

# Trull Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting held in the Memorial Hall, Church Road, Trull  
on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at 7.15 pm.

Present: Mr. G. Hewett (Chairman)

Mr. S. French, Mr. D. Archer, Mrs. F. Drew, Mrs. A. Hudson,  
Mr. C. Ralph, Mr. N. Hancock, Mrs. D. Luke, Mrs. J. Wooldridge,  
and Mr. P. Parris, together with nine Members of the Public.

In attendance: CPSO Mrs. D. Perry (part)  
Mr. G. Steele – Community Speed Watch (part)  
Mr. J. White - Footpaths  
Mr. S. Watts – Clerk  
Mrs. A. Harding – Clerk Designate

The Chairman introduced CPSO Perry and Mr. Steele and advised that they were intending to brief the Council and members of the public on the Community Speed Watch scheme.

Mr. Steele stated that he had lived in Bradbeers for some ten years, and was now very concerned about the speed of vehicles entering Staplehay from the Blagdon Hill area and along Honiton Road itself. He explained the concept of the Community Speed Watch scheme, and advised that he would be prepared to organise a working group of volunteers to record the speed and volume of vehicles. He sought the support of the Parish Council for both staffing and funding, and it was noted that the Police were in agreement with the proposal. The Chairman invited comments from the floor and issues were raised regarding maintaining the enthusiasm and commitment of the volunteers, who might quickly become unpopular locally. It was suggested that enforcement was essentially a Police role, and that strict observation of the speed limit and driving safely was not necessarily the same thing - drivers should adjust their speed to suit the prevailing traffic and weather conditions. It was evident that the Parish Council was not supportive of the scheme at the present time, and Mr. Parris suggested that the speed of traffic be monitored to assess if there really was a problem needing intervention. CPSO Perry and Mr. Steele agreed to undertake a monitoring exercise in conjunction with the traffic police and report back to the Council and the public at the Annual Parish Meeting that would be held on 18<sup>th</sup> May.

The Chairman thanked CPSO Perry and Mr. Steele for their presentation, and invited questions from members of the public for items that were not related to the Agenda.

Mr. Pegge raised the matter of the unsatisfactory condition of the footpath, kerbing and grassed areas around Gatchell Green following the recent works by Morrisons Ltd on Honiton Road (Minute 39/09 refers). He referred to recent Newsletters advising that Somerset Highways considered the area to be satisfactory and requested that this decision be reviewed. Mr. Hancock agreed to contact the Highways Supervisor again and to meet Mr. Pegge on site.

44/09 **Apologies for Absence**  
There were no apologies for absence.

45/09 **Declarations of Interest**  
There were no Declarations of Interest.

46/09 **Chairman's Report**  
The Chairman advised that it was the last meeting for the current Clerk, Mr. S. Watts, and that Mrs. Harding would be undertaking the role from the 1<sup>st</sup> April. He thanked the Clerk for his effective and committed work in recent years, and the Council gave a round of applause.

47/09 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Mrs. Drew advised that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2009 were incorrect, and that Minute 41/09 referring to the issue of rabbits within the allotments should state that she had raised the matter and not Mrs. Hudson. This was agreed and an amendment would be made. The Chairman then duly signed the Minutes.

48/09 **Matters for Report**

**Trull Action Plan (TAP) Review (Minute 29/09 refers).**

The Clerk advised that a cheque for £2,600.00 had now been received from SCC.

**Any Other Urgent Business (Minute 41/09 refers).**

Mr. Ralph queried why the offer to humanely despatch rabbits had not been taken up and stated that the tenant concerned had PLI insurance and experience in air guns. The Clerk advised that using firearms in a public area was not advisable, and that another tenant had recently begun trapping and removing the rabbits.

49/09 **Footpath Surface Repairs at Poke Lane**

Mr. Ralph reported on a proposal that he and Mr. French considered would improve the situation regarding the retaining wall at the Church Road end of Poke Lane. He circulated an information sheet giving the anticipated costs for the installation of treated 'stock boarding' that would retain soil from the adjacent banks. He suggested that it be installed from the school to the playing field entrance and, at an anticipated cost of £840 plus labour, would be a viable and long-term solution to the problem. He emphasised that this would not include any resurfacing work, as this would have to be considered further within the intended three-year programme of improvements for Poke Lane. Mr. Parris suggested that as a mini-digger would be required, it could also be used to clean back the edges to the whole length of the footpath.

**Resolved:** That the following be implemented: -

- (1) Mr. Ralph and Mr. French to obtain three quotes for the purchase of the materials, plant hire and associated labour, and report back to the Council.
- (2) That a footpath closure would be necessary and the work should ideally coincide with a school holiday. Mr. Archer suggested that the Memorial Hall Committee be requested to open the Jubilee Gate during any closure of Poke Lane.

50/09 **Planning**

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

- 08/044 - King's Gatchell Cottage, Gatchell Green, Trull.  
Full Erection of a two-storey extension to side and single-storey extension to rear.

**Resolved** - To support the application.

- 09/005 - Middle Sweethay Farm, Sweethay, Trull.  
Full Erection of an agricultural building (A) on land.

**Resolved** - To support the application.

- 09/006 - Middle Sweethay Farm, Sweethay, Trull.  
Full Erection of an agricultural building (B) on land.

**Resolved** - To support the application.

- 09/007 - Kibbear Barton, Kibbear, Trull.  
Full Erection of two-storey extension to rear.  
Mr. Ralph gave a summary of the application and advised that the Council had provisionally supported the proposal at a meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2008. The Chairman invited the applicant, Dr. Husband, to address the Council and he advised of further specific details. It was noted that the adjacent

- neighbours had submitted letters of support to TDBC.  
**Resolved** - To support the application.

Not listed on the published Agenda but also considered was: -

- 09/009T - Gatchell House, Honiton Road, Trull.  
TPO Application to thin out (fell) 28 Sycamore Trees from woodland included in TDBC (Trull No.1) TPO 1997.

- Resolved** - To support the application.

Mrs. Hudson referred to the withdrawn application at 12, Killams Green, Trull to provide assisted living support (application number 42/09/003, Minute 31/09 refers). She advised that due to a misunderstanding of the intentions of the proposal, the applicant concerned was now the subject of tension within the local community and was contemplating moving out of the area. The Council expressed sympathy for the resident but it was agreed that this was a matter for either the TDBC planning department or the Police to resolve.

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

- 08/0028 & - 59, Church Road, Trull.  
0029LB Listed building consent granted for the demolition of single storey side and rear extensions, erection of single storey side and rear extension together with internal ground floor alterations.

- 08/045 - Trull Garage, Honiton Road, Trull.  
Full permission refused for the change of use of offices to two residential flats.

- 08/050 & 051 - Middle Sweethay Farm, Sweethay, Trull.  
Listed building consent granted for the erection of a single storey garage in footprint of agricultural shed to be demolished.

- 08/052 - Honeysuckle House, Comeytrowe Lane, Trull.  
Full permission refused for the erection of a single storey front extension, two-storey side extension and two-storey detached double garage with storage area above.

- 09/002 - 1, Shepherd's Hey, Staplehay, Trull.  
Full permission refused for the erection of extension to the side of the property including first floor extension over garage.

## 51/09 **Housing & Development**

Mr. Archer referred to the TDBC led Local Development Framework workshops that he and Mr. French had attended on behalf of the Parish Council (Minute 161/08 refers). He circulated a diagrammatic map that indicated the requirements drawn up by the attendees of the workshops, and advised that the items listed would be considered for inclusion within the successive LDF agreement. He gave an account of the reasoning behind the items identified, such as an increase in public transport, a new green wedge between Comeytrowe and Trull, new community and leisure facilities, measures to reduce traffic congestion and an area of expansion for new dwellings. Mrs. Wooldridge raised concerns regarding a potential new road that would link Rumwell with the M5. Mr. Archer agreed to give further reports to the Parish Council as appropriate.

Mr. Archer referred to the previous request from SCC Cllr. Martin-Scott regarding clarification of the timescale and need for an environmental assessment of a water storage facility at Wild Oak Lane (Minute 31/09 refers). He advised that the TDBC Forward Planning Manager had indicated that this was unlikely to be necessary within the next three years, and could even be beyond that given the current economic

climate and the additional capacity that the Long Run Farm scheme had delivered. The Wild Oak Lane facility is an option to reduce the strategic flood risk in Taunton and will remain so for the foreseeable future. The Parish Council would be kept informed and consulted at an early stage in any work that was commissioned. It was also noted that the proposed site, as part of the green wedge, would maintain the separate identity of Trull and be compatible with the long-term future of the green wedge in this area.

52/09 **Playing Field**

Mrs. Wooldridge reported that Mr. Parris was intending to purchase new retaining clamps for the elephant springer at an anticipated cost of £45.00 (Minute 33/09 refers).

Mrs. Wooldridge advised that an additional marker line for tennis had been applied to the east-facing wall of the changing room.

Mrs. Wooldridge queried if the basketball hoop could be installed before the Easter holiday (Minute 33/09 refers). Mrs. Drew was in agreement with the request.

Mr. Ralph requested progress on the proposed purchase of picnic tables and a barbeque. Mrs. Wooldridge advised that this was being considered as part of the TAP review and that funding was available (Minute 159/09 refers).

Mr. Parris reported that he had been considering the extension to the safety area around the climbing frame using the salvaged safety tiles from Trull School (Minute 96/08 refers). He advised that the adhesive as recommended by Wicksteed was £8.00 per tube and was only sufficient quantity for approximately two tiles.

53/09 **Highways**

Mr. Hancock confirmed that he would liaise with Mr. Kali Martin of Somerset Highways regarding the matters previously raised by Mr. Pegge (Questions from the public of these Minutes). In addition, he would raise the issue of an area of Honiton Road near Canonsgrove that is prone to flooding.

Mr. Nichols requested that the Parish Council consider a reduction in the speed limit for all of Amberd Lane, and cited numerous incidents whereby vehicles were travelling at an excessive speed for the road conditions. Mr. Hancock agreed to raise the matter with the Somerset Highways Traffic Engineer, but advised that he was not optimistic of being able to progress the matter based on past experience such as the relative lack of housing density in this particular area.

54/09 **Footpaths**

Mr. White referred to the previously discussed matter of water ponding on Poke Lane to the south of the Bell House, and queried if the repairs could be undertaken when the footpath is resurfaced. It was agreed that if a mini-digger was used for the improvements to Poke Lane, it could cut an aperture through the hedge to allow water to drain into the adjacent field.

Mr. White referred to the closed footpath at Staplehay weir and advised that the SCC ROW team were currently seeking three quotations for the work (Minute 12/09 refers). However, due to another project currently under way at Creech St. Michael, it was unlikely that the repairs to the weir would commence until June. Mr. French stated that he considered this to be unacceptable delay and asked that a letter be sent to SCC to that effect.

55/09 **Allotments**

There was nothing further to report as this item had been previously discussed at Minute 48/09, Matters for Report, of these Minutes.

- 56/09 **Trull Memorial Halls**  
Mrs. Wooldridge reported on a recent meeting of the Committee, and gave an update on the financial position and the proposals to undertake improvements to the facilities within existing funds.
- 57/09 **Trull School**  
There was nothing to report on this item.
- 58/09 **Correspondence**  
There was no correspondence to report.
- 59/09 **Accounts for Payment**  
**Resolved:** That the following accounts be authorised: -
- |  |   |         |
|--|---|---------|
| Mrs. J. Wooldridge – February Newsletter                     | - | £19.00  |
| Clerk’s salary (Mr. S. Watts) – Final payment                | - | £390.82 |
| Clerk Designate’s salary (Mrs. A. Harding) – Feb & March     | - | £456.58 |
| Mr. S. Watts – Stamps/data stick/printing                    | - | £12.58  |
| Mrs. Harding – MS Office & Local Council Administration Book | - | £151.07 |
| EDF Energy – Changing room                                   | - | £13.64  |
- 60/09 **Any Other Urgent Business**  
There was no urgent business.
- 61/09 **Items for the Next Agenda**  
There were no items for the next Agenda.
- 62/09 **Date of Next Meeting**  
The next meeting will be held on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2009, in the Pearce Suite, Trull Memorial Hall, Trull at 7.15 pm.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.20 pm.

Signed.....  
Chairman of Trull Parish Council

Date.....