

MINUTES OF MEETING OF AVENING PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 16th DECEMBER 2010 AT 7.30 PM

The following Councillors were in attendance: Cllr M Williamson (Chairman), Cllr A Slater (Vice Chairman), Cllr Mrs C Mitchell, Cllr Mrs C Chesterman, Cllr T Beardsell

Also in attendance: Mrs D Cook (Clerk), Steve Blakelock, David Oliver, Marilyn and Richard Fillis (all of Old Hill)

The meeting opened at 7.40pm.

84/10 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The residents listed above from Old Hill, had attended to discuss the current planning application. They made various statements about the application concerning: the parking area being close to the yew trees at no 4 Old Hill, the raised parking area being on view to all and potentially detracting from the view in a conservation area, concern was expressed about how the applicant would access the parking area as they had to cross public land, there is not enough room for cars to exit no 6 and turn without causing damage to cars in pre-existing car parking spaces, there were also issues over the roof materials and the map of the property not being to scale.

The comments were noted by the Parish Council.

Mr Derek Osborne had submitted a comment to the Clerk concerning the application at Green Acre Farm being visible from the West End of the village. This was read over to Councillors and noted, as a response had already been submitted by the Parish Council to CDC, in order to comply with the CDC deadline.

It was **RESOLVED** to vary the agenda to deal with agenda point 9.

85/10 PLANNING

85.1/10 New Planning Applications

10/04842/FUL	6 Old Hill, Avening, GL8 8NR Proposal: New roofs, windows and doors, erection of first floor rear extension, new vehicular access The Parish Council objected to the application for the following reasons. 1. The proposed new parking area is within the vicinity of yew trees in the garden of no 4 Old Hill. In view of the age of the trees a tree officer would be requested to assess the situation. The Council would appreciate this being checked as the trees have historical value. It would also be unacceptable to damage neighbouring trees. 2. With the way the land lies, the parking area (hardstanding) will be raised and the cars parked there will be on view to other residents and also detract from the view in a conservation area. 3. Whilst most likely not a planning matter it was noted that the applicant will need permission to drive over approximately 3m of
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	<p>public land to access the proposed parking area. The Council would query whether highways have agreed to this.</p> <p>4. The Council noted from the Avening Conservation Area – character map that the property is surrounded by “green” which on the key is set out as: areas of landscape value, important green open space and significant verges. Council would ask for this to be respected and maintained.</p> <p>5. The entrance to no 6 will be in front of the gate of no 4. There is not a wide enough turning circle to allow cars to exit no 6 without potentially causing damage to other cars parked in the pre-existing car parking spaces.</p> <p>6. With regards to the roof, the application proposes to use natural stone slates, but if the original tiles cannot be reused, the applicant proposes to use fairford reconstructed slates. This is not acceptable in a conservation area, the roof will be seen from the lane and highways and will detract from the look of the property and would not be in keeping with the conservation area. The Council would request CDC assess the proposals to ensure they are in keeping with the conservation area (policy 15).</p> <p>7. The map of the property (shown within its boundaries) is not accurate/to scale.</p> <p>8. The Parish Council would request a site inspection so that the planning officer/councillors can see the scale of the property (as at 7 above) and view the parking issues, note the closeness of trees of value etc.</p>
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The residents from Old Hill left the meeting.

The following planning applications were noted.

10/04824/OHL	<p>Temporary UPRN, Cotswold, Gloucestershire Proposal: Proposed rebuilding of Ryeford to Cherington overhead 33kv electricity line (phase 1) Response deadline 9th December 2010 – no response submitted</p>
10/05021/AGF O	<p>Green Acres Farm, Green Way Head, Tetbury Hill, Avening Proposal: Erection of a polytunnel Response deadline 13th December 2010 The following response had been forwarded to Cotswold District Council by the Clerk, in consultation with members as set out in Standing Orders. "Siting: The Parish Council feel that the proposed siting is probably the least visible position in the field – when viewing from the village. However</p>

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	<p>we would request that the planning officer and/or conservation officer makes a site visit to ensure that this is the most appropriate siting.</p> <p>Design We would ask for the conservation/landscape officer to consider whether this specific polytunnel is in keeping with the AONB (where we understand from Policy 7 that the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the landscape and countryside will be given priority over other considerations). We do appreciate that this is a balancing act between maintaining the natural beauty of the landscape and economic conditions (ability for farmer to farm the land successfully/possibly provide jobs). We just wish to ensure the best possible design for the area.</p>
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85.2/10 Decisions Received

No planning decisions had been received.

85.3/10 Tree Works

10/05196/TCONR	<p>Bannut Tree New Inn Lane Avening T1 Yew - Fell to ground level and treat stump T4 Walnut - Fell to ground level and treat stump Tree Preservation Order consultation It was noted that no comment had been submitted to CDC</p>
10/05118/TPO	<p>Land Parcel Ruggers Green Wood And Oldfield Wood, West End, Avening Proposal: Please refer to Ruggers Green and Oldfield Wood 15-20 Management plan sent to Cotswold district council by recorded delivery on 1st November. Management plan is also attached to this application. Councillors had no comments to submit on the application.</p>

86/10 PCSO REPORT & CRIME AND ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

The monthly crime report was discussed and the crime figures were noted.

87/10 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Cllr J Parsons (personal), Cllr J Catterall (personal), Cllr Mrs E Oliver (business)
Cllr Mrs G Parsons (none received in time for the meeting)

88/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared.

89/10 ACCEPTANCE AND SIGNING OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 18th NOVEMBER 2010.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18h November 2010.

90/10 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes that were not already on the agenda.

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91/10 COMMUNITY PROJECTS

91.1/10 Traffic and Highways

91.1.1/10 GCC contact re Salt supply for winter

GCC had consulted parish councils to see if they would be able to provide the salt supply to the village. A building to hold the salt would be required and existing grit bins would be removed. This was not a practical suggestion for the Parish Council as it does not own any buildings. Removal of the existing grit bins would not be a sensible option either. It was **RESOLVED** not to take on the supply of salt to the village. This would remain the responsibility of GCC.

91.1.2/10 To consider provision and cost of grit bin for Sunground (subject to GCC approval)

Two requests had been received for provision of a grit bin near the garages at Sunground because residents were having trouble getting into and out of the garage area (private land). It was noted that GCC supply salt for the public highways and pathways and not for private land.

It was also noted that there was already a grit bin within a short walking distance by no 22 Sunground. There were also a further two bins at the top of Old Hill, again only a little further to walk.

After discussion about the provision of grit bins at Sunground, it was **RESOLVED** to approve expenditure (approximately £150-£200) for the provision of a grit bin further up Sunground at the Playgroup end.

91.1.3/10 Wall at High Street

The report had been received from GCC engineers concerning the wall at High Street, near the Bell. It was noted that the wall would be monitored monthly and put down for repair in the next year. This would be mentioned to the public in the Villager magazine.

It was noted that a further area of wall opposite the junction with Sandford Leaze was also beginning to crumble and lose stones and shape. The Clerk would refer this to Highways for investigation.

91.1.4/10 B4014 repairs update (Cllr J Parsons)

This matter was deferred.

91.2/10 Avening Business Forum: to report back on meeting of the 10th November 2010

This matter was deferred.

91.3/10 Autumn Village Clean Up

Cllr Mrs E Oliver sent a report to note that only about 5 people had attended.

91.4/10 Bumper Edition of the Villager Magazine December 2010

At this stage no comments had been received on the bumper edition of the Villager.

91.5/10 Footpaths – report back on current contact with PROW

This matter was deferred.

92/10 FINANCE

92.1/10 General

92.1.1/10 Budget Status and Balance at Bank

The current balance at bank was £4134.87 with £21,277.36 now in the deposit account with projected expenditure and year end balance as set out on the monthly budget sheet.

92.1.2/10 To Approve Bills for payment

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

▪ Clerk's Salary less Income Tax plus Expenses	£630.65
▪ HGM Ltd	£200.00
▪ Tetbury Lions Club (grant)	£50.00
▪ PCC (Villager grant)	£200.00
▪ The Cross Inn (meeting room hire)	£45.00

The Youth Club grant cheque in the sum of £50 was cancelled at the request of Cllr Mrs C Chesterman (also youth club leader) as the Youth Club had not been able to assist with the leaflet insertion following printing delays.

92.1.3/10 To discuss options for investment following maturity of high interest fixed term account in December 2010

Rates of interest for the new fixed term/high interest accounts had been provided. It was not considered prudent to reinvest for a further 6 months, so the money would be reinvested on a 6 week fixed term deposit at a current rate of 0.5%. It would continue to be reinvested at the 6 weeks deposit until the new financial year.

92.2/10 Village Hall

92.2.1/10 Update

The matter was now waiting for completion. The Council were waiting for the Hall Committee to meet and approve the Lease and sign it.

92.2.2/10 To consider instructions to Solicitors

There were none at present.

92.3/10 Budget

92.3.1/10 To receive report from Clerk on expected legislation changes and future of Parish Councils' work

The Clerk went through the attached report (marked A) and statement (marked B) to set out the changes expected in Local Government from the Coalition Government. The information was correct at the time of being reported to Council.

92.3.2/10 To consider Council workplan, Budget and Precept for the financial year 2011/12

As no members of the public were present, it was **RESOLVED** to vary the agenda and consider agenda point 11 (**clerk's staffing report – closed session**) at the same time as discussing the budget.

Statement B was referred to. Councillors were provided with two draft budgets. Draft A keeps matters as they are now which would lead to the precept staying the same. Draft B sets out what community groups have requested in funding and acknowledges the increase in staffing hours. It also puts aside a sum (as advised by GAPTC) for spending in the event that the Council take on services from GCC or CDC.

No decisions were made as to the budget or precept. This would take place at the January Council meeting.

The following points were discussed and the budget would be redrafted in the light of these comments for presentation to Council in January 2011:

- Budget A was more realistic in the current recession. Budget A would be redrafted for presentation to Council in January.
- Annual grants and additional grants could all come from the community fund. The community fund would increase in size to cover this. Council would then make decisions in the next financial year as to each groups annual grant (if any).
- Staff hours would remain as they were budgeted for for 2010/11. Money could be taken from the community fund for additional temporary help if needed.
- The matter of increasing reserves was discussed (as per GAPTC advice), or whether general reserves should be frozen at present.

Staffing matters:

- The staffing report was noted. Staffing hours would remain as they were budgeted for the remainder of the financial year and Councillors would help with any projects when backlogs occurred.
- The same would apply for next financial year. There was provision in the community fund to take on some temporary help if needed.

92.4/10 Maintenance work and Capital Projects

92.4.1/10 Noticeboards - Update

The order for the two noticeboards had been placed.

92.4.2/10 To consider installation of noticeboard

When the boards had been received they would need to be installed. Quotes would be obtained from local carpenters/handyman/builders for the installation of the boards at the village hall.

92.4.3/10 To consider keyholders for community noticeboard

Keys for this board needed to be readily accessible to members of the public so that they could put notices on the board. It was discussed that the Bell Inn may be kind enough to hold the key. The Clerk would enquire.

93/10 Correspondence for Action:

The following correspondence/consultations were noted. It was not felt necessary to respond.

- Consultations on Transport from GCC November 2010
- Consultation on the Coordinated Admission Arrangements for Gloucestershire County Council for the Academic Year 2012/2013. Specific policy received from Sir William Romney's
- Consultation on the future of the Library Service
- Consultation – planning – proposed revisions to national and local validation checklists for planning applications
- Consultation – Gloucestershire County Council Electoral Review
- Consultation on concessionary fares – GCC
- Consultation on young people's service change
- Meeting with CDC on 1st November 2010

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**The Next Meeting of Avening Parish Council will be held on
Thursday 20th January 2011 at 7.30 pm
At the Memorial Hall**

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