

PATCHWAY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 13 July 2010 at Callicroft House, Rodway Road, Patchway

Present: Councillors E. Gordon J.P (in the Chair))
M. Grotzke)
J. Thomas) Coniston
L. Gray) Ward

K. Dando)
P. Cottrell) Callicroft
M. Richardson) Ward
Mrs C. Dando)

Ms S. Pomfret) Stoke Lodge
B. Hopkinson) Ward
A. Alsop)

224/10. COUNCILLOR GEOFF WOODLEY

The Council stood in memory of Cllr. Woodley, who had died on 11 June. The Chairman paid tribute to Cllr. Woodley's contribution to the work of the Council and noted that many Members and Staff had attended his funeral. A floral tribute had been sent on behalf of the Town Council.

225/10. RUSS SUMMERS, PATCHWAY YOUTH CENTRE

The Chairman introduced Russ Summers, the Youth Leader at Patchway Youth Centre in Coniston Road. Russ showed a presentation and emphasises that the centre was now open 5 days a week, including Fridays, and had 200 members. A presentation of awards was shortly to take place with 175 young people achieving an award.

The Centre would like to work in partnership with a number of local organisations, including Patchway Town Council, on the development of a Youth Forum which would enable young people to be consulted and to give them a voice in local matters. There would be a steering group of key stakeholders and it was hoped that a group of 20 young people would be involved in this project. The young people were currently carrying out a photographic project, some images from which were shown.

The Centre had secured some funding towards the Youth Forum project but was looking for additional funds. It was proposed that one or more young people could join Scott Park Advisory Committee and be involved in decisions taken for development of that area.

The Chairman thanked Russ for his presentation and he then left the meeting.

226/10. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mrs Orpen, Chairman of Patchway Community Association, read a statement and presented a list of questions concerning the future of the community centre, bearing in mind its poor structural condition. She asked for replies in writing within 28 days. Councillors commented that they all supported the community centre and that the Council was trying its best to secure funds for the future of the building.

A resident from Coniston Road complained about the potholes in the road, the increase in traffic and the poor condition of the railings near The Parade. It was noted that a programme of resurfacing the road was about to commence and that South Gloucestershire Council were monitoring vehicle numbers. The question of maintenance of the railings would be raised with Merlin.

A resident of Willow Close asked about the plans for closing one carriageway of Highwood Road. It was noted that a public consultation would be held on 23 July at the Community Centre from 3-7 p.m. to which all residents would be invited.

A resident of Cranbourne Road, responding to a circular from Cllr. Richardson, asked if the grass verge opposite her house could be designated as a village green to prevent development. Plans from SGC were shown to demonstrate that this land was part of the highway and would remain as such.

A resident asked whether, when the new bus route was opened through the Charlton Hayes development, a bus stop will be installed on the junction with Durban Road. The Clerk would ask SGC for this information.

227/10. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Mrs Woodley (family illness),
Mrs Martin (another meeting) and Mrs L. Hodder (illness).

It was noted that under new regulations, Councillors must state a reason for their absence from Council meetings and that this must be recorded as well as the names of any Councillors not sending apologies. It was also noted that under Standing Orders Councillors must make their own apologies by telephoning the office.

228/10. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Chairman asked any member having a personal or prejudicial interest in a matter to be discussed to declare it during the meeting.

229/10. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2010, which had been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

230/10. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a) Visit from children from Gauting: 209/10
It was noted that the children from Gauting had arrived on 10 July for a week's visit and that the Mayor had welcomed them to Patchway at the Council Offices and would be joining them for a farewell dinner on Friday.
- b) Post Office: 124/09
The Council was very pleased to note that planning consent had been given to Spar in Rodway Road for an extension to house the post office and that it was anticipated that it would be open in 8 weeks.
- c) Airfield: 220o/10
Cllr. Hopkinson asked for a copy of the letter from BAe Systems concerning

closure of the airfield at weekends as he had understood that the closure was due to commercial reasons.

d) Shellmor Road: 220p/10

Cllr. Hopkinson reported that he had asked SGC to review the costings of the proposed closure of Shellmor at the A38 and asked if the item could be on the agenda of the Planning Committee in September for discussion.

231/10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Planning & Transport Committee

Cllr Gray reported on the Planning & Transport Committee held on 22 June, the minutes of which had been circulated, and which were endorsed by the Council.

Councillors were pleased to see that Patchway Library had settled well into the Casson Centre where they would be based until September 2011. Cllr Alsop asked that repairs to Chelford Grove should be discussed at the next meeting.

b) Finance Committee

Cllr. Gray reported on the meetings of the Finance Committee held on 22 June and 6 July, the minutes of which had been circulated, and which were endorsed by the Council. Councillors were pleased to hear that progress was being made on completion of the Playbuilders Projects.

As the time was 9.30 p.m., the Council agreed to suspend Standing Orders to complete business.

232/10. CASUAL VACANCY

A Casual Vacancy was declared resulting from the death of Cllr. G. Woodley.

This would be advertised in the normal way and if no by-election was requested, the Council would be able to co-opt at the next meeting in September.

233/10. CONISTON COMMUNITY CENTRE BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

It was noted that the report would be circulated to Councillors after the meeting. There were no issues to report.

234/10. URGENT GRANT APPLICATION

The Council agreed to consider an urgent request for consideration of a grant application from Freespace summer holiday programme for young people aged 11+.

The application had not arrived in time for the Finance Committee due to a change of officer. Councillors noted the report on the 2009 programme and agreed that this was a worthy project which provided activities for teenagers during the summer holidays. A grant of £1,000 was agreed.

235/10. RESOLUTION FROM CLLR. RICHARDSON

Cllr. Richardson proposed the following resolution:

“We as a Town Council recognise the community value of the grassland areas in the vicinity of Thirlmere Road, Southsea Road, Cranbourne Road and Sycamore Drive as a community recreational space and would like to apply for the area to be registered as a village green. This will require it to be proven that the inhabitants of a defined locality (or neighbourhood of a locality) have used the land for legal “sports or pastimes” as of perceived right for a period of 20 years.”

Cllrs Hopkinson and Pomfret stated that, as members of the SGC Public Rights of Way Committee, they could not comment on this proposal.

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to SGC Transport Services and been informed that all the areas mentioned in the resolution were “public highway and therefore would remain as they are. They would need to be formally

stopped up to be changed.” An extract from the Highway Record showing the Highwood Road area had been supplied and was shown to the Council.

Councillors commented that, apart from the information given above which was conclusive, the effect of this resolution would be to hold up development of the library site to provide a Hub for children’s services which would benefit the people of Patchway and provide additional parking for the Rodway Road shops. It was pointed out that a consultation had already been held on the proposed building, which included a site visit attended by Cllr. Richardson.

As there was no seconder for the resolution, it could not be put to the vote.

236/10. PROTOCOL AGREEMENT

This item was taken in closed session at the end of the meeting.

237/10. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Councillors were very pleased that a scheme for Changes to Waiting Restrictions

 in Hempton Lane was agreed for implementation in 2010. This would include

 double yellow lines on the whole length of Hempton Lane opposite the school.

b) A letter from the Standards Board concerning the importance of not relying on

 the pocket guide was noted. It was important that Councillors referred to the

 Code of Conduct Guide for Members for guidance. Copies would be sent to

 Councillors who did not have one.

c) The Council was pleased to note that its comments on the name and the siting of

 the new police station in Gloucester Road had been noted for further consideration.

d) The Council noted that the replacement of the boiler in Casson Centre

was necessary before the winter and agreed that a good quality boiler should be ordered.

- e) Alderman Scott Awards - request from Community College for date of presentation: This matter was referred to the Planning Committee for discussion.
- f) The Council noted that the next Four Towns & Vale Link Community Transport open meeting would be held on 21 July, 7.30 p.m. at Filton Community Centre.
- g) It was noted that two representatives of the Council had been invited to a SGC consultation day: Working Together Matters on 29 September, 2.30 - 9 p.m. at Coalpit Heath.
- h) The Council noted a letter from SGC giving the Council notice to end its Licence to use the land outside the Library in Rodway Road and asking the Council to remove its items by 4 October.
- i) The BMX Club had requested the Town Council to cut the grass round the track during the growing season. The groundstaff had reported that this task would take one hour and the Council agreed unanimously that there would be no charge for this work.
- j) An invitation was noted to Older People Working Together: a meeting on 14 July at Staple Hill.
- k) The Council was pleased to hear that hanging baskets would be installed in Chelford Grove this summer.
- l) The Council noted a report in a national local council magazine on the election of the Patchway Mayor.

- m) The Council noted letters of thanks for grants from Severnside Community Rail Partnership and Alzheimer's Society.
- n) The Council noted that sections of Coniston Road would be closed during the next few weeks to repair potholes and create a crossing point for the cycle route from Bradley Road to Waterside Drive. The footpath from Britannia Road to Coniston Road would also be closed temporarily for widening into a cycle route.
- o) It was noted with regret that BT would be removing the telephone box from Coniston Parade due to continual vandalism.

238/10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Cllrs. Dando, Pomfret and Hopkinson asked for it to be noted that as members of the SGC Development Control West Committee, they could make comments but not express an opinion on any planning matter.

The Council made no objection to the following applications:

18 Ravenscourt Road (resubmission)	Single storey extension
31 Cavendish Road Stroud Road	Detached bungalow facing
CS2 Ltd., Park Avenue, Aztec West	Roller shutter doors
Communication Mast, antennae Highwood Road	Replace existing pole with 2

The Council made no objection to an application for street trading in Aztec West, "Smudger's Saucy Bites".
It was noted that the application by A&M Fast Food in Highwood Road had been referred to the Licensing Panel.

240/10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Council agreed to the summer recess and noted that the date of the next meeting would be Tuesday 14 September.

It was noted that during the recess the normal procedure was that any minor urgent matters should be referred to the Chairman for decision and that any major urgent matters should be referred to a meeting of the Finance Committee.