

BICKNOLLER PARISH COUNCIL – THURSDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2007

A meeting of the Council was held in the Village Hall Committee Room at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mr J Lees (Chairman), Mr M Andersen, Mr J Anderson, Mr M Cox,
Mr K ter Braak, Mr D Venner, Mrs J White

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs M ter Braak (Clerk, Mr A Trollope Bellew (County Councillor),
Mr Mitch Wicking (District Councillor))

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PARISH FORUM: no forum was held.

REPORT FROM COUNTY AND WSDC COUNCILLORS: Mr Trollope-Bellew and Mr Wicking reported on current matters of interest.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** none were received.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** none were made.
3. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 27 SEPTEMBER 2007:** the alteration to the second paragraph of 5.3 was agreed. The minutes were unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman.
4. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** at the recent Village Shop AGM it was reported that there is a 90% chance of the post office closing down. We will know more in December. This will of course cause some loss of revenue.
5. **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**
 - 5.1. Roads -Mike Andersen:
The repair to the surface water sewer in Dashwoods Lane has now been completed. Mr Andersen will investigate a new sign for "Dashwoods Lane" to be located at the junction with Honey Row Lane and Trendle Lane. Overhanging branches in Dashwoods Lane - four properties have now taken action and other owners will be doing so soon. There will be no further action on this matter for the moment.
 - 5.2. Footpaths - Jenny White, as the Parish's Footpaths Liaison Officer, has been given a kit containing tools to help in clearing paths, repairing stiles, etc. She is also insured by the County Council when undertaking any work of this kind.
 - 5.3. Environment (Bicknoller Eco Team) - Julian Anderson gave the following progress report. The showing of two films as part of the "Great Bicknoller Environment Debate" was a success and provoked lively discussion. The Youth Club has been invited to help design an Eco Logo. A presentation will be made to the Parish on 14 March 2008 on the concept "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle", followed by a visit on 25 March 2008 to Carymoor Environmental Centre. Desmond Venner has raised the Team's concerns about Lyme Disease at a recent Quantock Hills JAC meeting. Carole Darke is preparing a revised version of a fabric bag which will hopefully replace plastic bags in the Parish. Finally, Kees ter Braak has prepared a questionnaire for carrying out a survey of computer usage in the parish.
 - 5.4. Quantock Hills - Desmond Venner attended the JAC meeting on 23 November at which the problem of ticks and Lyme Disease was discussed. So far £12,760 of Government funding has been spent on research into this problem, the results of

which will be known in April next year.

5.5. Youth - Martin Cox: nothing to report.

5.6. Planning matters - Kees ter Braak reported as follows:

The owner of the stables in Chilcombe Lane has now submitted a planning application.

As regards application 3/01/07/007 (Mr P Rowe, Taliesin House, Trendle Lane - extension to side of existing house) this has now been granted. However, the amended plan mentioned on the Planning Decision note was not sent to the Parish Council. A copy of this has now been received. A small amendment has been made to the design, but the observations about the new footprint of the property, which were made in the Parish Council's letter to the Planning Officer, have not been taken into account. It was agreed that the Chairman will write to the District Council to express concern over the fact that the recommendations in our Village Design Statement are being ignored.

Finally, with reference to the wooden fence at 5 Church Lane, Mr Roach has advised that there will be a soil back-fill up to the wooden posts. This will in time be covered with vegetation which will protrude through the posts, covering them as well. Mr Roach also pointed out that this fencing work had been approved by the District Council when the planning application had been granted.

6. PLANNING

6.1. Applications - the Meeting had no objection to the following applications:

3/01/07/009 Mr G E Appleby, Badgers Rake, 1 & 2 Cottiford, Woolston Moor. Opening up of 2 blocked doorways (ground and first floor).

3/01/07/010 Mr & Mrs K Johnson, The Stables, Chilcombe Lane. Hay & implement store extension to private stables.

3/01/07/011 Bicknoller Parochial Church Council. Land adjacent to St. George's Church - change of use from glebe land to garden of remembrance.

6.2. Decisions - the following applications have been granted by West Somerset Council:

3/01/07/004 - Halsway Manor Society, Halsway. Stained glass spandrels over staff entrance, 2 hand basins, repositioning WC in cloakroom; washbasin in ensuite.

3/01/07/005 - Mr & Mrs R Smart, Yard Farm, Kingswood. Re-roof outbuilding.

3/01/07/006 - Mr & Mrs R Smart, Yard Farm, Kingswood. Internal alterations to garden annex to enlarge shower/utility room.

3/01/07/007 - Mr P Rowe, Taliesin House, Trendle Lane. Extension to side of existing house.

3/01/07/009 - Mr G E Appleby, Badgers Rake, Woolston Moor. Opening up of 2 blocked doorways (Ground Floor & First Floor)

7. FINANCE

7.1. Authorisation of expenditure

- the Meeting noted the issuing of the following cheques:

Chq. no. 102	Bicknoller Parochial Church Council	£250.00
Chq. no. 103	Steve Hobbs Builders Ltd.	£122.50

- the Meeting authorised the issuing of the following cheque:

Chq. no. 104	Mrs M ter Braak	£40.13
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7.2. Bank Statements ; Budget / Actual 2007-08: these were noted.

7.3. Risk Assessment review: the Risk Analysis Chart was reviewed and it was agreed that no changes were required.

8. INTERNAL AUDIT TESTING: the Working Party had reviewed the ten key control tests and confirmed the effectiveness of the system of internal control, with one proposal - that the Parish Council's insurance cover should include Personal Accident insurance. The Clerk will investigate the cost of this and report to the January meeting.

9. NEW SEAT & NOTICE BOARD: it was agreed that the legacy of £1000 from the Estate of Miss D R I White will be spent as follows - the purchase of a hardwood bench up to a maximum cost of £500 (to include ground fixing kit, engraving and delivery), which will leave £500 towards the cost of a new 2-bay notice board from Greenbarnes. The total cost of this notice board is £865.92 and the balance of £365.92 will be provided via an application to the AONB's Sustainable Development Fund.

As regards location of the seat and bench - the new seat will replace the old one at the top of Church Lane / Trendle Lane. The notice board will be located to the left of the phone box outside the Bicknoller Inn. No planning permission is required for this but a licence will be needed from Highways (no fee involved).

10. ITEMS OF REPORT AND MATTERS FOR THE NEXT MEETING: Jenny White has arranged for Western Power to trim back the vegetation hanging over their cables at Woolston Moor.

11. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS:

Thursday 17 January 2008	7 p.m.	Parish Council - Full
Thursday 21 February 2008	7 p.m.	Parish Council - Planning (provisional)
Thursday 20 March 2008	7 p.m.	Parish Council - Full