

PURITON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall, Puriton commencing at 7:30pm on Wednesday 10th January 2018 when the following business was transacted:

PRESENT Councillors S Langley (Chairman), A Barnaby, B Crow, V Crow, J Fletcher, M Healey, and S Tizzard.

Parish Clerk T Jay.

Village Ranger C Gulliford

18.1 To receive any apologies for non-attendance

Apologies were received from Cllr J Lunn.

18.2 To receive any declarations of interest in items on this agenda

There were no declarations of interest.

18.3 To consider the co-option of a new Parish Councillor to fill the current casual vacancy. This new Councillor will be one of the two Parish Council representatives on the Neighbourhood Plan group.

It was resolved to co-opt Vanda Crow to the Council

18.4 To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13th December 2017

It was resolved to approve the minutes. The Chairman signed the minutes as being a true record of the meeting.

18.5 To receive and discuss an update on the possible closure of the Post Office

Around fifty members of the public were present. Standing orders were suspended to enable them to speak. Everyone in the room expressed their concerns that the Post Office will be closing. The Clerk explained the legal position regarding the powers of the Parish Council, who are not allowed to run a Post Office. The Clerk has been liaising with the Post Office to establish what efforts they would make to find alternative suitable premises to host a Post Office. He read the reply received, a copy of which is available from the Clerk upon request.

The Post Mistress, Cllr Tizzard, explained that the building must be sold. All efforts to find a buyer willing to run it as a Post Office have not been successfully completed so far. A potential sale which would have resulted in the building having a different use has fallen through. She explained the complicated rules and regulations regarding any premises being used as a Post Office. SDC's position is that the village requires more

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retail shops and that the current Post Office premises is currently classed as the 'Last Shop in the Village'.

Members of the public suggested options, including that a consortium of Parishioners being set up to buy the Post Office and run it. Cllr Tizzard said that if such a consortium wanted to buy the premises then they would have to act very quickly.

The Parish Council agreed to the following:

- Anybody interested in joining a working group to establish whether a consortium to buy the premises could be established should contact the Clerk on Clerk@puritonparishcouncil.gov.uk or register their interest at the Post Office. As time is of the essence all expressions of interests must be received by 22nd January. All interested people should provide their availability to attend a meeting during the week commencing 29th January.
- The Clerk will prepare a notice advertising the setting up of the working group which will be posted on the notice boards. Details will be included on the Parish Council's website and Facebook page, and also Puriton People.
- The Parish Council will arrange the initial meeting, which the Parish Council chairman will chair. A new Chair will be elected during the meeting. There would be no restrictions placed upon the location of this meeting.
- The Parish Council will be prepared to financially support the working group following receipt of any reasonable funding requests.

18.6 To receive the clerk's report for the purpose of information only:

The PPLO position still remains vacant. This will be advertised in the next edition of the Puriton Newsletter

Planning

18.7 To consider and respond to the following new planning applications:

- 1) 42/17/00039. 25B Hillside, Puriton TA7 8AN. Erection of two storey extension to side (North) elevation.

It was resolved not to comment upon the application

- 2) 42/17/00041. 11 Puriton Park, Puriton TA7 8BH. Application for the prior approval of the erection of a single story extension extending 4.7m from the rear (North) elevation.

It was resolved not to comment upon the application

- 3) 42/18/00001/JAB. Puriton Manor, 2 Rye, Puriton, Bridgwater, TA7 8BZ. Trees adjacent to boundary wall: 8 No. Yew, 1 No. Holly and 1 No. Elder crown lift all trees to give 3-4m clearance from ground level and reduce lateral growth overhanging road in line with wall. 1 No. Horse Chestnut remove 2 No. dead stems and ivy growth. 1 No. purple plum fell

It was resolved not to comment upon the application

18.8 To note the following screening opinion application (please note that the Parish Council cannot comment upon screening applications, as they are NOT a planning application, therefore no debate will take place regarding this):

- 1) 42/17/00040. Land adjacent to A38 and north of Dunball roundabout. Request for EIA screening opinion for a proposed mixed-use development comprising a petrol filling station with drive – through, general industrial, storage/warehouse and trade counter units and a further two drive through pods with associated car parking and access roads.

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This application was noted.

18.9 To note the outcome of the following planning applications:

1. 42/17/00019. Land and property, 24 Riverton Road, Puriton TA7 8BP. Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 42/16/00016 (erection of 49 dwellings (including affordable housing), formation of access, provision of public open space, and associated infrastructure to replace the block paving and to amend the Materials Plan to change from the use of Russell double roman 'burnt orange' to Russell double roman 'cottage red' roof tiles on the relevant plots (Revised Description) **Awaiting decision.**
2. 42/17/00024. 6 Middle Street, Puriton TA7 8AU. Conversion of annex to a separate dwelling including the conversion of loft to living accommodation. **Awaiting decision.**
3. 09/17/00025. Land off A38, Bristol Road and A39 Bath Road and bounded by M5 Motorway and railway line, Bristol Road, Bridgwater. Reserved matters for the proposed erection of 68 dwellings with associated landscaping, parking, garages and engineering infrastructure. **Awaiting decision.**
4. 42/17/00026. Land to the south of Puriton Hill, Puriton TA7. Erection of two externally illuminated advertising boards. **Withdrawn.**
5. 42/17/00030. 1 Puriton Park, Puriton TA7 8BH. Retention of change of use of a house to 7 bedroom house in multiple occupation (HMO) **Awaiting decision.**
6. 42/17/00031/LR. Land to the East of, Rockfield House, Puriton Hill, Puriton, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7. Retention of 1.8m high fence with entrance gates around perimeter of the site. **Granted.**
7. 42/17/00035. Land to the east of Tamar, Downend Crescent, Puriton TA6 4TH. Creation of a detached dwelling with integral garage, vehicle access and associated gardens. **Awaiting decision.**
8. 42/17/00038. The Vicarage, 1, Rye, Puriton, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 8BZ. Horse Chestnut (T1) raise canopy to 3m above ground level and thin crown by 10% by removing crossed/rubbing branches. **Awaiting decision.**
9. 42/17/00036. 42 Webbers Way, Puriton, Bridgwater, TA7 8AS. Conversion of part of the garage to form a wet room, erection of a side extension to the West elevation and alterations to the front porch. **Awaiting decision.**
10. 42/17/00037/CAN. Land to the South of, Rosedale, Bristol Road, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA6. Improvements to existing vehicular access (retrospective). **Awaiting decision.**

18.10 To consider the implications of the General Data Protection Regulations Act for the `Parish Council.

The Clerk will be taking part in a webinar on 17 January and will provide an update at the February meeting

18.11 To consider the 2018/19 budget and the precept demand

It was resolved to approve an increase in the precept of 2% from £35500 to £37650. The increase is to allow for inflation.

18.12 To approve the following payments:

Payee	Item	VAT	Total
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Chris Gulliford	Salary		534.60
Tony Jay	Salary		672.16
NEST	Pension		6.41
Plusnet	Broadband	8.73	52.40
Media Graphic Design	Newsletter Printing		498.75
Staples	Printing ink	12.60	75.58
HMRC	PAYE / NI Dec		211.71
Tony Jay	Expenses Dec		103.16
Chris Gulliford	Expenses Dec		26.12

It was resolved to approve the payments

18.13 To receive the following reports for information only

The Playing Fields survey was circulated over the Christmas period. There has been a poor response so far, but hopefully this will improve. The septic tanks at the Sports Centre are leaking. A survey will be carried out.

The Clerk was asked to write to Rod Fitzgerald, thanking him for the kind donation of the village Christmas tree again this year.

Concerns were expressed that affordable housing on the new housing estate may not be sold to local people. Cllr Healey will enquire into the processes for applying for affordable housing.

Cllr Fletcher raised the issue of welcome packs for the new residents. She will enquire into the expenses involved.

There are traffic problems in Hillside. A large van regularly parks there, causing an obstruction. An appropriate sign needs to be placed enforcing the hatched marks outside the school.

The postcodes in Woolavington Road were discussed, where there are some properties with the same postcodes of other properties.

18.14 To receive and consider the following letters and acknowledge receipt of e-mails. Should members require a copy of any of the following correspondence then it should be requested prior to the meeting.

1	SCC	Puriton to Bridgwater cycle path	21.12.17
2	Post Office	Puriton Post Office	28.12.17

18.15 Date of next meeting – 14th February 2018 at Puriton Sports Centre.