

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF POLESWORTH PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN THE TITHE BARN, POLESWORTH,**  
**ON WEDNESDAY, 3 MARCH, 2010**

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

**738. MINUTES:**

(a) Amendment to Minute 717:

The Clerk reported the necessity to amend the figure for direct debit payment for the January broadband connection, which had been charged at a VAT rate of 15%, instead of the anticipated 17.5%.

**RESOLVED:**

That the sum shown at minute 717 of £29.32 for the broadband connection be amended to £28.69 and initialled by the Chairman.

(b) Minutes of the Last Meeting:

The Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 3 February, 2010, copies having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**739. APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – POLESWORTH CHURCHYARD EXTENSION:**

(724) Further to minute 724(b) of the February meeting of the Parish Council, Fr. Philip Wells was unable to attend the Council meeting of which these minutes are a record and had enquired whether there was “another forum” or date that might be suitable.

**RESOLVED:**

That Fr. Philip Wells be invited to attend the June, 2010, meeting of the Parish Council to discuss the proposed extension to the churchyard and the Parochial Church Council’s applications for financial assistance towards the costs of the project.

**740. APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – POLESWORTH SCOUT GROUP:**

(725) In connection with the suggestion in resolution (i) to minute 704, the Scout Group had sought the names of companies they might approach regarding the loan of a storage container, the details of which were provided for the Clerk to transmit to the Group. The Council also took the opportunity to re-affirm its decision to consider making a grant towards the costs of purchasing a 20-foot container, should no company be prepared to make a loan of a storage container, subject to suitable evidence to this effect and planning approval being granted for the container’s temporary site.

**741. BIRCHMOOR W.M.C. – PROPOSED FUN DAY:**

(710) Further to the approval given at minute 710 of the January meeting, a letter had been received from the Working Men’s Club, asking to be allowed to hold the Fun Day on both the Saturday and Sunday (17 & 18 July, 2010) and for permission to hold an “outside bar” on those dates. It was intended that the recreation ground shall remain open to the public throughout the event.

**RESOLVED:**

That the requests, by Birchmoor W.M.C., to have the use of the Birchmoor recreation ground for a Fun day, with an “outside bar”, on Saturday and Sunday, 17 & 18 July, 2010, be approved, subject to the usual conditions imposed by the Parish Council for such events, including evidence that adequate insurance cover has been obtained by the Working Men’s Club.

**742. HIGHWAY MATTERS:**

Confirmation was received from Area Highways that repairs to the carriageway at Tamworth Road and Station Road would be carried out.

**743. POLESWORTH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION:**

(725(a) & 735) A letter of thanks had been received from the Community Association for the grant to meet the costs of cutting its community field.

**744. DRAFT CALENDARS OF MEETINGS, 2010/11:**

Draft calendars of meetings of the Parish Council and its Committees were submitted. It was noted that dates for meetings in May and June could not be determined with certainty, in the absence of a decision on the general election date.

**RESOLVED:**

That consideration of this matter be deferred until the April, 2010, meeting of the Parish Council.

**745. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES:**

(a) Parks and Open Spaces Committee:

The minutes of the meeting of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee held on 12 February, 2010, were submitted.

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee held on 12 February, 2010, be approved and adopted.

(b) Tithe Barn Management Committee:

The minutes of the meeting of the Tithe Barn Management Committee held on 12 February, 2010, were submitted.

Councillor Meredith drew attention to additional radiators installed under authority of minute 24 and outlined proposals for necessary modifications to the central heating system, which included re-siting of thermostats and the installation of a radiator in the Parish Office.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) That the minutes of the meeting of the Tithe Barn Management Committee held on 12 February, 2010, be approved and adopted.
- (ii) That authority is given for the modifications to the central heating system, described above, to be undertaken.

(c) Apologies for Future Friday Meetings of Committees:

Due to working requirements, Councillor Mrs Smitten submitted apologies for future meetings of Committees held during the day time on Fridays.

**746. LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 3:**

Copies of a consultation questionnaire relating to the above, having been previously circulated, were discussed.

**RESOLVED:**

That Councillors wishing to do so, shall complete their copy of the questionnaire and pass it to the Clerk for onward transmission to the County Council.

**747. THE POLESWORTH SOCIETY – REQUEST FOR CONTINGENCY FINANCIAL SUPPORT:**

A request for contingency financial support, in respect of the Polesworth Society's weekly community coffee morning project, was discussed. The Society was seeking grants from funding bodies but was also looking for contingency support to meet any shortfall in grant funding. A copy of the Society's annual accounts was submitted with the Society's letter.

It was noted that the coffee mornings were being held in the Polesworth Memorial Hall each Thursday and was proving popular.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) That the Parish Council supports the proposal in principle; and
- (ii) That further consideration of the Polesworth Society's request be deferred pending receipt of information on the cost to hold each meeting, together with numbers attending and expected to attend in the future.

**748. PADDOCKS CLOSE, POLESWORTH – REQUEST FOR A GRIT BIN:**

Consideration was given to a request for a grit bin, on behalf of the residents of the above Borough Council-owned elderly persons' development.

**RESOLVED:**

That consideration of this request be deferred pending confirmation that Area Highways was prepared to provide regular supplies of grit to the bin and an agreement with the Borough Council regarding the spreading of grit on the development's footways during the winter months.

**749. “PLAY DEVELOPMENT IN YOUR COMMUNITY” EVENT:**

An invitation was received to nominate representatives to attend the above North Warwickshire Borough Council event, to be held at Kingsbury Methodist Church, between 10.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on Saturday, 13 March, 2010.

**RESOLVED:**

That Councillor Meredith be appointed to represent the Parish Council at the “Play Development in Your Community” event at Kingsbury Methodist Church on Saturday, 13 March, 2010.

**750. PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED:**

The following publications were received:

- N.A.L.C. Direct Information Service, issues 727 and 728;
- N.W.B.C. Minutes of Boards and Committees, 24 February, 2010; and
- C.A.V.A. Newsletter, issue 4, winter, 2010.

**751. NORTH WARWICKSHIRE AREA COMMITTEE OF PARISH COUNCILS:**

Notice was received that the next meeting of the Area Committee would be held in Coleshill Town Hall, on Monday, 15 March, 2010, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

**752. PUBLIC TOILETS, POLESWORTH:**

(667) It was reported that the Borough Council had made provision within its 2010/11 budget for new public toilets within Polesworth. The sites being considered were the Hall Court and the site of the former toilets in Tamworth Road, both of which had been put forward by the Parish Council.

**RESOLVED:**

That a letter be sent to the Chief Executive, N.W.B.C., thanking the Borough Council for making finance available for new public toilets within Polesworth and reminding the officers dealing with the matter that the suggested site at the Hall Court is on land that the Polesworth Community Association leases from the Parish Council and the formal agreement of the Association's Trustees would be required in the first instance.

**753. PLANNING MATTERS:****(a) Weekly Lists:**

Copies of lists 5 and 6, 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) Notice of Appeal:**

It was noted that an appeal had been lodged by Polesworth Garage Ltd., in respect of a refusal to approve a retrospective application for a change of use from residential garden to sale and display of motor vehicles.

**754. INDEPENDENT INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT – Q/E 31 DECEMBER, 2009:**

The independent internal auditor's report for the above quarter was received and noted, copies having been previously circulated to all members of the Council.

There were no matters requiring the attention of the Council.

**755. 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 5 March, 2010.

**756. 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:

|                    |   | £        |
|--------------------|---|----------|
| E.On               | – Un-metered supply to CCTV cameras (pd. 12.2.10) | 6.07     |
| Globalwave         | – Broadband connection (due 1.3.10)               | 29.32    |
| Warton P.C.C.      | – Churchyard maintenance grant                    | 500.00   |
| Polesworth P.C.C.  | – Churchyard maintenance grant                    | 1,000.00 |
| Poles. Scout Grp.  | – Litter picks, February                          | 170.00   |
| Poles. Air Cadets  | – Litter picks, February                          | 170.00   |
| Poles. Swifts F.C. | – Litter picks, February                          | 170.00   |
| N. Lane            | – Internal Audit Fee, Q/E 31.12.09                | 40.00    |
| A. Craig           | – Salary (February)                               | 541.92   |
| D. Craig           | – Salary (February)                               | 663.54   |
| H.M. Rev. & Cstms. | – Income Tax & Nat. Ins.                          | 232.07   |
| R.M. Meredith      | – Trellis, plants and "p" trap                    | 29.98    |
| D. Craig           | – Postage, stationery and catering items          | 57.23    |

**757. MATTERS FOR HIGHWAY AUTHORITY:**

The Clerk agreed to raise the following with the Area Highway office:

- (1) Excessive surface water at junction Kisses Barn Lane and Barn End Road, Warton, resulting in vehicle collisions; and
- (2) Obstruction of footway by overgrown hedge on the Castle View estate.

**758. DEATH OF MR. JOHN RIDGLEY:**

It was reported that Mr John Ridgley, former Warwickshire County Council officer, had died. Mr Ridgley had advised the Parish Council on Market Towns matters.

**RESOLVED:**

That a letter of condolence be sent on behalf of the Parish Council to Mrs Linda Ridgley.

**759. ABBEY GREEN PARK, POLESWORTH:**

It was reported that the Borough Council was proposing, subject to acquiring grant funding, to develop a wildlife area at Polesworth, using the former mill race and ornamental stream within the Borough Council-owned Abbey Green Park. The Borough Council's Community Development Officer, Environment, had responsibility for the project.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Borough Council's Community Development Officer, Environment, be invited to address the Parish Assembly, on 7 April, 2010, and give an overview of the project.

**760. DAMAGED DOG EXCREMENT BIN, STATION ROAD RECREATION GROUND:**

It was reported that one of the two dog excrement bins at Station Road recreation ground was damaged and needed possible replacement. The Clerk undertook to inspect the condition of the bin in consultation with the Chairman of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee.

**761. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS AND ADOPTION OF PARAGRAPH 12(2) OF THE REVISED MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT:**

It was agreed that the above proposal be placed on a future agenda for consideration by the Parish Council.

**762. MATTERS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL:**

Councillors reported on a variety of matters, including: increasing dog fouling in Warton (reported to Environmental Health); trees being removed in Orton Road and Church Road; and the public consultation meeting on 2 February, 2010, to discuss proposals for the art project at Pooley Country Park,

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Chairman