

Minutes of the Kilmersdon Parish Council
held at Coles Garden Meeting Room
at 7.30pm on Monday 3rd October, 2016



PRESENT: Councillors R Morse, R Butt, S Gibbs, D Hudson, A Jolliffe and K Lewis.

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk, and three members of the public.

Min No

1. APOLOGIES:

337 Apologies received from Cllrs D Phripp, County Cllr Harvey Siggs and Ward Cllr E Drewe

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:

338 There were no declarations.

339 The Clerk confirmed he had received Declaration of Interest Forms from the New Cllrs K Lewis and R Butt and had forwarded copies to the Monitoring Officer at MDC.

3. MINUTES:

340 The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5th September 2016 were approved and signed.

4. PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME:

341 The three members of the public spoke about the progress of the planning application and proposals for the village shop, in particular, about how to move the project forward.

5. MATTERS ARISING:

342 The Clerk passed on to the Councillors the gratitude expressed by Sajid Javid, the new Secretary of State for DCLG, who had said he knew Councillors gave their time, energy and shoe leather, and at times must have felt they had given up their sanity, to carry out their work for their communities.

6. PLANNING MATTERS:

Planning permissions requested:

343 There were no planning applications.

344 The Village Design Statement was being monitored and was still work-in-progress.

345 It was noted that the Shop Committee meeting due to be held on 23rd September was cancelled, because the Village Hall Committee had not confirmed attendance and the Parish Council had withdrawn from the process.

346 Members agreed that a survey would not be undertaken for the current proposal as it was unacceptable to the council; also any survey was contingent upon the Village Hall Committee approval for any design which would be built adjacent to the Hall.

347 A copy of the parish council statement is provided at Annex A to these minutes.

- 7. FINANCIAL MATTERS:**
- 348 An invoice from the Clerk for salary was approved at £695.15.
Cheque No. 1165. (LGA 1972, s112)
- 349 The Clerk's Income Tax payment was approved at £173.60.
Cheque No. 1166. (LGA 1972, s112.)
- 350 An invoice from SLCC Enterprises for reference book Local Council Administration, 10th Edition was approved at £76.60.00
Cheque No. 1167 (LGA 1972, s111)
- 351 An invoice from SJH Services for grass cutting was approved at £222.66
Cheque No. 1168. (LGA 1972, s111)
- 352 An invoice from Southern Electric for street lighting was approved for August at £15.14
(To be cleared by DD on 19 September.)
- 353 Members approved the pay scale increase for Clerk's salary from £9.55 to £9.65 per hour
(annual increase £36.40.)
- 8. REVIEW OF PROCEDURES:**
- 354 The process of granting permissions for public use of the playing field for private events was reviewed. It was agreed that a charge of £50 would be levied for applicants living outside the parish, unless the event was related to education or for use by educational establishments.
- 355 The Clerk outlined his proposals for the management of public auditing, which was potentially due to commence for the financial year 2016/17. It was not yet possible to estimate the level of activity that might be involved in carrying out a public form of External Audit of Council accounts and processes, but it was agreed that the Clerk should develop a management strategy for adoption in February 2017.
- 9. HIGHWAYS:**
- 356 The Clerk had received a response from County Cllr Harvey Siggs, explaining the actions that might be taken in respect of parking in Manor Close and the car park. The Clerk undertook to forward a copy to the local residents.
- 357 A number of potholes in Silver Street had been reported and the Clerk undertook to request Highways action to effect repairs.
- 358 Members expressed concern that the construction activity at 3 Kilmersdon may present a hazard, since it appeared that an access point was being created at a point of restricted visibility. The Clerk undertook to make initial enquiries with County Cllr Harvey Siggs to ascertain whether Highways had been informed that access was being planned.
- 10. PLAYING FIELD:**
- 359 It was confirmed that the original installer had replaced the broken slide, but consideration would be given to future replacement by a more robust item.
- 360 The swings had been repaired, but further damage had occurred.

361 It was agreed that the above and any other repairs would be paid for from the earmarked amount held in the Business Reserve Account; this being the surplus cash transferred to the Council when the Play Park Committee disbanded. A single transfer from the reserve account would be made when the total costs of repair became known.

11. LITTER AND MAINTENANCE:

362 The Clerk said he had approached MDC to arrange emptying of the waste bin near the Village Hall and had requested supply of an additional bin. He had agreed to provide a map showing the location of the bin to be emptied, but had been informed that responsibility for provision of bins was now the responsibility of parish councils.

12. FOOTPATHS:

363 Nil report.

13. PCSO REPORT:

364 The minutes of the PACT meeting held on 13th September 2016 was noted and a copy is provided at Annex 2 to these minutes.

14. CORRESPONDENCE:

365 None received.

15. MATTERS OF REPORT & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

366 None

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

367 **The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 7th November 2016 at 7.30 p.m. in the Coles Garden Meeting Rooms.**

368 There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.50pm

ANNEX A TO MINUTES OF 3RD OCTOBER 2016

Kilmersdon Parish Council Statement in respect of Shop Committee Proposals

Having participated in the first Village Shop Working Party Committee meeting on 17th August 2016, the Parish Council discussed the format of the meeting, the proposed Memorandum of Understanding document, draft output of the meeting issued on 22nd August 2016 and two substantive points pertaining to the design at the parish council meeting on 5th September 2016.

The discussion was held in the context of the history of Planning Application 2015/1448 for the construction of a village shop which was considered by Kilmersdon parish council taking into account the effect on village appearance and amenity, together with the level of public opinion then available to us from various sources, including a public meeting. Given that the consensus was in favour of the provision of a shop, but against having a building of the proposed style and size, the parish council recommended that the Planning Officer should refuse permission.

The following points were agreed at the meeting on 5th September:

- A recognition of the efforts made by the Shop Committee to further the project.
- The parish council do not wish to be signatories on the Memorandum of Understanding document or referenced in it and now requests that all references and actions required from the parish council be deleted from the draft and future versions.
- The footprint of the proposed design is too large, would have a negative impact on the village appearance and amenity and entail removal of a tree and bench installed to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of VE and VJ events. This is not acceptable and a change of the lease to enable the shop to be built will not be approved for this design.
- The Village Hall car park currently has insufficient capacity to meet demand during popular events. The removal of spaces necessitated by the proposed building taken together with the existing baseline demand, Village Hall requirement and additional use by shop and café users would result in a significant detrimental impact on the village and residents in the proximity and increase the risk of accidents. This is not acceptable and a change of lease to enable the shop to be built will not be approved in the absence of any solution.

We will now await developments until such time as the Village Shop and Village Hall Committees produce an agreed formal proposal for consideration.

ANNEX B TO MINUTES OF 3RD OCTOBER 2016

PACT MEETING, BECKINGTON MEMORIAL HALL, ATTENDEES
13TH SEPTEMBER 2016

The meeting was opened by John Gould (Beat Manager) welcoming everyone to the PACT (Police And Community Together) meeting. He said that partner agencies had been invited; none were in attendance this evening.

An attendance sheet was passed around, and can be seen below.

Frome Rural PACT Meeting at Beckington Memorial Hall.

Tuesday 13th September 2016, 7:30pm

ATTENDEES.


Steve. Cundy@gmail.com
Charles Gurd Charles.gurd@gmail.com
Rex Eastment rexeastment@talktalk.net
John Gould POLICE
Mike Stacey "
PAT BARWELL RODE PC patbarwell@hotmail.com
Rupert King. rupert.king@tesco.co.uk
Jean Beagley Beckington jean.beagley@btinternet.com
Ruben Beagley "
DAVE JOPP RODE. davejopp54@yahoo.co.uk
ALAN TOWNSEND MENDIP & COLEFORD atowasend1948@gmail.com
JOHN BENNET Beckington. jb260@btinternet.com
Amanda Bennett Beckington mandabenn2@gmail.com
STEPHENIE CHORLEY HOLCOMBE & stephenie.chorley@holcombe.pc.org.uk
TERRY DRAKE (Mendip PCSU). terry.drake@gmail.com
KAZ UKLEJA - LULINGTON kaz@ukleja.co.uk
PAUL + JOE SHERRIN - DUCKLAND DINHAM paulsvesherring@yahoo.co.uk

Apologies were sought and given for:

Colin Turner (Coleford); Jill Noad (Rode); Ann Monroe (Beckington); Sharon Brooks (Beckington) Jan Schlchter (Astor) Philip Ham (Coleford).

CONT'D

The Frome North Local Crime Report statistics were read out ... see below.



Local Crime Report

Date / Time: 13/09/2016	Venue: Beckington Memorial Hall
Meeting/Event: Frome Rural PACT meeting	Lead Officer: PC GOULD & PCSO STOREY

Period: From _MAY 2016 to AUGUST 2016

Crime Type <small>(choose 3 or 4 of most relevant / interest in your area, e.g. Burglary, Shoplifting, Criminal Damage)</small>	Recorded This Period	Recorded Last Period	Trend	Details
Non Dwelling Burglary	27	20	+7	Crime prevention advice given out to victims and at the various beat surgeries held on the Rural beats. Hi- viz patrols carried out by the Beat teams following our patrol plan.
Criminal Damage	24	21	+3	Beat team continue with patrols to deter this occurring.
Dwelling Burglary	6	8	-2	Hi- viz patrols carried out by the Beat teams following our patrol plan. Beat team accessible at beat surgeries to provide crime prevention advice.
Total Crime	57	49		

ASB	Recorded This Period	Recorded Last Period	Trend	Details
	68	43	+25	Anti-social behaviour affects and hurts our communities. As a beat team we take ASB seriously and have continued to monitor / patrol to prevent these incidents occurring.

You will note the numbers show an increase against the last recorded period in all cases except "Dwelling Burglaries".

This was consistent with the discussions that were to follow were the attendees were very concerned especially with the increase in Non-Dwelling Burglary.

The question was asked if the Police had any reasons that the reported crime seemed to be on the increase ... Was it perhaps due to the summertime, longer evenings and the youth being out and about later in the evening?

The Police representatives agreed that, with respect to ASB this could well be the reason for the increase and they would expect those statistics to drop as the shorter evenings draw in.

Please note the Area Police Website is: www.avonandsomerset.police.uk

Questions / Observations were invited from the floor.

Signed:

Dated:

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The effectiveness of dialling 101. The first speaker said he was made to wait approx.' half an hour to get through.

Another speaker said they had been dealt with very quickly, another, the delay was approx.' 35 minutes on one occasion and 20 minutes on another.

There was a discussion as to whether callers are charged for the call: the belief is, 'Yes' there is a charge, but the belief was, the charge had now been capped at 15 pence. No one, including the police representatives were really sure, perhaps the police representatives could find that out and circulate? **This has been checked and the Charge is Capped at 15pence**

The believe 'appeared' to be that because it is difficult to get through to 101, the crime statistics were not necessarily a true picture as the figures are compiled from 101 and 999 calls and many people will not call to report crimes due to the difficulty of using the system.

One individual said, when using 101, the caller was asked a lot of seemingly unnecessary questions while the victim of a car accident was laying injured on the ground; it was thought that this should have been put through on a 999 call as there was a potential threat to life involved.

2) The issue of Smart Motorways was raised. A Brief discussion was held about the dangers of being captive on what was at one time a hard shoulder but under this new initiative is being incorporated into a working carriageway. The national statistic was quoted that if you are parked on a hard shoulder for more than 16.3 minutes you will be likely involved in a collision so what chance if there is no hard shoulder and a break-down car is forced to park on the near-side carriageway of a motorway?

The attendees felt this would probably prove to be a grave policy error on behalf of the National Highways / Government. The Police naturally couldn't comment on this. One of the attendees said he thought this had been discussed in parliament and it had been decided this policy will not be continued?

3) One gentleman spoke at length about speeding through Beckington village, inconsiderate parking within the village and heavy goods vehicles using the road thro' Beckington Village.

The Chairman of Beckington Council advised the audience of what the council had done to try and rectify these issues and gave an explanation of the issues involved. Amongst other things, apparently the road through Beckington was in fact controlled by two authorities, Highways England and SCC highways Authority and therefore it was extremely difficult to get consensus on which authority should take action and, because of this (amongst other tribulations), it was difficult / near impossible to move forward on the improvements that were deemed necessary.

A representative from Norton St. Philip gave an account of the considerable and largely successful work that had been undertaken in that village to combat speeding, inconsiderate parking and wrongful use by excessively sized Lorries.

Various locally orientated complaints concerning traffic and behavioural traffic issues were raised and finally the police were asked what their position was.

The Response was that when called, the police will, and have, responded as soon as possible and are happy to act as intermediaries but, other than that, there is very little they can do to change things as it is outside of their remit.

Basically therefore it is down to the local, district and County Councils to work through this.

From the floor there were a number of complaints / examples of inconsiderate parking, the access of excessively large lorries onto roads in and around towns and villages in the area that were causing concern and in some cases distress to villagers and inhabitants. One of the group who is himself a HGV driver had some sympathy with out of area / foreign drivers as they basically went where their Sat-Nav took them and there is not the facility on Sat Nav's to input the characteristics of the vehicle being driven. However he did say that any local driver that got himself into trouble only had himself to blame if he was fined or turned around by the police. The matter was fully discussed, unfortunately no real conclusions were drawn or solutions / resolutions extracted from the debate.

From the Floor, grave concern around Theft from outbuildings or "Non Dwelling Burglaries" as the statistic is described.

Many examples and significant concern and distress was noted around this subject. It was evident that it was a matter that had affected a number of the audience.

It seems evident that machinery (especially) is being stolen to order and that the thieves are becoming more and more brazen, sometimes actually helped by technology.

Naturally the police suggested / advised the use of security / deterrents which had in most cases already been thought of and put in place by the complainants. The fear was aired that in some cases Thieves would, if the security measures involved locks etc. become too much of an issue for the thieves to deal with, have broken into the house to steal the keys / switches to neutralise the security devices, in some cases causing even more damage in the process.

The question was asked of the police, "Do you have night time patrols".

The Police said they could not promise more resources, they simply don't have the man power to enable that.

Amongst the attendees there was an extensive debate around the issue of Non Dwelling Burglaries ending with the opinion that the cuts to the police force front line, had been so extensive, the police were now no longer an effective deterrent other than achieving success through intelligence-led policing which of course will let many criminals slip through the net whilst they gather that intelligence. This was the consensus from the floor and not the police.

The Attendees attested that in their opinion members of the upper hierarchy of the police organisation had been left untouched and that all the cuts had been made at the front line force thus leaving the public more vulnerable than ever before.

The police representatives did not offer an opinion or take a position throughout this discussion.

Most of the areas represented at the meeting believed this subject affected them.

The Question was asked, "What feed Back is given by the police to local Councils concerning local Crime"; PCSO Mike Storey said that he gave a monthly report to the Parish Councils for their monthly meetings.

One of the audience mentioned a Web site www.police.uk which is very good for obtaining local policing information.

The Subject of speeding in Rode was raised.

Again, there was significant passion around this matter. An example was given of "Threatening with menace" where someone had flagged a passing speeding motorist to slow down. The motorist had turned his car around, returned and physically assaulted that person with a knife.

The police had, contrary to opinion, apprehended the individual and the situation was being dealt with, within the law. The PCSO had held a reassurance beat Surgery at

Rode and unfortunately it was very poorly attended which it was said is all too often the case, ie, many of the general public are happy to complain on social media etc. but when there is a requirement of personal time / involvement they are less than ready to step forward.

However, the point was made what a great job the CSW (Community Speed Watch) Does for the areas they serve. Terry Drake the area coordinator of CSW spoke of the progress that was being made on this front. He mentioned that £1 million had been taken in fines in 3 years on account of CSW in the area.

When the suggestion was made that the police could possibly do more with respect to SW, TD noted there are 438 registered SW sites in Mendip and only 2 vans and 2 Police Motor cycles to deal with those sites. He thought the resources were being very well used and successful.

Of the Five new CSW signs to be sighted, 3 have been fixed and the other two will soon be sighted.

There was a discussion around the use of Speed bumps to deter speeding motorist but this was generally felt as not to be the best because of the detrimental effect it had on the emergency service vehicles but in particular, Ambulances and the patients inside them.

The representative from Holcombe was most concerned with the speeding issues on Holcombe hill.

The Representative from Rode sighted an example where they set up a chicane as an integral part of a CSW exercise and that a passing motorist had thrown tea and hot chocolate at the vehicle; after the second incident, they stopped this practice.

Generally there was a lot of passion around the detrimental effects that Speeding has on the lives within a village.

AT this point all people in the audience had had an opportunity to speak so PCSO Mike Storey call the meeting to a close and asked what should be the PACT PRIORITIES to take away.

The PCSO stated these were the current priorities: - ILLEGAL RAVES, SPEEDING, ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR and that there could / should only be three Priorities. This concept was challenged as being somehow unreasonable in as far as, if the general public were concerned with more than 3 subject areas then those subjects should be made priorities?

It was suggested that 3 were manageable, but agreed to accept four.

From the floor it was felt that Non-Dwelling Burglaries and Inconsiderate parking should be included and that Illegal Raves could be removed from the list as it was probably no longer the season for them.

It was decided that the priorities should be quoted as ... but not necessarily in the order quoted:

- Anti-social behaviour;
- Inconsiderate Parking;
- Non-Dwelling Burglaries;
- Speeding especially in the urban environment.

The meeting was closed at 2120hrs.

There were a number of pamphlets available to take away which people did avail themselves of. It should be noted that these minutes are a precise of all that was said.