

# Trull Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting held in the Pearce Suite, Memorial Hall, Trull  
on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2008 at 7.15 pm.

Present: Mr. G. Hewett (Chairman)

Mr. S. French, Mr. D. Archer, Mrs. A. Hudson, Mr. C. Ralph,  
Mr. N. Hancock and Mr. P. Parris, together with seven Members  
of the Public.

In attendance: Mr. S. Watts - Clerk

Prior to the commencement of the Meeting, the Chairman invited questions from members of the public that were not related to the Agenda but none were forthcoming.

67/08 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for Absence were received and agreed from Mrs. Wooldridge, Mr. Jeffery and Mrs. Drew.

Mr. White had advised that a report on footpaths was not necessary at the present time.

68/08 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

69/08 **Chairman's Report**

Mr. White had now completed the maintenance work to the notice boards at the School and the Memorial Hall and the finish was to a very high standard. It was noted that the charge would be for the cost of the materials only, and it was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to Mr. White.

The DDA gates had now been installed at the Bell House (Minute 09/08 refers) and appeared to be working satisfactorily.

70/08 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2008 were agreed, and signed by the Chairman.

71/08 **Matters Arising**

Mr. Parris reported that he had now reinstated the bench at Cotlake Hill back to its original position (Minute 53/08 refers).

72/08 **Report on the Dragon's Football Team**

Mr. Simon Trump, as Chairman of the Dragons Football Team, reported on the current position of the club.

He stated that a recent break-in to the changing room had caused damage to the panelling of the access door, which had since been repaired and strengthened by a club member. The local PC Beat Officer had been informed and there was a suggestion that the damage had been caused by youths from outside of the area, possibly linked to the Castle School Prom, as there had been other associated disturbances. The Dragons had a number of possessions in the changing room, such as footballs and a motor mower, but nothing appeared to have been stolen. Mr. Trump requested clarification on the terms of the Council's insurance policy in the event of a claim.

In general, the club were satisfied with the current arrangements, and there was regular liaison with the Church and the School to ensure that the pressure on car parking spaces was kept to a minimum.

The Chairman stated that the Council were fully supportive of the Club, and thanked Mr. Trump for his report.

73/08 **Report on the Party in the Park 2008**

Mr. French thanked Mrs. Hudson for her considerable help in running the skittles event, and stated that the party overall had been a great success. Mr. Ralph, as a committee member, agreed. He then commended the Scouts for their assistance in setting up the stalls and the clearance work that was required the following morning.

Mr. Archer reported that the Church's 'Trull 700' programme of events had been very successful and had attracted a sizeable attendance.

The Chairman commented that the weather had been favourable and that, although it was not the primary intention, it would appear that a substantial profit had been realised. The Chairman of the committee, Mr. Bloxham, was intending to report to the Council at the September meeting.

74/08 **Planning**

Mr. Ralph and Mrs. Hudson reported on the following applications received from TDBC for the Council to consider: -

- 08/017 - Hamwood Farm, Daw's Green, Trull.  
Full Siting of an agricultural worker's mobile home for a period of three years.  
**Resolved** - To support the application.
- 08/020 - Trull Memorial Hall, Church Road, Trull.  
Full Erection of metal storage building on site of timber building (to be demolished).  
**Resolved** - To support the application.

TDBC had requested any observations that the Parish Council may have on the following applications that were outside of the Parish boundary: -

- 05/2008/044 - The Croft, Stonegallows, Taunton.  
Demolition of existing building and erection of three detached dwellings with associated garaging.  
**Resolved** - To not comment on the application.
- 05/2008/045 - The Croft, Stonegallows, Taunton.  
Erection of two dwellings within the residential curtilage.  
**Resolved** - To not comment on the application.

The Clerk advised of the following decisions that had been received from TDBC: -

- 08/009LB - Little Kibbear, Kibbear, Trull.  
Listed building consent granted for the installation of replacement windows on the southern and western elevations.
- 08/014T - Earleswood House, Gatchell Green, Trull.  
Full permission granted for proposed works to 2 Birch trees, one Cypress, 1 Blue Cedar and 1 Fir tree included in the TDBC (Trull No.1) Tree Preservation Order 1088.

- 08/014T - Earleswood House, Gatchell Green, Trull.  
Permission refused for permission to carry out management works to 1 Lime tree included in the TDBC (Trull No.1) Tree Preservation Order 1088.
- 08/016 - Farthing Cottage, Higher Comeytrowe, Trull.  
Full permission granted for the erection of a single storey extension to side and formation of balcony over existing flat roof element to rear.
- 08/018T - Canonsgrove Halls of Residence, Canonsgrove, Trull.  
Full permission granted for the felling of 1 Black Pine, 2 Scots Pines, 1 Norway Maple, 4 Poplars and management works to various self-set Sycamores, 1 Oak and 1 Ash trees included in TDBC (Trull No. 3) TPO 1995.
- 08/019 - The Old Rectory, Wild Oak Lane, Trull.  
Full permission granted for the erection of single storey extension and two-storey extension to form garage and annex.

75/08 **Housing & Development**

Mr. French reported that he had recently attended a TDBC seminar on national changes to the current S.106 or 'planning obligations' arrangements. It was proposed that the current system could be placed on a more systematic, less ad hoc, basis by the introduction of a flat rate fee that would be linked to the development of new build properties. The amount to be charged would be decided locally. TDBC's draft proposal was for a charge of £13,597, plus administrative and legal charges, per property. This was based on the estimated costs of necessary community infrastructure items such as education provision, play and sports facilities, and support to the Arts. The present requirement to provide a proportion of affordable homes would remain. The charge could be varied in particular circumstances – housing for the elderly would be exempt from the education and play elements, for example. Affordable homes would be subject to the charge. The initial response from developers had not been favourable.

76/08 **Playing Field**

Mr. Parris reported on the previously circulated RoSPA safety inspection report, and drew attention to key paragraphs within the introductory notes. Overall, the condition of the play equipment was satisfactory, a significant improvement on the findings of the previous year's report. The items identified as a high or medium risk were: -

- Roundabout  
Protruding bolt threads to the underside of the roundabout had again been classed as a high risk despite recent efforts to address this particular issue. As it was a matter of some urgency, it was agreed that Mr. Parris would arrange for the bolts to be ground down using specialist equipment.
- Timber climbing frame  
There was insufficient safety surfacing to comply with the current safety standards, some timber supports were rotten and various bolts were missing. But it was considered that these faults were not of immediate concern.
- Free standing slide  
The safety surfacing and barrier did not meet with the current standards. These items were not of immediate concern, and could be addressed when time and resources were available.

Mr. Parris queried whether the roundabout was in the correct location and stated that his preference would be to move it nearer to the other items of play equipment. There were conflicting views on this proposal, and it was noted that Mr. & Mrs. Wooldridge

had undertaken a user survey at the Party in the Park. As the results of this were as yet unknown, it was agreed to consider these before any decisions were made.

Mr. Hancock referred to the previously discussed matter of the Castle School Prom and suggested that awareness should be raised on future Prom nights in order to prevent any further disturbances.

77/08 **Highways**

Mr. Hancock reported on the following maintenance items from Somerset Highways: -

- Mr. Peter Radford of SCC bridge structures had again been requested to contact Mr. Archer direct regarding repairs to the bridge at Mill Lane.
- The obscured speed restriction signs between Pitminster and Brown's Elm would be inspected and the vegetation cut back.
- The garage at Staplehay would be requested not to park vehicles for sale on the highway. A similar request had also been made to the TDBC Planning Enforcement Officer.
- The work to divert the underground spring at Kibbear had been completed and the surface-dressing programme could now continue.

Mr. Hancock referred to a request from a resident of Mill Close regarding cutting back vegetation on an area of land between Mill Close and Haygrove Road. It was agreed that this was likely to be a private matter, but a request would be made to Somerset Highways to establish ownership of the land in question.

78/08 **Footpaths**

The Chairman thanked Mrs. Hudson, Mr. Parris and Mr. Archer for their collective effort in applying the wood chipping to the landscaped area at Carter's Way. He stated that the community were very fortunate in having Councillors that gave this level of commitment.

79/08 **Allotments**

The Clerk reported that the standard of the allotments was currently very high, with the plot of Mr. Simon Moore at number 10A of particular note. Mr. Ron Coombes was also in support of this view.

80/08 **Trull Village Memorial Halls**

The Chairman referred to the information received from the TDBC Community Leisure Officer regarding surplus notice boards, and reported that Mr. Jeffery and Mrs. Wooldridge had made a claim for one that would be suitable for Staplehay (Minute 62/08 refers).

The Chairman advised that although nothing specific could be reported as yet, negotiations between the PCC and the Halls Committee regarding the future of the Old Village Hall were continuing in a positive manner.

81/08 **Trull School**

It was understood that, in conjunction with the parent of a pupil of the School and the Headmistress, a Royal Navy Sea King helicopter had landed in the playing field that afternoon. Mrs. Wooldridge had previously requested permission from the Chairman for the event and no objections had been raised.

82/08 **Correspondence**

The Clerk advised of correspondence that was of interest to the Council: -

A letter received from the Secretary of the Trull & Staplehay WI, on behalf of the two villages WIs, regarding a request for a suitable site within Trull in which to plant an Oak tree sapling given to delegates to their National Conference as part of the green environment campaign. Mr. Parris stated that, in his experience, an Oak tree is difficult

to transplant – the smaller the better – and ideally should occur during the autumn season. It was agreed to make a request in the next Newsletter for suggestions on a suitable location.

An invitation to attend the South West Region Tree Warden Scheme Forum on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November at Barrington House, Ilminster. The cost of the event was £14.00 per person, which would include lunch.

A copy of *Thatch* magazine from CCfS.

83/08 **Accounts for Payment**

**Resolved:** That the following accounts be authorised: -

Mrs. J. Wooldridge – June Newsletter	-	£19.00
Clerk's salary – June	-	£390.82
EDF Energy – Changing rooms	-	£10.44
Richard Ball – DDA gates at Poke Lane	-	£705.00
Parsons Landscapes Ltd	-	£274.95
RoSPA - Play equipment safety inspection	-	£88.13
Mrs. J. Wooldridge – Toner cartridge	-	£15.99
Trull Stores – AGM hospitality	-	£12.00
Mr. I. Perry – Carter's Way maintenance work	-	£47.00
Mr. R. Shattock – Trull Green grass cutting	-	£48.00

84/08 **Any Other Urgent Business**

Mr. Archer referred to the overdue review of the Trull Parish Plan; and advised that the previous co-chairman of the Trull Action Plan group, Mr. Mortimore, was prepared to chair such a review, involving previous members of TAP, representative Parish Councillors and other interested members of the public, in the autumn.

85/08 **Items for the Next Agenda**

No items were proposed for the next Agenda.

86/08 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be provisionally scheduled for 18<sup>th</sup> August to consider urgent planning items. It will be held in the Pearce Suite, Trull Memorial Hall, Trull at 7.15 pm.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 8.35 pm.

Signed.....  
Chairman of Trull Parish Council

Date.....