

PILL & EASTON-IN-GORDANO PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Monday 28th January 2019 at 7.30pm at the Resource Centre

Present: Cllrs Jopp, Langton, Davey, Davies, Dawson, Kent, Langton, Winsley & J Smart
(Clerk)

Apologies: Cllrs Beasant, King, Stanley & Stone

1. Public Participation

Three members of the public were present, to hear the update on the Neighbourhood Plan.

2. Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Monday 10th December 2018 (copy previously circulated, were signed as a true record.

3. Declaration of Interests

None.

4. Ward Councillor's Report

DD advised that St Katherine's School was now in the Bristol Cathedral School Academy Trust, and was in the top half of achievers.

Funding – The Government would be giving money to local councils for a school grant. The Regional Schools Commissioner is now in deficit, but did have a plan to decrease the deficit. The PC needed to be aware of the impact of this on performance.

He had not yet seen what NSC was proposing for a precept. There was a possibility it could increase by 2.99%.

AJ asked DD if the PC could put any pressure on the Leader of the Council to get the grit bins filled. Clerk to contact Nigel Ashton's PA.

DD had reported road congestion due to the development at the Baptist Church. Station Road had been completely blocked by deliveries to the site. He had also chased up NSC for the development plan for this development.

5. Crime & Disorder

LD reported on the PACT meeting held recently. There had been lots of tool thefts from vans. The culprits were cloning keys. Police reported on County Lines drug dealings, not affecting Pill yet. The assault at the Co-op case had gone to court, but the defence had asked for more time.

The Clerk reported that PC Phil Rudden would soon be leaving, and another PCSO had been employed to join Mike Jordan. They would be holding monthly surgeries at the Resource Centre, starting on 5th February.

6. Clerk's Report & Action Log

The Clerk had circulated the Action Log for January.

The Clerk reported that Brian Stowers had died on Saturday.

7. Maintenance & Highways Issues

Newsome Avenue potholes had been repaired.

8. Reports from Committee Meetings:-

i. Playing Fields & Open Spaces

PK reported on this. A football club meeting had been held, following which he thought there should be limited contradictions between the various users of the pitch between now and the end of this season. Jason Parkhouse (Chair of Lodway Cricket Club) was present at the meeting. He made an offer to move towards a situation where all the Ham Green playing areas (including Watchhouse) would be a recreation facility for the community. He was suggesting having the support of the PC for grass cutting, preparation, changing rooms etc.; provide paint, manpower to prepare the facility for forthcoming cricket season, and the following football season. This would also include the annual Children's Partnership day. PK suggested as a quid pro quo, the PC should not charge for cricket matches. PK would write a draft letter to send to Jason Parkhouse. **Action PK/AJ.**

ii. Environment, Highways & Transport

DD – Nothing further to report.

AJ reported on the Avon Road trees meeting with Jason Cox of NSC. There would be a meeting of concerned residents at 7.00pm tomorrow. DD proposed acceptance of the NSC suggestion to reinstate. All agreed. **Action Clerk.**

iii. Planning

See attached.

iv. Finance & Personnel

BL reported on this meeting. The main concern was street lighting. A budget of £40k had been set aside this year. But only £15k of this had been carried out, so the PC was carrying forward £25k for this year. Make this back up to £40k this year, and this would get us most of the way to getting the work completed. SSE would no longer be the PC's maintenance contractor. Expecting this to be taken over by Centregreat, but had not received confirmation of this yet.

The Committee then looked at development items for the coming year. Budgeted £6k over the next two years for speed limit alterations. £1k into the Neighbourhood Plan. £1.5k for football club changing rooms. Donation of £1k to Crockerne Swimming Pool.

Then looked at the draft budget for next year. Thought there was a significant amount set aside for Reserves, but this had been included in the carryover. Had now budgeted £5k for general reserve and £5k for infrastructure reserve for 2019-2020. Could fund all of this with a 2% increase on the precept. AJ proposed from the Finance & Personnel Committee to request a precept of £102,652.00, BL seconded. All agreed.

BL suggested that if the PC had funds set aside in reserve accounts, maybe it should look at investing it. Clerk was investigating.

9. Neighbourhood Plan - Update

Cllr Stewart (ALPC) had circulated an update on the Neighbourhood Plan (attached), and he talked through this. He had also met with the Community Forum, which was one way of getting the message out. AJ suggested that AK could put something on Facebook about the NP. MS would check with Celia Dring (NSC) to see if the Plan was going in the right direction. ND reported on proposals to have photographic evidence of the local footpaths on the website, encouraging people to walk. This would also link to health. Perhaps involve local walking groups by them take their own photographs. Now need to make a Steering Committee as the NP comes together, to link it all up. PK asked about 'Wellbeing' being a section of the NP. MS advised that this would already be covered by many parts of the NP. Clerk to forward contact details of interested people to MS. BL was hoping to have another meeting with the Sustainability Group, but was waiting for more information. BL reported on finances - £5k in grant funding into the NP, this would need to be increased. There was a decision for ALPC to budget £1k for this in 2019-20. MS would be applying after Easter for the final grant, which would cover getting the questionnaires out to households.

10. Precept Request 2019-2010

See item 8iv. The Clerk to request a precept from NSC of £102,652.00. **Action Clerk.**

11. Football Clubs – Update

See above – Item 8i.

12. Marsh Lane Field – Lands Improvement Holdings

AJ had contacted Land Improvement Holdings to provide some dates to meet with the PC, but had received no response.

13. Reports of meetings with outside bodies and other organisations

BL reported on the Community Forum meeting last week. Lin Matthews would continue to Chair the group. A PC grant of £2k would be sufficient.

DD had suggested to NSC that the Port Liaison Committee meetings should continue, but not include Portishead. He thought this may be happening.

14. Correspondence requiring action not covered elsewhere

Clerk to forward to members.

15. Accounts for Payment

<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DETAILS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
E-on	Unmetered Electricity Supply	118.38
EDF Energy	Electricity - January Direct Debit	130.11
Onecom	Phone Bill - January Direct Debit	17.84
SSE Contracting	Street Light Maintenance -3rd Quarter	862.01
CommuniCorp	Clerks & Council Direct Subscription	12.00
K&E Property Maintenance	December Litter Bin Emptying	250.00
SSE Contracting	Replacement Street Lighting	14,866.68
SJH Butler	St George's Flower Bank - Hedge Trimming	144.00
Bowcom	St George EIG JFC - Grass Paint	145.20
Noel Ayling	Internal Audit Fee	110.00
Graham Hopkins	Neighbourhood Plan Website Fees	48.00
P&D Community Land Trust	Neighbourhood Plan Grant Application	250.00
NS Citizens Advice	Annual Grant	2,500.00
J Smart	Expenses - Gravity Locks for Litter Bins	79.08
J Smart	Salary	1,446.09
HMRC	Tax & NIC Contributions	446.17
Bath & NE Somerset Council	Pension Contributions	468.06
<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>£21,893.62</u>

AJ proposed acceptance of the accounts for payment, LD seconded. Agreed.

16. Issues for future meetings

Put an item in the Pill Paper for attracting new Councillors. PK, BL, DD & AJ to arrange a meeting to discuss.

Signed:

Date: