

# Trull Parish Council

*Minutes of a Meeting held in the Memorial Hall, Church Road, Trull  
on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at 7.15 pm.*

Present: Mr G Hewitt (Chairman)

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

In attendance: Mrs A Harding – Clerk  
Mr John White - footpaths  
PC Claire Griffiths  
PCSO Simon Perry

Prior to the commencement of the Meeting, the Chairman invited questions from members of the public.

Mr Stephen Fawcett introduced himself as the Chairman of a committee set up to upgrade the mill stream. He stated that he was heartened by the support given by the Parish Council, and asked if it would be possible to attend the November meeting to give a brief outline of the work of the committee. This was agreed.

Mrs Wooldridge suggested that Mr Fawcett contact Mr David Marks, who has information regarding the stream from previous clearance work.

## 162/09 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received and agreed from Mr Colin Ralph and Mrs Fiona Drew.

## 163/09 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

## 164/09 Chairman's Report

The Chairman introduced Beat Officer Claire Griffiths, who was attending the meeting to receive any questions regarding PACT.

It had been hoped that someone from SCC would attend the meeting to speak on the Transport Strategy draft document, however no one was available.

## 165/09 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2009 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

## 166/09 Matters for Report

Mr Archer reported that after the October meeting, Mr Paul Stephens, the webmaster, had received an enquiry from a member of the public living in the Killams area, asking if they came within the boundaries of Trull and were therefore eligible for their children to attend Trull School. Mr Archer informed the Parish Council that on the Trull School website there were ten criteria for admission, but the one requiring residence in Trull referred to the ecclesiastical rather than the civil parish.

Mr French reported that the DLO was carrying out work on the weir. There is a large void at the back of the weir, and the DLO is trying to ascertain where the water is seeping through.

The Chairman informed the Council that Mr Mark Edwards has requested Willcocks to carry out a survey. The ownership of the weir is no nearer being resolved.

Mr Parris reported that he had made enquiries and that the weir does not appear to have been included on any recent conveyancing. Mr Parris offered to speak to Mr Baker, the former owner of the mill, to ask if the weir is included on the deeds to the mill. The Chairman added that the last mill operator had confirmed that he did not own the weir. He also reported that Mr Mark Edwards had suggested setting up a trust but that this would be expensive.

The Council agreed that Mr Parris should apply to the Land Registry for details of ownership of the weir.

167/09 **PACT – PC Claire Griffiths**

PC Griffiths introduced PACT and explained that it was a link between the Police and the community. Two issues had already been brought to her attention – speeding in Honiton Road and parking outside the school.

Mrs Wooldridge raised the issue of parking in the road outside the Crown and the garage in Staplehay, and Mr French agreed that this had been a problem for awhile and that visibility for drivers coming from Blagdon was obstructed. There had been a number of small accidents.

PCSO Perry advised that he has spoken to Mrs Tucker at the garage approximately twelve months ago and pointed out to her the need to keep the road clear. Mrs Tucker was very co-operative. PCSO Perry will monitor the situation. PC Griffiths suggested that any intervention should start low key, possibly by finding alternative parking.

The Chairman thanked PC Griffiths for her work and Mr French added that just the police presence in Trull had a great effect.

Mr Archer advised a gentle approach when dealing with commercial premises as Trull is fortunate to have them in the community and they should be supported.

The matter of parking outside the school was raised. Mrs Wooldridge suggested to PCSO Perry that he visit at a school time to see the scale of the problem. PCSO Perry confirmed that he had it in his diary for 20<sup>th</sup> October.

Mrs Hudson asked if there was any way to enlarge the car park at the school or the church to relieve the congestion. Mrs Wooldridge answered that the development of the Hall was coming along slowly, but some of the land is owned by the church and there is a great deal of red tape involved.

168/09 **Planning**

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

09/0035	Oaklands, Gatchell Meadow, Trull
Full	Erection of detached garage
	A neighbour, Mr Ray Hall, has raised concerns that the garage would be used as a workshop affecting Gatchell Meadow and has written to TDBC. There is a large garden at the property and Mrs Hudson sees no reason to object to the application.
Resolved	Support the application

09/0037 Full The Outspan, Spearcey Close Trull  
Retention of a single storey extension to garage and ensuite (resubmission of 08/0027)  
The applicant explained the changes to the original plan and reported that there were no objections from neighbours.  
Resolved To support the application

42/09/0039 18 Jeffreys Way, Taunton – no comment

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

09/0026 Dunsmuir, Honiton Road, Trull  
Full permission granted for erection of single storey extension.

09/0027 9 Park Close, Trull  
Full permission granted for the erection of a single storey extension.

09/0033 Kibbear Barton, Trull  
Full permission granted for the erection of a two storey and single storey extension to the rear.

#### 169/09 **Housing & Development**

Mr Archer reported that the Dipford Road development is being marketed by Greenslade Taylor Hunt and that there has been a good response. It is likely to be the end of the year before the final work, the footpath, is completed.

Although he does not believe that houses in the development are really affordable, Mr French agreed that the development is full of architectural merit and fits in well with the village. The Chairman agreed, and stated that after the planning problems at the start of the development it was important that it was well done.

Mr Archer referred to the draft document for the Bridgwater, Taunton and Wellington Transport Strategy for 2009-2026. A representative from SCC had been invited to the meeting but no one was able to attend. A response from the Parish Council was required by 23<sup>rd</sup> October, and Mr Archer gave a brief outline of the main points.

Mr Archer informed the Parish Council that the Transport Strategy ties in with the Regional Spatial Strategy, with SCC and District Councils working together to set strategies for this period. The main thrust is to take as many cars off the roads as possible, as the projected increase in traffic would be horrifying if no changes are made. Increasing the number of park and ride places, improving public transport and expanding the network of cycleways are some of the ways this could be achieved. By improving the junction at Stonegallows and the A38, the flow of traffic into Taunton as far as Somerset College could be increased.

Mr Archer added that planners want to keep local traffic from the motorway and prevent 'junction hopping'. He also told the council that there was only a general mention of any road development that might take place if the Comeytrove plans go ahead, and that any new access road would run from the A38 at Rumwell and not Trull.

Members of the public raised the issue of the bus service from and to Trull. Several stated that the number 97 bus gave a very intermittent service, with up to 1½ hours between buses and no service on Saturday afternoon or all day on Sunday, and could not be used by many working people. This meant that people often took their cars.

Mr French suggested that having only a Park and Ride option would be a deterrent to shoppers and visitors to Taunton for business who would prefer to take their cars.

Mr Archer and Mrs Luke were in agreement that people would have to accept that attitudes must change.

Resolved – Mr Archer to complete and return the Transport Strategy response form.

170/09 **Playing Field**

Mrs Wooldridge reported that the Playing Field check had found all in order. The area of the scout fire has been filled with new soil and the grass is re-growing.

On the matter of the consultation group for the play and outdoor recreation facilities money Mrs Wooldridge reported that she had met with the teenage girls from the group and that they had visited a very large play area at Dowslands. The girls identified an additional piece of equipment that they liked and Mrs Wooldridge will investigate the cost. The girls are aware that space and money is limited and that the 'wish list' would have to be reduced.

171/09 **Footpaths**

Mr White reported on the following:

- A finger post is missing from T21/32 (from Sweethay Lane to Middle Sweethay Farm) at the Staplehay end. The post was found in the hedge and Mr Lock will repair it.
- There is no catch on the gate at the Amberd Lane end of Pokes Lane. Mr White will look into replacing it.
- The flooding in Pokes Lane appears to have been remedied.

Mr French reported that a bullock had fallen on the bridge at Three Bridges. The animal was unhurt; but the bridge lacked a stile which would have prevented the accident. Mr White will look into the situation and confer with Mr French.

Mrs Hudson reiterated her concerns over safety on the bridge and the lack of netting along the bottom of the rails. She is concerned that children could easily fall through the gap. Mr White will investigate.

172/09 **Highways**

Mr Hancock reported that the elevated pavement in Dipford Road had now been cleared of leaves.

Mr Archer referred to an incident where a resident of Wyatts Field was seen to be pushing her husband in a wheelchair in Honiton Road as there were no drop kerbs between there and the shop. Mr Hancock will pass our concerns to SCC Highways.

A resident of Trull Green Drive has enquired if the 'No Through Road' sign in her garden can be re-sited. Mr Hancock will pass this on

173/09 **Allotments**

Several matters had been raised during the meeting of allotment holders prior to the Parish Council meeting: namely the overgrown state of the hedge along the boundary with Ladylawn, a large eucalyptus tree growing in the burning area and the overgrown condition of a few of the plots. The Chairman suggested that the Parish Council meet on site on Saturday 31 October to review these matters at first hand.

Referring to the TDBC Draft Allotments Strategy, the Clerk advised that she would write to request an extension on the 16<sup>th</sup> November deadline for returns, and report to the Council at the next meeting after studying the document.

174/09 **Trull Memorial Halls**

Mrs Wooldridge reported the following:

- The Hall has been updated and can now accommodate 175 people in the Main Hall and 40 in the Pearce Suite.
- The Barbeque made a profit and it has been suggested that this event could be held every other year, alternately with the Party in the Park
- A Quiz Night is being held on 20<sup>th</sup> November.
- There is to be a Table Top sale on 7<sup>th</sup> November and possibly a Jumble Sale on 14<sup>th</sup> November.
- The November Film Night will be a Harry Potter film.
- The project with the Church, the School and the Halls is going forward very slowly.

175/09 **Trull School**

There was nothing to report on this item.

176/09 **Pitminster, Corfe and Trull Almshouses**

Mrs Hudson reported on the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009.

Since the last meeting the floor has been replaced in one of the cottages, and plaster removed and replaced to a height of six feet. There are repairs still to be carried out, as the south and west facing walls will possibly need re-plastering. Builders' quotes are being invited. Two of the windows need replacing, the timing and cost of this work is to be discussed with the builders. The electric wiring is to be checked in all cottages and a contractor is being contacted.

The Treasurer is retiring in April and a replacement is being sought

Rents will be raised by £1 in April to £27 for a two bedroomed and £29 for a three bedroomed cottage.

177/09 **Correspondence**

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

- A consultation draft document of the Allotments Strategy for Taunton Deane.
- A letter inviting applications for the Parish Play Area Grant Scheme.
- A letter from Avon & Somerset Police introducing Insp Samuel Williams as the Neighbourhood Inspector.
- A letter from BT offering for sale to the Parish Council the telephone box in Staplehay at a cost of £1 after all telephony equipment is removed. The sale has come about due to the lack of use. It was suggested that this might solve the perennial problem of an official notice board at Staplehay. It was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.
- A copy of the latest Wickstead catalogue.
- A copy of the October 'Heart of Somerset' events diary.

178/09 **Accounts for Payment**

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

Moore Stephens – Annual Audit fee	-	£327.75
Mr R Shattock – October grass cutting	-	£16.00
Mrs. J. Wooldridge – September Newsletter & bolts for changing room.	-	£44.35
Parsons Landscapes – September grass cutting	-	£93.84
Clerk's salary – September	-	£395.80
Mrs A Harding – stamps, photocopying and paper	-	£27.79
Mrs D Blackmore – poppy wreath	-	£35.00

179/09 **Any Other Business**

Mr Parris advised that there were several gaps in the planting in Carter's Way, and agreed to obtain two or three shrubs to fill in gaps.

Mr Archer offered to contact Mr Perry with a view to weeding and general tidying in Carter's Way at the beginning of November

180/09 **Items for the Next Agenda**

Mr Stephen Fawcett – information on the committee working to update the Mill Stream TAP review – a copy will be circulated to Councillors before the meeting.

181/09 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next Meeting will be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2009, in the Pearce Suite, Trull Memorial Hall, Trull at 7.15 pm.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.30 pm.

Signed.....  
Chairman of Trull Parish Council

Date.....