

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PENN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2008 IN THE WINCHMORE HILL MEMORIAL HALL**

- Present** Cllrs Mrs M. Seymour (Chairman)
D.J.Baker
M.J.Bayley
A.S.Hardie
M.A.Morley
C.Pointon-Taylor
M.J.Raszpla
J.D.Smiley
D.J.White
- Apologies** Cllrs Mrs C.Barton, M.Newth-West
County Cllr Francis Robinson
- Minute No 990
Democratic
Quarter Hour** **Mr Bill Calder** of the W/Hill Football Club argued that the Parish Council should include the football pitch in the five summer cuts of the rest of the common since no football was being played in the summer. This argument was accepted and will cost an additional £200 pa. It was later suggested that there could be grants from the FA for small clubs.
Mr Brian Lock, a prospective Parish Councillor, was present.
- Minute No 991
Minutes of Meeting
Held on 17 July 08** The Minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman
- Minute No 992
Matters Arising
From Minutes** It was agreed that all matters would be covered in Committee reports
- Minute No 993
Reports From
Committees** **Clerks/CDC Management Team – 28 Jul 08** Discussion had included:
The return of Road Naming administration to CDC; a note requested from parishes of previously developed land now vacant or derelict; the introduction of a weekly list of Planning applications and the need for a Planning decisions list; strong support for the retention of Local Area Committees against Local Area Forums; Post Office closures for which CDC were lobbying as much as possible with help from MP Cheryl Gillan.
- Highways -** The minutes of the last meeting on 3 Sep 08 had been circulated and the following matters were discussed:
New meeting schedule – The Committee now meets every two months to agree tasks for the two-monthly visit of the Community Gang. We are promised a report on what they actually did. Colin Jenkins will come to the meeting to report and advise. Pot holes are dealt with separately.
Saucy Corner - We have asked for a traditional fingerpost indicating W/Hill and Penn Street.
Yellow road stripes near the Red Lion, Penn - We were not notified of the intention of repainting these road markings as we had requested. It was agreed that we should consult local opinion via Village Voice and also enquire of Highways how feasible it would be to remove them.
Traffic monitoring is underway along Church road.
Unnamed roads - There has been a handful of determined protestors about the naming of Holtspur Lane and the two district councils have realised that a legal requirement to put up a notice at each end of the road announcing the intention to name the road, even though it was previously unnamed, was not followed. The

notices will therefore be put up and the road name covered over until a final decision is made. It was agreed that the two leading objectors should be invited to a meeting at Cllr Smiley's house to talk it over.

Signs to P&TG Sports & Social Club - The proposed signs are an improvement subject to advice on their size.

Joint meeting with CWPC - A brief summary was given of the draft minutes of the meeting on 8 Sep 08 which will be circulated shortly.

Neighbourhood Action Group - The meeting held on 16 Sep 08 had been very poorly attended with only three people present and no representatives of District or County. Speeding has been the main focus. The AGM, which is the second anniversary meeting, is to be held at 7.45 pm on Tuesday 21 October in the Forty Green Community Hall. Members are encouraged to attend.

Planning - There have been three meetings with 23 applications of which we have commented on nine. These were briefly reviewed and included: the conversion of 3 Hazlemere Road from a shop to six flats, which has now been refused; local protest about the proposed Vodaphone mast at the junction of Hazlemere Road and Penn road; our strong objection to the proposal for 12 flats to replace Old Drews; P&TG Tennis Club's application for a new clubhouse.

There was a further report on:

CDC's Core Strategy Options paper - the special Parish Council meeting called on 7 Aug 08 to discuss our response decided on Option 4 allowing limited release of Green Belt land around small villages for Affordable Housing.

Survey of vacant/derelict sites - Four were reported.

New planning rules wef 1 Oct 08 - they aim to remove the need for planning applications for small-scale works, but will not be applicable in Conservation Areas or AONB.

Penbury Grove - Anchor Trust, who had given a presentation before the Council Meeting, are interested in building a very up-market (£2,000 per week) care home for the elderly and may well submit an application.

Parish Council office - The suggestion of building a small, one-storey office as an extension behind the Penn Church Hall and using its existing facilities is being investigated with CDC planners and with the church. It was agreed to set up a small sub-committee consisting of the four Committee Chairmen, Cllrs Bayley, Morley, Raszpla, and Hardie and the Clerk. It was also noted appreciatively that former Chairman Christopher White has volunteered to advise and help as necessary.

Recreation & Open Spaces - - There had been no meeting but the following matters were discussed:

W/Hill Play Area - The site has been agreed and a meeting held to discuss possible sources of funds. The estimated cost is £33,500. Veolia can grant up to 70% of the project value. The Parish Council has promised up to £6,000; the Residents Association, £2,000; PCSO John Webb and Laurie Johnson of Bucks Community Action are separately checking other possibilities. It was agreed that the Parish Council should make application to Veolia for around £24,000.

Woodbridge Alley - the wall has been repaired.

KG allotment rents - To be reviewed at the next F&GP.

KG Recreation Ground - A site meeting with Cllr Baker, the Clerk and Tom Barron was agreed to review recommendations in the latest Wicksteed inspection report

PistlesPond - Two willows and an elm have died in the last few months, possibly of honey fungus. They are to be cut down and burned on the neighbouring Penn

School land at a cost of £420.

Easement off W/Hill Common track - The District Valuer has quoted £400 for a valuation of the capital sum due to the Parish Council for granting an easement to a new house. The applicant has been informed.

Finance & General Purposes - There had been no meeting but the following matters were discussed:

Checks of accounts – The Chairman reported that checks have been carried out up to the end of July and all is in good order.

Penn Church wall - no claim has yet been made on the £1,000 grant offered to Penn Church.

Sale of Stony Lane - This has been delayed by objections from Mr Pitcher about the definition of the boundary between Stony Lane and Roundheads Wood. A site meeting of all interested parties is to be called.

List of deeds and documents held by Bailey Gibson - This has been received.

Appointment of new Chairman - Cllr Raszpla offered to take over from Cllr White and this was agreed with thanks to both out-going and in-coming Chairmen.

Minute No 994
A new deal for
Buckinghamshire

Responsible Committee - It was agreed that since any services for which we might wish to seek devolvement were likely to be highways matters that the Highways Committee should be responsible for investigating further. The lack of Quality status should not affect any request to take over any additional functions.
Amersham Town Council - The Clerk's report of Amersham's £15,000 funding for taking on various County services was noted as was the possibility, if the first year went well, of Amersham offering a more local service to neighbouring parishes.

Minute No 995
Accounts for
Payment

The list of cheques was approved.

Minute No 996
Date of Next
Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 8 pm on Thursday 20 November 2008, for the first time in the new Penn Street Village Hall.

Minute No 997
Resignation of Cllr
D.White

Cllr White announced his resignation and was warmly thanked for his 10 years service and for his chairmanship of the F&GP. Cllr Mrs Seymour presented him with a small gift as a token of the Council's appreciation. Cllr White invited Members to a farewell drink at The Plough after the meeting.

Minute No 998
Nominee of Trustee
For Penn St Village
Hall charity

It was agreed that former Cllr David White should continue as the Parish Council's nominee as one of the three Trustees for the Penn Street Village Hall.

Minute No 999
Co-option
procedure

The casual vacancy resulting from a mid-term resignation requires a notice to be displayed in the ward (Penn Street and W/Hill) for 14 working days and then it is good practice to display notices throughout the parish announcing the intention to co-opt a new Member at the next Council meeting. This procedure is being followed and a notice was put up on 15 September.

Minute No 1000
AOB

A few points have been incorporated in the earlier report.