

PAINSWICK PARISH COUNCIL**MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
ON WEDNESDAY 18TH JULY 2018 AT 7.30 P.M. – IN
EDGE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr Martin Slinger (Chairman)
Cllr Ann Daniels
Cllr Ian James
Cllr Rob Lewis

In attendance: 4 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press
District Councillor Nigel Cooper
County Councillor Keith Rippington

CATBRAIN QUARRY

Amaury and Selina Blow kindly gave an update on the works to repair the damage at Catbrain Quarry, they advised that a Method Statement has been drawn up with a completion time of September 2018 and that a copy of the Method Statement would be made available to the Clerk. They also advised that Natural England will be conducting a visual site visit shortly to ensure compliance. Finally, they asked if Members of the Public had further concerns about any issues on the Beacon that they report then directly to them.

The Chairman thanked the Manorship for attended the meeting and for the comprehensive update.

PRESENTATION

The Council held a formal presentation to Carol Novoth and thanked her for her 10 years of outstanding service to the Parish.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Mrs Carolyn Luke asked the following questions:

Enclosure of land at Golf Course Rd.

The house just beyond Beggars Roost has erected plastic electric fence posts and draped electric fencing tape (non-electrified) along the edge of the carriageway, returning in towards the house, thereby creating an enclosure. It effectively prevents walkers from using this piece of common and necessitates crossing the road to avoid walking along the carriageway.

Has the Parish Council spoken to the householder on this matter?

The Council agreed to write a polite letter to the landowner reminding them of the requirement not to enclose Common Land.

Re: Blakewell Farm, Edge Road, Painswick

The Parish Council will remember a planning application (17/2864/COU) at Blakewell Farm, seeking to change an orchard into a garden. There were many objections, including from the Parish Council. The application was withdrawn

(23.2.2018), although the change of use, including erection of a garden pergola, had already taken place.

Despite phone calls to the planning officer concerned, followed by a letter to Stroud Planning Department sent on 31 March, the Society has had no response to our inquiry, asking how an application could be withdrawn post-development? We also raised the matter of the excessive gates (over 1 metre high) on the boundary with the highway, which were not part of the original planning application.

Please can the Parish Council pursue the matter of the change of use and the gates at Blakewell Farm?

The Council agreed to ask the Stroud District Council Enforcement Officer to investigate and provide feedback.

The Chairman reported that the Deputy Clerk, Irena Litton has passed her CiCLA. The Council extended its congratulations to Mrs Litton.

1. TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Council accepted apologies for absence from Cllrs Roey Parker, Abigail Smith, James Cross, Edward Crownshaw, Dawn Dart, Rosie Nash and Mike Fletcher.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

There were none.

3. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20TH JUNE 2018.

The Minutes were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS OF URGENCY

There were none.

5. TO RECEIVE THE MONTHLY COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Keith Rippington updated the Council upon a recent inspection and the areas of concerns raised, he also reported upon the recent resignation of the Chief Fire Officer. Finally, he reported upon Highways matters in the Parish, including street lighting in Vicarage Street. The Council asked the County Councillor to ensure that the loose manhole covers along New Street are properly repaired when the A46 is resurfaced.

6. TO RECEIVE THE MONTHLY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

District Councillor Nigel Cooper gave the following report:

“Car Parks

Public consultation has started on the question of introducing car park charges in Nailsworth, Dursley, Wotton-u-Edge, & Stratford Park. Consultation would appear to be a bit academic as these measures are included in the latest glossy Corporate Delivery Plan, so it would seem the decision has already been made. I do not support these measures which I believe is just aimed at raising revenue and not to increase “churn” of car park spaces. I believe the expert consultants report is

profoundly flawed. We have a Council meeting tomorrow where one of my Conservative colleagues is introducing a motion that, if passed, will take the decision on new parking charges away from the Strategy and Resources Committee, and move to full Council. I will support it, then vote against the charges at full council.

Stroud Subscription Rooms, owned by SDC

I mentioned this last month. On July 12th the deal with Stroud Town Council (STC) was passed. Consideration is £1, plus SDC must replace the roof (£125k), continue paying the costs to April 2019 (£300k), and give STC a gift of £230k. I said at the committee meeting that it might be a good deal for STC, but was a terrible deal for the taxpayer. If we had accepted the offer from Ecotricity last December to buy the Sub Rooms SDC (and the taxpayer) would be £1m better off. Needless to say I voted against it.

SDC Chief Executive

David Hagg is 65 and retires in October. I am involved in the selection process, consultants have already interviewed the short list of 10 that we drew up from the 23 CV's presented to us, next step will be for the selection panel to reduce that list to 6 for a full day of assessment involving, psychometric tests and various interviews and presentations. Staff, councillors and external stakeholders will be involved. Following that the selection panel will reduce that list further, hold final interviews, then make a decision which will go to a full Council meeting on August 9th for ratification."

Finally, the District Councillor acknowledged receipt of correspondence from Mr John Sidwell regarding his concerns about the garden waste scheme and advised that he will respond to Mr Sidwell shortly.

7. TO CONSIDER MAKING COMMENTS IN REGARDS TO THE DISTRICT COUNCILS PARKING REVIEW CONSULTATION.

The Council raised its concern at the report commissioned by the District Council, recommending the introduction of a parking levy, indicating that it was not fit for purpose and it did not justify or provide adequate evidence that would suggest that a levy would not damage the local economies. Finally, the Council offered its support to the Town Councils if they wish to pursue this matter through a Judicial Review.

8. TO DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ANY ACTIONS IN REGARDS THE SPEED LIMITS WITHIN EDGE.

The Council agreed that the Ward Councillor would gauge local opinion before further consideration is given to this matter.

9. TO NOTE THE NEW NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDEN AREAS.

The Council took note of its new Neighbourhood Warden, Peter Tiley. The Council agreed to write a letter to the District Council Chief Executive expressing its concern at the total lack of consultation, the fact that the Council is losing an experienced officer who has built up an understanding of the local intricacies of the rural community, and also asking why the role has changed in that the wardens are carrying out a lot more District Council core based functions.

10. A4173 SPEEDING TRAFFIC CONCERSNS

The Council agreed that the Ward Councillor would gauge local opinion before further consideration is given to this matter.

11. RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER REPORTS

a. To agree payments in accordance with the budget as listed in the attached report.

The Council confirmed the payments.

12. WARD REPORTS

a. Sheepscombe Church Grounds upkeep. The Council approved payment of the budget allocation of £500.00 toward the Church grounds upkeep.

b. Shrub Clearance Sheepscombe, opposite the Village Green. The Council agreed to clear undertake the shrub clearance.

13. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

a. Sheepscombe Village Hall, Cllr Ian James reported that Mr Quentin Thomson has been elected as the new Village Hall Chairman.

14. DATE OF NEXT

The Council agreed to hold its next meeting on Wednesday 19th September 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.52 PM