

**FLAX BOURTON PARISH COUNCIL  
MEETING  
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, FLAX BOURTON  
TUESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> MAY 2008**

Meeting Commenced: 8.00 pm

Meeting Concluded: 9.30 pm

**PRESENT:** Councillors: Barnes (Chairman), Higgins (Vice Chairman), Windo(arrived at 8.45pm) Colbourne-Brown and Mrs Moss.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** District Councillors Collinson and Mrs Barclay and 3 members of the public

**130) Apologies for Absence**

Councillor Mrs Hore-Ruthven and the Clerk.

**131) Declarations of Interests**

None

**132) To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2008 as a true and correct record.**

It was agreed that minute number 123 should read "It was agreed to ratify the minutes to state that the monies made available to the Flax Bourton Village Hall CIC in the sum of £12000.00 was for purchasing goods by the Parish Council to the value of £12000.00 for fixtures and fittings which would remain the property of the Parish Council. It was noted that only £10403.00 had been spent with the balance of £1597.00 sent direct to the CIC for future use.

It was also agreed that the note under 08/P/0629/F should read "It was agreed to ask that the application should be called to Committee"

**RESOLVED:** Proposed by Councillor Barnes, seconded by Councillor Mrs Moss and agreed that subject to the above amendments the minutes be approved. A vote was taken. All in favour.

**133) Financial Reports**

To approve the monthly expenditure of £1624.74

To approve the bank reconciliations.

To approve the payment to D J Foley for £352.50 for the Village Hall revaluation.

Members had been unable to download the list of payments or the bank reconciliations and it was agreed to defer these items until the next meeting.

**RESOLVED:** Proposed by Councillor Higgins, seconded by Councillor Mrs Moss and agreed that the payment to D J Foley and the budgetary control be approved. A vote was taken. All in favour.

- 134) **Planning** -To discuss any issues raised by the following applications:-  
**08/P/0916/F** Flax Bourton C of E Primary School, Erection of Pavilion.

**08/P/0844/F** – 5 Church Lane End, erection of double storey extension.

**08/P/1007/F** – The Cottage, The Batch – Conversion of garage into living space

**RESOLVED:** Members were keen to support the development at the school.

It was considered that there was a large amount of overdevelopment of the property at Church Lane End with concerns of intrusion of privacy for the neighbours at No.6. the application therefore could not be supported and should be reconsidered by the applicant with advice from North Somerset Council.

Members had no objections to the application for The Cottage.

- 135) **Parking at Old Weston Road outside Farleigh Court.**

It was noted that the result of the enquiries of the Parish Council to North Somerset Council as to the terms of the original planning permission for parking was not yet available. A large number of private vehicles still parked on the road when parking inside the complex was available was of concern to the residents of Farleigh Green. The outcome of the enquiries was awaited.

- 136) **Casual Vacancy**

It was noted that the Council still had a Casual Vacancy for Councillor that was able to be filled by Co-Option

- 137) **Former Fuel Depot Update**

Councillor Higgins and Mrs Moss attended a public meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2008 in Portishead called to discuss the Redcliffe Bay depot.

Councillor Higgins reported that that was a lengthy meeting with many issues of concern discussed. A vital piece of information was extracted by the MP Dr Liam Fox in that since November 2006 none of the fuel handles was for MOD usage, but for commercial purposes only.

This was considered vital information for any possible application for reopening Flax Bourton Fuel Depot. Disappointingly no-one from the Health and Safety Executive attended.

A major concern for Flax Bourton was the health & safety aspect should an application be received. Although no judgement could be made at this stage, it was agreed that the Parish Council should have the best advice with regards to the health and safety so that a proper debate at any public meeting could be conducted within the 21 day response timescale should an application be received.

It was agreed to seek the advice of a professional person as to the health & safety aspects, with any costs to be within the previously agreed budget figure of £5000.00

*9.10 pm The meeting was adjourned for public participation*

*9.15 pm The meeting was reconvened.*

**RESOLVED:** Proposed by Councillor Higgins, seconded by Councillor Barnes and agreed that Councillor Moss seek a suitable person to provide professional advice on the health & safety aspect of any future application to reopen the Flax Bourton Fuel Depot. A vote was taken. All in favour.

**138) North Somerset Housing Core Strategy / Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment**

Councillor Higgins attended a second North Somerset Workshop on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2008 where the issue of the planned large scale housing development of 10,500 units in the South Bristol & North Somerset area was the main subject.

The consensus was that any major development should take place in and around Bristol because of the real problems from North Somerset and the greenbelt if it was involved, eg poor road systems and lack of social amenities.

The current housing problems caused by the “Credit Crunch” were also significant to the Core Strategy,

It was agreed to monitor the position.

Noted.

**139) North Somerset Council SFRA**

The request for any information re flooding in Flax Bourton was discussed. It was recalled that earlier in the year the Village was subjected to extensive flooding which caused problems on the Main Road, A370 and Station Road with the railway lines being flooded and the trains stopped.

A previous request by the Parish Council to residents as to any past similar problems resulted in a nil response. However some data is available including photographs and it was agreed that Councillor Barnes supply this information to North Somerset Council.

A vote was taken. All in favour.

**140) Complaints Procedure**

A draft proposed procedure had been supplied by the Clerk and members agrees that such a formal procedure was essential.

It was therefore agreed in principle but would be discussed again at the next meeting with the advise of the Parish Clerk. A vote was taken. All in favour.

**141) Open Forum**

It was agreed that the following items be included on the next agenda.

- Dog Bins – To receive an update on the discussion with Tarmac - Councillor Windo.
- Farleigh Green – To receive an update on the proposed trees / shrubs maintenance.
- Freedom of Information – To receive a briefing on the “*alleged*” breach by FBPC
- To discuss arrangements for Minutes to be included in the Parish Magazine.

**142) Date of next meeting, Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2008.**

There, being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting.

Signed.....Chair      Dated.....