

PERTENHALL AND SWINESHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk - Mrs Garry Telling
Telephone - 01480 860 439

Chairman - Mr Brian Stevens
Telephone - 01234 708 850

A Quality Parish Council

www.pertenhallandswinesheadparishcouncil.org.uk

Minutes of Meeting.

held on 9th July, 2009, in Pertenhall Village Hall at 8.00.

Garry Telling [Clerk]

Present were Jan Herdan [JH], Thomas Bates [TB], Tim Kingham [TK], Michael Whitlock [MW], and 2 members of the public.

Brian Stevens [BS] was in the chair.

09.44 Apologies for absence – Steve Pollard,[SP], Neil Pateman,[NP], Rodney Tate [RT] and Geoff Telling.

09.45 Declarations of interest in any agenda item - **none**

09.46 Minutes of May AGM already circulated; signed as agreed.

*The new PCSO, Michael Blass,[MB], came to introduce himself to the councillors. He covers 20 villages from Riseley to Carlton. He talked of the SID and will arrange training for the three councillors prepared to take part in this venture. There was discussion about the problems in Bletsoe and other villages where travellers are installing themselves without permission at hours when there are no enforcement officers on duty, or able to be contacted. PCSO Blass mentioned a Traveller Liaison Officer and the **clerk was instructed to find out more about this official.***

*He hoped to find time to spend in every village on a regular basis. It was suggested that he make himself known to vulnerable residents. **Councillors to send him the necessary information.***

BS said the councillors appreciated his attending the meeting.

09.47 Brief discussion of any matters arising from last meeting.

- Material to go on the verge outside Swineshead Church to allow parking which would not ruin the verge. Discussion was needed about:
 - whether PCC were in agreement. The PCC thought it was a PC matter and raised no objections; only questions as to whether it would affect the appearance of the verge. A member of the public also asked why it was needed. This matter was being raised because of people entering the church, and because of people parking before visiting Swineshead Wood.
 - type of material. The suggestion was hexagonal plastic which would be laid on plastic sheeting, covered with soil and planted with grass. It would support vehicles like heavy lorries better than the verge does. There was a feeling that with continual use the grass might not

grow very well but in fact the number of times it would be used was likely to be occasional only.

- cost. The cost of an area of about 45 square metres would be £200 + labour costs which might be £300/£400.

However, it was stressed that this was not a matter of urgency, that a small experimental area could be tried first, that it was only a suggestion and that, above all, there should be ample opportunity for discussion in the village before any decisions were made. [09.47.01 The clerk was instructed to place information, as a basis for discussion among residents, on notice boards, in the Newsletter, in Honeycomb and on the website. She was also asked to talk to the planners about this to see what would be acceptable in their eyes. October agenda.](#)

- coffee/tea before meetings It was agreed in principle to try to find someone to serve tea/coffee before meetings, and to be paid an honorarium of £10, per meeting, for an experimental period.
- speed checks – email had been sent to all councillors. RT had asked BS to raise on his behalf his concerns about speed in Swineshead High Street. He said that when the police are speed testing the drivers warn one another and a correct picture is not obtained. [MB said he would try again to find the offending motorists.](#)

A letter had been received from Mrs Susan Edmunds about speeding vehicles outside her house, which is just over the county boundary in Cambs. Vehicles coming from Kimbolton could not see the 40 mph sign when they were outside her house. [Clerk was instructed to see if the 40mph sign could be moved nearer to the county boundary to make it visible to motorists approaching the village. It needed to be moved about 100 metres.](#)

- grass cutting by BBC, which had happened again. It was hoped that it would not occur on any future occasion.
- JH raised the matter of Lottie Burgess and her entry in the Pride in Bedford Awards. JH had been told that her application on behalf of Lottie Burgess had arrived too late but it transpired that letters from the Community Partnerships Officer contained contradictory and erroneous dates. The application was not too late, according to the dates given in her letters. [Clerk was instructed to inform Councillor Ian Clifton and to copy her letter to BBC.](#)

09.48 Correspondence A [for consideration and discussion]

- From police re SIDs, Speed Indicator Devices. See above
The VAS in Swineshead was obscured by greenery and [MW would contact Ian Harris to get him to trim the vegetation.](#)
- from Richard Gell re FP15, where it meets the B660. He claims the gate is locked and padlocked. TB said that when the change of access application is granted to Wood End House a kissing gate would be installed which would solve this problem.
 - New councillor induction training. No interest.
 - “ My Neighbourhood Priorities” – a book of forms given to the clerk by the police. Councillors are asked to get as many as possible of these forms completed and returned to the police. [Forms were issued to all councillors.](#)

- from the Boundary Committee – advance warning of the Electoral Review of BBC. There would be a meeting on Tuesday, 21st July, 7.45, Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street. A representative could be sent if councillors wish. [No-one wished to attend.](#)
- Stakeholder newsletter from Central Beds. This was emailed. Clerk had printed one copy. No interest shown. [This will not be printed out again.](#)
- **Correspondence B – not to be discussed unless requested by councillors**

On table at back of hall.

09.49 Finance

[Authorisation was granted to pay the following:- TB/MW](#)

- Clerk's expenses for two meetings, Tel and Broadband - £60.00
- Clerk's salary for 1st quarter of the year - £906.70
- Topham:
 - cut two, 2009 - £418.60
 - cut two, the Limes and milestone - £54.05
 - cut three – as above
- Kimbolton School for printing Newsletter – not yet received.
- BATPC for posters - £6.00

Note – alterations were made to the Audit Form submitted to the auditor. This was done with the agreement of all councillors. Alterations were initialled by Vice Chairman Kingham. [This was noted.](#)

The Insurance Policy needed to be reconsidered because it was out of date in some respects. [October agenda.](#)

09.50 Planning

- The Green, Green End, Pertenhall. Agreed by parish council planning committee for Pertenhall at a site meeting, attended by 5 members of the public. Planning committee of BBC to hold a site meeting on July 7th.
- The Cottage, Gt Staughton Road, Pertenhall: re mobile home. No objections from councillors
- Wood End House, Pertenhall, change of access. No objections.

09.51 Highways Report MW – Swineshead /TB – Pertenhall

A meeting had been arranged with Alex Cattanach.

Road closures had been mooted but the date had to be changed because of harvest. This was to do work opposite Brook Farm.

Under the seat in Swineshead the culvert had collapsed and caused flooding in the recent rain. MW or BS to look into this matter.

09.53 Parish Plan update. JH said she would report to the clerk before the October meeting if any points needed to be raised.

09.54 Open Forum - for matters to be raised by councillors or members of the public.

▪ MW said that the footpath maps in Swineshead would be made available for laminating when the new map had been fully approved.

The meeting ended at 8.50.

***The next meeting will be in Swineshead Village Hall, at 8.00 October 1st, 2009.
This is an open meeting and everyone is welcome to attend.***