

MINUTES OF MEETING OF AVENING PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2009 AT 7.30 PM

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

Also in attendance: Mrs D Cook (Clerk)

52/09 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Members of the public were present at the public house but did not take part in the Council meeting and no questions were raised.

53/09 PCSO REPORT & CRIME AND ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

The Council noted the PCSO's monthly report. (PCSO Paul Hancock sent apologies that were received after the meeting).

54/09 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Mrs G Parsons (personal)

55/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Cllr Jim Parsons also declared an interest in the approval of the cheque to Peter Savage for repairing the bus shelter, as Mr Savage had recently worked for him.

56/09 ACCEPTANCE AND SIGNING OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON THURSDAY 15th OCTOBER 2009

It was **RESOLVED** to accept and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 15th October 2009.

57/09 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

58/09 AVENING MEMORIAL HALL

58.1 Update

There was nothing to update at the meeting

58.2 Draft Lease of the Memorial Hall

Nothing further had been heard from the Solicitors or GCC, so the matter was deferred.

59/09 PLANNING

59.1/09 New Planning Applications

09/03590/FUL	10 High Street, Avening, GL8 8LU Proposal: Replacement of four windows to front Members had no objection to the application.
09/03520/LBC	Avening House, High Street, Avening GL8 8NH Proposal: Internal alterations comprising the insertion of new partitions and door. Members had no objection to the application.

59.2 Updates

08/02054/FUL	Avening Mill Avening
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Signed.....Chairman/Presiding Officer

Date: 17th December 2009

	<p>Proposal: Change of use from workshop, commercial and office use to residential The Environment Agency had rejected the flood alleviation scheme and the matter was now with CDC planners for decision.</p> <p>Highways were happy with the road aspect of the application, but it was noted no arrangements had been confirmed for the collection of waste from the site.</p> <p>Concern was also expressed at the potential accessway onto Sandford Leaze, as set out in the flood alleviation scheme.</p> <p>All these matters had been raised with CDC on several occasions by the Parish Council.</p>
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59.3/09 Decisions Received

Council Noted the Decision Notices listed below:

09/02904/FUL	Old Quarries, Rectory Lane, Avening, GL8 8NJ Proposal: Erection of summer house CDC Decision Notice of 23 rd October 2009 Permits
09/02719/FUL	79 Sunground, Avening, Tetbury, GL8 8NW Proposal: Erection of two storey side extension. Decision Awaited CDC Decision Notice of 9 th October 2009 Permits
09/03668/CLOPUD	Hill Farm House, Hampton Hill, Avening, GL8 8SB Proposal: Erection of a conservatory CDC Decision Notice of 3 rd November 2009 - Application Permit

60/09 TREE WORKS

60.1/09 Tree Works Notifications:

09/03439/TPO	16 Sandford Leaze, Avening, GL8 8PB Proposal: TPO 2 A.1 Turkey Oak in rear garden. Reduce tree all over by 40%. It was RESOLVED to retrospectively approve the decision that councillors had no objections to the application
09/03602/TPO	Boat House Gatcombe Water, Avening Proposal: TPO 271 W. 1 Tree work to enable utilities installation. There were no objections to the application.

60.2/09 Tree Works Decisions

Council noted the Decision Notices listed below:

09/02940/TPO	12 Sandford Leaze, Avening, GL8 8PB Proposal: TPO 2 A.1. Field Maple and Varigated Maple - crown reduce by approx 2 Metres. CDC: 21 st October 2009- application refused
09/03033/TPO	Winterfold, 23 West End, Avening, GL8 8NE Proposal: TPO 441 T. 2 Sycamore - Lift base of canopy to 2-4 m above ground level. Clean out deadwood and ivy. CDC: 20 th October 2009 – application permitted

Cllr Mrs E Oliver arrived at 7.50pm

61/09 FINANCE

61.1/09 Budget Status and Balance at Bank

Signed.....Chairman/Presiding Officer

Date: 17th December 2009

The current balance at bank was £4,726.18 with £23,627.72 now in the deposit account with projected expenditure and year end balance as set out on the monthly budget sheet.

61.2/09 Bills for Payment

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following bills for payment:

▪ Clerk's Salary less Income Tax plus Expenses	£491.22
▪ HMRC	£3.12
▪ HGM (grass cutting)	£200
▪ SLCC Enterprises Ltd (training)	£56.35
▪ Avening Playgroup Annual Grant	£500
▪ Avening Playgroup – Grant	£70.00
▪ Fenweb Ltd (website)	£622.73
▪ Viking (printer cartridges)	£114.95
▪ Peter Savage - Repair of Mays Lane Bus Shelter	£113.13
▪ Cotswold Tree Warden Group	£10.00

61.3/09 To sign the contract for the adoption of the BT Telephone Box on High Street and to consider adoption of the phone box at Nag's Head.

It was noted that the telephone kiosk at Nag's Head fell within the boundary of Cherington Parish Council but served the residents of Nag's Head (in Avening Parish) (the boundary being the road to Hampton Fields). Cherington Parish Council had already met and decided not to adopt either of the two telephone kiosks they had been offered by BT. The Clerk had approached BT to see if they would allow Avening Parish Council to adopt the Nag's Head box, if they so decided. It was confirmed that the box could be adopted by Avening Parish Council as long as Cherington Parish Council provided written consent. The Clerk was holding a signed letter from Cherington Parish Council to this extent.

After discussion, it was **RESOLVED** (6 in favour, 2 against) to adopt the telephone kiosk at Nag's Head from BT.

It was noted that the supplier of electricity to the boxes would be Southern Electric.

The contracts for the adoption of the High Street box and Nag's Head box and the Connection Agreement with Central Networks were signed at the end of the meeting by the Chairman, Vice-chairman and Clerk.

61.4/09 To consider insurance quotes for APFA and the Memorial Hall Management Committee

Both groups had been interested to have quotes provided via the Parish Council's insurance brokers. Neither had sent in the schedules required to obtain quotes and as their renewal dates had passed, it was assumed they had already renewed their insurance with another provider.

61.5/09 To consider repairs to bus shelter and consider insurance claim

The panels from the Bus Shelter had been recovered intact and these had been re-attached to the bus shelter by Peter Savage with the added interior cover to improve security. The cost (£113.13) was less than the insurance excess and so no insurance claim would be necessary.

61.6/09 Annual Grant Applications

61.6.1/09 To consider and approve the grant in the sum of £500 for Avening Playgroup

It was **RESOLVED** that in accordance with powers under s137 LGA 1972, that the Council should incur the annual grant in the sum of £500 for Avening Playgroup, which in its opinion is in the interests of the area, and/or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.

61.6.2/09 To consider and approve the annual grant in the sum of £1,000 for Avening Memorial Hall

This matter was deferred pending receipt of an invoice from the Memorial Hall

61.6.3/09 To consider and approve the annual grant in the sum of £2,000 for Avening Playing Fields Association

This matter was deferred pending receipt of an invoice and accounts from APFA

61.7/09 Other Grant Applications

61.7.1 To consider annual grant to Cotswold Tree Warden Group in the sum of £10 per year

It was **RESOLVED** to approve an annual grant for Cotswold Tree Warden Group in the sum of £10 per year.

61.7.2 To consider grant to Avening Playgroup for Boiler repairs

The playgroup had applied for a grant in the sum of £133.04 to cover the cost of a new water heater. The project had already been completed.

It was **RESOLVED** that in accordance with powers under s137 LGA 1972, that the Council should incur the sum of £70 towards the cost of a new water boiler for Avening Playgroup, which in its opinion is in the interests of the area, and/or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.

It was considered prudent, even though there were no members of the public present, that in view of the business to be discussed at agenda point 10, the meeting should be placed in closed session.

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 which could be prejudiced by being in the public domain at this time, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960.

61.8/09 To consider Budget and Precept for the financial year 2010/11 (CLOSED SESSION)

Following discussion, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to set the precept at £23,500 for the year 2010/11. There was to be no increase in the precept due to the current economic climate.

The details of the budget were deferred until the next meeting in December.

62/09 PARISH PLAN/COMMUNITY PROJECTS

62.1/09 TV Digital Switchover talk 21st October 2009

The Digital Switchover Talk had taken place on the 21st October. 19 villagers attended. Some questions had been asked that the speaker would come back to us about. The Clerk will thank the speaker and enquire whether he has answers to the questions posed.

62.2/09 Playing Out in the Cotswolds event

The summer off the streets event did not have as many attending as they could have. The problem seemed to be around the late date of advertising via CDC.

62.3/09 Ash Path maintenance and Creation Order to County Council

The matter was deferred as nothing further had happened. The Clerk would ask GCC when the installation of the handrail and other works would take place.

62.4/09 Traffic and Highways:

62.4.1 Lorries/Heavy vehicles – weight restriction order

It was noted that there were no more Morrisons lorries using the junction with the Cross Inn for turning in the early morning and evening. Council will monitor the situation.

62.4.2 Grit Bins

The refills of the grit bins were on GCC's work list. The new grit bins were due to be collected and installed shortly by GCC.

62.4.3 Speeding traffic on High Street

The Clerk had enquired of GCC about borrowing/hiring the speed detection gun. The service was currently being reorganised. The department were hoping to have come back to the council by today, but had not. The Clerk will remind them again.

62.4.4 Drains

There had been various problems with blocked drains and localised flooding. These should be reported to GCC Highways on 08000 514 514. The details will be put in the next edition of The Villager.

62.5/09 Mapping structures in the Parish

This matter was deferred, but ongoing.

62.6/09 Autumn Village Clean Up

The autumn clean up was scheduled for Saturday 14th November. It was noted that significant storms were due that day. A decision would be taken on the day as to whether to run the clean up or postpone.

62.7/09 Parish Council workplan review and planning for 2010/11

This matter was deferred.

62.8/09 Report back from Cllr Mrs C Mitchell on the GAPTC AGM

Cllr Mrs C Mitchell had attended the GAPTC AGM. The main points discussed at the meeting were:

GAPTC would like to increase its membership.

There was a motion in favour of requesting GCC to liaise with town/parish councils before making decisions on the installation/removal of road and tourist signs, to take action to reduce the number of signs and to remove superfluous signs.

There was a motion in favour to request GAPTC/NALC to request of central government that they issue definitive planning guidance – that would require a planning department, if receiving an objection on valid planning grounds from a town/parish council to have the application considered by the full relevant committee.

There was a motion to request the criteria for eligibility to use the power of wellbeing be removed by central government. There were only 17 clerks in the county qualified to use the power.

62.9/09 Report back from Cllr J Parsons and Clerk on Parish Issues seminar at CDC

Cllr J Parsons and the Clerk attended the Parish Issues seminar at CDC. The main points to come out of the meeting were:

CDC is facing funding shortages due to the current economic climate. They may have to look at service cuts or passing services to town/parish councils. They are also making efficiency savings.

The other main matter raised was town/parish council's requesting feedback on planning matters – for example when Council's are consulted and make an objection, but the application is still approved. Council's would like an explanation. This will be looked into.

The suggestion was made that council's could consider clustering for issues of importance to them. This may be centred in local larger towns.

62.10/09 Contacting the Community (Cllr Tom Beardsell)

Cllr T Beardsell reported back on the Councillor's training course he had attended recently. One matter that was discussed was contacting the community. Suggestions were made such as operating a Councillors surgery so that members of the village could come along and ask any questions. It was noted that we do have public question time on the agenda. It was also noted that the shop often received many of the local enquiries.

It was suggested that the council could start with a tear out question slip in The Villager – so that people could write down their questions/suggestions and post them in a box at the post office. The council could then answer them at meetings or directly.

63/09 Correspondence for Action:

- Bus Shelter grant applications – the restrictions in funding were noted.
- GAPTC Training Courses 2010 – this would be circulated to Councillors by email
- Digital Switchover community outreach pack – this would be kept in the shop for villagers to borrow
- The road closure order for Greenway Head was noted.

**The Next Meeting of Avening Parish Council will be held on
Thursday 17th December, 2009 at 7.30 pm
At Avening Memorial Hall**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.30pm