

# PAWLETT PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual Meeting of Pawlett Parish Council was held at the Village Hall, Old Main Road, Pawlett on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> June 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, W Barnard and H Smith;  
Clerk C Morrison-Jones, together with two members of the public

Public speaking: no issues raised

**1. Welcome by the Chairman.**

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

Apologies received from Cllr M Healey

**3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 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'**

RW & HS organised a meeting with Stonewater, SDC & the Pavilion the previous week. Topics covered

- Vegetation between path to no-where & Pilgrims Way gardens: Stonewater have accepted responsibility & will now maintain this area
- Funding for the path to no-where: PC aim is to facilitate the progress of this issue between Stonewater & Pavilion but not to become directly involved. Stonewater came to the meeting with an offer of £5000. This wouldn't even pay for fencing; the Pavilion was looking for circa £50,000 in case of problems found underground during path construction and will not start any work without the funding being guaranteed. E Carter (The SDC representative) was amazed as SDC had no previous indication of this low figure before. PC has minuted evidence that Stonewater agreed to complete path and are very disappointed in Stonewater's treatment of this issue. E Carter has raised the profile of this case within SDC and hopes that SDC will get Stonewater to complete project

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

- i) Adam Barnett (playground contractor) has contacted the Parish council - he will no longer be doing Pawlett's work as closing his business
- ii) Air ambulance: RW has received email requesting confirmation that the PC is still willing for the Green to be assessed as a landing site. The area will be inspected for suitability by Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance personnel in the near future

**5. County and District Councillor Reports**

M Healey provided a report by email:

County wise it is early days with reference to reporting things. A lot of new councillors who are having various training sessions. A bit of a shuffle within the cabinet, we have introduced junior cabinet members to help run things, at nil cost to the public, we have recycled one of

Minutes Pawlett Parish Council – Meeting 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Signed and Dated .....Chairman

the cabinet positions, in essence there's one less cabinet members but 3 new junior positions. I feel that this is a good use of resources.

As we are aware the Park & Ride is on-going and will become an induction centre as well as Bridgwater's largest car park. Glad to see that we can now get into Bridgwater a little easier as the cones and one-way system has been lifted down Bristol Road.

## **6. Annual Parish Meeting**

RW reported on a very successful meeting with 40+ attendees and much positive feedback. The Pavilion has already been booked for next year on the 18<sup>th</sup> May- a week earlier so doesn't clash with bank holiday & half term to enable more parishioners to attend. As it was the first year that the Parish Assembly has been held in this format there were inevitably areas that can be improved and in particular the PC apologises to any groups that were not invited to present a report...this was in error and not by intent.

*one member of public joined the meeting at this point*

## **7. Planning Matters:**

### **a) Application 41/17/00006. 9 Puriton Road, Pawlett, Bridgwater, TA6 4RS Erection of a single storey extension to rear (North) elevation.**

Councillors resolved to support the application as, although it is a large increase in the ground floor area of the property, it would cause no impact to neighbours

### **b) Spoil dumping, Dunball – update**

The chairman reported that the field was filled with tall mounds of spoil. He has spoken with the enforcement officer – he is aware and intends to monitor the situation.

### **c) Any other planning related matters notified to Clerk in advance of the meeting.**

None

## **8. To Receive Reports from Members of Meetings attended as representatives of the Parish Council**

The chairman has already reported (min 4a) on the meeting regarding the path to no-where MN will be attending the parish cluster group meeting on 29th June

## **9. Roads and Footpaths.**

### **a) Parking on newly hatched area Old Main Road / Gaunts Road**

The chairman reported that the clerk wrote to the MP for the area (no response as yet), the Chief Executive of SDC and the Chief of Avon and Somerset Police. An email response from the police indicated that they would respond by focusing on education & enforcement but acknowledged better solutions may be needed.

PC P Wills met with the chairman at the junction. Prior to this he had spent an hour with Highways discussing the junction; it was felt that lines are not the answer and he agreed that planters would be a good solution at minimal cost. There are quite a few in the area (Chedder, Axbridge etc) that currently use this solution effectively. Re-curb-ing is the ultimate solution and police will back the Small Highways Improvement Scheme application that Cllr Healey has agreed to back.

Additionally, Highways have met with the chairman again. It is an unusual junction and the solution offered (short term before SHIPS) is 3 bollards in hatched areas to prevent parking and cutting across, the larger hatched area will be repositioned with lines going back to the wall and new lines and a give way sign at end of Pound Road. Expected timescale for these works is to be within 3 months.

### **b) Finger Post restoration**

This is a specialist job: People working on road need curb-side licence to do work adjacent to a highway. An expensive, specialist quote (circa £2,000) has been obtained, this does not appear to give value for money. There is a workshop planned on Exmoor for interested

parties to learn restoration techniques and requirements. MN to pursue this further with Highways

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

i) hedge outside the school needs cutting. Clerk to approach Highways

ii) Monmouth Farm Close, outside number 37. Wessex Water replaced pipes a couple of years ago & block paving has sunk where repairs took place. Clerk to approach highways re making good. Councillors agreed, as Cllr J Woodman is now the cabinet minister for transport and highways, that it would be useful to copy him into any future correspondence with Highways

**10. Outdoor Gym Equipment**

The chairman reported that many people had spoken to him and were looking forward to it. MN has been in touch with Sutcliffe Play South West Ltd in Dorset and they are happy to advise further when the budget and placement of equipment is known. Pawlett has £25,000 RLT2 money reserved by SDC for use in the parish, plus the RLT3 funding that is shared in the cluster group.

Pavilion have offered to put CCTV cameras up to monitor equipment once installed. Plant parking area has been created for vehicles involved in the MUGA refit and could be used in the future for the outdoor gym equipment.

The clerk advised that she had approached SDC planning regarding the siting of equipment and was advised that the PC should liaise with them prior to the start of the project to determine if planning permission would need to be sought.

MN is now to approach Play South West for a site visit to discuss 6 -8 possible pieces of equipment and ascertain details regarding warranty, life expectancy, maintainence costs/schedules

**11. Additional Sports Facilities on the Community Land**

Solicitors for land owners are dragging their feet and not communicating with PC's solicitors. The PC cannot commence with works/ideas until it officially owns the land

**12. Fracking licences granted for Somerset**

Multiple fracking licences have been issued for this area - it is particularly concerning that this could potentially be allowed near Hinkley Point. However, this is a national policy and the licence is granted at Government level. The PC has had no influence on this process. If an application is received to sink a well in Pawlett parish, then the PC will be a statutory consultee, as per normal planning applications

CC raised concerns that no pros had been given in the literature that had been sent to the PC. Councillors need to know the both sides of the argument in order to be able to have a proper debate and formulate an informed decision

Councillors resolved that there was not enough balanced information at this time for PC to formulate a decision

*all three members of the public left the meeting at this point*

**13. Financial Matters.**

**a) Approve payment of creditors.**

|                                                                            |         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 1) Clerks Salary & expenses June 2017 less overpayment of £15.98, May 2017 | £442.19 |
| 2) Locum Clerk, salary and expenses                                        | £72.76  |
| 3) HMRC, PAYE contributions                                                | £16.80  |
| 4) SDC, Playing Field Lease                                                | £170.00 |
| 5) SPFA, annual membership                                                 | £15.00  |
| 6) Green Energy, electricity on the Green                                  | £6.03   |

**b) Receipts received**

None

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

The clerk reported that the Annual Return and associated papers have been sent to the external auditors, Grant Thornton, and the statutory notices regarding the commencement of the period for the exercise of public rights have been displayed as required

**14. Correspondence**

- 1) Somerset CC:
  - i) Press release – New Leader & other key appointments
  - ii) Highways –Chapel Rd/Pound Rd/ Old Main Rd correspondence
  - iii) Highways – finger post correspondence
- 2) Sedgemoor DC:
  - i) Proposed Public Space Protection Order consultation
  - ii) ‘Somerset Prepared’ press release
  - iii) Agenda for NW Parishes Cluster group meeting, 29th June
- 3) Somerset NHS: NHS Health checks
- 4) Cardiac Safe Campaign: Consider a defibrillator information
- 5) Avon & Somerset Police: News letter
- 6) Email from member of the public: Fracking in Somerset
- 7) West Mendip Orchestra poster
- 8) CPRE: Spring/summer newsletter

**15. Topics for Future Meetings.**

- i) Public Space Protection Order consultation

**16. Date and time of the next meeting –17<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall, Old Main Road, Pawlett.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed 8.10pm