

MINUTES OF MEETING OF AVENING PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 17th DECEMBER 2009 AT 7.30 PM

The following Councillors were in attendance. Cllr J Parsons (Chairman), Cllr M Williamson (Vice Chairman), Cllr T Slater, Cllr T Beardsell, Cllr Mrs C Mitchell

Also in attendance: Mrs D Cook (Clerk), Simon Wheatley (Village Hall Chairman), David Oliver, John Porter, Marilyn and Richard Fillis, Lesley Aspinall.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30pm.

It was **RESOLVED** to vary the agenda to deal with agenda point 8 (Village Hall Lease matters).

In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.

It was therefore unanimously RESOLVED that the meeting move into closed session under the terms of The Public (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 as the business to be discussed included sensitive information and contracts which could be prejudiced by being in the public domain at this time, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960.

64/09 AVENING MEMORIAL HALL

64.1 Update and Draft Lease of the Memorial Hall

Simon Wheatley provided an update to the Parish Council on the proposed terms of the Lease.

64.2 To confirm dates of Parish Council meetings for January to May 2010.

It was confirmed that Parish Council meetings would continue to take place on the third Thursday of the month.

Mr Wheatley left the meeting at 7.45pm.

65/09 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

David Oliver, John Porter, Marilyn and Richard Fillis and Lesley Aspinall had attended the meeting to let the Parish Council know they were objecting to the proposed planning application for a detached house at Powis Lane/Old Hill (09/04065/FUL).

They would also object directly to Cotswold District Council Planning Department.

Council noted the following points raised:

- There was general dissatisfaction with another application on the same site for a house. The previous unsuccessful planning applications for the site, dating back years, were mentioned.
- The issue over the footpath that served two other houses. The proposed changes to the footpath would stop the two other houses putting their bins out and it was the only unstepped access to the houses, causing a problem for elderly relatives visiting.
- The yew trees and hedges were mentioned – this was an old hedge and there were TPOs on the trees. No-one wanted to see damage to them.

Signed.....Chairman/Presiding Officer

Date: 21st January 2010

- Parking and access – although creating two spaces, the existing cars parked on the site would be displaced and have to park on an already full road.
- Road safety – there were already too many cars parking in the area, there had been some damage to cars parked because of the nature of the lane. Children also used the road for walking to school and increasing the cars there, increased the risk of harm to the children.
- The proposed development would affect the privacy and outlook of 1 Powis Lane in particular.
- Dissatisfaction was raised with not being consulted prior to submission, even though the reports say residents have been consulted.
- Residents were concerned about the impact on the conservation area.
- Residents were concerned it was setting a precedent for other sites in the village.

David Oliver, John Porter, Marilyn and Richard Fillis and Lesley Aspinall left the meeting.

66/09 PCSO REPORT & CRIME AND ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

The Council noted the PCSO's monthly report. PCSO Paul Hancock sent apologies.

67/09 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Mrs G Parsons (personal), Cllr Mrs E Oliver (personal), Cllr Mrs C Naish

68/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Jim Parsons declared an interest in all planning matters because of his position as District Councillor sitting on the Planning Regulatory Committee at CDC.

69/09 ACCEPTANCE AND SIGNING OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON THURSDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2009

It was **RESOLVED** to accept and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12th November 2009.

70/09 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

GAPTC had been in contact following their AGM resolution re excessive street furniture/signage:

"That the GAPTC calls upon Gloucester Highways and the Highways department of Gloucestershire County Council to:

- Liaise with appropriate Town and Parish Councils prior to making decisions on the installation/replacement of road and tourist signs*
- Take action within existing resources to reduce the overall number of signs within the county*
- Remove all superfluous signs and redundant posts"*

Cllr T Slater would take photos of any signage considered unnecessary/excessive and forward photos to the clerk for passing on to GAPTC by 15th January 2010.

71/09 PLANNING

71.1/09 New Planning Applications

09/03799/FUL	Avening Primary School, High Street, Avening GL8 8NF Proposal: Erection of two storey extension to south elevation The Parish Council did not submit comments on the application.
09/03924/FUL	Glebe House Cottage, 5 New Inn Lane, GL8 8NB Proposal: Alterations to existing buildings including: new dormer window, enlargement of an existing door opening and insertion of timber painted glazed doors at Glebe House Cottage, enlargement of an existing window opening and insertion of new timber painted glazed doors to Coach House;

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Date: 21st January 2010

	erection of new entrance gates. The Council did not have any objections to the application.
09/03925/LBC	Glebe House Cottage, 5 New Inn Lane, GL8 8NB Proposal: Alterations to existing buildings including: new dormer window, enlargement of existing door opening and insertion of timber painted glass doors at Glebe House Cottage; modifications to the internal arrangements, enlargement of existing window opening and insertion of new timber painted glazed doors at the Coach House; Erection of new entrance gates. The Council did not have any objections to the application.
09/04065/FUL	Land Parcel Corner Of Powis Lane And Old Hill, Avening, Gloucestershire, Proposal: Erection of detached two storey cottage. The Council objected to the application on the following grounds: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The site lies within the Avening Conservation Area. The proposal involves the erection of a detached cottage which will have a harmful effect on the character and appearance of the conservation area by reason of the loss of this prominent area of undeveloped open space at the junction of Old Hill/Powis Lane. The proposal is contrary to PPG15, policies 15 and 42 of the local plan 2006 and NHE6 of the Gloucestershire Structure Plan. 2. The site is located outside any Development Boundary identified in the Local Plan. On such sites, new dwellings that would result in open market housing are not supported. The proposal is contrary to the strategy in policy 19 of the Local Plan. 3. The relationship of the proposed dwelling to the existing dwelling at 1 Powis Lane would cause harm to the amenities of the occupants of both dwellings, contrary to guidance in PPS1, Local Plan policy 46, due to their close proximity. 4. Whilst Council note that parking would be provided on the proposed site for the occupants of the dwelling, this would displace the current cars parked there and increase the on street parking and therefore cause more road safety issues in an area where cars have been damaged and many children walk that way to school. 5. The yew trees and hedge contribute to the appearance of the conservation area, any change will have a harmful effect on the character and appearance of the conservation area.

71.2 Updates

08/02054/FUL	Avening Mill Avening Proposal: Change of use from workshop, commercial and office use to residential The Environment Agency had rejected the flood alleviation scheme and the matter was now with CDC planners for decision.
09/03590/FUL	10 High Street, Avening, GL8 8LU Proposal: Replacement of four windows to front

	It was noted that the glazing of the window was under discussion between CDC and the applicants.
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71.3/09 Decisions Received

Council Noted the Decision Notices listed below:

09/03520/LBC	Avening House, High Street, Avening, GL8 8NH Proposal: Internal alterations comprising the insertion of new partitions and door Decision: Application Permit dated 10 December 2009
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72/09 TREE WORKS

72.1/09 Tree Works Notifications:

There were no Tree Works notifications.

72.2/09 Tree Works Decisions

Council noted the Decision Notices listed below:

09/03439/TPO	16 Sandford Leaze, Avening, GL8 8PB Proposal: TPO 2 A.1 Turkey Oak in rear garden. Reduce tree all over by 40%. Date decided: 01 December 2009 Decision: Application Permit
09/03602/TPO	Boat House Gatcombe Water, Avening Proposal: TPO 271 W. 1 Tree work to enable utilities installation. Date decided: 01 December 2009 Decision: Application Permit

73/09 FINANCE

73.1/09 Budget Status and Balance at Bank

The current balance at bank was £4,568.68 with £21,627.72 now in the deposit account with projected expenditure and year end balance as set out on the monthly budget sheet.

73.2/09 Bills for Payment

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following bills for payment:

- Clerk's Salary less Income Tax plus Expenses £541.38
- HMRC £11.69

73.3/09 Adoption of Telephone Boxes

The paperwork had been received by BT, but the adoption had not taken place. It was noted that it can take a while for BT to sort out the transfer of ownership. The matter would only appear on the agenda when there was something to report.

The issue of maintenance and future use of the boxes was deferred.

73.4./09 Annual Grant Applications

73.4.1/09 To consider and approve the annual grant in the sum of £1,000 for Avening Memorial Hall

This matter was deferred pending receipt of an invoice from the Memorial Hall.

73.4.2/09 To consider and approve the annual grant in the sum of £2,000 for Avening Playing Fields Association

This matter was deferred pending receipt of an invoice and accounts from APFA.

73.5/09 Other Grant Applications

73.5.1/09 To approve the release of grant money to Avening Playgroup in the sum of up to £1,000

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Date: 21st January 2010

The sum of up to £1,000 had been held for Avening Playgroup for their swings and safety surfacing project. The Playgroup had received cheques for £2,000 from the Church of England Education Fund and £2,000 from the Summerfield Charitable Trust. The project had been revalued using local suppliers and was likely to now cost £2,610 (approx). In view of the £4,000 received towards the project, it was **RESOLVED** not to award money to the project as it was not needed. Council would place the £1,000 into the Community Fund for 2010/11 so that all community groups would have the chance to apply.

It was considered prudent, even though there were no members of the public present, that in view of the business to be discussed at agenda point 11.6, the meeting should be placed in closed session.

It was therefore unanimously RESOLVED that the meeting move into closed session under the terms of The Public (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 as the business to be discussed included sensitive information which could be prejudiced by being in the public domain at this time, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960.

73.6/09 To consider Budget for the financial year 2010/11 (CLOSED SESSION)

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the budget for 2010/11 as set out on the attached sheet (to be amended with the addition of the £1,000 carried forward to the community fund from minute number 73.5.1/09).

74/09 PARISH PLAN/COMMUNITY PROJECTS

74.1/09 Ash Path maintenance and Creation Order to County Council

The matter was deferred as nothing further had happened. The Clerk would ask GCC when the installation of the handrail and other works would take place.

74.2/09 Traffic and Highways:

The matter of the potholes at Westend was raised. Highways had planned to look at the potholes when the development at Orchard House had been finished. It was now complete. Cllr T Slater would remind Highways.

74.2.1/09 Lorries/Heavy vehicles – weight restriction order

It was noted that there were no more Morrisons lorries using the junction with the Cross Inn for turning in the early morning and evening. This matter will now come off of the agenda.

74.2.2/09 Grit Bins

The two new grit bins had been installed – one at the shop and the other near the school. The lid was still missing on the grit bin at Ash Path/Rectory Lane. GCC would be reminded.

74.2.3/09 Speeding traffic on High Street

The Clerk had enquired of GCC about borrowing/hiring the speed detection gun. The Council was now on the waiting list and we would receive details in due course.

74.2.4/09 Drains

There was nothing further under this heading and so the matter would be removed from the agenda.

74.2.5/09 Highways Seminar – report back by Cllr T Slater

Cllr T Slater had had to send apologies for the event

74.3/09 Mapping structures in the Parish

This matter was deferred, but ongoing. The matter will be removed from the agenda for the time being.

74.4/09 Report back from Clerk: SLCC Regional Conference and GAPTC event

The National Training Strategy was being revised. Common themes were discussed such as adopting phone boxes, newsletters, taking over assets from District or County Councils (benefits and risks etc). It was also noted that GCC were cutting money from their budget and this was likely to have a knock on effect on services.

74.5/09 Autumn Village Clean Up

The autumn clean up was scheduled for Saturday 14th November. It went ahead despite the weather. The Council wished to thank the volunteers who had taken part and a note of thanks would be placed in the next edition of the Villager. The equipment would be returned to CDC by the Clerk.

74.6/09 Parish Council workplan review and planning for 2010/11

This matter was deferred.

74.7/09 Contacting the Community

The December edition of the Villager had not long been available and no questions (on the tear off slips) had been received in the box at the shop at present.

It had been noted that the costs of printing the Villager could perhaps be reduced. The Clerk had obtained a quote from Cotswold District Council print services and this would be passed to the PCC to see how it compared to their current costs of printing.

75/09 POLICIES

75.1/09 To adopt the draft Complaints Policy

The matter was deferred as the Clerk advised a further redraft was needed.

76/09 Correspondence for Action:

- Letter of thanks from Avening Playgroup – the letter was noted
- Letter of thanks from Cotswold Tree Warden Group – the letter was noted
- Community Emergency Plan – this would be deferred and looked into in the new year.

**The Next Meeting of Avening Parish Council will be held on
Thursday 21st January, 2010 at 7.30 pm
At Avening Memorial Hall**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.05pm

Signed.....Chairman/Presiding Officer

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