

PATCHWAY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on 11 December 2012 at Callicroft House, Rodway Road, Patchway.

Present: Councillors

C. Mills (in the Chair))	
M. Grotzke)	Coniston
E. Gordon J.P)	Ward
Mrs E. Martin)	
Ms R. Thorne)	
J. Moore)	
Mrs E. Orpen)	
P. Cottrell)	Callicroft
K. Walker)	Ward
M. Greensword)	

148/12. RICHARD CLARK

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Clark, Head of Stoke Lodge Primary School. Mr. Clark stated that he had been in post for 8 years and was on the Safeguarding Committee of South Gloucestershire. Since October he had been supporting Callicroft Primary School as Executive Head, following the resignation of the Head, Sandra Lakeman. The school would be advertising in January for a new Head.

Due to changes in legislation, any new built school can only be part of an Academy Trust or Free School and vulnerable schools can also be converted to an Academy. As the local schools believe in the community and a group of good or outstanding schools can form an Academy Trust, this action is being considered as a local solution for local schools from September 2013. Discussions are still being held but this Trust could be led by Patchway Community College and Stoke Lodge Primary School and other local schools could join it with the aim of providing an education which developed excellence for each and every child.

Mr. Clark also spoke about the importance of children and young people supporting Patchway's twinning links with Clermont and Gauting. He had visited Gauting in May and was working on a programme through the library service to exchange folk stories between the three communities using internet links. Each year a group of 16 year olds visited Patchway from Gauting and all the schools were involved with a programme of work experience and visits. Mr. Clark asked if the Town Council would be willing to contribute £350 to support the programme under preparation.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Clark for his interesting presentation and he then left the meeting.

149/12. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Alsop (working), Tiley (illness) and Scott (attending another meeting).

No apologies were received from Cllrs. Hopkinson and Pomfret.

It was noted that under Standing Orders, 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 contacting the office.

150/12. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chairman stated that any member having a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed should declare it during the meeting as specified in the Code of Conduct required by the Localism Act 2011 Section 27. He stated that a Declaration of Interest should also be made by the Clerk if she had an interest in any organisation being discussed by the Council.

151/12. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13 November, which had been circulated, were approved as a correct record, proposed Cllr. Martin, seconded Cllr. Gordon and signed by the Chairman.

152/12. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Highwood Road: 144/12

Cllr. Orpen reported that she had attended a meeting with officers earlier in the day on problems arising from the closure of Highwood Road. It had been agreed that new signs would be erected on the A38 directing through traffic for The Mall on to the new link road. It was acknowledged that the 20 mph limit could not be enforced and consideration is being given to rumble strips in Highwood Road.

It had been noted that HGVs were using Coniston Road despite the 7½ ton limit and that use of Coniston by all vehicles had greatly increased.

b) Charlton Common: 140/12

The Clerk read the letter which had been sent to the Planning Inspectorate requesting protection of the common land and it was noted that a public inquiry would be held in the spring on this matter.

c) Freemen of Patchway: 141/12

Councillors noted that Charles Horton had undergone heart surgery and wished

him a speedy recovery. It was agreed to review the situation at the next meeting with a view to holding the ceremony in February when all three candidates were available.

d) 2 Hazeldene Road: 145/12

Cllr. Orpen reported on the site inspection and the decision that the applicant must choose between a side extension or a bungalow in the garden.

e) Joint Burial Committee: 126/12

The Chairman reported on a meeting of the Burial Committee the previous week. The Precept would be set at the next meeting and the legal advice was being obtained on the composition of the committee.

153/12. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

a) Planning & Transport Committee

Cllr. Mills presented the minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on 27 November which had been circulated and which were endorsed by the Council.

Councillors considered the SGC Housing Priorities from 2013-18, which had been circulated, and agreed comments. It was agreed that sheltered housing was needed as an interim step before extra care provision was required. It was also agreed that solar panels should be included in Building Regulations. The Council noted that revised plans for the Boulevard in Charlton Hayes had involved removing shops from the ground floor of apartment blocks.

b) Parks & Open Spaces Committee

Cllr. Grotzke presented the minutes of the meeting held on 29 November which had been circulated and which were endorsed by the Council. This had been the annual meeting with representatives of the allotment groups.

The Council endorsed the decision of the committee to give the contract for repair of potholes in the Scott Park car park to SGC in view of their superior specification. The Council was happy to meet with representatives of the Sports & Social Club to explain the reason for this decision.

c) Finance Committee

The Chairman presented the minutes of the meeting held on 4 December which had been circulated and which were endorsed by the Council. The Council discussed the request by Southern Brooks Community Partnership for a 3 year service agreement. Cllr. Martin and the Clerk declared their interest as Trustees of the charity. The Council agreed to consider the possibility of a two year funding agreement in January when the result of the CYP consultation was known but could not commit to expenditure beyond the next election in 2015. The Council noted that changes in government grants to local government might result in a cap of 2% increase on parish and town council budgets for next year. Confirmation of this decision was awaited.

d) Personnel Committee

The Chairman presented the minutes of the meeting held on 29 November in confidential session. The Council agreed to the recommendations concerning reference of a long-term sick member of staff to Occupation Health and increasing salaries of groundstaff by 2% in line with the recommendation of the Institute of Groundsmen from April 2013.

As the time was 9.30 p.m., it was agreed to suspend Standing Orders to permit completion of business.

154/12. CRIBBS PATCHWAY DEVELOPMENT

Councillors examined a display which was on loan to the Council from SGC on the planned development on the airfield of a community to be known as Cribbs Patchway. It was agreed that it would be helpful if the officer leading the consultation, Jon Severs, and the head of the Major Sites Team, Donna Whinham, could attend a special meeting to explain the detail of these plans so that the Council could put in its comments before the closing date on 11 January. The Clerk was asked to make arrangements for such a meeting as early as possible.

155/12. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Orpen reported on interesting site visits to wind farms and solar farms. She was now the leader of the Labour Group on the PTSE committee.

Cllr. Walker reported that it was announced at a recent meeting of the Waste Management Forum that the Sort It Centre in Station Road would be closing in February for two weeks for upgrading work. He suggested that the Clerk obtain more information for the Town Council website.

156/12. PATCHWAY YOUTH CENTRE

The Chairman reported that Southern Brooks Community Partnership had put in a business plan to SGC to take over and run Patchway Youth Centre and had asked the Town Council to support them.

The Council noted that SGC had agreed to keep youth centres open in priority neighbourhoods but was proposing to run sessions on two evenings a week in Patchway, two evenings a week in Filton and one session for young people with disabilities in Little Stoke.

After discussion, the Council agreed unanimously, proposed by Cllr. Walker and seconded by Cllr. Grotzke that young people would be better served by a local organisation than by the reduced service offered by SGC.

157/12. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Rowena Kenny of the SGC Wild for Life programme would like to speak to the Council at the February meeting about projects in Patchway. This was agreed.
- b) Cold Callers: SGC Trading Standards officers would like to introduce “No Cold Calling Zones” or “Community Doorstep Control Zones” in Patchway. This was supported by the Council.
- c) “Run Patchway”: The Council noted that SGC would like to set up a running group in Patchway and was working with Southern Brooks Community Partnership to promote it.
- d) Head of Street Care, Mark King, has offered dates in January to discuss highway issues in Coniston/Highwood Roads and explain plans for Part-Night Lighting. It was agreed that 7 January at 2.30 pm was the most convenient for Councillors.
- e) Information on the Stoke Lane site visit was given.
- f) SGC had agreed to look at the condition of nw bus stops in Highwood Road.
- g) Improvements to The Parade: A drop-in meeting had been arranged on 8 January 1-4 p.m. with Merlin Housing Society.
- h) Green Dog Walker Scheme: SGC was willing to come and meet Councillors and it was agreed to refer this matter to the Parks Committee for discussion.
- i) Councillors noted that a Training Day would be held on Friday 1 March with SGC Councillor Development Team.
- j) The Council noted letters of thanks for grants from Old Patchway Pensioners Club, North Patchway Hall and the Royal British Legion.

158/12. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Council made no objection to the following planning application:

Orange PLC
Aztec West

Cycle shelter & bin store

159/12. FINANCE

The Chairman reported that as a result of the SGC Parish Review, the officers had recommended a new parish for Stoke Lodge but this would not be debated by SG Council until May and any changes would be introduced after the 2015 election. It was

noted that if agreed the Town Council would lose 30% of its income and the new parish would be entitled to claim 20% of our assets and pay 20% of our liabilities. It was noted that the outstanding loan from the PWLB at the end of December was £419,636 and that 20% of this was £83,927.

The Council noted the following income:

Ms D Campbell	First aid course recharge	22.50
Pretoria Road Allotments Society	Rent (2012–13)	1,095.02
Blakeney Road Allotments Association	Rent (2012–13)	400.00
Total		£1,517.52

The Council noted the following direct debits:

Allstar Business Solutions Ltd	Diesel for truck (FP03 ULF)	80.01
Allstar Business Solutions Ltd	Diesel for van (WR55 LGU)	55.00
British Gas (Commercial) Services Ltd	Boiler maintenance contract payment	139.20
Total		£ 274.21

The Council agreed the following expenditure:

1	Abacus Professional Training	First Aid At Work course	275.00
2	Avon Local Councils' Association	Chairing course	30.00
3	Bath and Northeast Somerset Council	Pension contributions (Nov)	3,097.39
4	The Consortium	Stationery	25.55
6	GWE Business West Ltd	Chamber of Commerce Membership	300.00
7	HAG Shutters & Grilles Ltd	Repair of shutter at Patchway Common	190.80
8	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE (Nov)	4,203.13
9	Open Spaces Society	Subscription	45.00
10	Orange	Mobile phones (Dec)	25.13
11	Patchway Autoparts	Light Bulb for tractor	2.12
12	Patchway People	Town Council News	150.00
13	TH White Ltd	Purchase of Ransomes Cylinder mower (WX61 BLZ)	19,200.00
14	Virgin Media Payments Ltd	Broadband at Callicroft House	36.00
15	Mr M Dark	Window cleaning at Callicroft House	60.00
		...at Patchway Common	40.00
		...at Casson Centre	16.00
16	Mr C Milton	Installation of security posts	165.00
17		Drainage modifications in Scott Park	1,500.00
18	Four Towns & Vale Link Community Transport	Grant	8,000.00
19	Councillors	Travelling expenses	22.86

20	Mrs L Hamid	Clerk's expenses:	
21		Calendars	1.98
22		Key tags, adhesives and van spares	10.00
23		Milk for meetings	0.99
24		Sellotape	0.99
25		Christmas trees	39.96
26		Postage	48.65
27	Staff	Salaries (Nov)	13,129.80
	Total		£50,616.35

160/12. SEASON'S GREETINGS

The Chairman thanked all Members of the Council for their support since his election in May and wished everyone a very good Christmas break. He invited Councillors to join him for refreshments after the meeting.

161/12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Council noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 15 January at 7.30 p.m. and would commence with Public Question Time.