

PAINSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17 MARCH 2010 AT 7.30 P.M.

Present: Cllr Terry Parker Chairman
 Cllr Jason Bullingham
 Cllr Ann Burges Watson
 Cllr Ann Daniels
 Cllr David Hudson
 Cllr Dhushy Mahendran
 Cllr Ela Pathak-Sen
 Cllr Martin Slinger
 Cllr Jackie Woof

In attendance: County Councillor Joan Nash
 District Councillors Barbara Tait and Frances Roden
 8 Members of the Public

Public Questions

Mrs Isabella Szczureh handed in a petition addressed to the Head of Library Services at Gloucestershire County Council with 502 signatures stating that they are very concerned to hear of the closure of Painswick Library. It is an invaluable asset to the village and its permanent closure would be a great loss and inconvenience to people. The Chairman thanked Ms Szczureh for organising the petition.

Mr Rob Lewis asked if Mr Brotherton's letter would be addressed by the Council. The Chairman advised him that it would be.

1. TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Council accepted apologies for absence from Cllrs Andy Cash (work commitments) and Caroline White (illness).

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

There were none.

3. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17th FEBRUARY 2010

The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA

- a. Minute 4a. Parish Plan. Cllr Ela Pathak-Sen detailed to the members a working paper dealing with the future of the library services in Painswick, the first element being the short term solutions.

Three options were given:

1. Use the space in the upstairs room in the Town Hall
2. Rent the ground floor of the old Lloyds Bank building and
3. Do nothing.

The Council members discussed each of the options in detail. The Chairman read out a letter from Ann Smith asking if the Council would consider leasing the Lloyds Bank to house the Tourist Information Centre (TIC).

Cllr Jason Bullingham proposed that the Council proceed to rent the old Lloyds Bank for use as a TIC and to provide some library functions. This was seconded by Cllr Ann Burges Watson.

Vote: Unanimously agreed.

Cllr Ela Pathak-Sen then presented in detail the medium to long term details for options.

The Chairman read out a letter from Mr Tyrell of the County Council's Property Services in which he asked if the Council would be interested in purchasing the building or was the Council's interest limited to the progress of disposal.

The Council discussed the disposal of the library premises in detail and agreed that it would not purchase the building but would expect that the County Council would agree to keep the Council informed of the disposal process so as to provide an opportunity for us to give guidance on the building's future use.

1. To agree a response to Painswick Gateway's letter dated 15 February 2010. The Chairman will send a response to the Gateway letter. **TEP**

- b. Minute 4b. Allotments. In the absence of Cllr Caroline White Cllr Martin Slinger gave an update which included the details of the consultation events which are to take place and advised that the consultation closure will be 4.00 p.m. on 19 April 2010.

5. MATTERS OF URGENCY

- a. Assistant Clerk. The Chairman advised that interviews are to take place on 25th and 26 March 2010 to recruit an Assistant Clerk.

6. PAINSWICK LIBRARY

This matter was discussed under agenda item 4 a.

7. GAS WORKS

The Clerk reported that the total closure of the A46 has been delayed until early May as a result of the extended length of time required to repair the Slad Road. The Clerk also reported that details of the revised bus schedules will be published in the Painswick Beacon.

8 TO RECEIVE MONTHLY COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

County Councillor Joan Nash detailed her report, a copy of which is attached to the minutes.

9. GLOUCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF PARISH & TOWN COUNCIL'S UPDATE MAGAZINE – TO CONSIDER FUTURE FORMAT

The Council agreed that an electronic version of the publication would be sufficient.

10. EMERGENCY PLAN

Cllr Martin Slinger reported that he was advised during a recent conference that when completing the Emergency Plan at least one resident of every street who has e-mail facilities should be included in the plan.

11. RFO REPORTS

- a. To agree payments in accordance with the budget as listed in the attached report. The payments were approved.
- b. To appoint an independent internal auditor for the year ended 31 March 2010. The Council agreed to appoint Iain A Selkirk as its auditor.
- c. To consider a request for funding towards the Painswick Arts Festival 2010. The Council agreed to the following:
 - To pay for the printing of posters, leaflets and programmes up to £400.00.
 - To pay for a larger street banner up to £250.00
 - To set aside the sum of £300.00 for contingencies, the funds being made available from the Special Events Fund.

12. WARD REPORTS

- a. Telephone Kiosk – Sheepscombe. Cllr Dhushy Mahendran asked for an update on its adoption. The Clerk advised that it had been agreed for the kiosk to be adopted and that we were waiting for the machinery to be removed.
- b. Resignation – Cllr Dhushy Mahendran. Cllr Mahendran tendered his resignation due to a promotion at work. He thanked all the members and stated that it had been a pleasure to serve on the Council with them. The Chairman thanked Cllr Mahendran for all of his work and congratulated him upon his promotion. **CLERK**
- c. Disabled Parking outside Londis. Cllr Ann Daniels reported upon the misuse of the disabled parking bay.
- d. Staddle Stones – Slad War Memorial. Cllr Jackie Woof asked when they were to be replaced. Cllr Martin Slinger advised that they would be erected in the near future.

- e. Litter Bin – Swifts Hill. Cllr Jackie Woof asked if consideration could be given to a litter bin for Swifts Hill. It was agreed to speak with the Nature Reserve’s Manager, Mr P Bradshaw. **CLERK**
- f. Lorries – Tom George’s Stables. Cllr Jackie Woof asked if we could write to Tom George to ask if smaller lorries could be used to deliver feed as recently one caused damage to the electricity supply.
- g. Slad Valley News. Cllr Jackie Woof asked if the remainder of her precept, £402.00, could be used towards the Slad Valley News. The Council agreed.
- h. Footpath – Kings Mill House. Cllr Ela Pathak-Sen reported a dangerous hole. It was agreed that Cllr Martin Slinger would investigate. **MS**

13. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

- a. Coopers Hill Road Closure. Cllr Ann Burges Watson reported the details of a recent meeting that she had attended with Cllr David Hudson.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 21 April 2010 at 7.30 p.m.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.30 PM.