

Avening Parish Council Minutes Year 2008/09  
**MINUTES OF MEETING OF AVENING PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
 THURSDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2008 AT 7.30 PM**

The following Councillors were in attendance. Cllr J Parsons (Chairman), Cllr M Williamson (Vice Chairman) Cllr Mrs G Parsons, Cllr Mrs C Naish, Cllr Mrs E Oliver, Cllr Mrs A Beszant, Cllr Mrs C Mitchell, Cllr J Catterall

Also in attendance: Mrs D Cook and Mrs W Jennings (Clerks) and PCSO Sue Fellows

The meeting started at 7.50pm due to the Planning Committee meeting overrunning.

**47/08 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND PCSO SUE FELLOWS**

No members of the public were present.

It was noted that the crime figures in the village had fallen and not so much anti-social behavior witnessed. Police Report to be included in The Villager. The Chairman thanked PCSO Fellows for the police support in the village.

**48/08 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr T Slater (personal)

**49/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr J Parsons declared an interest in all planning matters because of his position as District Councillor sitting on the Planning Regulatory Committee at CDC.

Cllr Mrs G Parsons declared an interest the Village Hall.

**50/08 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED** to accept and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2008 and Finance Committee of 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2008.

**51/08 TO REVIEW STRUCTURE OF MEETING AND AGENDA**

This item was deferred as Cllr Slater, who raised this issue, was not able to attend meeting.

**52/08 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

None

**53/08 TO SIGN THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE CHARTER, THIRD EDITION**

It was **RESOLVED** to sign the third edition of the Gloucestershire Charter. The resolution was proposed by Cllr J Parsons and seconded by Cllr Mrs A Beszant and the vote was unanimous.

Signed

Chairman/Presiding Officer

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> November 2008

## 54/08 PLANNING

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the Planning Decisions as discussed at the Planning Meeting held on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> October 2008 at 7.00 pm and recorded in the Minutes.

## 55/08 FINANCE

55.1/08 Budget Status and Balance at Bank

The current balance at bank was £10,226.53 with £16,037.28 now in the deposit account with projected expenditure and year end balance as set out on the monthly budget sheet.

### 55.2/08 Bills for payment

It was RESOLVED to approve the following bills for payment:

- Clerk's Salary less Income Tax plus Expenses Chq/SO £584.78
- New Clerk's Salary less Income Tax plus Expenses £98.07
- HM Revenue & Customs £95.56
- HGM (grasscutting) £445.00
- Avening Playgroup £1000.00
- Avening PCC (Pig Face Day Grant) £600.00
- Gloucestershire Rural Community Council £25.00

### 55.3/08 To approve the following cheque issued since the last meeting:

It was RESOLVED to approve the following cheque issued since the last meeting:

- GAPTC £50.00

### 55.4/08 To advise that the second part of the precept in the sum of £4,750 has been received.

The sum of £4,750 was received into the Current Account on 29<sup>th</sup> September.

### 55.5/08 To consider annual donation to RBL Poppy Appeal

It was RESOLVED to approve the sum of £50 donation to the Poppy Appeal.

### 55.6/08 To consider the progress on sale of the Calor Gas Barbeque

The Clerk has sent out letters to all the community groups within the village who took part in the Calor Gas Village judging event asking if they would like to put in a sealed bid for the BBQ. All sealed envelopes received will be opened at the next meeting and the highest bid will purchase the equipment.

### 55.7/08 Finance Committee Decisions and Recommendations:

#### 55.7.1/08 Grant Application from Avening PCC recommendation to Council.

It was RESOLVED to approve a grant in the sum of £600 to Avening PCC for Pig Face Day.

#### 55.7.2/08 To approve costs for the village hall lease

The matter was deferred as Council is still waiting for paperwork and an indication of legal costs.)

#### 55.7.3/08 To consider finance Committee recommendations on Budget and Precept for the financial year 2009/10.

It was considered prudent, even though there were no members of the public present, that in view of the business to be discussed, the meeting should be placed in closed session.

Signed

Chairman/Presiding Officer

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> November 2008

It was therefore unanimously **RESOLVED** that the meeting move into closed session under the terms of **The Public (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960** as the business to be discussed included sensitive information and dealt with staff conditions of service which could be prejudiced by being in the public domain at this time, in accordance with the **Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960**.

Finance Committee had prepared some recommendations for budget and precept for 2009/10 but in view of the current financial situation worldwide, it was decided Finance Committee would meet again before November's Council meeting to relook at the proposals. The current recommendations would be sent to all Councillors for comment prior to the Finance Committee meeting. Council will discuss at November's meeting.

Specific budget/precept discussions were deferred.

### **56/08 Parish Plan/Community Projects**

#### **56.1/08 Dog Waste Bin Letter**

The Clerk had received a letter regarding the newly sited dog bin on Pound Hill/Point Road. The parishioners in question were unhappy as to the siting of the bin and wanted it moved 'a few yards along'. Clerk to ascertain if this is possible without incurring extra costs.

#### **56.2/08 Avening Walks Brochure**

A sample of the brochure was passed around for Councillors to peruse. It is well presented and will now be printed and put on sale in the Village shop, Tetbury & Nailsworth Tourist Info. Centres and the two local pubs. The print costs were awaited from CDC. Cost of print run to be approved and discussed through Finance Committee. The resale price was suggested as £1 however the costs of printing would influence the final decision which will be deferred to Finance Committee.

#### **56.3/08 Crime and Antisocial Behaviour**

##### **56.3.1/08 SARA Plan**

Cllr. Williamson reported that a permanent shelter with lighting was needed for the youth of the village for them to socialize. The current shelter at the playing fields did not have lighting. The Youth Club catered for 13 and under age group but there was nowhere for older teenagers to meet. APFA to be approached to see if lighting could be installed in the current youth shelter.

##### **56.3.2/08 Community Safety Survey results and distribution**

The survey results had been printed and would be sent out with a covering letter to residents shortly this would also mention the proposed Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

It was noted from the survey and SARA Plan meeting that some elderly and infirm members of the community did not feel safe to go out at night. Ideas such as peepholes were suggested. Some were available through social services. The Village Agent could be approached to meet with vulnerable residents.

##### **56.3.3/08 Mobile skate park visit in half term**

Unfortunately the mobile unit was not able to come to Avening as they were now contracted to provide sessions in the north of the County.

Signed

Chairman/Presiding Officer

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> November 2008

**56.4/08 Ash Path maintenance and dedication to County Council**

The Clerk had not been able to get hold of the specific officer at County for over a month. Council was advised generally that they may need to budget £2000 for the Creation Order. There was the possibility of waiving some of these fees. The Clerk would see if we could obtain a waiver of some of the fees and the matter would be referred to Finance Committee for final decision.

**56.5/08 Traffic and Highways****56.5.1/08 Repairs/Replacement of Grit Bins in Village**

The salt bin at Sandford Leaze is on the list for repair and this will be undertaken shortly, this will be carried out in the pre winter maintenance works. A further Grit Bin may be placed at the other side of Sandford Leaze, however the cost of the bin has to be paid by the Parish but the County will install free of charge. The Clerk was still waiting to have costs confirmed from the County Council (despite 3 requests to date).

**56.5.2/08 VAS signs**

Letters and super imposed diagrams for VAS signs have been sent out to nearby householders for their comments with a deadline of 22<sup>nd</sup> October set. Any feedback from parishioners will be passed on to Gloucestershire County Council.

**56.6/08 Bus Shelters – Mays Lane**

Cllr J Catterall would draw a suggested design for the Mays Lane shelter. This would then be sent to the Conservation Team at CDC for approval. Council would then need to approach contractors for quotes/estimates. Council may need a more appropriate drawing at this stage.

**56.7/08 Autumn Village Clean-up 8<sup>th</sup> November 2008**

Cllr Mrs E Oliver is organizing this event. Signs have been put up around the village and equipment has been received from CDC i.e. Litter Pick up sticks, gloves, tabards etc.

**56.8/08 Village Hall**

Usage and fundraising - No new matters were brought to Council's attention.

**57/08 Correspondence for Action**

The Clerk had responded to CDC's consultation re Settlement Strategy for Avening

**The Next Meeting of Avening Parish Council will be held on**

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2008**

**In Avening Memorial Hall**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.24 pm

The Chairman wished Deborah Cook, Parish Clerk, well during her Maternity Leave

Signed

Chairman/Presiding Officer

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> November 2008