

## **PAILTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting held  
at Pailton Village Hall, on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2008 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs. A. Gillias (Chairman & RBC) P. Morris-Jones (WCC)  
D. Swindell (Vice Chairman) M. Barnett J. Fitzsimons

### **Open Meeting.**

There was one representative of the Village Hall Trust Committee, one Police Officer, one PCSO and seven member's of the general public present.

PC Sally Bunyard reported that there had been no criminal activity reported over the past month in Pailton. There had been a suspicious incident reported earlier in the evening which was still being investigated. SB urged the public to report to the police any incidents of concern - so that they could be logged, otherwise it presented a false picture. On the recent PO robbery, SB reported that investigations were progressing. AG was concerned that a group of youths in cars had been gathering in the lane leading from Pailton to Easenhall. SB noted this. The two Rugby Police representatives were thanked by the Chairman for their attendance at the meeting & left the building.

Mrs Fitzsimons queried item 21 on the agenda & sought clarification on why this should be discussed when the facility of PO & Stores had ceased to exist. AG explained that the loss of the facility was to be discussed. Should any future planning permission application be submitted to RBC, Pailton Parish Council should be seen to have complied with TCR8, and given the 3 week timeframe, the PC would not have sufficient time to have fully consulted with the residents to establish their needs.

A resident queried the planning rules governing a cottage next to the old PO which had been subject to a change of use. AG reported that, as the owner of the cottage, he would be declaring an interest at the appropriate item on the agenda. Officially, it had never been anything other than a residential dwelling & it's use as an office had been before he had purchased the property. AG read out a report from a journal detailing a similar shop closure situation resulting in a fine & prosecution for the owner of a village shop. JF declared this as journalistic & inaccurate. Further discussion took place. AG confirmed that the working group was being set up to try to establish whether or not there was a need for a shop & if the WG did this by the means of a questionnaire, door-to-door, then the Parish Council would get the feedback. JF stated that he would like to see a village shop open elsewhere in Pailton & would do all he could to see this happen, if a clear need were to be established.

DS queried why this WG meeting had happened so quickly & without the Council being notified.. AG stated that he wished the Parish Council to be distanced from the WG so as not to prejudice the discussions. He stated that he had not known that the meeting had taken place until spoken to the next day by both P Barnett & B Goodfellow. It had been formed from interested residents who had expressed their views & wished to become involved & their names had been forwarded on to B Goodfellow.

JF wished for clarification on the remit of the WG. DS added that this was to be discussed later at the meeting presently taking place.

AG urged Cllrs to postpone further discussion on this topic until it came up on the agenda.

AG asked the public if there were any further questions in the open forum of the meeting.

A resident, Keith Busfield, who had attended the WG meeting, voiced his dissatisfaction & disapproval at what he saw as inaccuracies in the draft minutes of that meeting. AG answered the resident by pointing out that he (KB) had left the meeting early. Furthermore, had he stayed longer he could have had more input. KB further stated that the WG meeting was the worst he had ever attended, the atmosphere being both aggressive & negative.

Mr. T.Goodfellow wished to address the resident's statements regarding the conduct of the members of the WG. He had not been at the meeting but it had been held at his home &

disputed that it was aggressive but agreed that there had been no clear direction as this was being sought from the PC at tonight's meeting. It had been an open, frank exchange of views, as could be concluded from the draft minutes & the tensions apparent at the meeting tonight should be dropped or nothing could be achieved.

DS added that it was clear that the key to the WG's objectives was to establish a 'need' for a village shop - rather than a 'want' and the questionnaire should be carefully worded.

The Open Meeting ended at 8.25pm

(Please note: The above notes are for information & clarity. It is not a legal requirement of the clerk to minute any discussions at the 'Open Forum').

**196. Apologies.**

The Clerk had received apologies from Cllr S. Lenton due to family illness & J & H Cunliffe being away on holiday. The Chairman accepted these apologies, seconded by DS.

**197. Declarations of Interests**

AG declared an Interest in planning matters being a member of RBC Planning Committee & also an interest in 8, Lutterworth Road. JF declared a Personal Interest in matters relating to 10, Lutterworth Road, previously known as The Village Stores & P.O.

**198. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2007.**

All Cllrs. disagreed with the accuracy of the wording in Item 193. citing several omissions. The clerk suggested the item be retyped rather than amended by hand. The amended minutes to be presented at the next meeting. MB proposed the minutes a true and accurate account of proceedings - apart from Item 193 on P51, seconded by DS (subject to proposed changes)

**199. Matters Arising.**

P47. Clerk had posted a copy of the booklet plus accompanying letter to each farming family in the Revel area. No response to date.

P48. MB read out the response he had drafted to the Clerk of Brinklow PC outlining concerns about the future activities proposed for the Brinklow Quarry. Members approved the letter & clerk to send to Brinklow Parish Council Clerk to affirm support.

P48. AG had spoken L.Bailey who had agreed to dig out the blocked culvert before Spring 2008.

P48. AG had spoken with Steve Hannihan who was aware that the area in front of the Airey Houses was up for discussion at PPC meetings & had agreed to turf & plant after renovations were completed.

P49. Clerk had reported this complaint, but that it was already being dealt with.

P49. AG reported that a kerbstone had been displaced on the WM triangle & he had not had chance to finish bollards with gold paint as promised. All were pleased with the results & hoped that the bollards would have a deterring effect for HGVs turning & reversing around the triangle.

At this point The Chairman asked if everyone present was in full agreement for the item concerning the closure of the Village Stores & PO (Item 21 on agenda) was brought forward for discussion. All were in agreement.

**216.** AG addressed a resident's view (communicated to the clerk by e-mail during the week preceding the PPC meeting) which had suggested that, at the December PPC meeting, the clerk had moved this same item to the end of the agenda to enable the PC to discuss issues when the general public had left the room. The Chairman wished that everyone present was clear that the sole reason for dealing with this item at the end of the meeting was to allow all other items to be dealt with before this important item was discussed. The Chairman had been under the impression that a member of the Council might be declaring a Prejudicial Interest in this item & did not want him to stand outside in the cold. If dealt with at the end of the meeting the member concerned could have had the option of going home. AG impressed upon everyone present that Pailton Parish Council's meetings were always open & transparent & nothing underhand had taken place.

Cllrs. agreed that the priority was to give a clear remit to the Working group which was, fundamentally, to establish if there was a real 'need' for a village shop &, if this was the finding, explore the options of how this could be achieved.

The question was asked if S & J F would be willing to offer help to the WG. JF explained that he had offered his expertise but this had been declined by the WG. AG asked how much

experience JF had of running a shop. JF confirmed that he part-owned the building but the shop & PO was 100% in his wife's name.

AG stated that in the search to find the best options for the villagers of Pailton, many questions needed to be asked.

MB stated that the WG should be independent from the PC & allowed to formulate the questions, but the PC should be given the option to review the 'Needs Survey' questionnaire to ensure that it covers all aspects & that S & J F should be on the review panel to do this.

DS commented that it was vital that the right questions were asked. MB confirmed that closely following on from the survey should come the recommendations of what sort of shop, if any, could be sustained in Pailton.

AG had been contacted by Steve Pattalong, Warks. Rural Development Officer, from Warwickshire Rural Community Council, offering assistance in village shop issues. MB proposed, seconded by DS, that his name is passed to the WG in order that he might be invited to a WG meeting. AG called for a show of hands. All in favour of this proposal.

DS offered to draw up 'Terms of Reference' for the WG. AG stated that an Extraordinary Meeting should be convened asap to approve the ToR. AG added that in future, all Parish Council business regarding the village shop was to be discussed within the confines of the Village Hall & any decisions made would be within the boundaries of a proper, minuted, Parish Council meeting.

## **200. The Parish Plan**

In the absence of the Chairman of the Parish Plan, MB as Vice-Chairman gave a brief report.

At the P.Plan Committee meeting last week the comments received from RBC on the Housing Needs Survey were reviewed. After a few minor adjustments, it will be considered a live document, Parish Council to review it als

The Village Design Statement was discussed. After a few changes it would be ready for consideration. Professional help was still being sought to format the document.

## **201. Circulation Review from 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2007 meeting.**

The information sent from 'Filmscene' (mobile theatre) was of interest. Clerk to pass on details to VHT.

Still waiting to hear from Post Watch re. relocation of Post Office Facility.

## **202. Circulations.**

LCR - Official Journal of NALC

WCC - £8M Recycling Facility for Warwickshire.

Glasdon - Waste Bin Product Brochure for Local Councils.

### **Circulations received after 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2008**

WCC - Speed Review.

## **203. Correspondence.**

Society of Local Council Clerks - subs renewal (see A/Cs Payable) - Approved by members.

WCC - Offer of Replacement Sandbags - Members wished to take up the offer of free replacement sandbags from WCC.

RBC - Confirmation of RDF Grant (£774) to Bank Account for Bollards

RBC - Confirmation of Pailton Flood Grant (£570) to Bank Account

RBC - Council Tax Base 2008/9 (Precept Request by RBC for 8<sup>th</sup> January 2008)

2 Letters from residents detailing views on closure of Pailton PO & Stores (both circulated to members prior to meeting) for information.

The e-mails received from K. Busfield & letter + suggestions from P. Barnett were placed into the circulation file for further review by members. At the request of KB these are to be put onto display for the general public at the next meeting.

WCC - PHYLLIS Team - CC service leaflet for V.H. Notice board

Powergen (e.on) Notification of Electricity Price Increase - Increase not significant.

### **Correspondence received after 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2008**

AG had received a letter from Mr. Moss confirming the cost of a wreath for Remembrance Day.

The clerk had received an invoice from C. Fouracre for Phase III of work carried out on the playing field.

- Clerk to raise cheques for above two items for signing at next meeting.

- 204. Town and Country Planning - No new planning applications to review**  
**- Approval of Planning Application R07/1544/PLN (Land adj. to Pailton Lodge House).**  
 Cllrs were disappointed that RBC Planning Dept had approved this application after PPC members had raised objections.  
**- Update on building in-progress on Land at rear of 40, Coventry Road.**  
 The clerk had obtained details from the Estate Agent re. the new dwelling & submitted this to the Circulation File. Clerk handed over to MB the original plans & application docs. from the previous clerk's file.  
**- Footpaths & Use of Premises at Greenways Farm.**  
 The Chairman had noticed several lorries entering/leaving the site & members were concerned that a business was being conducted from a residential dwelling. Footpaths reported as still obstructed  
 AG was concerned that there had been several planning applications approved by RBC Planning Dept. despite objections from PPC. There was an enforcement issue with building construction development behind 40, Coventry Road, Greenways Farm (lorries & footpath) and also the Grain Store opposite.  
 AG asked the clerk to contact RBC Planning & request that one of their more senior Planning Officers attend the next meeting (AG also to speak to a senior Officer)
- 205. Report from WCC - Cllr. Phillip Morris-Jones**  
 PM-J also brought to the meeting, documents relating to WCC Speed Review for principal roads leading out of Rugby. PM-J reported that all villages were concerned about traffic speeding through villages, particularly HGVs. PPC were urged to contact Mr. Richard Elbourne who leads the review to try to get funding for speed activated signs in Pailton & on the issue of HGVs, illegally travelling through the village, PM-J recommended that Cllrs keep pressing for more signage on access roads to direct heavy vehicles away from the village.  
 PM-J also passed to the table information on the WCC Footpath Scheme of which Pailton has been a member for some time.
- 206. Report from RBC - Cllr. Anthony Gillias**  
 AG reported on the items of news in Rugby, namely, the chaos at Rugby Stn. due to over-running of major engineering works, construction work on the Western Relief Road & the new ASDA. Good news re. the awarding of funding for a new major cycle track & blocking of plans to build a new dog food factory. Major changes taking place & AG hoped that villages, particularly Pailton would benefit from these changes.
- 207. Progress of Blocked Culvert Clearance.**  
 AG had contacted L. Bailey who had agreed to begin work as soon as the weather permitted.
- 208. New Streetlight.**  
 Discussed. Clerk to contact ABB & another contractor to obtain two quotes possibly attaching new streetlight to wooden BT pole to reduce costs.
- 209. Footpaths.**  
 DS had had a meeting with M Kirchem (WCC Footpaths) in Pailton recently regarding obstructed footpaths. Some problems had been addressed & MK is to speak with the owners of the more problematic footpaths. AG suggested Cllrs conduct a site visit in order to take photos of the obstructions & other concerns (planning issues). DS reported that nearly all funding from the Footpath Scheme had been used - mainly on 'kissing gates' installed. All in agreement of site visit. Provisionally arranged for Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2008.
- 210. Pailton Playing Field**  
 Members expressed satisfaction at the work completed to date by the Contractor. Special note was given to the craftsmanship involved in the 'hedge-laying' (Midland Style) technique introduced by the contractor instead of a wooden fence. The mole-catching had not been finalised but due to be completed in two weeks. Clerk had sight of the 3<sup>rd</sup> invoice & would send a copy to R Rose @ RBC to facilitate BACS deposit of further funding into PPC bank account.
- 211. Funding for Proposed Flower Displays Sited at Village Entrances**  
 Discussed. MB wished to propose that either funding or surplus from Precept be allocated for this project. Members agreed that additional funding should be sought in the near future. AG reported that there was funding available for bulbs etc from RBC.  
 Clerk to contact Stephen Beasley re. funding.
- 212. Pailton Club**

No problems had been reported to the Council.

**213. Re-siting of Post Box.**

JF confirmed that he had no objections to leaving the post box in its present position for the time being. AG wished to have it minuted that the current post-box is listed & therefore can only be blanked off but cannot be removed.

**214. Budget & Precept for 2008/9**

This was discussed at length. Due to inadequate Precept requests over previous years the Council would now like to start building up at least 3 months running costs as reserves. This is considered prudent & good practice. Members were concerned that at the end of each accounting year there was only just enough income to pay the clerk. MB highlighted that the expenditure last year was £6,500 with no provision for training, shortfall on special projects, increase in streetlight maintenance & insurance or election costs. Members studied the Income/Expenditure a/c & the budget for 2008/9 and determined that the Parish Council's basic need for this Precept would be £8,500. AG seconded MB's proposal of £8500 & called for a show of hands. All in favour.

Clerk to notify RBC of this decision.

**215. Accounts for Payment and Account Balance.**

As at 03.01.2008

<u>Lloyds TSB Parish Plan Bank Statement (No.17)</u>	<u>£ 2363.45</u>
<u>Pailton Parish Plan Cashbook as at 01.01.2008</u>	<u>£ 2363.45</u>

Pailton Parish Council Cashbook as at 01.01.08	£1244.43
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Add:

RBC - Flood Funding	£ 570.00
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RBC - Bollard Project Grant	<u>£ 774.00</u>
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£1344.00

Less:

Invoices for Payment:

412- J. Pharoah December 07 Salary (No Exps)	£ 157.40
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413 - SLCC - Subs Renewal	£ 59.00
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414 - e.on - Streetlighting Supply Charge	£ 110.72
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D/D - Zurich Insurance	<u>£ 111.86</u>
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£ 438.98

<u>Parish Council Cashbook Balance 01.01.08</u>	<u>£2149.45</u>
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Parish Council Lloyds TSB Bank Statement no. 190	£2852.57
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Add: D/D Zurich Insurance	£ 111.86
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Less:

Unpresented cheque BHE No. 411	£ 204.45
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Unpresented cheque BHE No. 405	£ 171.55
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Payments to 07.01.08	<u>£ 438.98</u>
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£814.98

<u>Lloyds TSB Parish Council Bank Statement (190)</u>	<u>£2149.45</u>
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The Clerk urged members of the Council to check all balances against the Lloyds TSB Bank statements & then sign - to satisfy themselves that all accounts were in order & to ensure compliance with Internal Audit requirements.

**217. Other matters brought to the meeting for discussion & to be added to next agenda.**

Car parking in the village was still a problem, obstructing traffic, blocking wheelchair access etc

**218. Date of Next Meeting - 4<sup>th</sup> February 2008**

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 10.20pm

Signed: Anthony Gillias - Chairman

4<sup>th</sup> February 2008