

# Clutton Parish Council

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2009 in the Village Hall**

The Council received the following submissions from members of the public:

1. Mr. Rowan addressed the Council on behalf of the residents of Carlton Close, and asked the Council whether any progress had been made towards registering a claim of 'adverse possession' in respect of the parcel of land at the entrance to Carlton Close. The Clerk reported that the Council had received legal advice to the effect that such a claim would have no chance of success and it would be a waste of the Council's resources to attempt it. He also reported that there might be grounds for an attempt to have the land registered as an open public space, and that this could be done as well by individuals as by corporate bodies.
2. Another resident of Carlton Close reported that access to the rear of his garage is now obstructed by the fence around the parcel of land in question. He was reassured that he still has a right of access for the purposes of repair and maintenance.
3. With regard to the application for change of use of the parcel of land in question, the Clerk undertook to speak to the Chairman of the Village Hall committee regarding the response by that Committee to the application.
4. A resident reported a recent accident on Clutton Hill, and submitted that the Council should be pressing for the hedges here to be cut back, for the road surface to be renewed, and for both a 30-tonne and a 30 mph limit to be imposed.
5. Residents of Moorsfield urged the Council to object to the renewed application for a new dwelling to the rear of 7 Moorsfield, pointing out that parking had become worse, that the applicant had falsely stated that the site 'cannot be seen from a playing field or footpath', and that the development would adversely affect wildlife.
6. The applicant for a change of use of the barn at Bubbin's Brake to residential use reminded the Council of her earlier plea for support for this change.

## **Minutes of the meeting of the Council**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>79/09</b>	<b>Present:</b> Councillors A. Marwood (Chairman), C. Glover, S. Marwood, A. Parfitt, D. Phillips, L. Pickman, A. Starr, D. Withers; Mr. S. Barran (Clerk); Mr. S. Willcox (Ward Councillor); 14 members of the public.
<b>80/09</b>	<b>Presentation to Mr. Pat Murphy.</b> The Chairman thanked Mr. Murphy for his service to the village as its sweeper, and presented him with a token of the Council's regard.
<b>81/09</b>	<b>Apologies for absence.</b> The Council accepted apologies from Councillors Bailey, Hillier and Williams. Councillor Veale was prevented from attending by a family bereavement
<b>82/09</b>	<b>Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2009</b> were approved.
<b>83/09</b>	<b>Matters arising from the minutes:</b> <b>68/09 (re 54/09)</b> Cllr. S. Marwood reported that Colin Hudson has inspected the Maynard Terrace footpath and written to the householder. <b>68/09 (re: 54/09 re 20/09 (6))</b> Cllr. Willcox reported that he had done nothing further in relation to the state of the bridges by the Leisure area. <b>68/09 (re: 54/09)</b> The Clerk reported that he had submitted a notice for

insertion in the Parish Magazine and the Website, inviting people with skills to contact him. And that he had met with Phil Jones to discuss how he could more directly place items on the website.

**68/09 (re: 54/09 re 20/09 (7))** Cllr. Willcox again reported that he had done nothing further about the list of the parishes which had been allocated Government money for the improvement of play facilities.

**68/09 (re: 54/09 re 22/09 (2))** The Clerk reported that he had been contacted by Stephen Cheffers from BANES Highways department, who said that BANES were aware of no accidents on the A37 between Chelwood roundabout and the Flat, and had no plans to amend the road markings on that stretch of road. He was asked to send Cllr. Willcox a note of this conversation. And to seek guidance about what kind of accident is severe enough to be reported to BANES.

**Clerk**

**68/09 (re: 54/09 re 24/09)** The Clerk reported that he had met with the BANES officer responsible for mechanical road sweeping and established as clearly as possible the specification of the work. He would circulate a report in due course.

**Clerk**

**68/09 (re: 54/09 re 41/09)** The Clerk reported that he had learnt from EDF that they had written to the Council in November 2008 offering to renew the contract which was due to expire then, but had received no reply.

**75/09** Cllr. Willcox reported that he had not contacted Caroline Lane at the Environment Agency; and Cllr. Parfitt that he had written to them.

**94/09 (1)** Cllr. Willcox reported that he had spoken to the owner of the skip in the garden by the garages off Venus Lane, who had said that he used it to keep waste from his business tidy, that it was not visible from the road and he intended to continue using it. The Clerk was asked to write to BANES to seek guidance about whether the use contravenes planning regulations.

**Clerk**

**94/09 (2)** Cllr. Willcox reported that he had not spoken to Colin Parsons about potholes and refuse at the lay-by. The Clerk was asked to raise these with BANES.

**Clerk**

#### **84/09 Finance:**

1. The Council **accepted** the following reports previously circulated by the Clerk:
  - Budget Monitoring report
  - Bank reconciliation
  - Finance Report
  - Minutes of the Finance Sub-Committee meeting
2. Cllr. S. Marwood proposed, and Cllr. Withers seconded, a motion that the Clerk should be paid on the basis of Point 23 of the national salary scale for Clerks, as provisionally agreed for 2008/09. This was **agreed** unanimously.

#### **85/09 Planning Sub-Committee Report:**

Cllr. Marwood reported that:

1. An application had been received for a Certificate of Lawful Existing Use in respect of Gilliard's Print Services at the Trident works. This was to be seen in connection for their application in February for consent to enlarge their warehouse for distribution purposes, for which they needed consent for their existing use of the premises. The Sub-Committee recommended that the Council should object to the

granting of this certificate on the grounds that the usage had crept in contrary to existing conditions of consent, and that the granting of a certificate would almost certainly lead to consent for an expansion of an activity of which the Council has already made it clear it disapproves. The recommendation was **approved** with one member voting against.

2. A revised application had been received in respect of Woodview, Upper Bristol Road. The Sub-Committee recommended that subject to continuing concern over the location of the garage, the Council should not object to the application. The recommendation was **agreed** unanimously.
3. A revised application had been received in respect of 7 Moorsfield. The Sub-Committee recommended that the Council should repeat its objection to the development, on the same grounds as before. The recommendation was **agreed** with one member voting against.
4. An application had been received for a change of use, from agricultural to domestic dwelling, of stables at Temple Inn Lane by Bubbin's Brake. The Sub-Committee recommended that the Council should object, on the grounds that consent might serve as a precedent for future applications and because there was no evidence that there is no market for their use as stabling. It was proposed that the Council should ignore the recommendation, and not object to the application, and this was **agreed** unanimously.
5. An application had been received for a change of use from public open space to domestic curtilage for the plot of land at the entrance to Carlton Close. The Sub-Committee had made no recommendation as this plot was already the subject of much discussion. It was proposed that the Council should oppose this change of use and this was **agreed** with one abstention.
6. An application had been very recently received for an extension to the Old School House, Station Road. It was proposed that the Council not object to this application, and this was **agreed** unanimously.
7. The application in respect of Batch Farm appears not to have been determined yet.

#### **86/09 Parish Plan update**

Cllr Pickman reported that

1. A meeting had been held with Alison White from BANES, regarding the lease to the Leisure Area, a report of which had been circulated. It was **agreed** that the bridges beyond the Leisure Area could be omitted from the area to be subject to a new lease.
2. The Parish Plan Sub-Committee is drafting a Parish Plan
3. Volunteers are sought to help with the stall at the Summer Flower Show
4. The Council is asked to approve the expenditure of £90 on a tent for the stall at the Flower Show. This was **agreed**.

The Council thanked Cllrs. Pickman and S. Marwood for the work they had so far done on the Parish Plan.

#### **87/09 Report from the Clerk**

The Council accepted the report previously circulated by the Clerk. The Clerk added that since the report was circulated he had met with both the BANES officer responsible for mechanical street sweeping and with the grass-cutting contractor and that he would circulate in due course a note of what had been agreed in respect of these two services.

**Clerk**

## 88/09 Correspondence

The Clerk reported that the Council had received correspondence from:

1. BANES regarding a proposal to cite a Puffin crossing by the Warwick Arms on the A37. It was **agreed** that the Clerk should respond by welcoming the proposal in general but urging that it be sited as near to the top of Cook's Hill as possible, since that was the place where the majority of residents crossed the road for the bus stop.
2. The Chief Superintendent of Police, giving statistics about crime and seeking views about the usefulness of PACT meetings.
3. Frank Senogles, the previous Clerk, thanking the Council for the gift voucher presented to him at the last meeting.

Clerk

## 89/09 Highways

Cllr. Parfitt reported that he had received a letter from George Thomson, Highways Inspector for BANES advising that orders had been issued for works at King Lane, Flatts Lane (Area 3), Cuckoo Lane, Clutton Hill (gullies), Lower Bristol Road, Station Road, Temple Inn Lane (Area 1), and Marsh Lane (Area 2). It did not specify what works were to be carried out at these locations.

## 90/09 Reports of Sub-Committees

**Playing Field:** It was reported that

1. The Teepee and Swings are believed to be fit for purpose but the new Spider is absolutely not. In respect of the spider, the ball is now in BANES' court.
2. A Clutton Playpark Association has been formed and will be canvassing local businesses for money, will have a tent at the Flower Show, and is seeking grants from other sources.

**Grass-cutting:** It was reported that large areas of the grass in the churchyard have still not been cut this year.

**Parish Cluster Group:** The Chairman reported that he had attended a Cluster Group meeting and that although it had turned out to be the wrong Cluster for Clutton it had been a useful meeting.

**Footpaths:** Cllr. Marwood reported that

1. Colin Hudson will be examining the Maynard Terrace footpath where it crosses the old railway line; and also the North End to Poacher's Pocket path.
2. There is a sign knocked over at the top of Clutton Hill.
3. That 2 metal and 2 wooden kissing gates are on order for installation on the King Lane/Nap Hill path.

**Parish Forum:** Cllr. Glover reported that she had attended the Parish Forum and found it useful. Recent crime statistics were rehearsed. There had been an increase in the incidence of distraction burglaries and rogue traders/bogus callers: most recently by an outfit calling itself 'Digital UK'. PCSO Shelly White-Harman is now back from Maternity leave. The Mardi Gras had been a success from a police point of view. It was agreed that it would be useful to have some leaflets available at the Flower Show.

## 91/09 Date of next meeting

It was **agreed** that the Council would not meet in August, and that the next meeting would be held on **Monday September 21<sup>st</sup> 2009** at 7.30pm.

**Close: The meeting ended at 10.45 p.m.**