

St Peter the Great County Parish Council

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

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

Also Attending: County Cllr. M. Cairns: Community Safety Officer J. Atkins.

Apologies for Absence: from Cllr: P. Thorlby, Mrs. S Mills.

19/06 Declarations of Interest: Cllr Edgerton in Tree Warden Item and Cllr Knight in the proposed new Community Centre.

20/06 Adoption of Minutes: Minutes of the previous meeting 27/3/06 were adopted..

21/06 Short information reports were received from:

- (a) City Councillor Mr. R. Knight outlined training options offered by the City Council, especially sessions in respect of Planning for which Cllr. Mrs Knott expressed interest and noted the dates. He also addressed several local issues including the Tesco Traffic Island, Power Park enhancement grant application, the official handing over of the land for the proposed Community Centre, and the importance of retaining the City Car Parks as a valuable source of income.
- (a) County Councillor Mr. M. Cairns provided information on the mini Traffic Island adjacent to the new Church under construction, confirming that it would be maintained by the developer and adopted by the County Council after one year.
- (c) The Community Support Officer indicated that one or two local trouble makers were being watched because of anti-social behaviour, but otherwise there was little to report. Litter and the issuing procedures of fixed penalties after April 1st were explained. The Clerk was asked to inform the City Planning Dept of two advertising boards erected on Broomhall Green.
- (d) The Chairman permitted a public recess, when Mr P. Kippax of Red Hill Baptist Church outlined his litter pick initiative planned for May 2006. This was supported by Council and by Cllr. D. Edgerton and Mrs. P. Bunney. The Chairman thanked him for his welcome involvement..

22/06 Finance Group recommendations Weds 15th March 2006 were addressed:

- (a) **It was agreed** that existing policies need to be reviewed and updated, as well as the revision of the policy regarding the provision of grants. The way forward to be included with the item (e,) below in respect of a review of re-allocation of Reserves and Provisions.
- (b) The provision of more information in respect of events and progress between meetings was requested by Cllr. Mrs Knott, this was supported by Members and **the Chairman and Clerk agreed to see that this was done.**
- (c) The process of dealing with Casual Vacancies was debated at length. It was emphasised that ensuring that there was always an election could result in additional expense, and if, as in previous years there were a number of casual vacancies, the costs could escalate. It was proposed by Cllr. Knight, seconded by Cllr Mills, that the process of Councillors organising requests for a full election process in respect of casual vacancies be permitted for one year only to assess the costs involved, and be included as an agenda item in March 2007. **This was duly carried.**

St Peter the Great County Parish Council

- (d) Consideration of the Web Site provision was mainly in respect of e-mail management and the forwarding process. **It was agreed** to include this as an item for the next agenda. It was **further agreed** that routine paste-ups would be continued to be carried out by Cllr Thorlby, and that a working group will create a working policy, with the Clerk and two Councillors responsible for all paste ups. The Clerk was asked to establish the implications of a web site sponsored by local advertisers in return for advertising space on the site.
- (e) Cllr. Knight put forward recommendations for the re-consolidation of Reserves and Provisions. **It was agreed** to arrange a meeting of the Finance Group with Cllr. Mrs Mills, for 20th or 21st April 2006 subject to the availability of the small room of the Village Hall, to finalise the proposals, and that the advice of the Internal Auditor be obtained for that meeting if possible.

23/06 Environment and Amenities:

- (a) Tesco's traffic island, mini islands and traffic calming were addressed with a call for renewed attempts to obtain speed camera installations on St Peter's Drive.
- (b) Parish Council policy in respect of future grants to St Peter's Youth Group was **deferred** to a meeting with Youth Group committee Members during the first week in April 2006.

24/06 Planning Matters:

- (a) Consultation received in respect of:
27 Alton Road; proposed extension: **Council raised objections** because this was not in keeping with the nature of the estate, created over-development and would give a terraced dwelling effect because of the proximity to the adjacent property.

25/06 Accounts, Financial Matters and Administration:

- (a) The Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council date was **proposed** as Monday May 15th 2006 in the Village Hall; as normal format.
- (b) Council considered renewal of Calc membership and deferred any decision until the next meeting.
- (c) **It was agreed** that Newslink is not a dedicated Parish Council magazine. It is not controlled or edited by the Parish Council, but the costs are underwritten by the Council, subject to political content being avoided. The Clerk retains the final editorship but is encouraged to seek Council opinion at any time.
- (d) Payment of the following accounts **was agreed**;

J. Knott, vouchers for Litter Competition.....	£	60.96
Calc, publications for Concillors.....	£	74.75
DupliKate, print Newslink.....	£	734.27
Dor 2 Dor, Newslink distribution.....	£	116.00
D Edgerton, Tree Warden E-mailer.....	£	39.25
D Edgerton, Tree Warden/Litter Pick, mileage claim.....	£	48.70

It was agreed to provide grants to the following having received letters of application:

Village Hall, annual grant for Council usage.....	£	750.00
1 st Worcester Scout Group, steel security fencing.....	£	2500.00
1 st St Peters Guide Group, annual challenging activity.....	£	750.00

St Peter the Great County Parish Council

26/06 Local Environment and Amenities

- (a) Cllr. Mrs Bunney gave a full 'Litter on Routes to Schools' competition report and displayed the excellent certificates about to be presented to the winners. Over two hundred children had participated and were delighted with their awards. The Council Members were unanimous in their grateful appreciation of Cllr Mrs Bunney's excellent efforts.
- (b) Power Park Grant application to be completed to permit tree planting in early Autumn 2006.

27/06 Exempt Item involving Staff Conditions and Remuneration.

- (a) Council **agreed** the Tree Warden Contract renewal as presented by the Clerk..
- (a) Council were updated in respect of the Parish Warden situation and all staff matters were addressed. It was **agreed** to increase the Clerk's payment by 3% backdated to April 1st 2005.

28/06 Agreed date for the next meeting Monday 24th April 2006.

Proposed date for the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council as 15th May 2006 .

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

Date...24/04/06.....