

Pen Selwood Parish Council

Committee Meeting

Minutes of the Committee meeting held at the Village Hall on Wed 11th September 2013

Present Cllr Fitzgerald (Chairman) Cllrs Jenkins, Young, Appleton, Steadman, Ashman.

Members of the Public- Anna Groskop, Mike Beech, David Norris, Geoff Parcel, Ian Steadman, John Howe, Elizabeth Carter and Chris Worrall

1 Public Open Forum- No comments were forthcoming but Chairman invited contributions during meeting.

2 Apologies for absence –Cliff Clark

3 Approve Minutes of the meeting held 10th July 2013- Signed as a true record.

4 Matters Arising- None

5 David Norris- Chief Planning Officer SSDC David Norris had attended the meeting in order to address issues arising from the Planning Application for Stour House, Pen Mill. David conceded that the Ward member and Planning Officer had not communicated at the time the application reached the deadline for a decision and that the Pen Selwood PC decision to reject the application had not been considered. David went on to say that having reviewed the case he considered the application would have been approved regardless of the PC's decision. David agreed that in future where an application is approved after a PC has objected the report of the Planning Officer should be forwarded to the PC. This had never occurred in the past and had not occurred in this instance although Mike Beech had given the Clerk a copy this evening. Jenny asked about the last minute nature of this decision (5pm on the Friday evening of the deadline date) and was assured this was not normal practice. David also mentioned that the Environmental issues raised in the PC objection had been considered and that the "finished floor level" was high enough to meet requirements. John Howe asked if the previous planning infringements at Stour House highlighted in the PenSelwood objection had been considered and David replied that they had not. David also stated that where the PC believes planning infringements are occurring it is the responsibility of the PC to report these to the enforcement officer. Bryan added that he thought the decision of the PC should hold more sway in such decisions and that the actions of the Planning department in this case had made PC members think they were wasting their time.

6 Planning Activity-Andrew Jenkins gave details of an application for a solar panel Park at Holbrook which had gone to appeal. Anna Groskop added that should this one be approved then there were another 7 awaiting decisions one of which was on the site of the failed wind turbine application near Silton, all were 30 acre + developments.

7 Highways report and Winter Road Strategy- Tony Appleton reported roads were in fair condition and that a few new potholes had been repaired at Underhill. The report on the speed survey carried out at Leigh Common had been received and the decision had been that speed limits should remain unchanged. This would disappoint local residents but the data received did not support change. Peter asked that a copy of the report be circulated to Leigh Common residents. Tony will do this. Tony reported the broken salt bin at Coombe Street had not been replaced yet and the PC agreed to buy a new Green grit bin for Pen Ridge Rd, Clerk to arrange. The sign at the top of Coombe Street had been completed and was back in place. The "Open letter " to

landowners placed in the Pen Paper recently had gone part of the way toward addressing the hedgerow situation in the village but it was agreed to write personally to land owners where hedges were causing most concern. Clerk to forward letter to Peter for final adjustments and PC to agree who the letters should go to. Tony then discussed the Winter weather action plan for Pen Selwood. It is understood that SSDC will clear all major access routes to the village but would not commit to clear all roads. It was agreed that Tony would speak to Mr Butt who has equipment to clear roads to see what the cost would be to undertake clearance for the PC. Clerk to check PC 3rd party liability cover for such occasions

8 Neighborhood Plan Update- Jenny Steadman asked Anna Groskop for her current thoughts on Neighbourhood Plans .Anna indicated that for a small settlement like Pen Selwood the cost and time involved in putting a plan together would be prohibitive. Anna suggested that PenSelwood keep up to date their Parish Plan and the Cherished Landscape document and this should help guard against unwanted development . Jenny to look at North Brewham’s Landscape statement for the next meeting.

9 Annual Meeting dates, vote to keep current system or plan dates one year ahead.- Peter FitzGerald asked Councilors to vote to maintain the current system or plan dates 1 year in advance. The vote was 3 –2 in favour of planned dates. Clerk to include next 12 months dates in minutes.

10 Discuss possible Nomination for Chairman’s Award for service to Community 2013.- There were no nomination this year ,this matter to be reviewed again next year.

11 Footpaths update- Jane Ashman reported that the gate on the path on Pear Ash Lane leading to Castle orchard had been replaced and that a possible source of funding had been identified for the work required on the Culvert atPeter had reached an agreement that the illegal fencing at Leigh Common would be removed after two years of trying.

12 Discuss funding for Lectern and Artwork and siting of Lectern following work by Elizabeth Carter.- Elizabeth was present and gave new figures for completing the work. The PC agreed that it would fund the costs of £302 plus the cost of a bag of postcrete. Elizabeth to forward invoice to Clerk for payment.

13 Agree final timing/content of letter to Pear Ash Lane residents.-Clerk-Jenny Steadman.- Covered in Highways section.

14 To note Local Govt Pay settlement revising Clerks Hourly rate from £9.94 to £10.04 = 1%increase SCP 21 backdated to 1st April 2013.- Noted

15 AOB - Jane agreed to update web site aspirations for the PC, Geoff will help with this if need be. Jenny to confer with other PC members regarding content. Jubilee clock plaque needs wording to be finalized and Tony will complete the engraving once this is known.

Meeting ended 8.37pm

Signed as a true record Chairman.....Date.....

Kevin Stow, Clerk to the Council

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Dates for next meeting 13th Nov 2013.

8th Jan 2014,

12th March 2014,

14th May 2014,

9th July 2014

10th Sept 2014

