

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PENN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 17 JULY 2008 IN THE PENN CHURCH HALL**

Present Cllrs Mrs M. Seymour(Chairman)
D.J.Baker
Mrs C.Barton
M.J.Bayley
M.A.Morley
M.Newth-West
C.Pointon-Taylor
M.J.Raszpla
J.D.Smiley
Clerk M.S.Green

Apologies Cllrs, , A.S.Hardie, D.J.White

**Minute No 983
Democratic
Quarter Hour**

Mrs Michelle Kirkland and four other residents of Larchlands outlined their strong objections to the current planning application to convert 3 Hazlemere Road into 6 residential units. The main focus of their concerns was on the effect on Larchlands of an inadequate number of car parking spaces. It was agreed that these concerns would be considered by the Parish Council. Cllr Rose advised them to contact Sir John Horsbrugh-Porter if they wanted the application to go to the district planning committee. There was further discussion under Planning below.

Francis Robinson, County Council Chairman reported that the County Highway's blitz on roads was well underway. Bucks traffic was increasing by 3 ½ % every year.

Cllr Nick Rose, CDC's Cabinet Member for Planning was present at our invitation to discuss our strong concerns about the handling of Conservation Area matters in general and in particular, the consent given to the demolition of Penn Ridge, Church Road. A frank exchange of views took place. There was also a brief discussion of the harmful effect of flood-lighting on the Conservation Area along Elm Road, the proposed closure of Hazlemere Post Office and the removal of under-used telephone boxes.

**Minute No 984
Minutes of Meeting
Held on 15 May 08**

The Minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman

**Minute No 985
Matters Arising
From Minutes**

It was agreed that all the matters would be covered in Committee reports

**Minute No 986
Reports From
Committees**

Planning - Cllr Hardie has now been elected as Chairman, but in his absence Cllr Mrs Seymour gave the report. There have been two meetings with 18 applications of which we have commented on seven. These were briefly reviewed and there was further discussion by the Planning Committee on:

3 Hazlemere Road - It was agreed that the car-parking concerns were valid and that we would send further comment to CDC to that effect.

Vodafone Base Station on Hazlemere Road - This is not yet an application, but is a request for comments by a surveyor looking for a suitable site. Our comments have been sent to Cllr Sir John Horsbrugh-Porter, at his request.

W/Hill Affordable houses - were not nominated for a Chiltern Conservation Board award because of poor flintwork, too much tarmac and a poor design of the flats.

Local Area Committee - held on 16 Jul 08. Cllr Bayley reported on the following matters:

Whielden Lane traffic calming scheme – Several alternatives have been considered after public consultation but it is the original scheme that will be implemented. Street lights will be needed and we will adopt them.

Bucks Locality Strategy – As a result of strong objections from Chiltern and South Bucks District Councils, the proposed replacement of the 4 Local Area Committees by 19 Local Area Forums has been postponed (in these two districts only), for further discussion.

Aircraft flight paths - The County Council has made strong objection to proposed changes, particularly from Northolt and Luton. It was not made clear for instance, that aircraft height proposals took no account that the Chilterns are about 600 ft above sea level.

B474 Footpath repairs - The tarmacing at both the Knotty Green and Penn ends has been completed.

Highways - Matters arising since the last meeting on 16 April 08 were:

Unnamed Lanes - We need to check if all the new name plates are yet up.

Outstanding tasks - Colin Jenkins has broken his arm and so we have no updated list of tasks completed and awaiting. Flooding at Forty Green, repair of W/Hill track, a new W/Hill gateway, potholes outside the Crown have all been done.

Community Gang – We need to check if and when they are due to return and for what tasks.

Saucy Corner - Nicholas King has agreed to repair the grass triangle.

Street naming – A meeting with David Stowe and a colleague from CDC was held to discuss the consultation procedures under which we would hand back responsibility for street naming.

Kissing gates W/Hill common - Two gates have now been installed on the Chiltern Way by a Chiltern Society working party and stones laid on muddy sections. The hedge at the entrance has been cut back.

Oak tree on A404 by Penn Street school field - The County Council has agreed to carry out safety work and Philip Hallam has been asked to quote for laying/planting the hedge below. A site meeting will be needed.

Forty Green Road speeding - Cllr Bayley will ask for the NAG speed watch device to be used when available and then we can consider what remedy is most suitable.

Forty Green Road hedge - The hedge outside Dower Close has overgrown the pavement. It has been reported to Highways on Call.

Eghams Wood Road - Repair of the whole road is needed not just random holes.

NAG AGM - is to be held in the Forty Green hall on Tuesday 21 Oct 08.

Recreation & Open Spaces - There had been no meeting and the following points were discussed:

Elm Road trees - The wych elms and a younger tree outside Snowdrop Cottage have been have been trimmed for £120..

Penn Street vicarage oaks - Two large oaks which have hitherto been considered part of the vicarage hedge turn out to be on the common. A quote of £160 for work needed was agreed. They will be added to our annual check.

W/Hill Play Area - The site on the common by the Butcher's Field FP and the line of the access path to it were discussed and agreed at a site meeting. There is to be a meeting with Laurie Johnson of Bucks Community Action to discuss funding sources. So far there is £2,000 from the Residents Association and up to £6,000 from the Parish Council.

Knotty Green allotments - All are taken. Rents of about £350 just cover water (£250) and hedge cutting (£80), but not extras like the new gates (£490).

Rent of £10 pa will be reviewed. Check if any advice from BALC/NALC.

Beacon Hill plots - A tenancy agreement has been drawn up and the number of tenants increased from three to five. Rents are now £25 to £50 pa. The mixed boundary hedge removed by the owner of the adjacent bungalow is to be replaced by him and a water supply is to be put in. Write to the owner for confirmation on line of hedge and water supply. An ash tree is to be removed (£80).

Baptist cemetery, Beacon Hill - Our 99 year lease now has 89 years to run and the lease holder has asked for an extension to 99 or preferably 125 years.

Write offering to ask the District Valuer, at the lease-holder's expense, for a recommended capital payment, pointing out that the Parish Council may well decide not to go ahead.

Widmer Pond - CWPC has unilaterally put up signs saying:

'A valid Environment Agency Rod Licence is required for all persons wishing to fish over the age of 12 years. If you are found fishing on the pond without a licence, you could be eligible for a £2,500 fine.'

This has not been discussed and agreed with Penn and a Joint Meeting should be called to discuss it.

The No Fishing sign by Elm Road is being ignored and PCSOs should be asked to enforce it.

Visibility for cars opposite the Red Lion is poor because of reeds.

Pond clearance with Chiltern Society - Widmer Pond, 8 Nov 08; Gawde Water, 14 Feb 09.

Potters Cross pond - No progress on clearing silt trap.

Potters Cross triangle - One post has been knocked down twice and now removed. Tom Barron has been asked to keep the grass clear of leaves and improve its quality.

Woodbridge Alley - write to Mr Burnett and ask that the wall be repaired.

Penn local members site meeting - A meeting is needed to consider:

- a) Future of Woodbridge Alley and proposal by Old English Developments to build on the adjacent garden plot
- b) Pedestrianisation of the shopping area
- c) Complaints of damage to The Granary by traffic on the main road.
- d) Widmer Pond - CWPC proposals for perimeter path, concrete seat bases and rod licences.
- e) CWPC proposal to acquire more land next to Pistles Pond from Penn School.

Millar Wood - now owned by P&TGRS and work on trees has started.

W/Hill common car cleaning notices - The operators come and go, mostly at weekends and should be discouraged from putting a notice on the common.

Finance & General Purposes - Matters arising since the last meeting on 1 May 08 were as follows:

Audit Return - We await the auditors report.

Annual Report 2007/08 - Copies are now out in W/Hill, Penn Street and parts of Penn. Those for Knotty Green, Forty Green and other parts of Penn will go out with the next Penn Church newsletter.

Penn Street field licence - This has been renewed for another 10 years with the County Council at an increased rent of £1,319 p.a.

Parish Office - The possibility of building an office behind the Penn Church Hall was discussed and will be investigated.

Sale of Stony Lane - is in the hands of the solicitors.

List of deeds - a list of all deeds and records held by Baily Gibson is being checked and clarified.

Minute No 987
Accounts for
Payment

The list of cheques was approved.

Minute No 988
Date of Next
Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 8 pm on Thursday 18 September 2008 in the Winchmore Hill Memorial Hall.

Minute No 989
AOB

There was none.