

RANGEWORTHY PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD
IN THE MEMORIAL HALL AT 7:45PM ON TUESDAY 5th MAY 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
Five members of the public

Action

1	<u>Apologies for Absence</u> None.	
2	<u>Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman</u> 01.05.09 Cllr. Mr Dawe was elected as the Chairman and Cllr. Miss Moody as the Vice-Chairman.	
3	<u>Declarations of Interest relating to Agenda Items</u> 02.05.09 None.	
4	<u>Minutes of the Last Meeting</u> 03.05.09 The Minutes of the last meeting, held on the 7 th April, were approved and signed by the Chairman.	
5	<u>Matters Concerning South Gloucestershire Councillor, Mr Howard Gawler</u> Cllr. Mr Gawler raised the following two issues:- 04.05.09 He had met one of the owners of Leechpool Dairy Farm to find out what options they were considering for the future use of the farm. The owners would still like to find a commercial use for the buildings, although getting Planning Permission would be very difficult. They would be happy to lease the land, perhaps to Yate Town Council for allotments. Noted. 05.05.09 South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) do not yet have a start date for the Manor Road to North Road footpath link, but Cllr. Mr Gawler will continue to press for a start now that the money is available. Noted. 06.05.09 The Chairman asked whether there was any prospect of the subsidence in the main road being repaired (31.04.09). It is particularly bad near the Children's Playground and he fears that it could perhaps cause a vehicle to come off the road and enter the Children's Playground. Cllr. Mr Gawler reported that the Government has turned down the SGC bid to reconstruct this length of road. As a result they will only be able to do limited maintenance and repair work. He will however press SGC to get this particular area dealt with as soon as	

possible. Noted.

6 **To Receive the Clerk's Report**

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.

07.05.09 Item 1. It was resolved that the Hall Management Committee should be formally advised that the VAT cannot be reclaimed.

Clerk

Cllr. Mr Gawler reported that the Committee had received a Lottery Grant to fund the purchase of new chairs for the Hall. Noted

08.05.09 Item 2. Came and Company has quoted a premium some £14 more than Allianz but with better benefits in some areas. Not all of these benefits are of use to the Parish Council, so Allianz were asked to review their renewal premium. As a result, they have reduced their premium by some £157 to £891.40. This is marginally more than last year, but includes cover for the new equipment and an increase in the Fidelity Guarantee to £20,000. It is recommended that Cllrs. accept the revised offer of renewal from Allianz. It was resolved to accept the recommendation and the Chairman signed the increased Fidelity Guarantee application form.

Clerk

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

09.05.09 Minute 09.04.09. It was resolved to approve the draft inspection sheets for the Children's Playground and initially to carry out inspections on a weekly basis. Copies of the sheets will be passed to the appropriate Cllrs.

Clerk

10.05.09 Minute 09.04.09. Cllr. Mr Ellery offered to replace the worn boards on the climbing module with an open stainless steel lattice, similar to the one on the south side. It was resolved to accept his offer.

ME

8 **Planning Matters**

Decisions

None.

New Applications

11.05.09 PT09/0587/F – Ground floor and first floor extensions, Juliet balcony and new chimney at Patch Elm Farm, Patch Elm Lane. No objections.

12.05.09 PT09/0599/F – Erection of a garage and equipment store at “The Coverts”, New Road. No objections.

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:-

13.05.09 Press release from SGC concerning 2009/10 Capital Grant applications for voluntary groups. (C)

14.05.09 Letter from Age Concern seeking the Council's views on their "Stepping Out" nail cutting service. (C)

10 Finances

1. To Approve the Parish Council's Accounts for 2008/09

15.05.09 It was resolved to approve the Accounts.

2. Matters relating to the External Audit of the Accounts for 2008/09

16.05.09 It was resolved to approve the documents set out in item 3 of the Clerk's Report.

3. Other Finances

Received

17.05.09 £150.00 – Rangeworthy Football Club.

Paid (Excluding VAT where appropriate)

18.05.09 £287.37 - Clerk's salary.

19.05.09 £923.80 - Wicksteed Leisure (Final part)

20.05.09 £22.00 – Telewest

21.05.09 The Clerk reported that a tender has been received from Elaine Sephton to rent the grass keep in the field off Kidnappers Lane for £150.00. It was resolved to accept the Tender.

Clerk

11 The Recreation Ground

a) Letting Arrangements

None.

b) The Pavilion

22.05.09 The Clerk reported that ivy is starting to get established up the back wall of the Pavilion. Cllr. Mr Livall offered to deal with the matter. It was resolved to accept the offer.

KL

c) General

23.05.09 The Clerk reported that the hedges on either side of the footpath leading from

the main road to the Recreation Ground are starting to intrude across the path. Cllr. Mr Livall offered to trim the overhanging areas before they got any worse. It was resolved to accept his offer.

KL

12 To Consider Matters Arising at the Annual Village Assembly

(See item 5 of the Clerk's Report)

24.05.09 Cllr. Miss Moody reported that the tags have now been hung on the appropriate trees. Noted.

25.05.09 The logistics of painting the footpath signs was discussed, bearing in mind the research done some years ago. It was resolved that Cllrs. would look at the problem again and consider the matter at the next meeting.

Cllrs.

26.05.09 The Clerk advised that in order to take advantage of SGC's anticipated offer to sponsor the Spring clean in 2010, it will be necessary for a volunteer group to be identified early in 2010. Once an action plan has been agreed, an application can be made to SGC. It was resolved to include the subject in the monthly magazine article towards the end of the year.

Clerk

13 Public Question Time

27.05.09 Mr Terry Cornock, speaking on behalf of the other four members of the public, wished to discuss concerns regarding the current Planning Application to establish a Gypsies and Travellers site at "Homefield", Hall End. The following aspects are causing particular frustration and concern:-

1. It is now some six months since the application was made and they would like to know when the matter will be resolved.
2. The Planning Officers are ignoring all the reports prepared by various independent professional people employed by those opposing the application.
3. The conclusions being reached by the Planning Officers contradict those reached when earlier similar applications were considered and turned down.

Mr Cornock and his fellow objectors would like the Parish Council to renew its objections to the proposals and provide what assistance it can.

The matter was discussed at length and the following conclusions drawn, bearing in mind information provided by Cllr. Mr Gawler:-

1. The application is still being considered by Planning Officers who will eventually produce a final report, either recommending approval or not. The report has been delayed due to the number of reports from other Departments in SGC that are required. In addition, the original Planning Officer has now gone on extended sick leave so the application has had to be referred to another individual.
2. If the final report recommends approval, Cllr. Mr Gawler will then ask

for the matter to be referred to the Planning Committee. At this point a site inspection Sub-Committee will in all probability visit the site.

3. There is nothing to be gained by the Parish Council repeating its objections at this stage. If and when a site visit takes place, then is the time to explain the Parish Council's views on the matter.

It was resolved to review the Parish Council's position and provide any assistance that would be appropriate.

At this point all the members of the public left the meeting.

14 **Councillors' Open Forum**

28.05.09 The Parish Council's position on the proposed Gypsies and Travellers site was reviewed and it was resolved to take the following actions:-

1. Write to SGC and ask when the Planning report will be completed.
2. If a Site inspection does take place, one or more Parish Councillors will attend to explain the Parish Council's views.
3. Similarly, a Parish Councillor will attend the eventual Planning Committee meeting in Kingswood.

Clerk

In the meantime Cllr. Mr Gawler will endeavour to get an idea as to when the Planning Report will be completed.

HG

29.05.09 Cllr. Mr Somers noted that SGC had recently made a thorough job of cleaning the gullies along the main road. Noted.

30.05.09 Cllr. Mr Ellery noted that there is evidence of lorry mirrors being damaged again on the main road near Green Lane. It was resolved that Cllr. Mr Livall would investigate.

KL

31.05.09 Cllr. Mr Gawler tabled the latest speed check results from the length of main road in the vicinity of the border between Bagstone and Rangeworthy. (C)

15 **Date of Next Meeting**

32.05.09 Tuesday 2nd June 2008 at 7:45pm in the Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 9:00 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

RANGEWORTHY PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK'S REPORT FOR THE MEETING ON THE 5th MAY 2009

Since the last meeting, on the 7th April 2009, 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 HM Revenue and Customs have at last replied to the Parish Council's enquiry regarding the recovery of VAT, by the Parish Council, on the cost of installing solar panels on the Memorial Hall roof (31.12.08). Regrettably it appears that the VAT cannot be recovered, since the Parish Council is the custodian trustee but not the sole managing trustee.
- 2 The invitation to renew the Parish Council's insurance policy has been received from Allianz. The premium, which includes cover for the new Playground equipment and Woodland seat, would be £1048.70. An alternative quotation is currently being sought from Came and Company Parish Council Insurance, which is part of Norwich Union. The current insurance period ends on the 31st May.
- 3 The Internal Audit of the Parish Council's 2008/09 Accounts is due to take place on the 6th May. After this, the Accounts will be sent to Mazars for the external audit. Cllrs. are asked to approve the following as part of the external audit, copies of which are attached:-
 1. Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return.
 2. The Parish Council's annual risk assessment.
- 4 The Woodland has now been registered with the Rural Payments Agency (12.03.09). As part of the registration procedure each Cllr. and the Clerk has been given a Personal Identifier (PI) which needs to be activated. Details of the activation procedure are enclosed for each Cllr.
- 5 The following issues were raised at the Annual Village Assembly on the 17th April, which Cllrs. may wish to discuss further:-
 1. The deployment of the remaining sponsorship tags on the trees in the Woodland.
 2. The painting of the seven Parish Council owned footpath signs.
 3. The SGC sponsored annual spring clean in 2010 and the maintenance of the Village Pound.
- 6 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:-

None.

B R Miller (Clerk)

29th April 2009

