

Salford Priors Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall, Salford Priors, on Wednesday 28th. May 2008 at 19.30hrs.

Present: Councillors, K.A.James (Chairman), A.W.Wolfe (Vice Chairman), R.J.A.Francis and Mrs R.M.Pane. County Councillor F.P.Barnes and District Councillor D.Pemberton. Also in attendance – M.J.Philpott, Clerk, and one member of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr. J.R.Stedman (Illness) apologies accepted and from District Cllr. B.W.Slaughter (holiday).

2. Declarations of Office and Disclosure of Interests

2.1 Receipt of Declarations of Office and Notifications by Councillors of Financial and Other Interests not made at the Annual Meeting: It was agreed that the Clerk should arrange directly with Cllr. Stedman to sign the necessary documents.

2.2 Register of Interests: Members were reminded of the need to keep their register of interests up to date.

2.3 Declaration of Interests: Members were reminded that they were required to declare and disclose any personal or prejudicial interests in items on the agenda. Councillors with a prejudicial interest were required to leave the room for the relevant agenda item.

Cllr. James declared a personal interest in item 7.4.4. ref. 08/00275/FUL.

Cllr. Mrs Pane declared personal interests in items 9.3, 9.10, and 9.11.

Cllr. Francis declared a personal interest in item 9.10.

3. Open Forum

3.1 Have your say: No under 18s were present.

3.2 Public Participation: Mrs Dare reported that the No. 28 bus service was very unreliable at the beginning and end of the day and this caused great inconvenience to passengers travelling to work or school. She also reported an incident that occurred on 21.05.08 when a passenger was showered with broken glass. Cllr. James said that the bus service had originally been subsidised by the new estate at Bidford and it should therefore be on time; he asked the Clerk to write to WCC. Cllr. Barnes provided the name of the responsible officer and asked to be copied in.

3.3 Ward Members reports Cllr. Barnes informed the Council that he had been elected as Vice-Chairman of the County Council and the Chairman on behalf of the parish Council offered congratulations for this prestigious appointment. Cllr. Barnes reported on the progress of the negotiations in respect of the various drainage schemes and speed limit proposals. He said that the consultation on the B4008 scheme would take place in July and he expected the speed limit on Evesham Road to be implemented in June. He also reported that there would be a 50mph limit on the A439 between Stratford and Bidford.

Cllr. Pemberton congratulated Cllr. James on his appointments as Vice-Chairman of District Committees concerned with planning and regulation. He said that councillors were unanimous in opposing the proposals for the developments at North Marston. Cllr. Pemberton then described the situation regarding the new refuse collection service whereby the receiving facilities were not yet ready thus necessitating short-term changes to the proposals. These included the cessation of green waste collections for the winter period. Cllr. Wolfe expressed the deep concern of all the Council over these changes and said that a clear programme of information needed to be developed to help the public. The Clerk said

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that it was important that officers were not overly officious in implementing these changes and Cllr. Pemberton said that he would take these views back to the District Council.

4. Minutes

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 23rd. April 2008 at 7.30pm at The Memorial Hall, Salford Priors, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Wednesday 7th. May 2008 at 7.30pm at The Memorial Hall, Salford Priors, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes

5.1 Matters for consideration by Council

No matters were raised by the Councillors.

5.2 Clerk's report on actions from previous meeting for consideration by Council

5.2.1 Progress on drainage works

The Clerk had circulated details of Flood Defence Assistance Grants from SDC and the Chairman suggested that application should be made for works on the field boundary ditches in Broom Lane and also on the Ban Brook near the allotments. Council also considered the information provided by Cllr. Barnes and asked the Clerk to ensure that the Evesham Road drainage scheme was seen as a priority by WCC.

5.2.2 Lighting in Playing Field

The Clerk reported that the scheme had been further progressed by CEMEX Community Fund and now had a 50% chance of success. The Clerk was now working on the Stage 2 application form that had to be submitted before the end of June.

5.2.3 Information Commissioner

The Clerk reported that the Council's Data Protection Act Registration had now been renewed until 8.05.09.

5.2.4 Increase in Electricity prices

The Clerk informed Council that he had received notification that electricity prices had risen by 21% from 1.04.08. Members considered that other suppliers might be investigated but were concerned that this could give rise to further increases. The importance of value for money by ensuring all lights were operative was also recognised.

5.2.5 Letter to Dr Shackley

The Clerk reported the favourable response from Dr Shackley and it was agreed that a meeting should be arranged for early July to assess the need for a clinic at TOPS with a view to a regular afternoon provision in the Autumn. Mrs Dare agreed to help with the arrangements and to speak directly with Sue Aburto, the health visitor.

5.2.6 District and Parish elections

Council noted the official notification received from Stratford DC regarding the recent elections.

5.2.7 Village Skip Weekend

The Clerk reported that 16.34 tonnes of mixed waste were collected. The skips at Banbrook contained 6.26t., at Perkins Close 3.40t, at the Playing Field 4.06t, and at Dunnington 2.62t. No additional charges were imposed for non-compliant waste.

6. Main Items

There were no main items to consider.

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7. Consideration of Reports**7.1 Amenity, Environment and Highways****7.1.1 Progress on orders placed for works at Churchyard, Playing Field, TOPS, and Amenity Areas.**

Cllr. Francis reported that all the new parts had been fitted to the play equipment and this was now in good condition.

The Clerk raised the issue of the Planters and showed photos of alternative plants that could be used in lieu of the little fir trees used previously. Council agreed that they did not wish to see any additional planting to add “height” to the flowers.

In respect of the allotments the Chairman instructed the Clerk to have the new grass mown using a suitable agricultural mower because of the numerous stones present. He also asked that the amenity area should be sprayed and sown and that fences should be erected on the boundaries. Cllr. Francis agreed to assist the Clerk with identifying the location of the fences. The Council agreed that a quotation for all this work should be sought from Limebridge Services as they had the appropriate equipment available. The Chairman referred to recent planning decisions for allotment sheds and agreed to provide information to the Clerk.

7.1.2 Play equipment inspections

Cllr. Francis had provided inspection sheets each week and confirmed that no deficiencies had been identified on the latest inspection.

7.1.3 Mowing Contract

The Clerk had circulated a report covering various issues in respect of the mowing contract. Several items had needed to be resolved and the Council was content that all the issues had been satisfactorily dealt with.

7.1.4 Options for fence around playing field car park

The Clerk reported that enquiries had been issued to 3 fencing contractors but only one reply had been received, from Roger Frogley at Leamington. The preferred solution was to secure stout palings in accordance with a WCC specification for schools at a cost of £1500. The Council decided that this cost was excessive and agreed to effect a lesser improvement using the existing palings with horizontal wires to improve the security. (also see item 9.7)

7.1.5 Options for ramp at TOPS

The Clerk reported that he had written to 4 building contractors but only one reply had been received from Mark Edkins with a budget price of £2900. It was agreed to defer a decision to the next meeting and the Clerk was asked to write to two further contractors suggested by the Chairman.

7.2 Communications**7.2.1 Office Broadband Connection**

The Clerk reported that the office broadband connection had been re-connected after numerous calls and visits from BT and Plusnet. The fault had been traced to the Bidford telephone exchange.

7.2.2 Awards for All

Cllr. Wolfe reported that he had visited UK192 with the Clerk and that he had been impressed by their approach. He confirmed that an order had been placed with one half of the fee being payable in advance. Cllr. Wolfe said that progress now depended on input from all members of the Council and proposed a meeting to allocate responsibilities. This was subsequently agreed for 5.06.08.

7.2.3 TOPS

Cllr. Wolfe showed a copy of TOPS Times that had been circulated around the village and also referred to the redecorating that had been carried out. It was agreed that all members of

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the TOPS Management Committee had done an excellent job and he also thanked Mr Reg Stokes who had assisted in this work.

7.3 Rights of Way

7.3.1 Report from P3 Co-ordinator.

The Chairman reported that he had received congratulations for the state of the footpaths from a parishoner. A few minor points had also been mentioned and these were passed over for attention by the Clerk. The Chairman agreed to obtain a copy of the Alcester definitive statement and the Clerk agreed to chase the provision of a strimmer from WCC.

7.4 Planning

7.4.1 Application 08/00307/FUL at Manor Farm, Luddington, for Sandfields Farms Ltd.

Council noted the progress on the application at Luddington that could have an effect on operations at Salford Priors.

7.4.2 Marsh Farm Quarry liaison meeting.

The Chairman indicated that he would be circulating liaison group members regarding a meeting of the Marsh Farm Quarry liaison committee to be held at Ragley Hall on 5.06.08.

7.4.3 Appeal by Mr & Mrs Belgrave in respect of refusal of application 07/03394/FUL, 10 School Road, Salford Priors.

The Council agreed to make a written statement to the Inspector responsible for the appeal. It was delegated to the Chairman and the Clerk to produce an appropriate response.

7.4.4 New Applications for Council's consideration

Cllr. James left the room for the following item.

08/00275/FUL Retrospective change of use of existing building to B8 storage, and the siting of three containers for B8 storage for a period of no more than three years at Marsh Farm, School Road, Dunnington, Salford Priors for Mr Robert Lewis. The Council reviewed the application and made the following comments:

1. The use of three steel containers for the temporary storage of fireworks was satisfactory.
2. The use of the existing building is not suitable for the storage of fireworks without further information being provided. The building is close to inhabited buildings and residents could be at risk.

Cllr. James returned to the room.

08/00130/ADV Re-erection of home sign on highways land owned by the local authority at Pitchill House Nursing Home, Pitchill, Evesham, Worcestershire, WR11 8SN for Southern Cross Health Care. The Council reviewed the application and objected to the proposal for the following reasons:

1. The cumulative effect of an additional sign in this location would be detrimental to the local amenity and a further distraction on a bend in the road.
2. The colour and shape of the sign would be incongruous in the context of the existing street scene.

8. Matters raised by Councillors

8.1 Speed Aware Request Forms (Cllr. J.R.Stedman)

The Chairman reminded members of the Council that a post had been erected on Station Road to enable the SID sign to be fitted. This post had now been appropriated by the bus

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company who had fitted a bus stop sign. The Clerk was asked to contact WCC and the bus company to resolve the problem.

9. Consideration of Correspondence Received

9.1 Administration of the Code of Conduct, SDC

Council noted the information provided.

9.2 New Refuse and Recycling Service, SDC

Council noted the information provided.

9.3 Over 60's club

Council appreciated the "thankyou" card for the grant provided.

9.4 Best Kept Village competition, WRCC

Council noted that the Best Kept Village Competition would not be run during 2008.

9.5 Parish Council induction days, WALC

Council noted the information provided.

9.6 Off street car parking, SDC

Council noted the information provided.

9.7 Stratford District Public realm Grant scheme

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed that an application should be made for a new fence around the car park to the Playing Field. (see also item 7.1.4)

9.8 Perkins Educational Foundation Awards for 2008 – 09

Council noted the poster regarding the awards for 2008 – 09. The Clerk informed Council that he had written to the proposed three trustees as instructed at the previous meeting.

9.9 Letter from Mrs McIlwaine

Council noted with regret the sad news from Mrs McIlwaine and endorsed the response sent by the Clerk.

9.10 Fete Committee

In response to their request, the Chairman proposed, Cllr. Wolfe seconded, and it was agreed, that a grant of £200 should be made to the Fete Committee.

9.11 WRVS

In response to their request, the Chairman proposed, Cllr. Wolfe seconded, and it was agreed, that a grant of £50 should be made to the WRVS.

9.12 LCR Volume 60, No 1, May 2008

Council noted the information provided.

10. To Table

Council noted the following tabled items:

10.1 Clerks & Councils Direct, May 2008, Issue 57.

10.2 Local Council Update", May 2008, Issue 103.

11. Finance

11.1 Approval of the payments and transfers listed in Appendix A.

Council considered the income and expenditure detailed in Appendix A and approved the payments as shown.

11.2 Revisions to the Asset Register

The Clerk reported that he had made a detailed reassessment of the value of the Council's assets and circulated a revised sheet for approval and inclusion in the accounts. Council agreed the values shown therein.

11.3 Review of out-turn figures for 2007 – 08

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The Clerk had circulated charts illustrating the financial out-turn for the year 2007 – 08. The Chairman considered that the charts were useful in understanding the financial situation of the Council.

11.4 Progress on internal audit

The Clerk reported that he had met the Internal Auditor and she had signed off the accounts. There had been a minor adjustment to correct way in which the previous year's creditors had been treated. The Clerk said that he would bring the accounts to the next meeting of the Council so that they could be completed in time to send them to the external auditor.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Ordinary Meeting of Parish Council on Wednesday 18th. June at 7.30pm at The Memorial Hall, Salford Priors.

13. Closure of meeting

The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 9.46pm.

APPENDIX A**11 Finance****11.1 Income transactions for approval**

Tn. No.	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net	Details
6362		21250.00	0.00	21250.00	Stratford DC Precept
6363		41.00	0.00	41.00	Allotment rent, G Simmons
6364		47.00	0.00	47.00	Allotment rent, K Teehan
6365		52.00	0.00	52.00	Allotment rent, S Walker
6366		52.00	0.00	52.00	Allotment rent, P Regan
6367		44.00	0.00	44.00	Allotment rent, D King
6368		47.00	0.00	47.00	Allotment rent, J Watson Jones
6369		44.00	0.00	44.00	Allotment rent, S Mean
8263		0.11	0.00	0.11	Interest on Community a/c
Totals		£21577.11	£0.00	£21577.11	

11.2 Expenditure transactions for approval

Tn. No.	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net	Details
8251	dd	18.99	2.83	16.16	Plusnet, broadband connection
8252	101983	1990.98	296.56	1694.42	MHF(UK)Ltd, Village skips
8253	101984	1381.80	205.80	1176.00	BDR, Computer equipment
8254	101985	75.00	0.00	75.00	M J Hyde, delivery of newsletters

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8255	101986	30.00	0.00	30.00	M J Hyde, TOPS mowing
8256	101987	1335.02	198.83	1136.19	GBD(Evesham), mowing contract
8257	101988	150.00	0.00	150.00	English Serenata, grant
8258	101989	589.62	0.00	589.62	M J Philpott. Clerk's salary, May
8259	101990	58.10	8.65	49.45	M J Philpott, padlock & chain
8260	101991	57.95	0.00	57.95	M J Philpott, postage
8261	101992	43.03	6.41	36.62	Staples, stationery
8262	101993	940.00	140.00	800.00	UK192 Ltd, new website
Totals		£6670.49	£859.08	£5811.41	

Authorisation for payment was proposed by Cllr. A.W.Wolfe, seconded by Cllr. Mrs R.M.Pane, and carried.

Cheques were signed by Cllr. A.W.Wolfe and Cllr. Mrs R.M.Pane,

11.3 Transfers for approval

Authorisation for the transfer of £6500 from the No.1 account to the Community account was proposed by Cllr. R.A.Francis, seconded by Cllr. A.W.Wolfe, and carried. The Clerk requested authority to transfer to the Number 3 Account, the £25 received from the John Coley Trust that had been paid automatically into the Community Account. Council agreed to this request.

11.4 Account Balances at 21.05.08

No.1 a/c	£31,969.51
No.2 a/c	£8,356.30
No.3 a/c	£111.77
Community a/c	£1,586.46