

Trull Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting held in the Memorial Hall, Church Road, Trull
on Monday 17ⁿ October 2011

Present: Mrs J Wooldridge (Chairman)

Mr G Hewitt, Mr W Hawkins, Mrs S Khattab, Mrs D Luke,
Mr P Parris and Mr C Ralph, together with fourteen Members of
the Public.

In attendance: Mr Tim Burton – TDBC
Mr John White - Footpaths
Mrs A Harding, 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 there were none forthcoming.

15711 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received and agreed from Mr S French, Mr N Hancock and Mrs A Hudson.

158/11 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

159/11 **Chairman's Report**

Mrs Wooldridge reported that:

- Contrary to rumours there was no dispute between the Post Office and Trull Stores regarding stock being sold in the Post Office and that people should continue using the Post Office. She added that the way to prevent the loss of the Post Office was to support it.
- The Mill Leat footpath had now been resurfaced as had the path along the bottom of the playing field.
- Allowing dogs to be let off the lead on the playing field was contrary to byelaws and the matter has been brought to the attention of the Dog Warden who will monitor the situation. Repeat offenders run the risk of a fine. The notice to regarding dogs was missing from the Poke Lane gate and would be replaced.

160/11 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19th September 2011 were agreed and signed by the Chairman subject to the following amendment

- Minute 143/11 should read 'his son was part owner of four and a half acres of open land at Amberd Lane.'

161/11 **Matters for Report**

The Clerk reported on an email from Inspector Stuart Bell. Inspector Bell outlined proposed changes to the public consultation process. Under the system called 'Have Your Say', in addition to beat surgeries and regular consultation meetings, the suggestion was that there could be a standing agenda item in the Parish Council meeting for any police issues to be raised. Any relevant matters would be passed on to the police thereby reducing the need for the local PCSO to attend meeting as frequently as in the past. The Parish Council agreed to adopt this suggestion.

It was confirmed that the request for the new bridge at Staplehay Weir to be erected seven metres from the original site had been granted, as had the request to retain certain trees. Work was due to start on 1st November.

Mr Parris confirmed that the footpath would only be fenced across the bridge and not along its whole length. This would allow people to find a natural route.

162/11 **Delegated Powers – Mr Tim Burton, TDBC**

Mr Burton addressed the Parish Council on the delegated powers process for planning applications. TDBC has delegated powers to some Parish Councils since the 1990s. Originally eight parishes were involved but this has now reduced to three. The Parish Councils were responsible for all public notices, consultations and the administration process. This was a slow process and approximately eighteen months ago the process was looked at again. Changes meant that TDBC now administer the process with the Parish Council effectively acting as the planning committee. A planning officer attends the Parish Council planning meeting and for this service there is a charge of £80 per visit. At present this cost cannot be passed on to the applicant however, there is to be a government consultation to consider de-regulation of the planning fees. If this de-regulation is agreed then fees for applications delegated to Parish Councils could be spread across all applications in the county.

All Parish Councillors at the planning meetings would require basic training and members of the public are given the opportunity to speak. Planning applications that can be delegated include householder applications, minor alterations to shops, change of use for shops, advertisements, temporary siting of caravans (not residential caravans) and changes to agricultural and domestic curtilages. Those that can not be delegated include new dwellings, listed buildings and retrospective applications as the Parish Council has no enforcement powers. With monthly planning meetings applications should be dealt with within eight weeks. The delegation agreement is renewed yearly.

Mr Burton ended by saying that in his experience the system runs fairly smoothly and the benefit is that it gives a better understanding of the planning process.

163/11 **Proposed Changes to the SCC Electoral Boundaries**

The Chairman reported on the SCC proposal to reduce the number of electoral districts to five. Under the proposal Taunton will lose one councillor by 2015. Trull will be incorporated into the South Taunton and Trull Division which takes in the whole of the Vivary Green Wedge.

Mr Hewitt proposed that the Parish Council endorse the change. The proposal was seconded by Mr Ralph.

164/11 **Planning**

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

- 11/0035** - 2 Church Road, Trull
- Full** - Application for the erection of wooden garden shed on adjacent land.
- Resolved** - To support the application

- 11/0038/TLB** - Little Kibbear, Kibbear, Trull
- Full** - Application for conversion of outbuilding/garage and extension to form residential annex.
- Resolved** - To support the application

The Clerk reported on the following decisions received from TDBC:

- 11/0028 & 11/0029/LB** - Chantry Cottage, Wild Oak Lane, Trull,
- Permission granted for the demolition of prefabricated garage and erection of single storey extension to form garage and garden room.

- 11/0031** - 14 Orchard Close, Trull

- Permission granted for erection of extension to the rear and extension to the front porch.

11/0032 - Highbank, Honiton Road, Trull

- Permission granted for the erection of single storey extensions to the side and rear.

165/11 **Housing and Development**

The dates for public information meetings regarding the proposed development at Amberd Lane and Eastbrook were now confirmed. These were Saturday 12th November from 10am to 4pm and Thursday 17th November from 6pm to 10pm. Both meetings are to be held in the Pearce Suite of the Memorial Hall.

166/11 **Playing Field**

The Chairman reported that the new play area was still proving to be a great success.

167/11 **Footpaths**

The damaged gate between Amberd Lane and Three Bridges had now been repaired.

168/11 **Highways**

In the absence of Mr Hancock the following were reported:

- The dropped grating at the top of Eastbrook had now been repaired.
- SCC Highways were offering the Parish Council the opportunity to collect additional bags of grit from the depot. Mr Hewitt offered to store these in his garage for use on roads and paths in severe weather. Mrs Wooldridge reminded parishioners that the grit in the grit bins and the additional bags is for use on the public highway and not private drives.

169/11 **Allotments**

There was nothing further to report on this item.

170/11 **Trull Village Memorial Halls**

- The gate to the playing field has now been fitted with a new lock and reinstated.
- Panto tickets were on sale.
- The planning application for the Community Centre to replace the Parish Rooms and Old Village Hall had now been made.

171/11 **Trull School**

The Chairman informed the Parish Council that Trull School was at capacity with 240 pupils. The catchment area is now very large having taken in approximately half of the Blagdon School area.

172/11 **Correspondence**

The Clerk advised of correspondence that may be of interest to the Council:

- Information on the process for applications to construct a beacon to mark the Queen's Jubilee. This information will be passed to the Scouts for consideration.
- An invitation to the Mayor's Remembrance Service on 13th November.

173/11 **Accounts for Payment**

Resolved: That the following accounts be authorised: -

Mr Ray Shattock – Trull Green grass cutting Oct	£36.00
Mrs A Harding –stamps	£18.00
Mr R Luke – shelves for book exchange	£38.16
Parsons Landscapes Ltd – playing field grass cutting	£127.16
Moore Stephens – Annual Audit	£162.00
TDBC – election expenses	£697.96
Produlic Ltd – play equipment (affordable housing grant £16,000)	19,199.98

Clerk's salary	£395.80
Charles French & Sons – load of compost from Viridor for allotments	£120.96

An increase in the Clerk's salary to £416 per month was proposed. This was in line with her contract of employment. The proposal was seconded by Mrs Luke and agreed by all members of the Parish Council.

174/11 **Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

175/11 **Items for the Next Agenda**

Delegated Powers
Half-Year Financial Position

176/11 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 21st November 2011, in the Pearce Suite, Trull Memorial Hall at 7.15pm.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.20 pm.

Signed..... Chairman of Trull Parish Council

Date.....