

MINUTES OF MEETING OF AVENING PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY, 12th OCTOBER 2006 AT 7.00PM

The following Councillors were in attendance: Cllr J Parsons (Chairman), Cllr Mrs G Parsons, Cllr T Slater, Cllr Ms C Mitchell, Cllr J Catterall, Cllr C Redpath, Cllr J Faulkner, Cllr Ms K Kay

It was **RESOLVED** to vary the agenda to move item 9 to item 1 on the agenda

67/06 TO CO-OPT KAREN KAY

It was **RESOLVED** to co-opt Ms Karen Kay onto Avening Parish Council. Cllr Ms K Kay signed her acceptance of office form and undertaking to observe the member's code of conduct.

It was **RESOLVED** to vary the agenda to move item 10 to item 2 on the agenda

68/06 NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

68.1/06 Transmitting Station, Tetbury Hill, Avening – Members had no objection to the application because of the use for which the antenna was needed. However, they were unhappy with the current state of the wall surrounding the site and would like to see a landscaping requirement introduced to tidy the site and repair/improve the wall. Members wished to make contact with Arqiva directly to discuss the state of the wall.

Action: Clerk to respond to planning application and to write to Arqiva to obtain details of the site manager for the Avening site

68.2/06 Parish Notifications: 06/01806/FUL CT5613/D 41 High Street, Avening, erection of two storey and single storey rear extensions. It was noted that this application had been withdrawn.

68.3/06 Review of Quietways Planning Permission – the matter had been referred to CDC and was being investigated

68.4/06 Natural Features

- Woodstock Lane – stream clearance – Highways were looking at whether they were responsible and if it wasn't them who they should refer the Parish Council to.

Action: Clerk to progress

- Elm Tree opposite 24 Point Road – this had now been cut down

68.5/06 Tree Works

Church Farm 06/02461/TRECON CT.CONTR 2174 – Alan Watson would look at the proposed tree works and report back to the council

69/06 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr J Parsons was nominated for Chairman, seconded and unanimously elected.

It was **RESOLVED** to vary the agenda and deal with item 5 before the election of Vice Chairman

70/06 APPROVAL OF CLLR MS C MITCHELL'S ABSENCE IN 2005

The matter of Cllr Ms C Mitchell's absence in 2005 (between 9th March 2005 and 9th September 2005) was discussed. The District Council had advised that the matter should be settled at the meeting. Cllr Ms C Mitchell was asked to provide evidence to show what parish council duties she had carried out in the time period 9th March 2005 to 9th September 2005. Cllr Ms C Mitchell had contributed to a planning discussion and been acting as the Council's liaison on the APFA at the time.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the work carried out by Cllr Ms C Mitchell on behalf of the parish council during the time period 9th March 2005 to 9th September 2005.

71/06 CLARIFICATION OF THE RULES RELATING TO ABSENCES

Councillors should attend at least one meeting of the council (including committee meetings) in 6 months. Absence is measured from the date of last attendance. Months where there are no council meetings still contribute to the 6 month period. It was suggested that councillors continue as they are now – they should send apologies if they are unable to attend. These will not be approved or disapproved at the meeting. If the councillor is absent for 4 months the Clerk will remind them and will put the absence on the agenda to see if one or more of the reasons for absence can be formally approved. If there is a formal approval this will restart the 6 month period. Councillors could also carry out other parish council work in the parish, or represent the parish council at an event/meeting outside of the parish.

72/06 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr T Slater and Cllr Ms C Mitchell were nominated and seconded for the position of vice chairman. It was **RESOLVED** to carry out a vote by secret ballot. Cllr T Slater was elected by a majority vote of 6 votes to 2 votes.

73/06 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - none

74/06 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Cllr J Green's absence had already been approved at the meeting of 14th September 2006 (55.1/06).

75/06 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 14th SEPTEMBER 2006

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 14th September 2006 were agreed and signed.

76/06 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - Cllr J Faulkner declared an interest in item 10.3 on the agenda (minute number 68.3/06 above). The interest was raised at the time of the discussion of item 10.3.

Cllr J Parsons declared an interest in item 11.2 cheque payment to J Hill (minute number 78.2/06).

77/06 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cllr Ms C Mitchell raised the way that the matter of her absences had been raised at the last meeting as it was not on the agenda. The Chairman and Clerk apologised if it had not been raised correctly.

78/06 FINANCE

78.1/06 Budget Status and Balance at Bank

The clerk advised that the current balance at bank was £9875 with £15,000 now in the deposit account with projected expenditure and year end balance as set out on the monthly budget sheet.

78.2/06 Bills for Payment

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

▪ Clerk's Salary less NI plus Expenses	£496.99
▪ NI on Clerk's salary	£17.03
▪ Cllr J Faulkner (purchase of litter pickers)	£6
▪ HGM Ltd	£160
▪ Glos Wildlife Manage Ltd	£282.00
▪ Viking Direct	£104.40
▪ J Hill (JJ Music – 17 th September)	£160.00

78.3/06 Finance Committee decisions/recommendations following meeting on the 5th October 2006

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the Finance Decisions and recommendations as discussed at the Finance Committee Meeting held on 5th October 2006 and recorded in the minutes.

The meeting would have been put into closed session for agenda point 11.4 and 11.5(minuted at 78.4/06 and 78.5/06) if there had been members of the public present, under The Public (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 in accordance with legal requirements.

78.4/06 Budget Proposals for 2007/08

Cllr J Parsons had put together a short report outlining the items discussed at the finance committee meeting: the draft budget, village hall, APFA funding and the parish plan – all for discussion at November's meeting.

The Village Hall was discussed. Cllr J Green had confirmed that he would be giving up the running of the hall in December. The council needed to make arrangements for 3 months from January until March (when hopefully a maintenance person would be in place – the suggested idea was they could maintain the hall and cover the bookings, keys etc. The clerk could cover the bookkeeping). Cllr C Redpath may be able to cover some of this for the 3 month period. Derek Ind, the Chair of the Board of Governors from the Primary School wanted to attend the next meeting to discuss the way forward with the hall.

Action: Clerk to write to Jon and Kate to thank them for all they have done for the hall and ask them if they would like to hand the books over at the December meeting.

Action: Clerk to confirm Derek Ind can attend the November meeting

APFA – the position re the parish council probably needing to be the applicant in grant applications was noted. It was suggested that APFA could complete the forms, the PC could then check and sign.

78.5/06 Website Needs

This matter was in hand.

78.6/06 LITTER BINS AT THE PLAYING FIELD

It was felt that more litter bins and a dog waste bin were needed at the playing fields. Ideally 2 more bins should be sited by the entrance by no 38 and the entrance by the skateramp. A dog waste bin was needed by the skateramp entrance too.

It was also suggested that a further bin would be useful in Sunground – by the garages, where young people often meet.

Action: Clerk to look into costings of bins, dog waste bin and installation costs and whether CDC will empty.

78.7/06 AVENING PLAYGROUP

The Playgroup had thanked the Council for their donation. Cllr J Parsons would be attending the official opening on 27th October by HRH the Princess Royal.

79/06 AVENING PLAYING FIELDS

Deferred

80/06 TRAFFIC IN AVENING

80.1/06 Update from Cllr T Slater

Cllr T Slater had met with Gill Portlock from Highways about the items needing addressing in the village and matters were in hand.

81/06 BLUE SKY

81.1/06 Corporate Branding of Parish Council

Cllr T Slater reported that this was in hand

81.2/06 Parish Plan

Cllr Mrs G Parsons reported back from the GRCC AGM where she and the Clerk had met with Melanie Tarrant. Some items had been attended to on the action plan and others were still waiting for attention. Melanie had suggested a public meeting to see what is still relevant and to try and get some volunteers coming forward to help with the issues. After general discussion this would be put off until March/April of next year because of various constraints at the moment. (report attached)

82/06 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE/COMMUNITY PROJECTS

82.1/06 Siting of Restored Wooden Avening Sign

The project was in hand – Cllrs J Catterall and T Slater.

82.2/06 Autumn Village Clean Up – November 4th

The matter was in hand, equipment had been received/ordered – Cllr C Redpath

82.3/06 Hedge Laying Project in Partnership with Rural Skills Centre, Royal Agricultural College

Approximately 8 people had expressed an interest.

Action: Clerk to contact the Agricultural College to see what dates/times would be available

Action: Cllr Mrs C Mitchell would speak to some of the local youths to see if they would take part

83/06 CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

- (Church Street Avening) (One Way) Order 2006 – Glos CC – this was noted
- CAB AGM on 24th October – no-one was available to attend
- Consultation on Proposals for Glos County Council's Homes for Older People – this was passed to Cllr J Parsons

84/06 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

66.1/06 Cllr J Parsons – Gloucestershire Health Consultation

Cllr J Parsons indicated that the new PCT was operative from 1st October 2006 and Jan Stribblings is the new Chief Executive and Ruth Fitzjohn is the Chair.

The date of the next Avening Parish Council will be on

Thursday, 9th November 2006 at 7.45 p.m.

in Avening Memorial Hall

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.05pm