

St Peter the Great County Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on **Monday 27 February 2006** at **7.45pm in the Village Hall, St Peters.**

Present: Chairman; Cllr. R. MacFarlane: **Cllrs.** R. Knight, D. Edgerton, C. Mills, Mrs. S Mills, Mrs. J. Knott, Mrs. P. Bunney

In Attendance: PC. A. Hall St Peter's Beat Manager.

09/06 Apologies for Absence: Cllr. P. Thorlby, Dr. A. Graham, Mrs W. Roberts, County Cllr. M Cairns.

10/06 Declarations of Interest: There were no declaration of interests.

11/06 Adoption of Minutes: Minutes of the meeting 30th January 2006 were agreed and signed.

12/06 Code of Conduct and Standards Board: The Monitoring Officer, Mr. P. Betts and the Chairman of the Worcester City Council Standards Committee, Mrs Christine Davenport, MBE. attended the meeting and updated Members by explaining the latest requirements. The Chairman thanked them both on behalf of the Parish Council for their input and much appreciated interest in St Peter's.

13/06 Environment and Amenities: Short information reports were given ;

- (c) City Councillor Mr. R. Knight updated Council on City Council training opportunities for Parish Councillors and agreed to establish costs. Other routine items were noted.
- (d) PC. A. Hall reported concern regarding the dangers to children crossing Broomhall Way to reach the Car Boot sales. He informed Members that he would be meeting with the proprietor of the sales to discuss road safety matters including vulnerable pedestrians. There were two crimes reported at St Peter's during January/February.
- (f) The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow local residents present to give their views on the Old Oil Depot Planning Application by Persimmon Homes. Strong objections were registered and the Council incorporated these views in the planning consultation responses as per the following minute.

14/06 Planning Consultation:

- (a) P06L0077, 8 Tay Avenue, convert garage to garage & study, **no objection.**
- (b) P06L0061, 18 Cranesbill Drive, 2 storey extension, convert garage, **objection.**
- (c) PO6L0068, Oil Storage Depot, Bath Road, 91 Houses. **Objection.**
(copy of submission to Worcester City Council Planning Services)

Councillors wish to register their concern in respect of the disastrous effect the increased traffic will have at the access point on the A38 at peak times, and in particular the unacceptable effect upon residents homes on the estate roads, which were not designed as an access to an extra estate of this size tagged on behind.

Council is seriously concerned regarding the inadequate footpath on Bath Road, both in width and design, and the lack of any form of controlled pedestrian crossing points at this busy traffic interchange. There have been increasing numbers of accidents at this point of late; fortunately there have been no fatalities yet.

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The increase in the population on the Western side of the A38 will increase this risk beyond reasonable levels.

There is no doubt that the visual high ground landscape of the City at this historic location will be detrimentally and permanently affected, particularly by the awful effects of increased overhead lighting. It is a fact that increased night sky light-pollution forces wildlife to abandon its traditional environment.

This land, although securely enclosed as an industrial site, has provided an excellent home for a varied wildlife population for many years. Councillors wish to know what, if any, impact survey has been carried out.

The highly excessive number of 91 dwellings will place an intolerable burden upon the already over-stretched recreational facilities available to our residents and Council is dismayed to note that there are no proposals to provide such facilities. Council wish to be exactly informed of what Section 106 Monies will be provided for the direct benefit of St Peter's community, the Village Hall Association, as well as for outdoor recreational facilities at the planned new community centre.

Many children already cross the Bath Road at considerable personal risk, to reach facilities on the main estate, and this number could well treble, unless facilities are provided within the enlarged estate on the Western side of the A38.

Members question the capacity of nearby schools to accommodate the extra numbers of children from this development in the longer term. There are also serious doubts regarding the efficiency of foul and storm water drainage in this area, and Members wish to know what conditions the Planning Authority will insist on imposing upon the developers in this respect.

This Council requests that your Council recognises that the demolition of existing properties will detrimentally deform the original concept of this estate both visually and environmentally. The overall number of proposed dwellings is too great and the density excessive, purely to maximise the speculative development proposed.

Overall, there is increasing concern for the serious accumulative effect of excessive speculative development on the Bath Road and the Diglis areas. This Council asks for this issue to be taken into account before consent to any further development is considered.

(d) **It was agreed** to invite a Worcester City Planning Officer, to a future meeting.

15/06 Accounts, Financial Matters and Administration:

- (a) Payment of accounts presented for payment was agreed:
- | | |
|--|--------|
| P. Bunney, Silver Cup for competition.....£ | 36.69 |
| Creative Spaces, web site construction.....£ | 420.00 |
| D. Edgerton, mileage claim.....£ | 231.00 |
- (b) The Clerk dealt with all relevant current administrative & financial matters as well as correspondence.
- (c) Council resolved to review Parish Council communications at the earliest opportunity.

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- (d) It was agreed to convene a meeting of the Finance Group to recommend the redistribution of financial Reserves and Provisions.
- (e) It was agreed to form a group, consisting of the Chairman, Cllr Mrs Mills, Cllr. Mrs. Knott and the Clerk, to recommend the format of the Annual Parish Meeting.
- (f) Policy and decision making issues were agreed to be reviewed.
- (g) Web Site progress to date met with general approval, however E-mail collection from the web and paste up arrangements were considered to require further improvement and modification. Members also expressed misgivings in respect of projected on-going costs and agreed to address this item at the next meeting.

16/06 Local Environment and Amenities

- (a) Cllr Mrs Bunney displayed the Silver Cup purchased for presentation to the winner of the Litter on Routes to Schools competition and gave a full report. Council expressed their appreciation of her efforts in this valuable initiative.
- (b) The Clerk updated Council in respect of the application for the Power Park enhancement grant from Awards for All.

17/06 Exempt Item involving Staff Conditions and Remuneration.

- (a) The Chairman explained the contract costs of the arrangements with the City Council in respect of the provision of a Parish Warden. Council approved the continuation of the process to achieve this at the earliest possible time. Council also agreed a procedure in respect of the redundancy of the Parish Officer. The Clerk was instructed to deal with this matter with some urgency after taking the appropriate legal advice.
- (b) Council approved the Tree Warden/Litter Picking contract, job description and expenses as circulated to the Tree Warden for approval.

18/06 Agreed date for the next Meeting as 27/3/06.

Signed...Ross McFarlane.....Chairman

Date...27/03/06.....