

PAWLETT PARISH COUNCIL

www.pawlettparish.org

The meeting of Pawlett Parish Council was held at the Village Hall, Old Main Road, Pawlett on Monday, 17th July 2017 at 7.00 pm
(in the format to be submitted to the next meeting for approval as a correct record)

Present: Parish Councillors: R Winter (Chairman), A Baker, C Clark, M Neale (Vice-chair), M Seabourne and H Smith
Cllr M Healey
Clerk C Morrison-Jones, together with 3 members of the public

Public speaking:

- Roads & footpaths – there are still no road markings at the Springfield Close junction with Chapel Road. RW- reported that Highways say no road markings will be put there. None were on the plans and the junction has been signed off by Highways as suitable with no lines.
- Pleased to see that the hedges have been cut back in Chapel Road & 30mphs signs in Chapel Road have been restored
- The church is very grateful for the grants awarded by the PC that have been used to help maintain the churchyard. The church yard is public space. Path through the church yard is owned by PC; would the PC be able to assist with edging the path and does it have ideas how more people can be encouraged to volunteer to help maintain the church yard?
- A38 – it is an 'A' road which is meant to have its verges cut back twice a year. Overhanging vegetation has still not been cut; please can the PC follow this up with Highways? Highways responsible from middle of ditch to roadside - this was agreed last year. Clerk to email to J Woodman in addition to Highways.
- Vicarage Lane – overgrown & drains blocked
- Rumours are circulating that there are plans to flood Pawlett Hams with the excess water from barrier, is this true? Pawlett Hams historically very agriculturally productive & is higher than land at Mark so any flood water will run down to there anyway
M Healey said that he will keep his 'ear to the ground' and report back any more information he gains
- Commercial lorries are parking opposite the entrance to Manor Park Farm, causing a hazard; potentially an accident waiting to happen. Also, large number of cars consistently parked opposite the end of Monmouth Farm Close, making it a very dangerous junction to negotiate

1. Welcome by the Chairman.

2. To receive any apologies for absence and disclosures of interest.

Apologies of absence from W Barnard

Declarations of interest:

HS, agenda item 12 a ii

AB, agenda item 12 a ii

3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 19th June 2017 to be presented and signed.

The presented minutes were agreed as a true and correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman

4. Matters Arising:

a) 'Path to no-where' – update

SDC management met with Stonewater last week to discuss Stonewater's previous offers to complete the path which had now been changed to an offer of £5000 towards construction costs. SDC have reported to the PC that they are very disappointed in Stonewater's conduct. RW proposed PC writes to Stonewater CEO explaining the broken promises and asking that previous assurances to complete the path were honoured. It was suggested that the Pavilion & SDC also to write to Stonewater explaining the broken promises and problems the path causes. It is felt that certain people at Stonewater are making promises that they are not authorised to keep

b) Hedge outside school – update

The hedge at the school has been reported to Somerset County Council's Property Services department, who will arrange for it to be cut back.

c) Monmouth Farm Close, sunken road surface – update

Monmouth Farm Close has been inspected by Highways and although there is some unevenness, this is not currently deemed to be a safety defect. Highway safety inspections will continue to be carried out to ensure the highway is maintained to a safe condition.

d) Community Land – update

The solicitor acting for PPC has finally, after many weeks of trying, received a response from the solicitors acting for the present owners confirming that the necessary documents will be prepared and sent on soon.

PC has plans for the land but cannot progress until it is signed over

e) Trees on the green – update

Deep decompaction of the oak was done today, Monday 17th July. Woodchips cleared from around base. The walnut tree has not been pruned yet; the PC was previously advised that it should be deferred until the summer when it would be in full leaf. Clerk to chase Sedgemoor Tree Services for an anticipated date for this work to be completed

f) Any other matters arising not covered by agenda items below.

None

5. County and District Councillor Reports

Cllr M Healey delivered a combined District & County report in absence of J Woodman

- There will be a full SCC council meeting on Wednesday; council needs to save Another £12million this year, to be drawn from all budgets/departments
- New SCC cabinet members have been appointed - J Woodman is now Cabinet Member for Highways
- Meeting earlier today at SDC to consider fire safety in West Street. Cladding given clean bill of health, it has a cement finish. Over the country fire safety audits have not been carried out correctly. Westfield will now be done annually. Sprinklers not always the answer as older buildings cannot take the weight, misting is sometimes an option
- CEO of SDC retiring in October
- The travellers are due to be evicted today from the field at Dunball roundabout. It is the 2nd time that they have been in that field

6. Planning Matters:

Any planning related matters notified to Clerk in advance of the meeting.

None

7. To Receive Reports from Members of Meetings attended as representatives of the Parish Council

MN reported that he had attended the June cluster group meeting. A great number of police officers were attending and a number of items were discussed:

- East Brent has purchased their own speeding device – a motorcyclist has been recorded at 130mph. MN commented on excessive speeds on A38 now camera removed in Pawlett.
- PCs can buy their own camera for £22,000 + £2000 annual maintenance fee. Out of reach for most PCs
- Fracking- licences have been granted but no applications have been received for test drill sites as yet. When applications have been received, someone pro fracking will attend cluster group meeting
- PSPO consultation (see agenda item 11) was mentioned
- Bridgewater barrier - 2024 was mentioned as a possible date for build

8. Roads and Footpaths.

a) Finger Post restoration

A course is being run by Highways on 25th July at Somerton covering finger post surveying, safe working practice and restoration techniques. Volunteers are needed to attend MN has asked Highways for a list of authorised contractors to work roadside

b) Any other matters relating to roads and footpaths in the Parish.

i) See public speaking notes.

ii) Monmouth Farm Close: Cars are parking each side of the MFC junction, making pulling out from the Close very dangerous and causing traffic on Old Main Road to come out of lane. RW to ask Highways to remark MFC junction lines & discuss the issue further when Highways come to alter the Gaunts Road/Old Main Road junction

9. Consider Playground Inspection Reports

The playgrounds were inspected by the Play Inspection Company on 15th May 2017, with the reports being received by the Parish Council on 26th June.

MN commented that the points raised are extensive but thankfully the majority are basic painting & upkeep issues. Sadly, the PC's handyman is no longer continuing in this line of employment so the PC needs to find a handyman. HS stated that the Village Hall gardener does outside property maintenance. HS will approach to see if he will do the repairs, starting with making the gate at pavilion a slow closure gate

10. Outdoor Gym Equipment

Last Thursday the Pavilion met to decide the best placement of the new outdoor gym equipment. MN met with Jonathan & Nigel on Friday and it was agreed that the equipment would sit best behind the cycle ramps. MN has contacted Sutcliffe Play Southwest and is meeting with them on site on Friday morning for site suitability check and to formulate a quote. It was anticipated that the site should be able to accommodate 6-8 pieces of equipment

11. Public Space Protection Order consultation

Legislation regarding dog fouling and anti-social behaviour has recently been changed. SDC are running a consultation as the intent is to 'upgrade' the currently protected areas to be covered by the new legislation. It is proposed that the fence children's' playground area at the Pavilion will remain a dog exclusion area. All other public access areas will remain 'no fouling' areas. Pavilion Playing Field and Village Green are covered by the blanket 'no fouling in a public open space ban', as are all other open spaces where the public has access.

RW remarked that dog fouling is getting worse in the area
Clerk to respond in support

12. Financial Matters.

AB & HS left meeting at this point due to a declared interest

a) Consider awarding of Burial Grants for 2017/18

The clerk informed the council that grants were made in 2016 to Pawlett PPC and Pawlett Methodist Church. Donated to support maintenance of burial grounds

It was agreed to award a 5% increase to each grant for 2017

- i) Pawlett PCC £573
- ii. Pawlett Methodist Chapel £287

AB & HS re-joined the meeting

b) Approve payment of creditors.

i) Clerks Salary, July 2017	£376.61
ii) HMRC	£0.20
iii) Clerk's expenses & reimbursements	£183.50
iv) SALC, membership renewal	£284.90
v) Green energy	£5.67
vi) Pawlett PPC - Burial grant	£573.00
vii) Pawlett Methodist Chapel - Burial Grant	£287.00
viii) Playground Inspection Company	£156.00
ix) Village Hall Hall hire	£178.00
x) Clerk's salary Aug, combined total of cheques x & xi to be	£376.81
xi) HMRC, Clerk's PAYE contributions Aug, combined total of cheques x & xi to be	£376.81

Cllr M Healey & all members of the public left the meeting at this point

c) Receipts received

None

d) Approve bank reconciliation

The Clerk had previously circulated a bank reconciliation statement and supporting documents as at 30th June 2017 showing a balance of £37,791.82. The council unanimously agreed the statement

e) Any other financial matters notified to the Clerk in advance of the Meeting.

None

14. Correspondence

- 1) Sedgemoor DC: Council Tax Scammers press release
- 2) Avon & Somerset Police: News letter
- 3) CCS newsletter
- 4) Somerset Waste Partnership: July newsletter
- 5) Somerset Partnership NHS press releases:
 - i) Hospital & Community Services join up in Somerset
 - ii) New Leader for Musgrove Park Hospital
 - iii) Accolade for Musgrove's Maternity Unit
 - iv) Musgrove named International Centre of Excellence

15. Topics for Future Meetings.

None

16. Date and time of the next meeting –18th September 2017 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall, Old Main Road, Pawlett.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.20pm