

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, which took place on Monday 14 May at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT Cllrs Bishop, England, Fowler, Hallett, Lewis, Rivers, Rowswell, Wakely, Mr P Thompson (District Councillor) and one parishioner.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr Cripps, Messrs B Walker (District Councillor), P Maxwell (County Councillor).

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Officers were elected as follows:

Chairman – Fiona Rowswell

Vice Chairman – Kim Fowler

Planning – Toby Lewis, Fiona Rowswell

Allotments – Roger Cripps, Elizabeth England, Malcolm Rivers

Footpaths – Jane Bishop, Roger Cripps

Highways – Kim Fowler, John Hallett

Charity Trustees – Fiona Rowswell

Emergency Contacts – Kim Fowler, Ed Wakely, Blue Walshe

Parish Environment Warden – Elizabeth England

Representative on Cowleaze Project – Roger Cripps

Representative on Recreation Committee – Malcolm Rivers

Tree Warden – Debbie Welch

MINUTES The Minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed and signed.

#### MATTERS ARISING

Recreation Field Following concerns that crops are being damaged when stray footballs are retrieved, the condition of the fencing was discussed. Cllr Rivers will raise this at the Recreation Committee Meeting and Cllr Wakely will enquire about grants.

Dog Fouling The Councillors were disappointed with the lack of respect shown by some dog owners, who allow their dogs to foul the Churchyard, and arrangements will be made for the Dog Warden to patrol the area.

Manure Heap Following concerns about the smell from a manure heap at the end of Brimgrove Lane, the owners will look at moving it periodically.

#### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following interests were declared:

F Rowswell – planning application at Crofters, Lambrook Road (applicant)

K Fowler – planning application at Faraway Cottage, Middle Street (neighbour).

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr A Rowswell attended the meeting to answer any queries on the planning application at Crofters, Lambrook Road.

DC REPORT

Mr Thompson reported that the Core Strategy had been adopted in principle and he spoke about the proposed Community Infrastructure Levy.

Refuse collections are due to take place as usual on Bank Holiday Monday 4 June, so the Clerk will inform the District Council of the planned road closure for the Jubilee Celebrations.

PLANNING

Cllr Rowswell left the room, and Cllr Fowler took the Chair, while the Parish Councillors considered an application for the erection of two dwellings and formation of new pedestrian/vehicular access and demolition of existing attached garage and the erection of new detached garage for existing dwelling at Crofters, Lambrook Road. There were no objections, but the Parish Councillors would prefer to see a wider splay to allow for vehicle movements and parking.

Cllr Fowler left the room while the application for a first floor rear extension to Faraway Cottage, Middle Street was considered. The Councillors did not wish to comment until they had seen more detailed plans or visited the site to determine the impact on the neighbouring listed building.

Cllr Hallett expressed concern that, when commenting on a planning application, the County Council had described the village as “not accommodating adequate services and facilities, such as education, employment, health, retail and leisure” and the Clerk will take this up with the MP.

ACCOUNTS

Cheques were drawn for:

J R B Enterprise Ltd – dog waste bags	£70.20
South Petherton Parish Council – Lengthsman’s salary	750.00
AON – annual insurance premium	647.84
McLaggan Smith Mugs Ltd – Jubilee mugs	1,302.00

The 2011/12 Accounts and Annual Governance Statement were approved and signed by the Chairman.

### PARISH PLAN

Programmes of the events taking place in the village over the Jubilee weekend have been delivered to all households and the Parish Council is very grateful to the Events Committee for all the work they are undertaking to organise such a memorable weekend.

The Parish Council will take part in the Jubilee Exhibition to take place in the Village Hall.

The foundations have been laid for the stone village signs, which will be put in position on 15 May.

Commemorative mugs will be given to village children and any surplus will be sold.

### LETHBRIDGE TRUST

Cllrs Rowswell and Rivers attended the Annual General Meeting of the Recreation Committee.

A meeting will be arranged with their Chairman to discuss the financial situation between the Parish Council and the Lethbridge Trust.

### LENGTHSMAN

Cllr Wakely asked if the Lengthsman could trim the vegetation at the Love Lane entrance.

### HIGHWAYS

The Clerk will ask the County Council what they plan to do with the old village signs.

### FOOTPATHS

The County Council sent confirmation of a Modification Order adding a footpath along Piece Lane to connect with footpath CH23/12. Cllr Wakely asked the Clerk to enquire the total cost of this exercise, which will fall on the rate payers.

The meeting closed at 9.55 pm.