

MINUTES OF MEETING OF AVENING PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY, 8th NOVEMBER 2007 AT 7.30PM

The following Councillors were in attendance: Cllr J Parsons (Chairman), Cllr Mrs G Parsons, Cllr C Redpath, Cllr T Slater, Cllr M Williamson, Cllr Mrs C Mitchell, Cllr Mrs E Oliver, Cllr Mrs A Beszant

Also in attendance: Deborah Cook (Clerk), Carolynn Dent (Village Agent)

63/07 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

none

64/07 VILLAGE AGENT

Carolynn Dent, Village Agent for Avening attended to advise the PC of her role within the community. The posts of village agents were funded by the pensions department, Gloucestershire County Council and GRCC. The service was available to those over the age of 50 in rural areas, but under 50s can be included in certain circumstances. The Agent accesses knowledge, for example pension entitlements benefits, elements of social care etc. The role is very wide – the Agent will visit the person and complete details and access information. They may also identify other needs whilst they are visiting. The service provider eg pensions or care line would then contact the person directly. The service covers things such as benefits, safety at home, key safe, car line. The service is by recommendation only – someone recommends that they contact a person or the person calls the agent directly. There is no cold calling. Carolynn's contact details are 07810 630156.

The Chairman thanked Carolynn Dent for attending.

65/07 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Cllr J Catterall (business)

66/07 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was **RESOLVED** to accept and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 11th October 2007.

67/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Cllrs Mrs G Parsons and Mrs A Beszant declared an interest in Village Hall matters as they were trustees of the Hall.

68/07 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Crime and Antisocial Behaviour – Cllr Mrs C Mitchell advised that there was a new light at the front of the shop which was helping keep the youths away at night. There had been problems throughout the village on Halloween – for sale notices were thrown around and a stone urn was upturned and smashed. Windows were broken at the hall and school. Youths had also been spotted on the flat roof of the hall.

Cllr Mrs C Mitchell also advised that people were helping others to report matters to the police and Mr Naish was acting as a KIN (key information network volunteer) with the police.

Cllr Jim Parsons was arranging a site meeting for Glebe House, New Inn Lane – alteration of footpath, with the landowner and Public Right of Way Team at Gloucester County Council, at the County's suggestion. The County were in consultation with various parties over the proposed change to the pathway. Cllrs J Parsons, Mrs G Parsons and Mrs C Mitchell would try and attend the site meeting.

It was raised for discussion that the current meeting room did not provide disabled access, but it was noted that the downstairs room was accessible. A change of meeting night would be considered in the future, because of other users of the hall on the current meeting night.

Timed agenda slots were also mentioned in order to keep meeting times down.

69/07 VILLAGE HALL

The Chairman thanked Mrs G Parsons and Mrs A Beszant for joining the management committee and the progress they had made so far.

They reported that the accounts had now been audited. They had met with the school and Nik Peregrin from County and they were having an architects advice on the building.

The claim for the porch roof was unsuccessful – they had had estimates and repaired the roof, but the roofer identified damage to timbers and so the work could not be guaranteed. Water was also getting into some broken stonework. They suggested that the porch could be a stand alone project. They have investigated funding options and would qualify for a grant from the Imperial War Museum of £2,500 or half (up to £2,500) to repair it. They may apply to the parish council for a grant to cover the balance.

They also advised that the rent for the youth club (paid for by the Parish Council by way of grant) may increase as the amount of usage by the youth club had increased and was at present not being charged for fully.

Action: Cllr Jim Parsons would obtain a copy of the licence for the hall for the new trustees.

The heating was expensive and Severn Wye energy agency was advising on improving the energy efficiency for the hall.

They have also met Barbara Pond, Village Hall Adviser from GRCC, several times.

They plan to hold the AGM on Thursday 22nd November at 7.30pm (since the time of the PC meeting this has been put back until the new year).

70/07 PLANNING

70.1/07 New Planning Applications

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| 07/02113/CLEU CT8668
D | Picketts Piece Quarry, Avening GL8 8LS – Certificate of lawful existing use or development under s191 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 for the use of site for storage of working materials and equipment. Refill of disused quarry with waste rubble and soil. Parking vehicles including motor caravan – Members had no objection, the use had been in place for over 10 years. |
| 07/02607/FUL CT2457/Z | Minchinhampton Golf Club – erection of extension to driving range to provide a teaching room for individual instruction – Members had no objection |

70.2/07 Appeal Notices

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| 07/01327/FUL APP/F1610/
CT7867/B A/07/20570
07/WF | Leonards Brook Cottage, 1 Old Hill, Avening – alterations and extensions to south elevation – Members noted the appeal. |
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70.3/07 Decision Notices Received

none

70.4/07 Tree Works Decisions

- Holy Cross Church – reduce Yew – 07/02719/TRECON/ CT. CONTR 2410 – CDC Decision Notice dated 24th October 2007- no objections
- 36 Sandford Leaze - fell tree and replace away from house 07/02698/TPO TPO 2/21 – CDC Decision Notice dated 24th October 2007 – TPO application permission granted
- 30 Sandford Leaze – fell tree adjacent to no 30 and footpath – 07/02696/TPO TPO 2/19 – CDC Decision Notice dated 26th October 2007 – refusal of works

70.5/07 Tree Preservation Orders

- 3 Tree Preservation Orders (Acer Species) Winterfold, West End – dated 26th October 2007

Cllr Mrs C Mitchell left the meeting at 8.30pm

71/07 FINANCE

71.1/07 Budget Status and Balance at Bank

The current balance at bank was £5,651.69 with £18,518.06 now in the deposit account with projected expenditure and year end balance as set out on the monthly budget sheet.

71.2/07 Bills for Payment

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

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| ▪ Clerk's Salary less NI/Tax plus Expenses | £522.56 |
| ▪ HGM | £130 |
| ▪ Avening PCC grant (Villager) | £200 |
| ▪ Avening PCC Grant (Churchyard) | £500 |

- GAPTC (Cllr training) £90.00
- Broxap Ltd £650.95

71.3/07 To approve annual grants for Avening PCC (churchyard and Villager)

It was **RESOLVED** TO approve grants for Avening PCC in the sum of £500 for the churchyard and £200 for the Villager

71.4/07 To consider costings for adding census onto website

The Clerk advised that it would cost £145 plus VAT per census to include on the website. After discussion it was **RESOLVED** to include the 1901 census on the website and approve the cost of £145 plus VAT. Council would monitor the feedback from the website.

71.5/07 To approve joint use of website by Cherington PC and Avening PC and consider costings

The Clerk advised that Cherington PC were due to have a meeting on the 12th November and would let us know after that date, as to the sort of thing they were interested in, and the Clerk would then arrange some costings.

72/07 PARISH PLAN/COMMUNITY PROJECTS

72.1/07 To prioritise community projects following consultation event for workplan for 2008/09

Cllr M Williamson volunteered to look into setting up a neighbourhood watch scheme.

72.2/07 Report back following BTCV Tree Warden Conference – Westonbirt – 20th October

Cllr Mrs G Parsons had attended and reported back that it was a useful day with a good speaker with detail on some of the oldest trees.

72.3/07 Report back following waste service redesign event at CDC on 5th November

The Clerk had attended. The main message from CDC was to return the forms sent out to every household. The Clerk went over some of the details of the meeting, members of the public would receive their new bins and instructions and collection dates in the New Year.

72.4/07 Dog Waste Bins

The three dog waste bins were on order. Sites would then be confirmed. The Clerk should write to Jim Hill to see if he would be prepared to have a bin sited near to his property. A site at Westend was identified (to be confirmed with CDC) and the site at the entrance to the playing fields at Sunground (at the top of the path leading to the field) was confirmed.

72.5/07 Autumn village clean up

This took place on Saturday 3rd November. The event had been a success. The Council wished to thank the volunteers for their time. It was agreed to extend the clean up events to 3 times a year in 2008, probably March, June (just before the fete) and November.

72.6/07 Avening Walks Brochure

Posters were up, flyers had been handed to the WI and a piece had gone into the Villager to publicise the walks competition.

The Clerk had visited CDC, had samples of work from the designer and examples of the type of finish that could be achieved. It was agreed to confirm costings for both types of finish.

The designing couldn't start until we had the final set of walks. The designer also advised that the 2 walks brochures should be themed, eg short and long walks.

72.7/07 Hedge Laying at Rectory Lane

The first date would be 1st December. Simon Long will provide 1st hazel whips and will deliver to the field on the first weekend. Posters were up advertising the event.

72.8/07 Part Night Operation

No further action from GCC.

72.9/07 Crime and Antisocial Behaviour

This matter had been discussed under Matters arising from the minutes

72.10/07 As Path maintenance and dedication to County Council

Gloucestershire County Council PROW department would visit the site to walk the path to see if it was suitable for them to take on and then advise the Council further to see if dedication of the pathway was appropriate.

73/07 Correspondence for Action:

- Nominations for the GAPTC County Committee – Cllr C Mitchell was nominated

- Tetbury Partnership (Tetbury Together) Meeting, Wednesday 21st November 7.30pm-9pm – no-one was available to attend
- Letter from Cotswold District Council re planning consultation – The Clerk will write to request that Avening PC continue to receive paper copies of planning applications especially where the plans were large. There was no internet in the hall so plans could not be viewed at meetings and the parish council had no way to print the large plans accompanying applications.

**The Next Meeting of Avening Parish Council will be held on
Thursday, 13th December 2007 at 7.30pm
In Avening Memorial Hall**

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