

MINUTES OF THE ERLESTOKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

7th May 2008

Open Forum: George Phillips addressed the council on various issues from the SSEB substation in The Park which may be moved and expanded to footpath 6. Cllr Gilbert commented on the land reinstatement where the new houses have been built in The Park. Cllr Oram gave Bob Miles apologies for not having cut the grass in The Park. His mower had broken down but as soon as it is fixed he will cut the grass.

Present: Councillors, Mr. S. Jonik (Chairman), Mr. M. Gilbert, Mr. R.L. Smith, Mr. A. Pinnington, Mrs. D. Oram, Mr. G. Chapman, Ms F Morgan-Frise and Mrs A Whittle (Clerk).

55/08 Apologies. No apologies received.

56/08 Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Cllr Jonik was re-elected as Chairman by a vote of 4 for, 1 abstention and 1 against. Cllr Pinnington was elected as Vice-Chairman by a unanimous vote of 6 in favour.

57/08 Declaration of Interest. No declarations of interest were made.

58/08 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 27th of March 2008.

The minutes were accepted after the addition of Cllr Morgan-Frise to the list of Councillors present.

59/08 Appointment of representatives and meetings calendar 08/09

The following appointments were made and provisional dates agreed for meetings.

APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES 2008/09

FOOTPATHS	Cllrs Chapman and Gilbert
POLICE LIAISON	Cllr Jonik
HM PRISON ERLESTOKE	Cllr Pinnington
MOD	Cllrs Morgan-Frise and Loraine-Smith
WEBSITE	Cllr Jonik
PARISH STEWARD	Cllrs Loraine-Smith and Oram
CLUSTER GROUP	Cllr Morgan-Frise
BUDGET GROUP	Cllrs Pinnington, Jonik, Morgan-Frise and the clerk
HIGHWAYS	Cllr Pinnington

MEETINGS CALENDAR 08/09

Start at 7.15pm. Venue to be notified

Thursday May 7th 2008	Thursday December 4th 2008
Thursday June 19th 2008	Thursday January 15th 2009
Thursday July 31st 2008	Thursday February 26th 2009
Wednesday Sept 3rd 2008	Thursday April 9th 2009
Thursday October 23rd 2008	Thursday May 21st 2009

Thursday 23rd April 2009 - Annual Parish Meeting

7.30pm - Venue to be advised

60/08 Planning

K/58282/F – 44 High Street – Retention of extension to summer house - **Permission**

61/08 Village hall closure – and to discuss arrangements for a new venue for Parish Council meetings.

Cllr Loraine-Smith gave a brief report to the council explaining that due to the cost of insurance, maintenance and wages as well as works needing to be undertaken to the electrics and other items for health and safety reasons, the hall committee unanimously decided to close the hall. The bookings have dramatically dropped and therefore the income would not sustain the works required and day to day running of the hall. The committee does still intend to raise monies for a new hall to be built. The planning approval given in 2004 expires on the 2nd of September 2009. Following his report the council discussed the situation of a new venue being required to hold Parish Council meetings. Various suggestions were put forward from the church to the cricket club clubhouse and the village pub. The clerk explained that she had spoken to Katie Fielding at

Community First who had advised that a church is not seen as a suitable venue for meetings on religious grounds. It was finally resolved by a vote of 6 in favour and 1 abstention that the clerk and chairman would look into using the upstairs room of the pub with the possibility of access from the door in car park rather than the front door. The chairman would also ask Adrian Hampton if using the hall for meetings was still an option although the building will have no insurance.

62/08 Section 106 Funds Update

The clerk explained that she was in the process of compiling a list of the equipment that the children had chosen at the open morning in March from which she will get quotes from the various companies. She will then call an extra ordinary meeting for the council to view the new plans and costings and make a decision on what equipment to purchase. The clerk would speak to Kennet to find out how and when we can draw down the monies.

63/08 Matters Arising:

Action 74/07 Land Registration There was nothing to report at this meeting.

SSEB Sub Station – Siting of new larger station Cllr Jonik explained that he had written to the Wayleave officer asking for £60 a year back dated to 2000 i.e. £480. If nothing it should prompt them to get a move on with arranging a new agreement with the council.

Council insurance – clerk to advise on level of cover The clerk advised that she was still awaiting the letters of confirmation regarding the parking liability on the Secret Garden from both the council's insurers and the cricket clubs insurers.

64/08 Removal of notice boards from old Post Office and re-siting

After discussion the council resolved to move the notice boards from the Post Office wall to the outside of the Bus Shelter. Cllr Oram explained that the clerk will have to write to Sarsen housing asking them for permission as there is a covenant on the original transfer paperwork from when the council purchased the land from Kennet District Council stating that only signs regarding bus services could be placed in the shelter. The clerk said she would take this forward.

65/08 Mole hills in the park

After discussion the council resolved by a vote of 5 in favour and 2 abstentions to employ the services of the mole catcher used previously by the council to resolve the problem.

66/08 Clerks update - Swing seats and base – replacement and purchase of dog fouling signs

The clerk advised the council that she had purchased the swing seats and new chains at a cost of £378 and they were being dispatched as soon as possible. Having inspected the swing frames she had obtained a quote to purchase paint and primer to revamp the frames. The council resolved to accept the quote of £98.75. The dog fouling signs were passed to the chairman for installation.

67/08 Parish Steward visit – 10th June

It was agreed that the steward would be asked to tidy or replace the 3 sign posts outside the Post Office. Also there is a large hole in the tarmac road surface in The Park.

68/08 To consider items of Correspondence needing a reply

BT Consultation on public payphone removals. The council resolved to object to the plan to remove the pay phone outside the prison as this is still required by prison visitors.

69/08 To confirm the Financial Statement for April & accounts for payment

The financial statements for March and April were accepted and the following agreed for payment.
Mrs A Whittle – Hours and Expenses - £694.79 WALC – Membership – £59.24
Community First – Membership - £34.00 Community First – Insurance – £399.06
Website annual fees - £42.30

70/08 To receive reports from Village Representatives

Cllr Jonik had received an invitation to the Parish Liaison Day on the 26th of June. It was decided that Cllrs Pinnington, Morgan-Frise and Loraine-Smith would attend on the council's behalf.

Cllr Pinnington reported that he had spoken to Keith Davis at the prison about the tree planting on the prison boundary. It seems that although the trees were purchased they have not been planted and are now being sold in the prison plant shop.

71/08 Next meeting – 19th June 2008 – venue to be advised

The meeting closed at 10pm