

RANGEWORTHY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE MEMORIAL HALL AT 7:45PM ON TUESDAY 1st DECEMBER 2009

Those Present

Councillors: Mr G R Dawe (Chairman) Miss W Moody Mr M Ellery Mr D Somers
Mr K Livall Mr B R Miller (Clerk)

Mr Howard Gawler – South Gloucestershire Councillor
One member of the public (from item 12)

Action

1	<u>Apologies for Absence</u>	
	None.	
2	<u>Declarations of Interest Relating to Agenda Items</u>	
01.12.09	None	
3	<u>Minutes of the Last Meeting</u>	
02.12.09	The Minutes of the last meeting, held on the 3 rd November, were approved and signed by the Chairman.	
4	<u>To Receive Mr John Acton from South Gloucestershire Council's Standards Committee</u>	
03.12.09	Mr Acton, an Independent Member of the Standards Committee, explained the main points of the Code of Conduct and the function of the Standards Committee. He gave details of the number and types of complaints received by the Committee and how they are investigated and resolved. Mr Acton then answered a series of questions from Cllrs. on various issues. The Chairman thanked Mr Acton for attending the meeting and updating the Council on the Standards issue.	
5	<u>Matters Concerning South Gloucestershire Councillor, Mr Howard Gawler</u>	
	Cllr. Mr Gawler raised the following four issues:-	
04.12.09	The CCTV cameras on the Iron Acton By-Pass experienced problems after installation and have only recently started recording traffic movements (05.11.09). This means that there will only now be two weeks of data for analysis. The Chairman reported that several parishioners had expressed concerns about privacy. They fear that South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) might use the number plate recognition technology to identify vehicle owners. Cllr. Mr Gawler confirmed that the CCTV cameras are there to only identify lorry movements, including the lorry owners, to see if a pattern might be identified. The survey is apparently being done following pressure from an Acton Court pressure group, who are concerned about vibration damage to the walls and buildings surrounding the Court. The Chairman expressed the view	

that the safety of children going to and from school in Rangeworthy is more important than vibration damage to walls.

05.12.09 The Manor Road footpath extension has been delayed following a decision that it will be necessary to close the road for some five weeks during the work (03.11.09). There is likely to be some form of shuttle bus arrangement during the closure. Cllrs. expressed concern that access to the Post Office in North Road is vital to some residents.

06.12.09 There will be a meeting in a fortnight with the Police to agree the best way of stopping accidents at Winpenny Bridge (4.10.09). Cllrs. again expressed the opinion that the best option is to extend the 40mph speed limit to include the bridge.

07.12.09 The Government has drastically cut the bus pass funding for next year. This has resulted in serious budgetary problems for SGC, who have a statutory obligation to provide bus passes. Noted.

08.12.09 Cllr. Mr Ellery reported that the recently completed diversion foul sewer had failed to stop the old sewer overflowing during the recent wet weather. Reports from other Cllrs. confirmed that the problem had been widespread. Patch Elm Lane had experienced problems and properties beyond the southern Parish boundary were also affected. It is clear that Wessex Water's attempts to prevent the ingress of storm water into the foul sewer have been unsuccessful. Cllr. Mr Ellery's initial discussions with Wessex Water had confirmed that the new sewer is essentially only a relief sewer to store excess flows in the old sewer. The old sewer remains the primary sewer and the relief sewer quickly fills up during periods of heavy rain. The problem will not be resolved until the pumping station at Tytherington is enlarged, together with those beyond. Cllr. Mr Ellery is due to meet Wessex Water again in the near future. Noted.

09.12.09 Cllr. Miss Moody reported that many parishioners are incensed that SGC has won an annual award associated with the Gypsy and Travellers site issue. The award is for best practice in community involvement during the preparation of a development plan. SGC were praised for the way they liaised with the public and for their sensitivity and foresight in handling the issue. Noted with disbelief.

6 To Receive the Clerk's Report

10.12.09 Matters contained in the Report relating to non specific Agenda items were noted. The following additional information was also noted and resolutions passed to take the appropriate actions. Report items relating to specific Agenda items were considered later under the relevant item, as appropriate.

11.12.09 Item 5. SGC anticipate the new limit coming into effect during the late spring next year. Noted.

12.12.09 Item 6. It was resolved, in the first instance, to write to the owner of "The Coverts" and ask him to move the rocks.

7 Other Matters Arising from the Last Minutes Not Elsewhere on the Agenda

Clerk

None.

8

Planning Matters

Decisions

13.12.09 PT09/5424/F – Extension at “The Old Vicarage”, Church Lane. Refused. Noted.

New Applications

14.12.09 PT09/5706/F – Erection of a New Bungalow at 1 Berrows Mead, New Road. It was resolved to raise the following objections:-

1. It will be an over development of the site.
2. It will further load the foul sewer which is already acknowledged to be over loaded.
3. It will create additional traffic movements and add to the parking problems in and around Berrows Mead.

Clerk

15.12.09 PT09/5801/F – Erection of extensions and replacement double garage with a workshop at “Green Pasture”, New Road. No objection.

Clerk

9

Other Correspondence

In addition to the documents mentioned in the Clerk’s Report or in other Agenda items, or have been circulated to Councillors for perusal, the following other items of correspondence were discussed:-

16.12.09 Letter from Yate and District Heritage Centre seeking a grant. (C)

17.12.09 SGC survey of open spaces, sport and recreation facilities in the area. (C)

18.12.09 SGC agenda for Frome Vale Area Forum on 3/12/09. (C)

19.12.09 SGC consultation for school term and holiday dates for 2011/12. (C)

10

Finances

Received

20.12.09 £320.00 Yate Rangers Football Club.

21.12.09 £150.00 – Rangeworthy Football Club.

Paid (Excluding VAT where appropriate)

22.12.09 £305.94 - Clerk’s salary.

23.12.09 £85.00 – SGC (Pitch improvement works).

- 24.12.09 £248.83 – SGC (Grass cutting).
- 25.12.09 £1518.37 – Loan Repayment.
- 26.12.09 £59.05 – LexusNexus (Arnold Baker – Local Council Administration).
- 27.12.09 £32.45 – Npower.
- 28.12.09 £22.00 – Telewest.
- 29.12.09 £8.95- Cllr. Mr Livall (Refund for new handle in the Pavilion)
- 30.12.09 The Clerk reported that the Fidelity Guarantee has been increased to £28,000 with Allianz, at no extra charge (31.11.09)

11 The Children’s Playground

- 31.12.09 The Clerk reported that nothing further had been heard from Tina Rainey regarding possible grants (32.11.09). It was resolved to seek suppliers of “Bird’s Nest” swings and to get quotations for removing the old toddler swing and installing a new swing. In all probability the scheme will be financed from the S106 funds.

Clerk

12 The Recreation Ground

- 32.12.09 Cllr. Mr Livall confirmed that he had replaced the broken door handle in the Pavilion. Noted with thanks.
- 33.12.09 Cllr. Mr Somers confirmed that he is waiting for the ground to dry out before servicing the boiler. Noted.
- 34.12.09 Cllr. Mr Livall reported that several of the showers in the Pavilion are not properly turning off after use. It was resolved that Cllr. Mr Somers would inspect them to see what can be done. It was noted that it is important to resolve the problem in order to prevent loss of metered water.

DS

Noted

13 Public Question Time

- 35.12.09 Mr Tony Clements asked whether the problem of the rocks at “The Coverts” had been discussed. The Chairman confirmed the chosen course of action.

14 Councillors’ Open Forum

Cllr. Miss Moody raised the following three issues:-

- 36.12.09 The boundary hedge in the field off Kidnappers Lane, which was laid last year, does not need any attention. Noted.
- 37.12.09 A service trench in Patch Elm Lane, adjacent to “Thistle Barn”, has been progressively settling and needs attention. It was resolved to take the matter up with SGC.
- 38.12.09 Flooding is still occurring at the junction of Patch Elm Lane and the main road,

Clerk

despite some work by SGC. There used to be a grating near “Mill End House” which presumably used to collect surface water. More work is needed to cure the problem, particularly now that ice is becoming a problem. It was resolved to take the matter up with SGC.

Clerk

Cllr. Mr Livall raised the following two issues:-

39.12.09 He will deal with the outstanding pruning required to prevent damage to lorry mirrors near Green Lane (39.11.09). Noted with thanks.

KL

40.12.09 The section of New Road, opposite the Council Houses, continues to collapse towards the deep ditch. It was noted that the general condition of New Road is very poor and needs attention. It was resolved to draw SGC’s attention to the matter.

Clerk

Cllr. Mr Ellery raised the following two issues:-

41.12.09 Cllr. Mr Livall has done a good job in tidying up the Village Pound, but the tree in the corner needs removing to prevent root damage. Cllr. Mr Livall agreed that this is necessary and will undertake the work in due course. It was resolved to consider the future of the Pound at the next meeting.

KL
Clerk

42.12.09 A car is persistently parking on the western footway/cycleway, to the south of Church Lane. This is causing a hazard to users of the path, particularly at school times. It was resolved that Cllr. Mr Somers would note the registration number so the matter might be reported to the Police.

DS

15 Date of Next Meeting

43.12.09 Tuesday 5th January 2010 at 7:45pm in the Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 8:55pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

RANGEWORTHY PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK'S REPORT FOR THE MEETING ON THE 1st DECEMBER 2009

Since the last meeting, on the 3rd November, all the actions ascribed to the Clerk have been addressed. Progress on those items, together with new issues that have arisen, is now reported as follows:

- 1 South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) has confirmed a grant of £290.40 towards the £360.00 cost of Landcare's work in the Woodland (11.11.09).
- 2 Cllr. Mr Ellery has reported that the foul sewer in Bagstone overflowed again during the recent heavy rain, after Wessex Water completed the new sewer diversion. Cllr. Mr Ellery is in contact with Wessex Water to see if some adjustments can be made to the new system (40.11.09).
- 3 SGC has completed the pitch remediation works on the Recreation Ground (27.07.09). Although only the Southern pitch was due to be treated, both pitches were done. Presumably this was an error by SGC, but they are only charging for the work on one pitch.
- 4 Mr Ricketts has completed layering the Woodland boundary hedge adjacent to the main road (10.03.09). Following consultations with Cllr. Miss Moody, the chippings were left in piles on site. The Ash tree at the boundary with Mr Grandfield's land was lightly pruned on the sides away from his garden. Mr Grandfield had been asked how he wished the tree to be treated, but a reply was not forthcoming.
- 5 SGC has advised that they have agreed to start the proposed 30mph speed limit south of Patch Elm Lane, as suggested by the Parish Council (12.10.09). The formal public consultation will commence in the next few weeks.
- 6 Mr Tony Clements has drawn attention to the large rocks recently deposited around the entrance to "The Coverts" in New Road, presumably by the owner of the property. The rocks appear to be on the verge and present a hazard to passing vehicles, particularly at night.
- 7 The following items of correspondence of particular interest or requiring attention before or immediately after the next meeting have been passed to the appropriate Councillor for attention:-
 1. Minutes of the Frome and Ladden Vale Environmental Link Group meeting on 8/10/09. (WM)
 2. PT09/5706/F –. Erection of a New Bungalow at 1 Berrows Mead. (GRD)
 3. PT09/5801/F – Single storey side extension, conservatory and replacement garage at "Green Pastures", New Road. GRD)

B R Miller (Clerk)

25th November 2009