed.

04-11-08 **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman reported that the works to the cemetery/allotment wall had been completed to a very high standard. Regarding the rubbish at the top end of the allotments, there is a concern that using a digger to remove the rubbish, may push up against the wall. **It was resolved** that a retaining wall be erected, possibly using railway sleepers. Mr. Alvis has supplied a quote for the works, which will be discussed later in the meeting.

There are ongoing problems with ponding all along the back of North Road due to the overgrown ditched. It is the landowners responsibility to ensure that their ditched are cleared.

The Chairman reported that he had met with the SGC Conservation Officer regarding concerns over the colour of the edging stones to the driveway of the new house on the village green. The Conservation Officer had confirmed that the wrong colour had been used, and asked the builder to replace.

05-11-08 **CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk reported on a telephone call received from Mr. Hubbard regarding the planning application at 314 North Road. Mr. Hubbard enquired about the Parish

Council's response. The Clerk informed Mr. Hubbard of the Parish Councils response.

Notices had gone up on both notice boards informing Parishioners of forthcoming meetings up to March 2009. The Clerk had also prepared a timetable for the next six months showing when agenda and minutes would be issued. Councillor Blanchard asked whether this could be amended so that minutes are issued a week after the monthly meeting so that Councillors can deal with their actions in good time. The Clerk will endeavour to achieve this.

Clerk

Cemetery - An invoice from the Leyhill team had been received for works to the cemetery/allotment wall. It amounts to £312.50 (2.5 days work).

Two requests for interment spaces had been received during the course of the month. Both requests were for spaces in the middle row. The Clerk had attended the digging of the spaces to ensure that the water pipe was not in the way. The pipe appears to be further over than anticipated and did not cause any inconvenience.

The Clerk had received an email from Mr. and Mrs. Huish regarding the boundary wall with the cemetery and their property. According to Mr. and Mrs. Huish a section of the wall is 'in imminent danger of collapse'. Also according to Mr. and Mrs. Huish there was a party wall agreement between them and the Parish Council. **It was resolved** that the Clerk would look into this matter and report back at the December meeting.

Clerk

Councillor Taylor had reported that the newly installed dog bin in the cemetery was overflowing. This had been reported to Street Care who would be collecting on 17<sup>th</sup> November. It appears that the bin has not been added to the collection list.

Nibley Lane Allotments - The Clerk and the Chairman have spent a considerable amount of time at the Nibley Lane allotments trying to resolve the issue of the pile of rubbish at the top end. This will be further discussed under agenda item 13. The Clerk also reported that the last time the allotment rents had been increased was in 2004 and perhaps consideration could be given to increasing the rents to ensure that the Parish Council's expenditure matches income.

Parish Meadows - The Clerk had received a telephone call from the residents of The Laurels. During a recent visit to the play area with their grandchildren they had discovered a pile of excrement on top of the slide under the covered roof.

The clearing works are well under way. A planting scheme is being devised by Jo Wright. The Clerk also reported that the tree works application had been sent to Charfield Parish Council in error.

The Clerk reported that a local resident had been witnessed allowing their dog to foul in the Meadows. When challenged they had ignored the challenge and walked away.

Footpaths - LIA30 - Bulge in wall. The Clerk has had a good look at the location of the bulge and ownership of the tree, and it appears that it is in Mr. and Mrs. Huish's property. The Clerk has queried this with SGC.

Councillor Taylor had reported that the footpath from Park Street through to Court Cottages is overgrown. The Clerk will arrange for this to be cleared.

Clerk

North Road – The mobile home in the Codrington car park has been reported to Enforcement

06-11-08 **SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Councillor Gawler reported on the refusal of the stable block at land off Folly Road, Latteridge; the refusal at 1 Engine Common Lane. Councillor Gawler also reported on the speed cameras for North Road and Wotton Road. Figures had been received for the North Road Camera.

Councillor Pat Hockey reported that Justin Davis (First Bus Managing Director) will be attending the SGC meeting on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November. **It was resolved** that the Clerk would email Councillor Hockey with all the details appertaining to the bus service through the village and the problems that have arisen. **Clerk**

07-11-08 **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Clerk reported balances as at of:-

National Westminster Current Account	£10,112.18
National Westminster Reserve Account	£10,350.93
National Savings Accounts	£15,892.87

Following the budget review meeting of 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2008, **it was resolved** that the precept for 2009/2010 be set at £14,000 (a reduction of £1,000 on 2008/2009). Proposed Councillor Gawler, seconded Councillor Weldrake, all agreed.

The Clerk reported that two years ago, Iron Acton Parish Council had signed up to SGC's offer of a free laptop. Part of this package included payment of broadband access for two years, and a personal cheque for £432.00 had been sent to the Clerk. This two year period expires in April 2009. Current charges for broadband access are £17.99 per month, annual expenditure £215.88. Unfortunately the Clerk had forgotten to include this expense in the budget. **It was agreed** that this expense would be included in the Clerk's telephone charges.

08-11-08 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

The following accounts were approved for payment:-

Natureworks	Boundary Clearance – Parish Meadows	£1,000.00
HM Prison Services	Works to Cemetery Wall	£312.50
BWBSL	Water supply – Station Road	£40.98
Landscape Services	Grasscutting – Meadows/Cemetery	£343.17
South Glos Council	Hire of Hall	£25.00
Mrs. P. Evans	Clerk's Telephone	£90.74
Poppy Appeal	Donation	£250.00

Proposed Councillor Gawler seconded Councillor Bellis, all agreed that the above accounts be paid. **It was resolved** that the donation to the Poppy Appeal would remain fixed at £250.00 for the next three years. **It was also resolved** that the Accounts for Payment agenda item would be moved to the last item of business, for future meetings.

09-11-08 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS/PRIOR NOTIFICATIONS/TREE WORKS**

PK08/2861/F - Dean Lodge West, High Street, Iron Acton – Erection of two storey rear extension with glazed link extension to form additional living accommodation. To make the comments that Iron Acton Parish Council are concerned, and wish to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the character of a listed building within the Conservation Area. The Parish Council are also concerned about the visual impact

of the use of timber cladding; removal of the French window and use of a sliding door; the use of glass in the link extension which is not considered to be in keeping with the property and the change of appearance of the main door, which is clearly visible from the High Street.

- PK08/2862/LB - Dean Lodge West, High Street, Iron Acton - Internal and external alterations and erection of two storey rear extension with glazed link extension to form additional living accommodation. See comments to above application - PK08/2861/F.
- PK08/2930/F - Pear Tree Cottage, 410 North Road, Yate - Erection of rear and side conservatory and erection of rear porch. No objections.
- PT08/2718/TCA - Works to fell 1 no. Elder tree, crown lift to 1 no. Lime tree by 2m and crown lift to various other trees by 2m all situated within the Iron Acton Conservation Area. All Councillors have declared a prejudicial interest, therefore no observations.
- PK08/2975/F - The Bungalow, Bridge Road, Yate - Demolition of existing dwelling to facilitate the erection of 1 no. replacement dwelling and detached garage, widened access with associated works. No objections.

#### 10-11-08 PLANNING CONSENTS

- PK08/2550/O - 2 Prospect Cottages, High Street, Iron Acton (minute 09-09-08)
- PK08/2530/RVC - Land at Units 45-48 Beaches Industrial Estate (minute 09-09-08)
- PK08/2633/ADV - Drive, Yate Road (minute 10-10-08) part approval

#### 11-11-08 PLANNING REFUSALS/WITHDRAWALS/APPEALS

- PK08/2633/ADV - Drive, Yate Road, (minute 10-10-08) Totem refused.
- PK08/2671/O - Land to north 350 North Road, Yate (minute 10-10-08)

#### 12-11-08 VILLAGE GREEN

The Parish Council had received a request from the Victorian Committee via Councillors Aplin and Weldrake, to be allowed to erect a Christmas tree, with lights on the village green for the duration of the Christmas period. The tree would be approximately 14ft in height. The Victorian Committee are in negotiations with the residents of the Chapel Patch to see if they are willing to supply the electricity. The Parish Council was assured that all cables etc would be sufficiently covered in order not to present a hazard to members of the public or traffic. The Parish Council was also assured that the Victorian Committee are covered under the insurance of Acton Aid. **It was resolved** to allow the erection of the Christmas tree with lights on the village green outside Two Wheels, where the MC is positioned during May Day. The Chairman and the Clerk will undertake a risk assessment of the area.

**RS/  
Clerk**

#### 13-11-08 WORKS AROUND PARISH

Maintenance Works Schedule - The Clerk had previously circulated a Maintenance Works Schedule via email. Unfortunately this was the wrong one. **It was resolved** that the Clerk would re-issue in time for the December meeting. Councillor Bellis also mentioned that one third of the Coach Pool needs maintenance shortly. This would be added to the list.

**Clerk**

Estimate - R. Alvis - Works to allotments - Mr. Alvis has provided an estimate for the cost of works to the top end of the allotments to clear away the pile of rubbish. This amounts to £380.00 plus VAT. **It was resolved** that this estimate be accepted. Work to re-site the entrance gate must be done first.

#### 14-11-08 GYPSY & TRAVELLER SITES TOWARDS PREFERRED OPTIONS DOCUMENT

Councillors Sheppard and Gawler will be attending one of the consultation

sessions on 25<sup>th</sup> November. The Government has asked that SGC provide an extra 53 pitches, however there is no definition of a pitch – it may be one van or a number of vans belonging to one family. SGC's preferred option is to extend the existing sites at Patchway and Winterbourne, and include a small piece of land to the side of the existing Winterbourne site. SGC are consulting organisations to obtain views. The closing date for comments is 29<sup>th</sup> January 2009. Councillor Taylor will read through the document and brief the Parish Council at the December meeting.

DT

15-11-07 **DONATIONS**

Poppy Appeal - The Clerk had received a request for a donation to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. **It was resolved** that the Parish Council would donate £250.00. **It was also resolved** that the donation would be capped at this amount for the next three years.

CPRE - The Clerk informed the Councillors that a letter had been received from the CPRE in connection with a donation towards legal expenses incurred by members undertaking legal action to defence open spaces and rights of way. **It was resolved** that the Parish Council would not donate on this occasion.

16-11-08 **CPRE**

The Clerk informed the Councillors that a 'toolkit' had been received from CPRE in connection with their "Stop the Drop" campaign. This toolkit gives details on how to organise a community clear-up of rubbish and litter. **It was resolved** that Councillor Aplin would have a look at this toolkit and report back at a later meeting.

AA

17-11-08 **COMMUNITIES & LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

The Clerk informed the Councillors that a consultation had been received from the Communities and Local Government organisation, entitled Real People, Real Power: Codes of Conduct for Local Authority Members and Employees. The paper invites views on proposals for revising the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 and the Relevant Authorities (General Principles) Order 2001. It also seeks views on the proposed introduction of a model code of conduct for local government employees. **It was resolved** that the Clerk circulate, and all Councillors sign to say they have read the document.

Clerk

18-11-08 **TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE**

The Clerk informed the Councillors of a temporary road closure in North Road for a duration of 18 months commencing on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2009. However the closure is only anticipated to be for a 4 weeks period.

The Clerk also informed the Councillors of a temporary road closure in Frampton End Road for a duration of 18 months commencing on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2008. However the closure is only anticipated to be for a 1 week period.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The full Parish Council Meeting will take place on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2008** in the Marshall Rooms commencing at **7.00pm**.

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

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

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