

# **Poulshot Parish Council**

Minutes of Meeting Held at Village Hall  
At 19:30 on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2009.

## **Parish Council Meeting**

### **Attendance**

#### **Attending -**

Mr Michael Hues (MH)  
Mrs Sue Aldridge (SA)  
Mr Malcolm Nixon (MN)  
Mr Steve Housby (SH)  
Mr Nick Hunloke (NH)  
Mr Joe Baber (JB)  
Mr Geoff Collett (JC)  
Maggie Goodenough (MG) *Parish Clerk*  
Mr Jonathon Seed KDC (JS)

There were 30 members of the public in attendance.

#### **1. 92/08/09 - Welcome and apologies**

MH opened the meeting, welcomed the many members of the public who had come to view the plans of the Pippin Construction Development.

#### **2. 93/08/09 - Declaration of Interests.**

None declared.

#### **3. 94/08/09 - Gill Shell- Wiltshire Rural Housing.**

MH then introduced **Gill Shell (GS)** from Wiltshire Rural Housing Association (WRH). MH explained that WRH have, under the Parish Councils instruction, conducted the housing needs Survey in the village and that GS has come to tell us the results so far. GS explained that she is a director of WRH who were established in 1984, based in Bromham High Street. She explained that the response from the village has been the lowest response they have ever recorded and would therefore be extending the closing date to the 17<sup>th</sup> March, in the hope that more surveys would be returned over the next couple of weeks.

GS explained that WRH work with private contractors to produce houses at affordable rents and also low cost purchase schemes. They have a local connection policy that is very strict and they insist upon the applicants having a connection, either from family, parents or work. They also work towards building ecological sound houses and have a very strong green policy.

It was discussed and agreed between the councillors that the survey should be redone and to extend the end date to 4 weeks from printing, the council asked all present to ensure friends and neighbours understood the importance of returning the surveys, even if they have no housing need. All councillors agreed to assist with the delivery to speed up the process. GS explained that without more results she had little else she could tell us so it was agreed to open the floor up to the public questions. The point was raised that in previous affordable housing builds local families had been turned down in preference to families from as far afield as Swindon. GS explained that not all housing associations had a local connection

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policy and that Sarsen would house anyone with a housing need, regardless of where they came from.

GS was asked if she felt that lack of response simply meant that there was no requirement in the village for further affordable housing. GS said that she didn't feel that this was a fair assumption and that we should make sure everyone has their say via the survey.

It was agreed that some of the wording of the survey could be misleading and GS agreed that it would be amended for the next print. Jonathon Seed (KDC) explained that the members of the public must pass the word on about how important the survey is for not only this but future developments as well. It was then asked if the council or developer had a choice in which Housing association is used for the affordable housing, JS explained that if the PC state that they would only back the development if the WRH were used and if the developer also requested that WRH were used that this would have to be taken very seriously.

MH thanked GS for her time.

MH then introduced **Emily, a WPC from the Trowbridge Police Force.**

Emily explained that Poulshot has been moved under the wing of the Trowbridge Force, this is due to the new area boards of the Unitary Council. Emily introduced herself and explained that she is a local girl and that she will be in charge of Poulshot, Kevil and Bulkington. She explained that she had only just been informed of her allocation to villages and that she would be in touch with the council very soon with contact details for future reference. MH thanked her for coming and inviting her to attend the next meeting in May 09.

MH welcomed back **Jonathon Seed, KDC.** JS explained that further to recent KDC meetings with regard the Area boards, he was gravely concerned to see that Poulshot had been placed into the Trowbridge board. Trowbridge is a board made up of 10 divisions with 8 of these being Urban and only 2 being rural. He feels that Poulshot should be writing to the area board to state their concerns and asking to be placed either in with Melksham, which would be far more rural or even into a group made up of Summerham, Seend, Poulshot, Bulkington and Kevil; this group would be totally rural and would therefore be able to understand the needs of a rural community. Everyone agreed that a letter should be sent as soon as possible to insist on this change. MH thanked JS for attending. (MG)

## **Open session**

MH opened the public session.

It was raised that Wessex water have stated that do not feel there is any problem with their sewage system in the lower part of the village despite the recent flooding, also the highways department have stated that there is no problem with the roads or ditches in this part of the village, so a stale mate has occurred and the villagers are concerned that, with new developments the problem will increase and become worse. MH explained that work is to be carried out on the green to divert the water away from the village green which may assist with the water on its way down the hill. It was suggested that the council write to Wessex water and Highways to arrange a report of both their surveys of the problem area, all councillors agreed and the Clerk is to draft a letter for review.

A concern was raised about the state roads are being left in after tractors have used muddy tracks. Mud and debris are making the roads possibly dangerous. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Mr Jim Butler, as Mr Hues was present at the meeting and point

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noted, to ask that he take care when transferring from track to road to ensure as little mud as is possible is transferred, Clerk to draft a letter.

MH Closed the session

## **4. 95/08/09 Minute of Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2009**

The Minutes of last meeting 6/01/2009, were reviewed and no comments were received. The minutes were then approved by the council and signed by MH in the presence of the council.

## **5. Matters arising**

### **a. 96/08/09 Housing Need Survey**

The chairman reported that Pippin Homes had volunteered to pay part of the costs for the housing needs survey and thanked them.

### **b. 97/08/09 Rowde council – Musical Event**

The chairman explained that the group organising the event have agreed on the weekend of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> September 2009. A jazz evening to be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> with Hog roast, this will be run as a non profit making event with any surplus income being donated to a charity of mutual consent. The chairman put forward a request from event organiser Mandie Housby for a loan of £250 for the printing of tickets and deposit of equipment; this is to be repaid after the event from its proceeds. All councillors agreed that should the event be unable to repay this would be changed to a donation under S137. (MG)

### **c. 98/08/09 Village Green Flooding-**

MH explained that quotations have been received and a grant applied for. Kennet District council had granted a £2000 grant for the work which will start on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

### **d. 99/08/09 Village Church fund -**

NH explained that the fund had raised the required amount and work had already started in the church. They had manage to obtain a grant of £5000 with another grant of £2000 in the pipe line, MH confirmed that the offer from the Council of funding only should it be required was still offered, NH stated that it was not required at this time but would hold the offer in the back ground.

### **e. 100/08/09 Christmas Card Recycling –**

The clerk explained that a letter had been received from Ian Brown, Head of waste strategy and Enforcement, thanking Poulshot for its involvement in this Christmas card recycling scheme and explaining that 2.5 tonnes were collected via the scheme.

### **f. 101/08/09 Parish Steward**

Councillor Geoff Collett explained that due to the poor weather conditions in early February the Stewards visit has been delayed until March and he will report at the next meeting (GC)

### **g. 102/08/09 Village Plan**

Councillor Hunloke explained that Steven Pope Barron would like to arrange a meeting with the Council to discuss changes in County Council Policy regarding the Village Plan, the clerk and NH are to liaise with Mr Pope Barron to arrange a mutually convenient time and location. (NH and MG)

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**h. 103/08/09 Letter From Mill Road – Road condition**

The chairman read out a letter from Mrs Jacqueline Pohnert, 36 Mill Lane, raising her concerns about the state of the road and its maintenance, it was agreed by all councillors that this complaint should be passed onto CLARENCE. (MG)

**i. 104/08/09 Barleyhill Lane – Mr Coleman Letter**

The chairman read out a letter received from Mr Coleman about the condition of the Rights of Way known as the 'Broadway', 'Barleyhill Lane' and 'Leighball Lane'. The chairman explained that contact had been made with the Rights of Way Warden who was looking into where the responsibilities lie. Clerk to report at the next meeting. (MG)

**6. 104/08/09 Finances**

Council agreed payments to

Payable	Net	VAT	Gross
M Goodenough Clerks Salary	237.50	0.00	237.50
T Nixon – Playground Cleaning	200.00	0.00	200.00
Mazars – External Auditors	120.00	18.00	138.00

**105/08/09** Clerk confirmed the current balance is £3950.04

**7. 106/08/09 Planning – approved- with standard conditions**

K/59957/F	Mr. Jonathan Hawkins Field opposite 1 Sillington Lane Devizes Road Poulshot	Stable and hay store
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**8. 107/08/09 Footpaths and Highways**

**Drains – Poulshot Road and Barley Lane**

The clerk confirmed that after MN's request the highways department had been approached again to request a report from the 3 previous site visits. (MG)

**9. 108/08/09 Next Meeting**

The chairman confirmed that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall and closed the meeting.

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