

PORLOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at Porlock Village Hall on Wednesday, 7th. September 2011

Members Present:

Cllr. A. Wright, Chairman
Cllr. Britnell, Cllr. Mrs. Gable, Cllr. Mrs. Haynes
Cllr. Latham, Cllr. McCoy, Cllr. Mrs. Palmer,
Cllr. Mrs. Rowe, Cllr. Mrs. Russell, and Cllr. Sage
Also in attendance
- Cllr. Jon Freeman (WSC/ENP)
- Mrs. C. Fitzgerald, Clerk

1. Apologies were received from the Vice-Chairman, Cllr. Keith Jacobs (holiday), and Cllr. Mike Edward (holiday). Cllr. Frances Nicholson (SCC/ENP) and Cllr. Karen Mills (WSC) had also been unable to attend.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Wright – Item 7 – Planning. As a Member of the ENPA Planning Committee the Chairman wished to record that he would take no part in the discussion or vote on any planning application before the Council, in order not to prejudice any decisions he might make as part of the ENPA Planning Committee.

Cllr. Latham and Cllr. Mrs. Russell – Item 9 – Finance – Sale of strip of land at Doverly Manor. Both Councillors declared a personal interest as members of the Doverly Manor Committee.

3. The Minutes as previously circulated of the meeting held on 10th. August were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters for Report not on the Agenda

4.1 Fire Station

The Clerk confirmed that the Estates Manager had been notified of the metal fence in need of repair, also of the complaints received concerning the fact that the lights at the rear of the building were on all night.

4.2 Weed Clearance – Parsons Street/Hawkcombe

There had been several reports of approval from local residents for the work carried out.

4.3 Wall opposite Ship Inn/Brambles on Ship's Mews Boundary Wall

The Clerk confirmed that both matters had been reported to Highways and an acknowledgment received. The Clerk was asked to check on progress.

4.4 Wall by Hawkcombe Stream

It was reported that a large buddleia had been removed on the far side of the stream. This had exposed a wall which appeared to be collapsing and which could block the stream. The Clerk was asked to report this to the EA.

5. Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

6. Somerset County Council and District Councillors' Reports

Cllr. Jon Freeman reported that he had attended the Seworthy & Minehead Without meeting on devolution with WSC. The meeting had been very inconclusive and had not included any form of negotiation.

The Chairman confirmed that the financial and other data received from WSC had been very difficult to interpret, but it was agreed that all Councillors should be given a copy before the Council met with WSC representatives on 14th. September. Cllr. Freeman confirmed that he will be attending this meeting.

The Chairman reported that he had organised a meeting for 28th. September with the Chairmen of Minehead, Watchet, and Dulverton Town Councils and Williton and Dunster Parish Councils to discuss a joint approach to the devolution and delegation issues.

7. Planning

The following applications were considered:

6/27/11/123 **Proposed two storey extension**
4 Sunnyside, Hawkcombe

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to support and recommend approval.

6/27/11/111 **Proposed two storey extension together with installation of 7no. solar panels**
The Old Barn, Englands Road

Notification received that this application had been withdrawn

6/27/11/124 **Proposed two storey extension with the installation of 7no. solar panels. Re-submission**
The Old Barn, Englands Road

The Committee considered this application at a later date and **RESOLVED** to fully support and recommend approval.

6/19/11/106 *Adjoining parish consultation*

Proposed re-location of garage together with minor amendments. Re-submission of withdrawn application

6/19/11/103

Luckbarrow Cottage, West Luccombe

It was agreed that there were no objections. Support and recommend approval.

Planning consent has been granted for the following applications:-

- 6/27/11/116 Proposed removal of rear conservatory & construction of single storey extension. Rowberrow, Furzeland Road
- 6/27/11/117y Proposed replacement of garage together with the enlargement of track to bottom of garden (retrospective) Annata, Doverhay

Planning consent had been refused for the following application:-

6/27/91/108 *Out of parish application*

Certificate of Lawful Use for proposed construction of a two storey extension to provide studio, living room, bathroom and bedroom as Approved under 6/23/91/108

Land: Westcott Farm, Toll Road/New Road

7.2. Solar Voltaic Panels

A definitive answer had been received from ENP on whether applications are required for PV installations. Generally speaking planning permission is not required unless the building is listed, but there is a small form which needs to be completed so ENP needs to be contacted.

8. Finance

The following accounts were approved and passed for payment:-

Mr. A. Binding, grass cutting/weed clearance	1,100
Mr. B. Hammett, caretaker's wages	60.66
Village Hall Committee, use of hall for meetings for 2011	168.00
BT, internet services bill for Parish Room	64.80
Fair Energy, second instalment for radiator installation	440.06
Wessex Water, water rates 9/2/11-19/8/11	83.29
Konica Minolta, photocopies 15/5/11 – 14/8/11 * (£174.27)	284.59
Mrs. C. Fitzgerald, Clerk's salary less tax	858.05
Mrs. C. Fitzgerald, Clerks expenses – postage/telephone/internet	31.50
HMRC, tax & NIC due	227.40
Crosswell's, disconnection of night storage heaters at Old School	216.00

TalkTalk Business, office telephone bill		24.78
	Total	3559.13

Bank Balance At 31st. August 2011

Current Account	100.00
Reserve Account	50,493.84
Total:	50,593.84

Allotment Trust Account

Current Account	1,203.33
Reserve Account	7,746.49
Total:	8,949.82

Standard Life Account	21,505.33
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8.2 Doverly Manor – Sale of Strip of Land

On a proposal from Cllr. Britnell seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Rowe it was **RESOLVED** to pass to Doverly Manor Committee the £706 balance received from the sale of the land after the deduction of legal costs.

8.3 Annual Grant

It was confirmed that all organisations will need to provide accounts and financial justification in order to receive the second half of their annual grant.

9. Matters Arising

9.1 Wrought Iron Gate in Churchyard

It was agreed that Cllr. Mrs. Russell, Cllr. Mrs. Gable, Cllr. Mrs. Rowe and Cllr. Britnell should meet with the Churchwardens on 18th. September to discuss the positioning of the gate for fund raising purposes.

9.2 Electoral Review of Somerset

Further details of the proposed changes had been received.

9.3 Speed Indicator Device (SID)

Highways had responded to the Council's query on electronic speeding devices. Having considered the various signs it was agreed that these were unlikely to be suitable for the purposes of controlling speed in the High Street.

10. Library Lease

The Chairman reported that the County Council had suggested a Tenancy at Will to cover the period following the Judicial Review. A period of notice had not been included and the draft had been rejected. A reply is awaited.

11. Land at High Bank

Cllr. McCoy reported that he and Cllr. Jacobs had met on site with Joe Roake and a representative of Western Power, and had agreed that there would be adequate lighting serving the car park and that a street light would be unnecessary. Western Power had been asked for an estimate to remove the pole and the Clerk confirmed that this had been received, but at £919 was considerably more than expected. However, some of this cost could probably be offset when the groundwork is carried out by Lynch's

12. Devolution & Delegation

It was confirmed that the meeting with WSC to discuss devolution and delegation options would take place on 21st. September at 6pm. The data provided by WSC had been considered but was not readily understandable.

13. Undergrounding Electricity Cables on the Marsh

A letter had been received from Western Power explaining that a limited budget was available for undergrounding overhead electricity cables in sensitive protected areas. Lines have already been replaced at Hawkcombe Head and it is proposed to undertake a similar scheme to remove the wires across the Marsh.

As part of the scheme it will be necessary to establish a small ground mounted switching station in the vicinity of the Toilets/Picnic Area in the Central Car Park. Although the land is owned by the District Council, they had suggested that the Parish Council be actively involved in the discussions in view of the likelihood of the toilets being devolved. The Chairman will meet with Western Power, Cllr. Jon Freeman (WSC/ENP) and Cllr. Karen Mills (WSC) on 21st. September.

14. Veolia Litter Posters

Veolia had provided a selection of litter and dog fouling awareness posters for approval by the Parish Council. Despite litter and fly tipping becoming increasingly likely it was agreed that none of the posters was suitable and that some could be considered as offensive. The Clerk will notify Veolia.

15. Correspondence

SCC – Consent for the Tavern, Minehead & Burnham Motor Clubs' Event – 1st. & Second October

Notification of route and event details received.

SALC – AGM

Agenda and minutes for AGM at Long Sutton Village Hall on 24th. September received.

Community Council for Somerset – AGM

Agenda and minutes for meeting to be held on 20th. September received.

Somerset Waste Partnership

Newsletter received.

ENP – Low Carbon Festival

Details and posters for events to be held during 5th – 12th. October received

16. Reports from Outside Bodies

Village Hall

Cllr. Mrs. Haynes confirmed that the next meeting will be 26th. September. The Committee wished to know if the Parish Council would object to the removal of the stag's head over the Large Hall door. The Clerk confirmed that under the terms of the charity document, the Village Hall Management Committee owned all the fixtures and fittings in the Hall and the decision was therefore up to the Management Committee.

Recreation Ground

The Council gave a vote of thanks to the Rec. Committee for the excellent organisation of the Country Fair.

Cllr. Gable reported the Committee's thanks to all the volunteers who had supported them on the day, this had enabled the Committee to make a profit of £4,800. This sum will now be used towards the provision of new equipment for the Children's Playground.

Cllr. Gable informed the Council that the refurbishment of the storage shed is now almost complete.

The Committee are looking into the possibility of installing PV cells on the roof of the Pavilion and were advised to apply to ENP for funding from the Partnership Fund. Cllr. Mrs. Haynes also suggested that they contact Oake Village Hall Committee for advice.

Doverly Manor

Nothing to report.

School Governors

Cllr. Mrs. Rowe reported that superfast broadband has now been installed at the school. According to information given by BT, elsewhere locally there is little chance of this happening before 2013.

Highways

Bags of salt will be available as usual this winter and can be obtained from the Minehead depot.

17. Items for Report

Exmoor Panel

Cllr. Mrs.Palmer reported on the recent Exmoor Panel meeting.

It has been suggested that Clerks be given lists of local people on the housing list to prompt them to apply when suitable properties become available.

Magna have set up a handyman scheme costing £11 per hour.

The Police are hoping to organise a workable diversion scheme for the A39 in the event of accidents which close the road.

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 9.07pm

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Chairman