

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF POLESWORTH PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE TITHE BARN, POLESWORTH,
ON WEDNESDAY, 6TH JANUARY, 2010

PRESENT: Councillor M.E. Stanley, in the Chair,
Councillors Mrs Ball, Critchley, Hipkiss, Meredith, Parsons, Mrs Pugh, and Mrs Stanley.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Butcher, Smitten and Mrs Smitten submitted apologies for absence.

700. MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on December 4, 2009, copies having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

701. VAT REVIEW:

(696) Following submission of the income and VAT summaries for 2006/07 and 2007/08, referred to in minute 696 of the December meeting of the Parish Council, the reviewer had accepted that the Council's Output Tax declarations for those two years were correct and had completed the review without further queries.

702. BRITISH TELECOMMUNICATIONS' EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION, ORTON ROAD, WARTON:

(697) Having contacted British Telecommunications plc, Councillor Meredith had visited the site of the above installation, with the company's contractor. Barriers had been placed around the site, pending delivery and erection of a new protective cover.

703. WARTON HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY:

(665) A letter was received from Mr Ward, Rural Housing Enabler, W.R.C.C., acknowledging the Parish Council's reservations regarding sites 1 and 2 and confirming that Warwickshire Rural Housing Association had agreed to produce a draft layout for an affordable housing scheme on site 3. When available, a copy would be sent to the Parish Council for its consideration. Mr Ward would be available to attend a Council meeting to discuss the draft layout. He confirmed his willingness to hold a public consultation event at Warton, covering the results of the Housing Needs Survey, the reasons why sites 1 and 2 were considered unsuitable and details of the proposed layout for site 3.

RESOLVED:

That, in acknowledgement of Mr Ward's letter, the Parish Council confirms its agreement to having a public consultation event at Warton on the lines suggested by him.

704. APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE — POLESWORTH SCOUT GROUP:

(685) Further to minute 685 of the meeting of the Parish Council held on December 2, 2009, Councillors gave detailed consideration to the above application for a grant of up to £2,937.50, for the purchase of two, 20-foot long containers for the storage of equipment pending the erection of a new headquarters building.

Prior to the meeting being opened up for discussion, the Chairman reported the contents of an email from the Chairman of the Scout Group, which were discussed at some length. However, Councillors had questions which remained unanswered.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That further consideration of the application be deferred pending receipt of replies to queries raised by Councillors during the discussion; and
- (ii) That the Clerk writes to the Chairman of Polesworth Scout Group seeking answers to the matters referred to in (i) above.

705. GARDEN ALLOTMENTS:**RESOLVED:**

That this item be deferred, without discussion, until Councillor Butcher is able to be present.

706. DRAFT ESTIMATES, 2010/11:

With regard to the above, the meeting was asked to determine dates and times for meetings of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee, the Tithe Barn Management Committee and the Finance Committee.

RESOLVED:

That meetings of Committees to consider draft proposals for the Parish Council's estimates of expenditure, income and precept for the financial year 2010/2011, shall be held in the Tithe Barn, Polesworth, on the following dates and at the commencement times indicated:

- (a) Parks & Opens Spaces Committee — Tuesday, 19th January, 2010, commencing at 8.30 a.m.;
- (b) Tithe Barn Management Committee — Tuesday, 19th January, 2010, commencing at 9.30 a.m. or upon the rising of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee, whichever is the sooner; and
- (c) Finance Committee — Wednesday, January 27, 2010, commencing at 7.00 p.m.

707. POLESWORTH POETRY TRAIL:

Councillor Meredith reported on the completion of phase 1 of the Poetry Trail and requested the Parish Council to consider providing a sum of money up to a maximum of £25.00 for shrubs and flowers to be planted around the installation on the corner of High Street and Bridge Street, Polesworth.

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Meredith be authorised to purchase and plant flowers and shrubs around the Poetry Trail installation sited at the corner of High Street and Bridge Street, Polesworth, to a maximum sum of £25.00, which would be reimbursed by the Parish Council on presentation of the appropriate receipts.

708. REQUEST FOR GRIT BIN OUTSIDE FIRE STATION, TAMWORTH ROAD, POLESWORTH:

The Clerk reported on a request from Atherstone Fire Station for the provision of a grit bin at the above location, which did not meet the Parish Council's policy for the supply of grit bins.

Following consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council, the Clerk had informed Atherstone Fire Station that the request could not be supported and explained the Council's policy on the supply of grit bins.

RESOLVED:

That the action of the Clerk, following consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council, as described above, be confirmed.

709. COUNTY HIGHWAYS ROAD GRITTING PROGRAMME, WINTER 2009/2010:

With regard to the above programme, the Clerk reported that Warwickshire County Highways' stock of road grit was running low. In consequence, the refilling of grit bins had been suspended and the authority was reserving its stocks for use on bus routes and primary roads, in line with the other highway authorities throughout the United Kingdom.

The Clerk had drawn the attention of the Area Highways North to the difficulties being experienced by residents of the Dexter Way housing estate, which was built on a particularly steep hill and had suggested the roads on that

estate should be considered for inclusion in future road gritting programmes. Councillors reported on other roads within the Parish which suffered from lack of gritting.

RESOLVED:

That Councillors make a list of roads meriting inclusion in a gritting programme, for discussion at a future meeting.

710. BIRCHMOOR W.M.C. – PROPOSED FUN DAY:

To mark its one hundredth anniversary, Birchmoor Working Men's Club proposed to hold a Fun Day on 17th July, 2010, and had requested permission to use the Birchmoor recreation ground for the event.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That Birchmoor W.M.C.'s request for the use of the recreation ground at Birchmoor for a celebratory Fun Day on 17th July, 2010, be approved, subject to the usual conditions imposed by the Parish Council for such events; and
- (ii) That the Parish Council's congratulations be conveyed to Birchmoor W.M.C. on attaining its centenary.

711. AGREED PROPERTY NAMES AND ADDRESSES:

Notification was received from North Warwickshire Borough Council of agreed names and addresses of the following properties within the Parish:

- (a) Briars Barn Day Services Opportunities, Briars Barn, Station Road, Polesworth, Tamworth, B79 0EH; and
- (b) Douce Folie, 74 Fairfields Hill, Polesworth, Tamworth, B78 1HQ.

712. N.W.B.C. – PLAY AREA EVALUATION:

It was noted that the Borough Council was inviting comment on the implementation of its Play Area Development Programme (Phase 1).

713. WARWICKSHIRE LINK:

Details of the above Local Involvement Network, set up to listen to local concerns about health and social care services, and its powers to influence how services are planned and run, were received and noted.

714. PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED:

The following publications were received:

- N.A.L.C. Direct Information Service, issues 723 & 724;
- C.A.V.A. Newsletter, Autumn, 2009;
- C.P.R.E. Fieldwork, December, 2009; and
- W.C.C. Primetime, issue 8, December, 2009.

715. PLANNING MATTERS:

(a) Weekly Lists:

Copies of lists 47 to 51, inclusive, were submitted, together with details of applications on those lists for development within the Parish, but there were no comments which the Council wished to be formally submitted to the district planning authority.

(b) Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council – Local Development Framework, Adoption of Core Strategy Development Plan and Ratby Village Design Statement Supplementary Planning:

Notice was received that the above document had been adopted on December 15, 2009.

(c) Parking of Heavy Goods Vehicle:

It was noted that, following the appearance of a public notice in the *Tamworth Herald*, regarding a licence for the parking of heavy good vehicle at premises within Polesworth, N.W.B.C.'s Planning Control had advised the proprietor of the premises that the proposal would result in a material change of use, requiring a formal planning application.

716. TRANSFER BETWEEN BANK ACCOUNTS:

The Clerk reported on a transfer of funds from the Parish Council's Business Money Manager Account (1) to its Treasurer Account which he had arranged, under his delegated powers, for 8th January, 2010.

717. ACCOUNTS PAID AND FOR PAYMENT:

Invoices and details of accounts paid and due for payment were submitted by the Clerk.

RESOLVED:

That the following accounts be passed for payment:

		£
N. Lane	– Assistance with VAT review (pd. 17/12/09)	80.00
Wickstead	– Repairs to play equipment (pd. 21/12/09)	590.20
Globalwave	– Broadband connection (due 1/1/10)	28.69
I & A Crowhurst	– Replace light tubes and starters	29.67
Poles. Scout Grp.	– Litter picks, December	170.00
Poles. Air Cadets	– Litter picks, December	170.00
Poles. Swifts F.C.	– Litter picks, December	170.00
A. Craig	– Salary, December	541.72
D. Craig	– Salary, December, and telephones	696.36
H.M. Rev. & Cstms.	– Income Tax & Nat. Ins.	245.79
C.P.R.E.	– Membership renewal	29.00
D. Craig	– Postage, stationery, catering and janitorial	49.62
B.T.	– Telephone charges	187.35

718. COMPARISON OF ESTIMATES WITH ACTUAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME:

A statement of the above for the period 1st April, to 31st December, 2009, was submitted for the information of Members.

719. MATTERS FOR OTHER AUTHORITIES:

The Clerk undertook to raise the following matters with the appropriate authorities:

1. Trees overhanging the footway at Sunfields Close and Sunset Close; and
2. Condition of the carriageway at Tamworth Road (from the Bull's Head bridge to the Square) and Station Road (from the railway northwards to the T-junction).

720. MATTERS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL:

Councillors reported on a variety of subjects, including incidents of vandalism at Warton being dealt with by the local police; forthcoming meetings of the Polesworth 2050 committee; the national economy and the Council's

precept; plans for the Abbey gatehouse and church drive; and a summary of matters discussed at the recent Area Forum of Parish Councils.

Chairman