

**Minutes of the Pitton & Farley Parish Council meeting held on Thursday
December 12th at 7.30pm in Farley Village Hall**

Present:

Cllr Jamie Latham (Chairman)
Cllr. Tony Ashworth (Vice Chairman)
Cllr. Chris Hewitt
Cllr. Nigel Lilley
Cllr. Stuart Mariner
Cllr. Steve Williams

In attendance:

The Clerk, Catherine Purves

Also present:

Wiltshire Councillor for the Winterslow division Chris Devine

AGENDA

Apologies

Apologies were tendered from Cllr Geoff Lowndes, due to a previous engagement following the alteration of the date of the meeting.

Resolved: to accept these apologies

124.13 Minutes

Resolved: To approve as a correct record the minutes of the ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 6th November 2013.

125.13 Declarations of Interest

a. To receive any **Declarations of Interest** in respect of matters contained in this agenda in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of councillors, and in accordance with the Local Government act 1972 in respect of officers. **Resolved:** to note none received.

b. To consider any **Dispensation Requests** received by the Parish Clerk and not previously considered. **Resolved:** to note none received.

126.13 To co-opt to fill one of the two vacancies in Pitton ward

Following on from the previous meeting, Mr Coppock has indicated he would be willing to become a member of the Parish Council, and the Clerk has also received a further enquiry which she will follow up in the New Year. This matter will be an agenda item again for the next meeting. **Resolved:** to note.

127.13 To consider any urgent matters raised in the public session, and any other urgent matters or items of information from councillors.

Resolved: to note there were none.

128.13 To receive reports from:-

a. *The Wiltshire Council representative for Winterslow, Cllr. Chris Devine*

- *Review of speed limit on C321 (Pitton/Farley road from A30 junction to Knightwood Kennels junction)* – this was ongoing, as he had queried whether the reviews findings recommending no change were correct. He felt that the number of non-reportable crashes to the police should still be taken into account, and at the very least, a 20mph limit should be placed on the Houndwood bends.
- *Wiltshire Councillors' allowances* – these would be discussed at the next Full Council meeting in early February 2014.
- *Wiltshire Council budget* – the national government grant had been reduced by a further £21m for 2014/15.
- *Parking review for Salisbury* – Wiltshire Council will be undertaking this in the New Year. Cllr. Devine was concerned that the residents of outlying villages were bearing a lot of the costs as they had to use their cars in the absence of a decent bus service.
- *Fire & Rescue service* – cuts of £10m had been implemented in the last 4 years, and there was nothing left to cut except the level of service. This was unacceptable, and so the Fire & Rescue service would be increasing its precept by the full 2%.
- *Wiltshire Council/BT Broadband project* – nothing further to report.
- *Road closure* – the road surface at Church Road/Pitton Road/Parsonage Hill will be repaired in January.
- *Wiltshire Council land in villages* – the Council has earmarked these parcels of land for low cost housing to ultimately be administered by a Housing Association.
- *Boundary review* – Wiltshire Council will be undertaking both a parish and Wilts Council division boundary review in the next year, to be effective in time for the next local elections in 2017.

b. *The Council's representative on the Pitton Flood Action Group Mrs Purves*

- the water table level remains low after a dry autumn.
- There has been no response from Southern Water to the invitation to attend a PC meeting in early 2014, and the Clerk will continue to chase this.
- Cllr Mariner reported on a recent ad hoc meeting of interested parties at his house. The membership of the group will be reviewed, and Chris Sankey has formally taken over from Rod Coppock as Flood Warden, although Mr

Coppock will continue to monitor water levels. All agreed that the main problem had always been getting the water through and out of the village as

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- quickly as possible, and it had been noted that although there was a siphon at the Black Lane/High Street corner, and a sump in Taylors Farm House, the two weren't linked, which necessitated ordering in pipes, the cost of which was thought to be ultimately more expensive than laying permanent ones. The pipes under the drive entrances of Fairwinds and Badger's Rest in Townsend also needed to be kept clear. This will be an item on the next meeting's agenda.

c. The Council's representative on the Pitton Village Hall Management Committee Mrs Purves

- Planning permission has been granted for the tarmacking of the car park.
- The committee meets next on January 29th.

d. The Council's representative on the Farley Village Hall Management Committee Cllr J. Latham – nothing to report

e. Parish Website representative Mr Bossom– nothing to report.

f. Chairman's report – nothing to report

g. Parish Clerk's report - the Parish Council has received £100.00 from Winchester Rotary in respect of the help given running a water station at the Clarendon Marathon.

h. The Council's representative to the Southern Wiltshire Area Board, Mrs Purves Jane Scott, Leader of Wiltshire Council attended, and advised the following:

- *Meetings* will be held in early 2014 to give feedback about the Joint Strategic Assessment, which provides the basic community information underpinning the services provided.
- *Highways maintenance* - Wilts Council will be spending £8.2m per year on highway maintenance, and highlighted how the use of new My Wilts app could help Wilts Council accurately locate potholes, road kill, fly tipping etc.
- *Priorities* – looking after the vulnerable in society, both young and old would continue to be a priority for Wiltshire Council.
- *Community assets* - Wilts Council was working with parish and town councils to effect the transfer of play areas, allotments, parks. [Pitton & Farley PC doesn't have any in Wilts Council control]
- *The economy was very important* – the Council was encouraging education and apprenticeships to provide a skilled workforce, so as to attract and keep good businesses, eg the UTC in Salisbury and the science park at Porton.
- *The military presence* – 4000 troops are returning to the Salisbury Plain, and will need housing, services and schools.
- *Finance* – the govt. grant has reduced by 28% since 2009/10, but unitary status has helped the Council to weather the storm.

- *Parish Boundary review* – Town and Parish Councils will be contacted by the working group to find out local views. Changes will be in place by the next local elections in 2017.
- *Southern Area Campus* – initial discussions are imminent.

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- *Gritting & Snow plans* – there is no obligation on any Parish Council to have these, but Wilts Council would support any which do, with equipment, salt and training. Small snow ploughs are available, free of charge for local farmers to use.
- *Planning* – in the Core strategy, the presumption is that there will be no development in rural parishes unless a Neighbourhood Plan suggests it.
- *New Homes Bonus* – Wilts Council is lobbying for this to be paid to it, rather than to the Local Enterprise partnership.
- *Housing allocations* – the criteria for qualification would now be based on local connections ie existing family, already living or working in a community.
- *A303* – a proper survey of the impact of the closure of the A344 will be undertaken next summer. Wilts Council is lobbying for the road to be duelled from the Countess roundabout and is winning the argument. Tunnelling is now out of the question on cost grounds.
- *The next Area Board* meeting takes place on Thursday January 30th 2014 in Alderbury Village Hall.

Resolved: to note these reports.

129.13 Planning

a. To consider a response to planning applications received:

i. **13/05433/FUL** – reroofing of garage block with natural slate tiles, to include removal of corrugated asbestos cement sheeting at Church Farm, Townsend, Pitton.

Resolved: to support

ii. **13/06304/FUL** – erection of six floodlights to an existing ménage, each a maximum of 6m high above ground at Whitehill Farm, White Hill, Pitton.

Resolved: to support, with the same conditions to be attached to the planning permission as to that given to a similar application from the neighbouring Pitton Hill Farm

b. To note planning decisions made by Wiltshire Council since the last meeting:

i. **13/04075/FUL** – resurfacing existing car park and access road with tarmac at Pitton Village Hall. **Permission granted 6th November 2013**

ii. **13/04654/VAR** – removal of condition 3 of s/2013/0414 to allow repositioned ménage to be used commercially at Bentleigh Farm, Pitton Road, Pitton. **Permission granted 18th November 2013**

Resolved: to note

130.13 Finance

a. To approve for payment a schedule of accounts in the sum of £477.57

Resolved: to approve

b. To note the updated 2013/2014 Budget Monitoring form

Resolved: to note

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c. To consider and resolve to set a budget and precept figure for 2014/15

Resolved: to set a budget of £7458 for 2014/15, and to request a precept of £7500, including the Wiltshire Council grant of £241.12 for 2014/15

d. To consider a request for a donation under s137 LGA 1972 of £34.00 in respect of uniform scarves for the 1st Pitton Brownies.

Resolved: regretfully, to decline this request, as the Parish Council is unable to give grants or donations for items of personal use, but the councillors would be very happy to consider requests for items of equipment, and help identify other sources of funding. Action: the Clerk

e. To consider a request for a donation under s137 LGA 1972 of £100.00 towards Community First's Good Neighbour's scheme

Resolved: regretfully, to decline this request, as it was not clear to what extent, if any, this scheme had benefitted parish residents.

131.13 Highway/Parish Steward/Footpath matters.

a. The parish steward scheme seems to be in abeyance at the moment, and the Community Co-ordinator, Bob Crean, having been appointed in June, is leaving this month. However, he will be replaced, but it is not clear when. The BBLP contract is being closely monitored by Wilts Council.

b. Area Board issues update

- *Issue 2259* - Road subsidence of Church Road, Farley – patching is scheduled to be done before March 2014.
- *Issue 3057* – silted up ditches along the Pitton/Winterslow Road – on the programme, awaiting availability of road gangs to action in before end March 2014

Resolved: to note.

132.13 To review and note other ongoing matters:

- *Pitton bus stop area* – nothing further to report.
- *Car parking around Pitton school* – the Clerk is to organise a site meeting with the various departments of Wilts Council involved, parish councillors and school officers regarding this in the New Year.
- *Installation of parish map* – Cllr Lilley had circulated his initial ideas, and Cllr Lowndes' son had kindly offered to make up a first design for further discussion.

- *Gritting Policy* – There is some confusion about the amount of salt that will be provided to parishes. It was thought to be just a 1 ton bag, but Jane Scott at the Area Board meeting had said it was 3 tons, which is much more helpful. Free snow plough blades are also available for local farmers to use, and Colin Brown will be asked if he would be prepared to use one on behalf of the parish. An example of a Snow & Ice plan was reviewed and thought suitable, subject to adaptation for Pitton & Farley parish, and consultation with Wiltshire

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Council. **Action:** The Clerk.

- *Clearing/development of inter –village footpaths* – nothing further to report regarding this Area Board initiative, but the publication of the Walking Guide is to take place in early 2014. Cllr Hewitt offered to help clear footpaths where necessary.
- *Speed review of C321* – nothing further to report.
- *Memorial bench in Pitton* – nothing further to report.
- *Repair of bench at top of Parsonage Hill* – this will be actioned by February.
- *Sight lines at Dunstable crossroads* – nothing further to report.

Resolved: to note these reports

133.13 Date of next meetings.

To note the date of the next Parish Council meetings:

Wednesday 22nd January 2014 at 7.30pm in Pitton Village Hall

Wednesday 5th March 2014 at 7.30pm in Farley Village Hall

Resolved: to note

134.13 To close the meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

