

CAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD WEDNESDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2010 AT 6.30PM IN THE COUNCIL SHOP

PRESENT:

M Clifton (Chair), B Whatling	Upper Ward
D Andrewartha, J Tyndall, J Fowles	Lower ward
J Daniel, B Powell, J Hudson	Central Ward
D Pritchard, N Ledoux, J Sherman	Woodfield Ward

APOLOGIES: J Pearce, M Poole, R Sherman, M Nolder

IN ATTENDANCE: S Hanman (Clerk)

09.191. Chairman's announcements

Council was advised that the County Accreditation Panel had that day approved the Council's application for re-accreditation for Quality Council status. Thanks were extended to the Clerk and Deputy Clerk for their work in preparing the portfolio.

09.192. To Receive and Accept Apologies for absence

Apologies as listed above were received and accepted.

09.193. To Receive Declarations of Interest

None made

09.194. To Approve and Sign Minutes of the Meeting of 2nd December 2009 as a True and Correct Record

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes be accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

09.195. To Note Matters Arising from the Minutes not covered by agenda items (for information only)

None raised

09.196. To note general correspondence received

The following were noted:

- **Churches Together** – Thanks for donation from Coffee Morning for Christmas event
- **Nailsworth Fairtrade Town Group** – Notification of a Social Evening and film on Thursday 18th February (7.30pm Christchurch Hall) – Film about a village in Tanzania which has benefitted from fundraising by the Minchinhampton/Nkokoto Link group. Other villages in Tanzania are interested in similar schemes, which could be set up in other Stroud District towns. There will be light refreshments and a stall selling Fairtrade goods.
- **GAPTC** - January Update (Local Council Awards, National Family Week, Post Office closures, free community websites, plans to help local people operate community facilities, revitalisation of market towns, Internal Audit, Gloucestershire Highways report, burials guidance, events, information on LINK)

- **Golden Valley Classic MCC** – Notification that the event for solo and combination motorcycles will again pass through Cam on Sunday 7th March.
- **Clerks & Councils Direct** – Newsletter
- **SLCC** – Newsletter
- **Gloucestershire Rural Renaissance** - review newsletter

09.197. To Receive Minutes of Meetings of the Following Committees

Minutes of the following were received and noted:

Recreation & Leisure – 9th December

Planning & Highways – 2nd December, 16th December, 20th January

Sustainability – 21st December

Development & Premises – 27th January – To follow

09.198. To further consider plans for development at Chapel Street and consider proposal to the District Council

A full report of the proposals of D&P Committee in respect of development of the Chapel Street site had been circulated (copy attached). It was agreed that this proposal represented the best way forward to deliver development of the site that will address community needs and be achievable as quickly as possible. It was therefore RESOLVED that the contents of the report be submitted to the District Council as the proposal to be included in the Report to the March Cabinet meeting.

Should the above approach to the development of the site be unsuccessful, further consideration would be given to the use of a Community Land Trust to deliver a suitable development.

09.199. To authorise further repairs to changing rooms at Jubilee Playing Field

Further advice from the football club representative on the extent of further works necessary was still awaited. This would continue to be chased but a second professional opinion and quote would also be sought.

09.200. To receive and comment on report of Internal Auditor for 2009/10 accounts

The full report had been presented to FGP Committee on Monday 1st February, where it had been agreed to recommend adoption. Council now formally accepted and adopted the report, which had indicated no areas of concern.

09.201. To consider purchase of online mapping facility

It was noted that the licence to use an online mapping service which had been purchased some years ago was no longer valid, as the company concerned had ceased trading. Details had recently been received, via the District Council, of another online service, which seems to provide even more scope for producing and annotating maps of the local area, and is significantly cheaper than the previous service. The service could be purchased for an initial setup charge of £20 plus an annual fee of £85 for a parish of this size. However, the District Council was looking into whether this cost could be reduced if it were to co-ordinate a group purchase to cover interested parishes within the District – more details of this were awaited. It was RESOLVED in principle, to purchase the service at the full cost if necessary, but to await further information from the District Council before so doing.

09.202. To consider financial contribution to support the 2010 Scratch 'n' Sk8 event at the Jubilee Field

It was agreed that this event had been very successful in recent years, providing several days of events and activities for young people and families during the summer. However, this year some of the funding that had previously been available had been withdrawn and the Youth Service had asked the Parish Council if it could provide some financial support. They would be seeking other support, including from the Youth opportunity Fund, which provided £4000 last year, when the total cost of the event was £5500. It was RESOLVED in principle,

to support this event by contributing to any shortfall after other sources of funding have been exhausted. Funding would come from the Contingency budget or any surplus in the Grants budget. It was also agreed that the process for allocating annual grants be reviewed, with a view to making allowance for in-year applications.

09.203. To receive and comment on report from Chartered Parishes meeting of 26th January

Report circulated and noted.

09.204. To note training opportunities available and confirm attendance

Essential Guide to Project management – It was RESOLVED that the Clerk and Deputy Clerk be registered for this course on 29th September, at a cost of £95 + VAT each.

09.205. To Receive Monthly Report from Neighbourhood Warden Service, note Crime & Disorder issues and discuss possible actions

a) **Warden's Report** - Latest report circulated

b) **To note any Crime and Disorder issues and consider any necessary action** – Issues of anti-social behaviour in both Hopton Road (walls being pushed down) and Woodfield Road would be reported at the next CADA meeting, which would be attended by Cllr Whatling.

09.206. To Discuss County Council Matters and Receive Report from County Councillors (if any)

a) **To receive reports from County Councillors**

Cllr Andrewartha reported: With reference to the recent press report of £5m damage to roads from the severe weather, he had, together with Cllr Whatling, met with John Roberts, the Area Stakeholder Manager, to discuss issues in Cam. Highway inspections were continuing, but it had been noted that, other than emergency work, only A and B roads would be repaired for the time being. Gloucestershire Highways were mounting an exercise (Operation Road Rescue) to deal with potholes, with a three pronged strategy that would deal with the worst potholes first – which could mean that in any one area, some severe holes could be repaired whilst other more minor ones in the same area might not. The second course of action would be to patch larger areas of damage, with about £1.2m worth of work in progress. Full resurfacing of some roads would also be undertaken where necessary, with the programme being reviewed to ensure that the worst areas are dealt with quickly, which could result in some areas that had been programmed in being deferred. The increase in Council Tax for the County Council was proposed to be 2.3%, which would support increased funding for the Children & Young People and Community & Adult Care Directorates. There was a continuing requirement for savings, with £13.2m needed for the coming year, due partly to last year's savings not being fully achieved. It was estimated that a 27% reduction in costs would be needed over 3 years. Some initial funding was being committed to finance in-house initiatives to reduce long term costs. It was noted that, in an effort to address their own funding issues, principal authorities were increasingly looking to devolve more functions to town and parish councils, although usually without adequate financial support. Such opportunities would need to be carefully considered, both with regard to the pressure on the precept and to the ongoing responsibility that would ensue.

09.207. To Discuss District Council Matters Affecting the Parish and Receive Reports from District Councillors (if any)

a) **To receive reports from District Councillors**

Cllr Fowles reported: There were 2 main issues at present – the Core Strategy/SHLAA and the review of sheltered housing. With regard to the Core Strategy it was noted that a number of the proposed options for residential development would place a quantity of new homes in the Cam area. Options evolving from the sheltered housing review included keeping scheme managers in the larger units with other units to be covered by roving managers, or having roving managers only. There was also a possibility that smaller units might be linked so they share a manager.

Cllr Hudson reported – The sheltered housing review would be discussed at the Housing Management forum on 5th March, where tenants would be able to participate.

The budget had not yet been finalised, pending figures from the County Council.

The Civic Ball had been cancelled due to poor ticket sales.

- b) **To comment on Strategic Housing Land Allocation Assessment and note arrangements for consultation on Core Strategy** – Details of the SHLAA had been circulated, including a pdf relating to all the sites put forward in Cam. It was reported that leaflets would shortly be available for all Councillors on the Core Strategy, into which the SHLAA would feed in terms of identifying potential areas for development. The Core Strategy would be discussed at the next Planning & Highways Committee, which would consider what, if any, future development might be appropriate for Cam. It was noted that a proper Parish Plan for Cam would be helpful in supporting the local view, although there would not be time to prepare such in the current consultation period, which would run from 8th February to 22nd March. However, public consultation could inform a document to be submitted indicating what development would be appropriate and acceptable in Cam. It was noted that a drop-in session would be held for the public at the Council Shop on 22nd March and that there would also be an event for local Councillors, for which arrangements had still to be finalised.

09.208. To approve accounts for payment, sign cheques and Note Additional Payments Made

It was RESOLVED that accounts as per the attached list be approved and cheques signed.

09.209. To appoint internal controls Member for January accounts

Cllr Clifton would undertake this

09.210. To note items for information or referral only

None raised. There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 7.35pm.