

Wickwar Parish Council Minutes

A meeting for the above Council was held on Wednesday 1st June 2011, at the Town Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Attended:

Councillor T Proffitt (Chairman)
Councillor M Summers (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor R Stimpson
Councillor D Howard
Councillor I Aldous

Apologies:

None

Clerk:

Mrs P Trull

Ward Councillor H Gawler attended this meeting.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor D Howard, T Proffitt and M Summers are Trustees to the Wickwar Educational and General Charities.

All Parish Councillors are Trustees of the King George V Playing Fields.

Councillor D Howard is the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee.

Councillor D Howard is a member of the Castle Bridleways Group.

Councillor T Proffitt is the Chairman of the Quarry Liaison Group.

Councillor Howard declared a personal and prejudicial interest when the Council discusses or debates planning application 17 Church View, Station Road, adjacent to the Village Hall., Councillor Howard is the Chairman for the Village Hall Committee.

Public Time Session

Nicola Chidley, Senior Field Officer, South Glos Council Public Rights of Way, attended this meeting to discuss ways forward to open up plumber's trench for open access for walkers and horse riders. Plumber's trench runs from the bottom of the packhorse bridge into Lower Woods. This is accepted highway by SGC, and therefore should be maintained by the council.

Nicola will send a map of the area and her meeting notes to the Parish Council.

The Castle Bridleways Group will set up meetings to take this process forward.

Parishioner attended this meeting to discuss issues regarding the Buthay Public House.

The tenants of the Public House have erected a wood platform play area; there will be a retrospective planning application by the tenants/brewery.

Vegetation covering 30mph sign when entering the village on the Downs Road, road repairs Downs Road, gullies and ditches to be dug out to try and alleviate large puddles along the road. To be reported to SGC Streetcare.

1. **Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 4th May 2011, were accepted as a fair representation of that meeting.

2. **Matters Arising**

Buthay Lease – Letter from Merlin Housing, copies to all Parish Councillors. Meeting dates to be agreed by Parish Council and Merlin. To be arranged by the Clerk.

Parishioner enquiry – Gloucestershire footpaths. Matter reported to Glos Council. Locked gate on or near to Bunsall Bridge. Reported by parishioner to Glos Council and confirmed by Wickwar Parish Council.

Highways – Road B4060, from the first railway bridge leading out of Wickwar on the Station Road to the second railway bridge. Requests for reduction in speed limit. Matter reported to South Glos Council, who are not willing to look into the matter due to work and costs. Matter also reported to Glos Council who are willing to look into the issues raised. Matters also reported to Safer & Stronger Community Group and the Avon & Somerset Police.

3. **Planning Applications**

Alleged breach of planning – Land adjacent to the Chestnuts House, Sodbury Road. Installation of a driveway and mobile home. Reported to SGC Planning Enforcement, who has informed the Parish Council, they are looking into the matter.

SGC Planning Enforcement – An enforcement notice will be served to remove the mobile home from agricultural land.

COM/11/0264/LB – 29 High Street, Wickwar

Unauthorized works to listed building following takeover of shop premises. (Planning Enforcement)

PK11/0734/F – 17 Church View, Station Road, Wickwar

Change of use of land from agricultural to residential curtilage. Erection of 2.75 meter high boundary wall.

Objection

COM/11/0370/COU - Hall End Gypsy Site

Alleged. The site is not being used as a site for traveller's caravans.

PK11/1138/F – Birdsbush Farm, Wickwar

Change of use of land from agricultural to equestrian. Erection of barn and stables and construction of

Hard standing and entrance gates. (Retrospective)

No objection

4. Report Ward Councillor

Councillor Howard thanked the voters of Wickwar, as he has been elected as their representative for the next four years.

Councillor Gawler is the Chairman of PROW (Public Rights of Way), Corporate, Select Audit and Accounts Chairman. Attending the Licensing Committee, Planning DC West, Transport Forum, Frome Vale Area Forum and the Safer & Stronger Communities Committee Chairman.

Councillor Howard has negotiated with South Glos Council that they fund and install the kerbs needed for the Downs Road bend grass verge. Councillor Gawler says the WPFA will be responsible for the land and the maintenance of the wall and grass verge.

5. General Business.

Castle Bridleways Group – Will become more proactive in their approach to opening plummets trench for open access.

Senior Citizens Forum – Request for grant. Proposed by Councillor R Stimpson and seconded by Councillor D Howard, grant of £50.00. All in favour, no votes against therefore the motion was carried.

Code of Conduct - To be reviewed at the Councils July meeting.

Bridges Rangeworthy & Wickwar – Hall End. Weight limits apply to these bridges, but essential Farm traffic will be able to gain access. Bridges have been accessed for repair by SGC.

Wickwar Educational Charities – The Council will arrange a separate meeting to discuss this matter.

Parish Councillor Vacancies – Two vacancies exist. The Parish Council is able to co-opt if they wish. The Clerk will arrange an advert in the Local Parish Magazine and the Parish Notice Board.

Public Footpaths – LWR 25/30, the second stile after the kissing gate heading east. Double stile either side of ditch. Reported to PROW. This matters has now been resolved, barbed wire has been removed.

Wickwar out of school club – Request for donation. Letter requesting donation will be kept and considered by the Parish Council at their annual budget meeting. The club will be informed.

Wickwar Village Sign – Sign for 'Wickwar' as you enter the Village. Clerk has asked permission from SGC to plant daffodil bulbs under the sign. SGC has given their permission, as the grass verge is owned and maintained by SGC.

Wickwar Part Night Lighting Scheme – Parishioners have been consulted, Wickwar Parish Council held an open evening, and all comments have been submitted to SGC engineers. The Council awaits their reply and dates.

Buthay Public House – Play Area. Discussed in the Councils Public Time Session.

SGC – Price increase to empty dog bins £4.08 per empty. Information only.

Items for Information

. Register of correspondence received (see attached)

- ALCA AGM 26th May. Wickwar PC's unable to attend.
- Quality Status Scheme - Discussed.

6. Reports

- **Quarry Liaison Group** – Meeting held on the 26th May, Chairman for the Group re-elected Councillor T Proffitt, also attended Councillor M Summers & Clerk.
Report – Quarry activity has increased, the coating plant has been busy. No reports of any noise nuisance from the working coating plant. Blasting is taking place in the new quarry area. Quarry Officials have met with local action group WRAG to address any issue they may have regarding noise and smell.
- **Speed Watch** – Wickwar Watch continues to be the most active in the Laddenbrook ward. The Watch have borrowed the Police training speed gun for the time being.
- **Youth Club** – No report at this meeting.
- **Neighbourhood Watch** – AGM held on the 25th May 2011.
- **Safer & Stronger Community Group** – Next meeting Wickwar Town Hall 14th July 2011. Discussion on security & vandalism King George V Playing Fields Wickwar.
- **Parish Walk** – 22nd May 2011. New start time of 2pm. The afternoon start time was well received. No problems encountered, clearing of undergrowth on paths leading from Chase Lane.
- **King George V Playing Fields** – A date for the next committee meeting will be arranged when the PC have information and potential plans submitted by their appointed architect.
Parishioner's enquiry as to what the Parish Council's plans for the pavilion. The Council will undertake a village consultation, when they have more information.
Vandalism Play equipment - 13th May 2011. Reported to the Police, crime reference number 56209/11. Work to repair damage will be undertaken as soon as practical.
Football frolics – Permission sought by users, Wickwar Football Club to use the fields for the Frolics event on the 4th July 2011. Council gives their permission for the Frolic event.
ROSPA Report – Report copied to all PC's. Annual inspection of play area. To be discussed at the Councils July meeting.
Mr N Bennett – Gate Closing. January – June 2011 @ £25.00 per month £150.00. As agreed.

Changeover meeting – Saturday 21st May 2011. Pavilion and fields in good order. No problems reported.

- **Village Hall** – AGM to be held on Monday 6th June 2011.
- **Community Centre** – Next meeting Thursday 30th June 2011. The Community Centre Committee have written to the Parish Council regarding kitchen and outside improvements.
- **Town Hall** – JNC Fire extinguisher checks have been undertaken. July, the PA testing will take place.

7. Burial Matters

IRO Mr R Perrett – Plot 391 – Grant of Exclusive Rights signed by the Parish Council.

Burial Conditions & Income & Expenditure for three years. To be discussed at the Councils July meeting.

8. Accounts

Mrs P Trull – Clerk - Purchase of broom for Town Hall, paint brushes & creosote substitute from Country Wide Store, Thornbury. £20.27 (VAT £3.38)

Mazars Annual Return for the year ending 31st March 2011 – Read out to Councillors attending and signed by Wickwar Parish Council Chairman Councillor T Proffitt, after ratifying figures from the Councils Accounts receipts and payments records along with Bank Account reconciliation summaries, which are audited by Councillor M Summers on a regular basis. Section 1 Accounting statement signed, Section 2 Annual governance statement signed.

The Clerk will meet with Dr J Way, on Friday 10th June 2011 for him to undertake the Councils Internal Audit.

Cheques signed at this meeting.

Mrs A Carroll – Grass Cutting Parish Cemetery (May 11)	£120.00
Inland Revenue – Clerks NI	£26.76
Play Safety Ltd (ROSPA) Play Ground Inspection	£111.60
P Trull – Broom & Creosote Subs	£20.27
Mr N Bennett – Gate Closing KGV Playing Fields	£150.00
S Trull – Broadband – Council PC 3 months X £11.00	£33.00
Senior Citizens Forum – Donation	£50.00
N Power – Pavilion Electricity	£128.56

The date of the next meeting for the Council will be on Wednesday 6th July 2011, at the Town Hall commencing at 7.30pm.