

Poulshot Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting Held at Poulshot Village Hall
At 19:30 on Tuesday 4th March 2008.

Parish Council Meeting

1. Attendance

Attending -

Mr Michael Hues (MH) Chairman
Mrs Sue Aldridge (SA) Councillor
Mr Malcolm Nixon (MN) Vice Chairman
Mr Geoffrey Collett (GC) Councillor
Mr Nicky Hunloke (NH) Councillor
Mr Joe Baber (JB) Councillor
Mrs P Rugg (PR) (Wiltshire County Council)

Mr Michael Wilson (MW) Parish Clerk
Wiltshire Police

Apologies - Mr Steve Housby (SH) Councillor

Absent - Anthony Lake (AL) (Kennet District Councillor)

Visitors - There were 8 members of the public in attendance.

2. Public meeting

The Chairman welcomed the public and introduced PC Andy Horman representing Wiltshire Police. PC Horman stated that he is the beat manager responsible for Poulshot. He wanted to take the opportunity to meet with parishioners, and is planning to have a surgery prior to council meetings, he will advertise in the parish magazine. He also suggested that housing association representatives might also in attendance.

He stated that he had carried out some speed checks on the green, and had stopped some speeding cars and given cautions. One motor cycle rider who had been a particular nuisance had been disqualified and his bike had been destroyed.

He was always available by email, as is Amanda Parkes.

A question was asked about police driver training in Poulshot, he answered that Poulshot was not singled out as a training ground. Often the training was regarding "stinger" stopping of cars.

MH thanked the constable who left the meeting.

PR stated that the new unitary authority was now a fact and a time table had been published. Each councillor would now represent 3000 voters and not 8000 as before. Staff were being appointed to liaise with parish council representatives. Boundary changes are being considered, but it is not expected that they will change in our area. A new set of meetings with parish councils will take place in April, she encouraged members to attend. Also the annual highway presentation was taking place soon, again attendance would be useful.

MH had nothing to report regarding neighbourhood watch.

The chairman thanked those participating and closed the public meeting.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of last meeting 8/1/08, 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.

4. Matters arising

4.1. Playground safety

SA reported all is well. The playground had been cleaned.

4.2. Quality Parish Councils

The Clerk reported that no further action had been taken.

4.3. Lengths Man report

Approved By Chairman _____ on _____

Minutes of Meeting 4th March 2008

Filed as [D:\poulshot parish council\poulshot web pages\poulshot\documents\Parish Council Meetings\meeting(4thMarch2008).doc] on 25-May-08

Page 1 of 3

Poulshot Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting Held at Poulshot Village Hall

At 19:30 on Tuesday 4th March 2008.

GC reported that the steward had been told to use his own initiative by highways, however GC will continue to provide him with a list of work to complete. The gulleys have now been cleaned.

4.4. Village Green

MH reported that the green was in good condition and that it would be chain harrowed shortly.

4.5. Village Design Guide

NH reported that Steve Pope Baron was occupied with the village hall design.

4.6. Willows in South West corner of Green.

MH explained the situation regarding this matter, pointing out that originally the work had been requested by Mr Cleverly. However after a lengthy process to obtain permission and to ensure the correct work was undertaken; once the Council had undertaken the work, Mr Cleverly claimed the trees as his own and prevented work on 3 trees. The Parish Council had written to Mr Cleverly pointing out the safety issues and his subsequent responsibility. The land registry search seemed to support the Council's position that the trees were on council land, as did the position of Mr Cleverly's fence.

The Council decided that it could not proceed until the issue of ownership was settled, and therefore would be referring the matter to solicitors. MH did not understand why Mr Cleverly was acting this way and why he had delayed his claim of ownership until the day of the contractors arriving. He also pointed out the dangers involving crack willows and the need for regular pollarding. SA pointed out that the trees were also interfering with the electricity wires, MH agreed to report this to the SEB.

Chris Saunders felt that Mr Cleverly was objecting to the extent of pollarding, he said that Mr Cleverly had cut branches that overhung his fence. MH stated that this supported the ownership being that of the council. MN supported the SEB being involved. GC suggested that an early meeting should take place with Mr Cleverly before the matter was referred to solicitors. MH agreed to do this.

4.7. Village Hall Project.

MH stated that a cheque for £2000 had been sent to the VHC, and that he had attended the presentation that had taken place recently. All had agreed that the design presented was worthwhile. MN stated that he felt the village was 100% behind the project.

5. Plans

There had been various plans presented in the interim, the status of which was reported in the agenda to the meeting.

- Extension at 101 Poulshot road, pending
- Village Hall, Pending.
- Higher Green Farm, development.

MH asked if Ivor Sault had any information. Mr Saults stated that he was still awaiting feedback, but had received little. He felt that the next stage would be to visit with the planning authority.

MH opened a discussion on affordable housing, stating that Poulshot already had a large proportion of affordable housing. Mr Sault stated that affordable housing would be for anyone and not just for Poulshot parishioners.

MH suggested that it would be good if the terraces were included in the development. PR pointed out that a new project supporting independent lifestyle for the elderly might be of interest. Self build might be a possibility. NH suggested that "down sizing" houses might be a better idea for those already in the village.

MN supported this stating that bungalows would be of greater value for those of extended years.

No further discussion of plans took place at the meeting.

6. Accounts

6.1. The Clerk presented the current financial position, which showed a balance of approximately two thousand pounds in the account.

6.2. Payable.

1. Several accounts were payable; but no cheques were signed at the meeting;
2. In the interim between meetings several cheques had been signed by Councillors.
 - a. Village Hall, £2000 Grant.
 - b. T. Nixon, £240.00 Playground cleaning.
 - c. M. Wilson, £450.00 Wages.
 - d. CAB, £50.00 Grant.
 - e. Browns, £113.09 Flood Repairs.
 - f. K. Hunloke, £225.00 Over Sixties party.

Approved By Chairman _____ on _____

Minutes of Meeting 4th March 2008

Filed as [D:\poulshot parish council\poulshot web pages\poulshot\documents\Parish Council Meetings\meeting(4thMarch2008).doc] on 25-May-08

Page 2 of 3

Poulshot Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting Held at Poulshot Village Hall
At 19:30 on Tuesday 4th March 2008.

7. Any Other Business.

7.1. Drains

MH gave the meeting a resume of the recent flooding stating that it was caused by two blocked drains, both drains had now been cleaned by WCC, KDC and the owners respectively. MN had hoped that the temporary drain cut on the green could have been used to provide the basis of a more permanent drain. MH hoped the issue would not occur again as KDC had the matter in hand and were taking steps to solve the problem behind GCs' workshop.

7.2. Skips.

The Clerk confirmed that the skips had been ordered and that he would circulate dates. SA asked what could be put in them, the clerk would report back. A discussion took place regarding positioning, the clerk was asked to book the skips one for the village hall car park and one for Barley hill lane.

7.3. Broadway lane mountain.

MH reported that WCC was given some waste stone and ballast but needed to store it quickly for use in repairing Broadway lane. Unfortunately they did not consult the Parish council for a more suitable position, and dumped it on the junction with Barleyhill lane. He had been told that WCC would be inspecting this week and would undertake to use the material as soon as weather permitted. MN pointed out that the pile was a little too high and children were getting close to the electricity wires. MH said that KDC had the matter in hand and might fence the structure temporarily. Unfortunately MH had erroneously given permission to a parishioner to dump some stone on the pile. KDC had been informed and warned all concerned that this was illegal and was not allowed. All waste should go to a licensed tip. MH apologised.

7.4. Dog Waste Collection.

JB had been asked about dog mess disposal in the green gardens.

The clerk pointed out that this matter had been raised and dealt with over one year ago. Collection devices were available but no licensed contractors would collect and dispose.

7.5. Ploughing Competition.

MN asked what the parking situation would be for the forthcoming event organised by Jim Butler. MH will contact him and ask about arrangements.

7.6. New Clerk.

MH stated that no applications had been received, he asked the clerk to advertise in the G&H newspaper.

8. Next Meeting

Tuesday 6/05/08 at 18:30 Poulshot village hall. (Annual meeting)

The Chairman closed the meeting and thanked those attending.

Approved By Chairman _____ on _____