

# Mere Parish Council

PARISH CLERK - MRS. L. C. WOOD

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2009 at 7.30 p.m. in the Andy Young Pavilion, Springfield Road, Mere.

**Present:** Councillors: E. Mitchell (Chairman), P. Coward, C. Hazzard, G. Jeans, R. Sims, D. Sealy, S. Squires & Mrs. L. Traves.

## Public Session

Mr. Sims reported that the handrail on the high pavement by the steps in Castle Street, opposite the car park, was extremely loose. The Clerk said she had reported this to Wiltshire Council already but would do so again as a matter of urgency.

Mr. Sims reported that the sign leading up to Castle Hill was in a very poor state of repair. Cllr. Jeans said that if this was the 43<sup>rd</sup> Wessex sign then it was the responsibility of the Gillingham British Legion.

**Apologies for absence received from Cllrs. R. Coward, M. Hall, Mrs. M. White**

## 345. Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Jeans declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Minute No. (recipient)

Cllr. Mitchell declared a personal and prejudicial interest in planning application S/2009/1598 (he had recently submitted a planning application for a fishing lake to North Dorset District Council)

## 346. Planning

**a) Applications:** (All applications can be viewed on Wiltshire Council's website

<http://www.salisbury.gov.uk/planning/development-control/planning-applications.htm> – and type in the relevant number)

S/2009/1598/FULL – FULL PLANNING – CONSTRUCT FISHING LAKE TOGETHER WITH TWO HOLDING PONDS, CONSTRUCT CAR PARKING SPACES AND PROVIDE LANDSCAPING LAND AT CUNNAGE LANE, BARROW STREET, MERE.

Cllr. P. Coward proposed that the Parish Council should submit a recommendation of approval with the following condition and informative:

*Condition: That the planning authority satisfies itself that the level of parking provision (14 spaces) is sufficient. The agent's accompanying letter states that 'the number of people fishing at any one time will be restricted to twelve' but the Parish Council fails to see how this restriction will be imposed since we presume that the lake will not be permanently staffed. There may also be other visitors to the lake site.*

*Informative: The road outside the site is extremely narrow and the Parish council is concerned that, if the car park area is full, patrons may attempt to park on the road outside which would be wholly inappropriate.*

Proposal seconded by Cllr. Sealy and carried with a vote of 5 for and 1 abstention (In his capacity as Wiltshire Councillor, Cllr. Jeans abstained from voting)

**b) Invitation to Planning Enforcement Seminar** – Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December, Salisbury City Hall - 5.00 p.m. – Cllr. Sims said that he would endeavour to attend the seminar.

**c) Planning Development Control Six Month Review** – The Clerk explained that Wiltshire Council were conducting a review of its Development Control service and were asking Parish & Town Councils if (i) we had any observations on communication and consultation on planning applications (ii) any observations on the current 'Scheme of Delegation to Officers' or the Member 'call in' process (iii) were there any particular aspects of the development service's work where we would like more information or training seminars (iv) any thoughts on what is, or is not

working well for the parish council in connection with Development Control. Members agreed that as we had no experience of any contentious or major planning applications under the new authority and new procedures, we were not qualified to give an informed opinion or provide any practical observations. However, members did express concern that there is no mandatory requirement for area planning committee members to carry out a site visit and they asked the Clerk to convey this.

**347. Finance** – Cllr. Mrs. Traves proposed that the following payments be approved. Proposal seconded by Cllr. Sims and carried with a majority vote. (Cllr. Jeans, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest, left the room whilst this matter was discussed and did not take part in the vote.)

Wiltshire Council	Bin Bags	18.00
Plantworld Ltd	Floral Enhancements – replacement hedge plants for ‘MERE’ topiary in White Road	31.92
Royal British Legion	S. 137 - Poppy Wreath for Remembrance Day.	22.25
Bow Fire Protection	Service fire extinguishers	61.77
Bourton Fencing Ltd	Sleepers for container storage	14.03
Duchy of Cornwall	Allotment rental	617.28
Jeans	Castle Hill – Halogen lamp	10.99
Cash – (Reimbursement – Archer Safety Signs)	Health & Safety – Prohibition signs	58.19
Shaftesbury Garden Machinery	Repairs to Echo Hedgetrimmer	31.00