
PEGSWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12 June 2006
Venue – Uniun Enterprise Centre, Pegswood

Present: Councillor Jim Burley (Chairman)
Councillor Mick Robertson (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor George McCabe
Councillor Keith Soulsby
Councillor Simon Willcox

Clerk: Peter Basnett

Mr Hughie Hislop (Allotments Representative) – part of meeting
PC Mick Leybourne (Community Police Officer) – part of meeting

There being no members of the public present the meeting started at 6.45 pm.

623 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Layton and Councillor Mrs Oakley. It was resolved that these be accepted.

624 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

The Chairman reminded members that declarations of personal and/or prejudicial interests should be made at the start of the meeting or just as soon as an interest becomes apparent. Members should give the reason for the interest declared.

625 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15 May 2006 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

626 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

626.01 612.05 Move to new office

The Clerk reported that the move had been completed and thanked members who had helped. The Chairman recorded thanks to Councillor Sanders who had sent two of his workmen to do the heavy lifting work.

It had cost £151.58 to transfer the telephone.

There had been a meeting with Castle Morpeth Borough Council and the occupants of the offices and it was stated that Groundwork were to take on the head lease of the Union building with the changeover in the near future.

627 ALLOTMENTS REPORT

There were four names on the waiting list with three waiting for half gardens.

The Allotments Committee were to inspect the allotments and letters would be written to any tenants that were not complying with the terms of their tenancies.

The Clerk was given delegated powers to write to any tenants not complying with the terms of their tenancies giving notice to quit unless the terms were adhered to.

Rat bait had been purchased.

628 POLICE REPORT

There had been five crimes in May, one of which had been detected.

The crime detected was a public order offence. The other crimes included theft of a vehicle, theft of a pedal cycle, fuel stolen from a vehicle and damage to a vehicle.

Members commented on a problem family and on a potential drug dealer meeting children returning from school.

629 ACCOUNTS

Agenda item 7.2 Invoices received/internal vouchers – it was resolved that the following be approved for payment

2006/07		£ p
0605/22	Azure Charitable Enterprises – spring Newsletter	228.00
0605/23	G Common – office cleaning to 3 June 2006	25.00
0605/24	B Parker – bus shelter cleaning £91; play area inspection & cleaning £53; dog bin emptying £30	174.00
0606/25	Allianz Cornhill Insurance – play area £481.76; parish policy £956.54	1,438.30
0606/26	Northumberland Association of Local Councils – subs& pubs. 2007	253.40
0606/27	Castle Morpeth BC – room hire £10.80 & office rent £192.80	203.60
0606/28	PB Basnett Salary	1,559.55
0606/29	Inland Revenue – Income Tax & NI	670.71
0606/30	PB Basnett – Computer Services – Ashington – virus checker (VAT £3.72)	24.99
0606/31	Network Rail – water pipe wayleave (inc. VAT £3.59)	24.08

0606/32	Castle Morpeth BC – business rates	56.18
0606/33	Green (Agriculture) Co – rat bait (inc. VAT £5.47)	36.75
0606/34	BT – office telephone bill (£119.09);change of office (£129.00) & VAT (£43.41)	291.50

Agenda item 7.3 Receipts received

0604/15	Mrs G Common
0604/16	B Parker
0605/21	Pegswood Toddler Group

Agenda Item 7.4 Income Received

	£	p
Allotment Rents – new let	18.00	
HM Customs & Excise – VAT recovered to 31 March 2006	911.25	

Agenda item 7.5

Cleared Balance as at 31 May 2006 (up to and including transaction 0606/29)
£81,528.50

Agenda item 7.6 – Bank Reconciliation Statement - as at 7 June 2006 – it was resolved that this be approved.

Agenda item 7.7 – 2005/2006 Budgetary Control Report – as at 7 June 2006 – it was resolved that this be approved.

630 PLANNING MATTERS

Decisions Received:

06/D/119 Bowey Homes – permission refused – northern part of site, described as open countryside, falls without the settlement boundary. Alignment of access road not acceptable.

It was reported that an amended application was to be submitted in the near future.

Applications Received

Councillor Willcox declared a personal interest in the following application as he was a friend of the applicant.

06/D/329 Mr & Mrs G Johnstone – rear utility room & dining room extension – 25 Kirkharle Drive

06/D/361 Mr & Mrs Lawson – single storey extension providing conservatory, bedroom en-suite, & extending existing kitchen with internal alterations - 21 Cheviot Grove

It was resolved that there is no objection to these applications.

Bede House extension

It was reported that work had recommenced. This was welcome news.

631. CORRESPONDENCE

		Action
1	Community Council of Northumberland – Community News; information evenings on the Big Lottery’s Community Buildings Fund; Calor Village of the Year competition – closing date 30 June 2006 – it was decided not to enter this year.	Circulated
2	Northumberland County Council – Local Transport plan – Integrated Transport Plan 2007/2008 – invitation to submit transport priorities – closing date 31 August 2006	To submit proposal for off road parking
3	Castle Borough Council Morpeth – Business Spending Survey – completed & returned	Noted
4	Allianz Cornhill – parish insurance policy renewal – admin. £956.54; play area £481.76	To pay
5	Charter 88 – campaign for a modern & fair democracy – sustainable communities bill newsletter	Received
6	B Parker – invoice and play area report – gates not closing properly – safety surfaces lifting at corners; trip zones under both A frames; litter bins need emptying more frequently; larger dog waste bin needed. Resolved to order larger dog waste bin and defer repairs to safety surface.	Noted
7	Castle Borough Council Morpeth - agenda for joint meeting with parish councils on 14 June 2006	Chairman to attend
8	Castle Borough Council Morpeth -Dance Morpeth 2006 16 to 18 June 2006	Received
9	Northumberland County Council - site meeting re proposed Potland Burn open Cast Coal site 20 June 2006 & public meeting 28 June 2006	To consider attending
10	Castle Borough Council Morpeth - scrutiny Committee poster for meeting at Stamfordham 20 July 2006	Noted
11	Fiona Hughes (email) – request for help in tracing family – father Dixon Henderson b. Morpeth 19.12.1912 son of Mathew (d. Pegswood 1912) & Jessie Henderson	Councillor McCabe and to post on website

632 GRANT APPLICATIONS

No applications had been received since the last meeting.

633 MEMBERS REPORTS

ENRGI - The Chairman reported that Colin Robson had taken over from Tim Kirton on an 18 month contract.

Banks Liaison Group – The Chairman reported that there was a leak in the fishing lake and that it was being drained to repair the crack. The water was being used to dowse dust arising from work on the new by-pass. The footpath in Phase 1 was to be rolled in a bid to make it suitable for pushchairs. Groundwork and the Northumberland Wildlife Trust had expressed an interest in managing the Community Park. Another three seats had been provided. It was reported that the Park was developing well.

634 PROJECTS

634.01 Litter – ground stencils

After contact with Northumberland County Council it was resolved to proceed with a “Just Bin It” slogan.

634.02 Sites for new litter bins and dog waste bins

Councillor Robertson offered to create notices for attachment to the litter bins. His offer was accepted.

Dog waste bins: Patton Way play area
Cookswell cut – near new fence

Litter bins: At top and bottom of Club to Brocksburn Park footpath
Near Welfare Park
Lamp post opposite Co-op.
Cookswell cut – near new fence
Surgery
Lamp post – Whitefield Crescent/Charles Street
Pegswood first School – Councillor Willcox to liaise with school on exact location.

Total: 2 No. large dog waste bins
2 No. lamp post litter bins
7 No. ground mounted litter bins

634.03 John Street Fencing Phase 2

The Chairman was trying to contact Mr Leathard who had done a most cost effective job on Phase 1.

634.04 Grit bin

The Chairman reported that the large grit bin from the West View roundabout had been removed by Northumberland County Council but that it would be replaced in time for the winter.

635 CASUAL VACANCY

The Clerk reported that a by-election had not been called and that the vacancy needed to be filled by co-option.

It was resolved to advertise for candidates to be considered for co-option.

636 PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

Councillor Willcox produced a summary of “hits” showing that the website was being well used.

It was agreed that Councillors’ photographs be placed on the website and newsletter. It was further resolved that telephone numbers be not posted.

It was resolved to create a website page for projects.

637 PLAY AREAS

The Chairman reported that Groundwork had offered, in a bid to cure the water logging problem, to install field drains in the rest of the Patton Way play field.

Members then considered the submissions received, after the Newsletter article, on the future of the Patton Way play area. After consideration of submissions received it was resolved that the Council could afford to maintain only one play area.

It was further resolved that the Chairman and Councillor Willcox should canvass residents overlooking the Brocksburn Park play area on their views on the possible adoption, upgrading and maintenance of the play area.

Councillor Robertson offered to write a letter to the Brocksburn Park residents, to be signed by the Chairman, with a return stub for comments.

This information was to be gathered before the 26 June meeting with officers from Castle Morpeth Borough Council on the Brocksburn park play area issue.

638 STRATEGIC PLAN TO IDENTIFY AND IMPROVE EYESORES

638.01 Welfare Hall Graffiti

A quotation of £250 had been received for the removal of the graffiti. It was resolved that the Chairman contacts the Welfare and conveys the Parish Council's offer to pay half of the cost of the removal of the graffiti.

638.02 Eyesore

An email had been received from a resident wishing to remain anonymous regarding the condition of a property in Pegswood.

It was considered that this was a personal problem that was not within the remit of the parish council.

Councillor McCabe declared a personal interest in the next item as he was affected by the nuisance.

639 BALL GAMES NUISANCE AT SPENCER DRIVE

This had been raised by Councillor McCabe. An email had also been received from a resident of Spencer Drive requesting that additional shrub beds be created near his property to prevent children playing ball games against his gable end. He was a shift worker and needed to sleep during the day.

Councillor McCabe said that the police appeared powerless to act as a "no ball game" notice was not in place.

This problem had been raised previously with Castle Morpeth Borough Council who had reiterated their policy of not erecting such notices as they were impossible to enforce.

It was resolved to contact the Castle Morpeth Borough Council Housing Manager and also the Community Police Officer in an attempt to help resolve the problem.

640 URGENT BUSINESS

640.01 Footpath from the Club to Brocksburn Park

There was a query as to who was responsible for cutting the overgrown grass. Councillor Robertson offered to cut the grass.

640.02 Former Clerk

It was reported that the former Parish Clerk had pleaded guilty to fraud involving NACODs funds.

640.03 Henderson Family

The Clerk reported on the receipt of an email from Fiona Hughes who was trying to trace forebears from Pegswood. Councillor McCabe offered to help. It was also agreed to post the email on the Council website.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm

Minutes Approved by: _____ Date: _____
Chairman