

Avening Parish Council Minutes Year 2008/09

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF AVENING PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY  
19<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 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. C Naish, Cllr Mrs. E Oliver, Cllr J Catterall, Cllr T Slater

Also in attendance: Mrs W Jennings (Clerk), PCSO Sue Fellows

**87/08 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No members of the public were present.

**88/08 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Mrs. A Beszant (personal)

**89/08 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

**90/08 PCSO REPORT AND CRIME & ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

Cllr Mick Williamson reported on the January Police Report where we had only one substantiated crime in January 2009 compared to 8 in the previous year. He also drew attention to the fact that children are throwing items at the horses kept in the field at the end of Sunground. It also appears that the water containers used by the animals are being turned over which is distressing for both the animals and owners. PCSO Sue Fellows commented on reports that a window had been broken on Hampton Hill and that school children are knocking on doors down the Hill after getting off the school bus. Cllr Williamson will check on the children as they get off the school bus. The Gloucestershire Mobile Police Station will be visiting Avening on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March between 1.30 and 2.30 pm and on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March between 8.30 and 9.30 am.

**91/08 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was RESOLVED to accept and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2009.

**92.08 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**Part Night Lighting Scheme:** Cllr Mrs. C Naish mentioned that the light at the bottom of Tetbury Hill is off during the night and therefore it is very dark and could cause an accident. The Clerk will look at the map of street lights and ascertain which lights should be amended.

Signed

Chairman/Presiding Officer

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> March 2009

**Citizens Advice Bureau.** It was noted that the letter from CAB asking for a grant was deferred last year until the new financial year, and it was RESOLVED to do the same this year and pay £50 in April.

## **93.08 PLANNING**

### **93.1/08 New Planning Applications**

<b>09/00120/FUL</b>	<b>41 Nags Head Lane, Avening, Tetbury, GL8 8NZ</b>  Proposal: Erection of detached garage and shed. Councillors objected to the height of the roof of the garage.
---------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

### **93.2/08 Decision Notices Received**

<b>08/03475/FUL</b>	<b>Sandford House, 56 High Street, Avening, Tetbury</b>  Proposal: Removal of part of internal wall to kitchen, replacement of windows on east elevation and alterations to north elevation to replace door and window with new window. Date decided by CDC : 27th January 2009 CDC Decision: Application Permit
<b>08/03332/FUL</b>	<b>Land parcel corner of Powis Lane &amp; Old Hill, Old Hill, Avening</b>  Proposal: Erection of detached two storey stone built cottage Date decided by CDC: 26th January 2009 CDC Decision: Application Refused
<b>09/00004/FUL</b>	<b>2 Old Hill, Avening, Tetbury GL8 8NR</b>  Proposal: Replacement of upper bay window to match ground floor original Date decided by CDC: 10th February, 2009 CDC Decision: Application Permit

### **93.3/08 Avening Mill**

Cllr. Parsons reported that a decision has still not been made on the planning application for Avening Mill as CDC are awaiting answers from Gloucestershire Highways and SITA regarding waste collection down Mill Lane.

## **94/08 FINANCE**

### **94.1/08 Budget Status and Balance at Bank**

The current balance at bank was £2,024.94 with £17,117.27 now in the deposit account with projected expenditure and year end balance as set out on the monthly budget sheet.

Signed

Chairman/Presiding Officer

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> March 2009

**94.2/08 Bills for Payment**

It was RESOLVED to approve the following bills for payment:

- Clerk's Salary less Income Tax £419.86
- Statutory Maternity Pay less Income Tax £545.68
- HM Revenue & Customs (Tax & N.I.) £181.50
- SLCC Membership £105.00
- Peter Savage (Flying Fox Playing field) £632.50
- Glasdon (UK) Ltd – Grit bin £151.42
- Fenweb – website £ 16.10

**94.3/08 Cheques Received**

- Avening Primary School for grass cutting £220.00

**94.4/08 Report on Interest Rates**

On investigation by the Clerk it has been found that the Parish Council has no power to invest only a power to be prudent with finances. Often higher rates of return have a higher risk for the Council. It has also been brought to our attention that Councils do not have £50,000 cover as do private individuals.

Internet banking is unlawful at present and every cheque/payment must be signed by two members of the Council.

Councillors agreed that our finances should remain in the accounts with Lloyds TSB.

**94.5/08 Internal Audit**

Arrangements are being made to have an internal audit.

**95/08 Parish Plan/Community Projects****95.1/08 Dog Fouling**

Cotswold District Council will be sending an Environmental Warden to the village to assess and highlight the issue of dog fouling. They also mention that they now have powers to issue fixed penalty notices for fouling offences.

Cllr. Mitchell stated that Reverend Celia has requested the removal of the dog bin situated in the churchyard. The Clerk will request CDC to do this immediately and a new site for the bin will be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

**95.2/08 Traffic & Highways****95.2.1 Report**

Cllr. Williamson and Cllr Gill Parsons, accompanied by Gillian Portlock from Gloucestershire Highways, toured the village on 19<sup>th</sup> January. Cllr. Williamson circulated an up to date report on the areas to be targeted.

Signed

Chairman/Presiding Officer

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> March 2009

The steps down to Ash Path were found to be hazardous and a large number of leaves have made the area extremely slippery. Councillors discussed the site and decided it would be safer to have a hand rail installed by the steps and also clear the site of leaves. It was RESOLVED to arrange for a galvanized hand rail to be installed and ask HGM Gardens & Grounds Maintenance to clear the leaves away. The Clerk will organize this immediately.

Councillors discussed the conditions of the roads and pathways during the snowy weather. Mr. Williams of GLC Williams (designated snow warden) had cleared the roads promptly during the bad weather. The Clerk will write to Mr. Williams thanking him for his hard work.

Councillors were advised that Rectory Lane (down from Old Quarries) is likely to be closed in the near future whilst Gloucestershire Highways install proper concrete drainage gullies along the side of the road.

#### **95.2.3 Grit bins**

Cllr. Oliver requested the need for a grit bin to be placed on the road by the school/church as recently during the snowy weather, it became extremely icy. The clerk will order a slimline grit bin and the exact positioning will be discussed at the next meeting after discussion with PCC and school.

The grit bin for outside the Post Office has been delivered and we are awaiting Gloucestershire Highways to put it into position.

#### **95.2.4. Signage**

Cllr. Slater observed that several large road signs had appeared on the road from Tetbury to Avening warning drivers of large vehicles not to proceed. He felt that there is an excess of signs in the area and money should be spent on other more pressing matters such as the condition of the road surface. He will write to Gloucestershire County Council with his comments.

#### **95.3/08 Bus Shelter in Mays Lane**

After further discussions it has been agreed the new bus shelter will be on the existing site as this seems to be safer for pedestrians. The Clerk has written to the Land Registry to ascertain who owns the plot of land to the side and behind the bus shelter in order for it to be cleared of brambles and undergrowth.

The Parish Council has been awarded a grant of £550 from Gloucestershire County Council to go towards the cost of the new bus shelter.

The insurance company has agreed to pay £1,200 less excess of £250 for the claim on the old bus shelter.

It is hoped that Highways will be putting the new base down for the bus shelter shortly and then the installation of the shelter itself will be able to take place soon afterwards.

Signed

Chairman/Presiding Officer

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> March 2009

**95.4/08 Spring Village Clean Up**

Laminated posters are to be placed in the village inviting residents to come along on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at 10.30 am at the Village Hall.

**95.5/08 VAS Sign Installation**

The Parish Council has been advised that the VAS signs will be installed during March or April of this year. The Clerk will confirm they are to be small signs as originally agreed.

**Correspondence for Action:**

- A letter of resignation has been received from Mr. M Hoddy, our tree warden, as he feels there is a conflict of interest since he has started a new business venture. A letter of thanks has been sent to him for all his help over the last few years.
- 2009 Gloucestershire Calor Village of the Year Competition – It was decided not to enter the competition this year.
- European & County Council Elections – 4<sup>th</sup> June. A poster has been received from Cotswold District Council inviting anyone interested to help the Elections team. Posters will be put up on the notice boards.
- A Crash Course in Climate change – a poster inviting parishioners to a meeting on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March has been received – to be displayed on notice boards.
- Consultation on the Publicity Code for local Authorities – this was discussed but it is not relevant for Avening as we are a small parish.
- Exercise Corinium 2009 a Rest Centre Exercise – volunteers to play the role of evacuees – to be displayed on notice boards.
- GAPTC Survey 2009 – to be completed by Clerk
- British Red Cross – All welcome to the Village Hall on March 11<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm to listen to the Red Cross discuss how to reduce accidents and improve First Aid within Gloucestershire.
- Bledisloe Cup Competition – a letter has been received advising that the competition will not continue.

Signed

Chairman/Presiding Officer

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> March 2009

---

- **Thanksgiving Service to celebrate the contribution of Volunteers of Gloucestershire. Cllr Gill Parsons will be representing Avening Parish Council on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May.**
- **Buckingham Palace Garden Party – An invitation has been received inviting Councillors to a garden party on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July. Cllr. Tony Slater, Cllr. John Catterall and Cllr. Gill Parsons have put their names forward.**

**The Next Meeting of Avening Parish Council will be held on  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2009 at 7.30 pm  
In Avening Memorial Hall**

**There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.55 pm**

Signed

Chairman/Presiding Officer

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> March 2009

---