

PARISH OF ABBOTS LEIGH
Meeting of Abbots Leigh Parish Council
Held in the John Butler Room of the Village Hall, Church Road
Monday 16th July 2018 at 7.30 pm

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Talbot-Ponsonby, Stewart, Butler, Telling, Ward Cllr Davies
Apologies: Cllr Anderson, J Smart (Clerk)
Also Present: Susannah and Dan Griffin

1. Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda

None.

2. Previous meeting held on 18th June 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th June 2018 (previously circulated) were signed as a true record.

3. Matters arising

None not on the agenda.

4. Planning

- i. Presentation from residents of Leigh Bank Cottage prior to the formal meeting in relation to parking on the A369 verge. Residents had only known of the proposal to put in bollards from the Link magazine. They had contacted various people to establish the ownership of the verge and had eventually spoken to an undefined person at North Somerset who had told them that the verge did not belong to NSC. Residents wished to consider acquisition of a strip of land to make two dedicated parking spaces. ST-P described the past history of the site (including the position during recent building works) and confirmed that the verge is part of the Highway in legal terms and is the responsibility of NSC. The Parish Council had decided on safety grounds that parking could not be permitted but if the residents were to submit a request to the Highway Department directly that would be considered. The residents were also advised that the Parish Council had already got agreement from NSC for the installation of timber bollards and had a contractor ready to erect bollards in that location. ST-P agreed to provide the contact details of the correct person for them to approach. Whilst sympathetic to the owners, Councillors wondered why the property had been purchased in the knowledge of lack of parking. **Agreed** to postpone erection of bollards until the position was finally clarified.

ii. Applications:-

18/P/3305/FUL – Abbots Leigh Boarding Kennels, Pill Road. The new application did not resolve the main issues in the dismissal of the appeal against the refusal of planning application 16/P/1611/F. It was noted however that the Parish Council had not objected to the original application 6/P/1611/F. **Agreed** to make submission to NSC.

18/P/3592/OUT – Land adjacent to 6 Church Road – The Outline application was discussed at length in the context of current and prospective planning/housing policies following the new Joint Strategic Plan, the 2002 Village Character Statement, and a range of issues relating to scale, design and access matters. **Agreed** to make response to NSC stating that it currently stands the proposed development is unacceptable. Submitted comment attached to minutes.

5. Neighbourhood Plan

MS noted that a presentation similar to that made to the June ALPC meeting had been made to EIG/Pill PC. Consultancies on transport, energy/sustainability and environment would be commencing soon with a time scale for completion in late autumn. It had been agreed that three scenarios for major (1000 dwellings), modest (100-120 dwellings) and minimal (few dwellings) growth were to be examined. DD noted that an important strategic planning paper was to be put to a scrutiny panel on 19th July. This had implications for Neighbourhood Plans.

6. Ward Councillor's Report

- a) The delivery of waste services was felt to have improved.
- b) Improvements to M5 Junction 19 slip road were likely to be delayed as work on The Portbury Hundred extra lane would take priority
- c) A meeting on the rail line was to provide an update on likely development and timing. It was thought that the financial problem which had been given publicity was not as crucial as it had seemed.

7. Financial

The financial report was noted. One small anomaly would be corrected.

8. Village Matters

- i. Police Report – None.
- ii. Village Hall:-
 - a) It was agreed to prepare costings for an electric screen and projector equipment to replace the current pull-down screen.
 - b) The disabled parking space is awaiting feedback form North Somerset Council signage team.

- c) The provision of parking spaces between the hall and the skittle alley were discussed. John Butler presented proposals involving demolition/size reduction of the outbuilding, wider vehicle access, demolish part of stone wall and build return , safety handle to caretaker entrance, exterior lighting, designated parking space for caretaker, planting of shrubs, signage (access to hall, FIRE Exit). A decision on whether the parking should be reserved for residents or open to Fit Tank users as well was postponed. **Agreed** that Robert Narracott be asked to prepare detailed drawings of a possible scheme in readiness to submit a planning application.
 - iii) Former Skittle Alley - A minor legal issue relating to the lease of the store room had been identified and has been sorted out.
 - iv) Verges - **Agreed** that the Clerk should contact David Smith to request cutting of the verges – but omitting the A369 this year. NB mowing to be done late September after the final Verges Group monitoring for the year.
 - v) Defibrillator - The Defibrillator had been painted (thanks recorded to Audrey Telling and Drew Smith) and shelving would be put up shortly.
 - vi) Abbots Pool - There had been considerable disruption at the pool with many attending the Wildlife event and other visitors creating rubbish. Many had swum in the pool. There had been fires (with the fire service being called) and also much danger of other fires in the dry weather. The question was raised as to whether North Somerset Council had put the plans in place to avert the large number of fish dying due to lack of oxygen as happened in a hot spell a few years previously. ST-P to raise the matter with Jason Cox.
 - vii) There was no further news about a tenant for the George but the group established by the Parish Council would continue to monitor the situation.
9. Next Meeting. No meeting in August; next meeting September 17th.