

COLNBROOK WITH POYLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL held at the Village Hall, Colnbrook on Tuesday 12th October 2004, commencing at 7.30pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT

CHAIRMAN: Cllr L. Tucker
Cllrs. Angell, Ghatora, Gray,
Hood, Laxman, MacDougald and
Rayner

The Clerk and Finance Officer,
Mr. R.L.N. Hewson

Mr. W. Crockett

PC/04/50 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from Cllrs. Mrs Gipps, Maddison, Thomas, Mrs Underhill and SBC Cllr. D. Smith.

PC/04/51 PUBLIC SESSION

Mr Crockett asked about the 20mph road signs etc. for the High Street. The Chairman informed him about the meeting held at Langley Police Station on Friday 8th October. (See Cllr. Tucker's report).

PC/04/52 MINUTES

(a) The minutes of the annual meeting held on Tuesday 14th September 2004 were confirmed as a true record.

(b) Matters arising

There were no matters arising not on the agenda.

PC/04/53 SERVICES COMMITTEE

Cllr. MacDougald reported on the meeting held on Tuesday 28th September 2004 which was accepted by the Council.

PC/04/54 FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

(a) Cllr. Laxman gave a report of the meeting held on Tuesday 28th September 2004 which was accepted by the Council.

(b) Lists of Payments:

The list of payments in the sum of £8,686.15 from 14th July 2004 – 14th September 2004 was confirmed and approved.

(c) The Council endorsed the recommendation to give the railing painting work to I & L Maintenance in the sum of £2,780.00 plus VAT.

PC/04/55

PLANNING MATTERS

- (i) Slough Borough Council Planning Agenda, Colnbrook Incinerator, given to Chairman. (Slough Borough Council has decided to leave the approval as granted).
- (ii) P/124362/002 – Erection of two-storey side extension with pitched roof at 15, Ingleside – Clerk instructed to obtain plans.
- (iii) P/12990/000 – Erection of two-storey pitched roof side extension etc etc at 20, Rodney Way – Clerk instructed to obtain plans.
- (iv) Approval Ref. APP/J0350/A/04/1162603 – Notice of Appeal by Steve's Transport Services against refusal of re-development at John Taylor House, Blackthorn Road.
- (v) Poyle Road – Parking of Heavy Goods Vehicles – letter from Slough Borough Council – Clerk instructed to write a reply. (Copy enclosed).

PC/04/56

CHAIRMAN'S CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Wickstead Leisure – Brochure on Disability Play Equipment.
- (b) Slough Borough Council – Postponement of Standards Committee meeting.
- (c) Wycombe District Association – Training Day.
- (d) Groundwork Thames Valley – What's on Leaflet.

PC/04/57

OUTSIDE BODIES

- (i) Cllr. Rayner referred to the notes he had written which had been circulated to members. It was AGREED that an item be placed on the next Policy and Services Agenda
- (ii) Cllr. Rayner gave a brief resume of Slough Borough Council's interpretation of the new combined licence for the sale of alcohol and provision of entertainment, which did not appear to have been thought through properly. There are 'Grandfather' rights for six months, which have to be registered within that period, otherwise the premises will be closed if a new licence is not in place.
- (iii) Cllr. MacDougald notified the Council that the AGM of the Colnbrook Residents Association will be held on 7th December 2004.
- (iv) Cllr. Angell gave a brief report from the Environment Sub-Committee and the Council agreed a further sub-committee meeting for 2nd November.

(v) Cllr. Tucker reported that he had attended:-

Saturday 25th September 2004 - Village Forum

Thursday 30th September 2004 - Environment Sub-Committee meeting

Wednesday 6th October 2004 - Meeting with Denise Alder and others at Wellington House, re monitoring Slough Accord Contract.

**Environmental Services Consultative Board Progress Report –
Environmental Services Contract – March 2004 – September 2004**

General:

The changes over the last 6 months include:

- Cans added to kerbside recycling collection service from April 2004.
- Development of commercial waste collection service
- New CA site/Recycling Park at Chalvey opened August 2004.
- Redevelopment work at Chalvey depot generally nearing completion.
- Anticipated completion date now December 2004. This has caused operational issues for Slough Accord.
- Revised mechanical sweeping beats introduced in June. Operating a 6 week schedule allowing for capacity to go back to difficult access areas.
- Quality Management system introduced and being developed.
- Green waste kerbside collection introduced at the end of August 2004. To date almost 1200 customers have joined the scheme and 8 tonnes of waste collected.

In addition, Slough Accord has again sponsored the Green Awards. The award scheme was expanded this year to include a business category. 4 certificates were presented at the Mayor's awards in June. Two schools – Priory and Our Lady of Peace were winners of the schools category, Foxborough Residents Association were winners of the community group category and the Marriott Hotel (junction 5) won the business category.

Regular operational and contract review meetings are continuing to take place. There continues to be a strong emphasis on co-operation between the Council and the management of Slough Accord to resolve problems.

Performance:

The response to emergency situations and rectifying problems by Slough Accord continues to be very good. However, there remains concern that a more pro-active approach should be adopted.

The major concern about performance is the decrease in the percentage of household waste recycled. The average recycling rate for 2003/4 was 14.7% with some months reaching 19%. The recycling rate so far this year is still only 15%.

There have been a number of complaints from residents about the disregard for recycling boxes and spilled materials and more recently missed kerbside recycling collections. We are concerned that these issues have impacted on already struggling recycling rates. Action taken by Slough Accord to respond to our concerns includes the appointment of a Divisional Recycling Manager jointly with the London Borough of Islington, issuing clear instructions to staff and taking disciplinary action, where appropriate. In addition, the Quality Management system has also been introduced to the recycling service.

We are working closely with Slough Accord to identify and overcome any specific problems. Areas where there is a low participation rate with the kerbside scheme were targeted over the summer jointly by the Council and Slough Accord. It is hoped that further promotion of the scheme together with ensuring the service is delivered to a good standard will result in a continual improvement in recycling rates.

Sickness issues have continued to be a problem with refuse collection staff. This has increased the reliance on Agency staff with knock-on effects on performance. Over the last few months missed bins have increased marginally with a monthly average of 60 misses.

The new street cleaning programme has continued to improve a number of areas in the town. There have still been some concerns about inconsistent standards. These have related to early problems experienced with the new mechanical sweeping beats (now resolved), and the performance of specific crews. Resolving the staffing issues relating to the new street cleaning programme and the implementation of the Quality Management system should improve both standards and consistency. Progress is being closely monitored.

Introducing service charges for the Assisted Garden scheme have caused operational difficulties for Slough Accord. The situation is improving, but still needs to be closely monitored.

The Performance Management System is due for a detailed review. Work is required to review the data collected and ensure that key individuals fully understand the concept of the system.

Conclusion:

There continues to be a constructive working relationship between Slough Accord and the Council. The contract has provided a step change in performance, but industrial relations, including sickness issues have impeded progress over recent months. Issues still to be addressed include developing a more pro-active approach, quality issues and improving service integration.

Denise Alder / Nigel Dicker – 5th October 2004.

Friday 8th October 2004 - Langley Police Station with Slough Borough Council – Re Colnbrook High Street traffic.

Present: WPC Tara Flockhart
Ian Halliday – Snr. Technician, BABTE
Adam Sharp – Asst. Engineer, BABTE
Garry Sullivan – Highways, SBC
Rick Harrington – Albany Park Residents Association
Laurie Tucker – Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council

At this stage 2 proposals - to reduce through- traffic levels and improve signage at Wasten End.

SBC along with the Police and Parish Council to put together a leaflet on proposals and invite comments. Leaflet to be delivered to every household and business in the parish.

Friday 8th October 2004 – Pippins School – Re Pippins Park Flooding.

Present: Nick Fry
David MacDougald
Gerald Please
Laurie Tucker

Thames Water hopefully to commence work to re-line pipe in November.

Laurie Tucker to look into open spaces. BIFFA, Grundon and BAA for funding i.e. refurbishment of park.

Laurie Tucker to send leaflet to homes and estate advertising the next meeting, plus posters for notice boards plus advise local press.

The next meeting is to be held on Friday 14th January 2005 at 1.15pm at Pippins School.

and would be attending:

Thursday 14th October 2004 – SALC meeting with Slough Borough Council, Councillors and Officials.

PC/04/58

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chairman moved and it was AGREED that the Press and Public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by virtue of the confidential nature of the business.

PC/04/59 PART II Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14th September 2004 were confirmed as a true record. There were no matters arising.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

SIGNED:..... DATE.....