

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF AVENING PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY
15th JANUARY 2009 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 Mitchell, Cllr Mrs A Bezant, Cllr Mrs E Oliver, Cllr J Catterall, Cllr T Slater

Also in attendance: Mrs W Jennings (Clerk), David Oliver plus 6 residents of Old Hill/Powis Lane

77/08 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr David Oliver attended the meeting together with 6 other residents of Old Hill/Powis Lane to register their objection to the proposed planning application for the land parcel on the corner of Powis Lane and Old Hill. Planning application 08/03332/FUL was submitted on 24th December 2008 for a two storey detached stone built cottage. Mr Oliver stated that local residents believe that this infill proposal is unacceptable on grounds of infrastructure, road safety, parking, aesthetic impact on an historic conservation area, population density, privacy, and access. Development of this land could also set a precedent for other sites in the village.

78/08 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Mrs C Naish (personal)

79/08 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 E Oliver declared an interest in New Planning Application for Land Parcel on the corner of Powis Lane & Old Hill, Avening and 2 Old Hill, Avening.

80/08 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was RESOLVED to accept and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18th December 2008.

81/08 PCSO REPORT AND CRIME & ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

PCSO Sue Fellows had sent her apologies and Cllr Mick Williamson reported on the December Police Report. There were 7 substantiated crimes in December compared to 6 in the same period of 2007. Six of these crimes were on the same evening when a number of vehicles and garages were broken into resulting in items being stolen. Residents were advised to remove all valuables from their vehicles when left and make sure that they are locked. Homeowners can also take protective steps, making sure their homes, garages and outbuildings such as sheds are locked and secure.

Signed

Chairman/Presiding Officer

Date: 19th February 2009

The Gloucestershire Mobile Police Station will be visiting Avening on Thursday 12th February between 1.30 and 2.30 pm and on Wednesday 25th February between 8.30 and 9.30 am.

82.08 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The fundraising event in the Village Hall on 6th December was not well attended but a small profit was made to go towards staging. Cllr Mitchell stated that the Church had some staging which could be used for concerts etc.

The grit bin has been delivered by Glasdon UK Ltd and installed on the Sandford Leaze site by Gloucestershire Highways. A note will be sent to Glos. Highways thanking them for their prompt service.

Although the Clerk had written to Arqiva regarding the aerial mast, as yet a reply has not been received. The Clerk will write again, asking when equipment is redundant, will it be removed from the mast? Also to ask Arqiva for their guidance as to when the signal is to be switched off, do they propose to remove redundant equipment and will they have a responsibility for continuing site maintenance and landscaping. The Council would also like to be provided with a list of current users of the antennae.

83.08 PLANNING

83.1/08 New Planning Applications

08/03332/FUL	Land parcel corner of Powis Lane & Old Hill, Old Hill, Avening Proposal: Erection of detached two storey stone built cottage Members are not supporting this application as it is at odds with the Cotswold District Local Plan Policy 19
09/00004/FUL	2 Old Hill, Avening Tetbury GL8 8NR Proposal: Replacement of upper bay window to match ground floor original Members had no objection to the application

83.2/08 Decision Notices Received

08/03071/FUL	5 Old Hill, Avening, Tetbury GL8 8NR Proposal: Extension and refurbishment of existing cottage Dated decided by CDC : 9 th January 2009 CDC Decision: Application Permit
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83.3/08 Appeal Decisions

APP/F1610/A/08/2082919	Avening Social Club, 1 Woodstock Lane, Avening Appeal Dismissed
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Signed

Chairman/Presiding Officer

Date: 19th February 2009

84/08 FINANCE**84.1/08 Budget Status and Balance at Bank**

The current balance at bank was £3,810.45 with £19,117.27 now in the deposit account with projected expenditure and year end balance as set out on the monthly budget sheet.

It was noted that the interest received on the 30 day notice Business Account had dropped considerably and was now at 0.10% pa. Cllr. Bezant will ascertain other places to invest money and the Clerk will follow up these suggestions and report at the next meeting in February.

84.2/08 Bills for Payment

It was RESOLVED to approve the following bills for payment:

- Clerk's Salary less Income Tax £384.67
- Statutory Maternity Pay less Income Tax £464.59
- HM Revenue & Customs (Tax & N.I.) £108.67
- Cotswold D.C. Printing Walks Brochure £287.67
- APFA (Trees) £300.00
- Glasdon (UK) Ltd – Grit bin £173.05
- Broker Network Ltd (Insurance) £25.00

84.3/08 Cheques Received

- E-on Central Networks Wayleave £42.14

The meeting would have been put into closed session for agenda point 8.5 (minuted at 84.4/08) if there had been members of the public present, under the Public (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 as the business to be discussed included confidential finances (in accordance with legal requirements).

84.4/08 Annual Review of Grass cutting Contract

Details of the grass cutting contract were discussed.

84.5/08 The Tree Council's Tree Warden Scheme

A letter had been received asking the Parish Council to make a contribution, but after consideration it was agreed not to make a donation as we have our own Tree Warden in Alan Watson living in the village.

84.6/08 Citizens Advice Bureau

A standard letter had been received from CAB Cheltenham asking for funds. Council already makes an annual grant of £50 each April, so donation request declined.

85/08 Parish Plan/Community Projects**85.1/08 Dog Waste Bins**

The Clerk had contacted the Cleansing Supervisor at CDC to ask if green dog waste bins were available. He advised that some suppliers do have green bins and we should purchase them direct. He also said he did not have the resources to paint the bins green.

Cllr Oliver stated that there had been an increase in dog mess on the pavements in the village and volunteered to use the florescent pink highlighter to draw attention to this problem. The Clerk to obtain highlighter.

Signed

Chairman/Presiding Officer

Date: 19th February 2009

85.2/08 Traffic & Highways

Gloucestershire Highways are due to visit the village on Monday 19th January to carry out necessary maintenance. Cllr Williamson and Cllr G Parsons will meet up with them to discuss outstanding issues. Cllr Mitchell mentioned the state of the road and verge on the West End road and this will be highlighted on Monday.

85.3/08 Grit Bin

The Clerk had obtained details of a smaller grit bin to go on the slope adjacent to the village shop. It was RESOLVED to purchase a Slimline Grit Bin at a cost of £131.67 plus VAT, and to liaise with Cllr Naish as to the exact position it should be sited.

85.4/08 Bus Shelter – Mays Lane

The Clerk has sent off the grant application form to Gloucestershire C.C. but has not received a reply. Will chase.

Gloucestershire Highways have e-mailed a detailed map of where the base for the new shelter is to be sited and the bus shelter has been ordered from GLC & R Williams with delivery promised before April.

The insurance claim is still being pursued.

The electricity pole adjacent to the proposed site of the shelter had been examined by e-on Central Networks and although very rusty, they pronounced it was perfectly safe and therefore were unable to replace it.

85.5/08 Spring Village Clean Up

The date for the Spring Village Clean Up has been set for Saturday 14th March. Posters will be arranged and equipment obtained from CDC. Details to be entered in The Villager Newsletter to encourage helpers.

86/08 Correspondence for Action

- Society of Local Council Clerks Membership 2009. It was RESOLVED to renew membership at a cost of £105 for a full year subscription.
- GRCC Evidence of the Effects of the Economic Downturn on Rural Communities. E-mail received from GRCC – no action
- Possible Funding for Play – Telephoned CDC to ask if APFA could apply. Agreed they are able to claim funds available and Clerk contacted their Chairman who has put in a bid.
- Responsibilities of riparian owners – Distributed leaflets to Councillors for residents who live adjacent to a stream.
- BTCV Gloucestershire – Conservation Volunteers. It was decided not to engage volunteers as expense costs were prohibitive.
- The PCC had sent an e-mail asking if the Parish Council website could be changed as the link to Avening Church was not clear. Also updated the Contacts & Useful links page of website.

**The Next Meeting of Avening Parish Council will be held on
Thursday 19th February, 2009 at 7.30 pm
In Avening Memorial Hall**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.30

Signed

Chairman/Presiding Officer

Date: 19th February 2009