

FALFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21st July 2015 at 7.30 pm at Falfield Village Hall

Present

Parish Councillors: Mrs J Hathway, Miss E. Jarvis & Mr K. Fryer.

Clerk: Mrs D. Bramley **Public:** Ward Cllr John O'Neill, Alan Smith & Samatha Stagg, Horizon & 15 Parishioners which included visitors from other parishes.

The Chair bought the Horizon presentation about the New Power Station Development forward in the meeting.

Cllr Hathway welcomed Mr Alan Smith, Horizon Senior Site Development Manager and Samantha Stagg to the meeting.

Mr Smith thanked the Parish Council for inviting him to come. He is currently the Head of Site Development at Wylfa and as there are a number of project managers now in situ he is now looking after the Oldbury on Severn (Oldbury) development.

Mr Smith gave an overview of the history of Horizon starting as a joint venture in 2009 between E.ON and RWE. In 2012 they were acquired by Hitachi Ltd who would be investing £20 billion in the new nuclear power stations. This change in ownership resulted in a change of reactor design. Horizon is 100% owned by Hitachi so they are the owner, developer and operator of the site. The new power station would result in approximately 1000 jobs.

Wylfa is the lead site and they have already undertaken the first phase of public pre-application consultation required before making a formal application for development consent. They have also started the detailed programming phase. The Oldbury site will benefit from the lessons learnt from the Wylfa site. Nuclear power has been selected because it is affordable, low carbon, sustainable and there is security of supply.

Nuclear Power currently provides approximately 19% of the power going to the National Grid although it along with power produced by coal will reduce in the future. Gas and other renewable power supplies will increase. 50–60 GW's of new generating power capacity is needed by 2025 to meet the shortfall from plant closures with the government expecting 16 GW by 2030 from new nuclear power.

The Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR) design that will be used at Wylfa and Oldbury is proven technology and several have already been built and are operational in Japan. More reactors of this type are being built in other countries e.g. Taiwan, USA and China. The lessons learnt from Fukushima have been incorporated at both sites which include improved site layout, loss of power safety improvements and protection of the core facility. Key concepts of the UK ABWR include: larger concrete containment field, internal pumps for cooling and the core is not at as high a temperature that other designs. The reactor has also been designed with decommissioning in mind.

The Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) and the Environment Agency (EA), are in the early stages of a Generic Design Assessment (GDA) of the ABWR technology and will ensure that it can operate safely in the UK. This process will take several years to complete.

The new cooling towers at the Oldbury site will be the hybrid design type with a maximum height of 80 m which is similar to the current height of the current site but they will have a larger ground surface area. The land Horizon has purchased is sufficient to build the new power station however additional land will be required. It is envisaged a harbour will also been built to allow most of the construction materials to be brought in via the river.

The site waste will be kept on the site for its life and beyond which is different from previous. Any geological waste disposal will be situated in a community that volunteers to have it.

The following questions were asked during the presentation:

Q: How many reactors will there be and what is the reactors life expectancy?

A: *There will be 2 reactors at each site. The reactor life cycle is 60 year but this could be extended to 70 years if a safety case has been developed.*

Q: Will the project be on time?

A: *Yes, Hitachi intends to complete construction on time and on budget.*

Q: Is the ABWR reactor the same type as the one at Fukushima

A: *Yes but they will be a newer generation.*

Q: What happens in an emergency?

A: *Before the site can operate an Emergency Plan will be developed. This plan will take into account the type of emergency, what the wind conditions are etc... All nuclear sites have them.*

Q: If the ABWR is approved in 2017, will you start building in 2018? If so where do the parts come from?

A: *Long order parts will be ordered prior to approval to ensure the build starts on time.*

Q: Have any safety changes been identified yet as part of the pre application process and GDA?

A: *If any areas are identified they will be looked at and changes made.*

Q: There are a number of vacant properties. Do you have plans to rent them out? Also the Windbound Inn, Shepperdine was due to be demolished but has not happened yet. Why?

A: *No, rental properties need to be to a certain specification. Due to tight budgets the demolition of the Windbound Inn has been delayed. Shepperdine residents should have received a letter regarding the Windbound and what they are planning to do.*

Q: Will the excess heat be exported to the surrounding area?

A: *No, retro fitting properties is very difficult and expensive.*

Q: How will you acquire the extra land needed?

A: *They hope to be able to negotiate with land owners. They do not intend to compulsory purchase land*

Q: Are the roads going to be used to transport in construction materials etc...

A: *They hope to bring as much of the construction materials in via the river. They have not looked at the road networks locally yet. They are aware that parishioners are worried about the increase in traffic on rural lane and at Junction 14 M5 and that they would like to see a park and ride system for the site.*

Cllr Hathway thanked Alan Smith and Samantha Stagg for attending and will invite them back next year for a further update when further information about the road and transport infrastructure should hopefully be known.

9 Parishioners including visitors from other parishes left after the Horizon presentation.

00558/15 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr M. O'Connor and PC Natlie Draper.

00559/15 To Approve Minutes of Last Meeting

It was proposed by Cllr Fryer, seconded by Cllr Jarvis and **resolved** that the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 19th May 2015 be signed as a correct record.

It was proposed by Cllr Fryer, seconded by Cllr Jarvis and resolved that the minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 19th May 2015 be signed as a correct record.

00560/15 To Receive Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda and Dispensation Requests

None

00561/15 Public Forum

00561.1/15 Police Report - PC Draper

The Clerk read out PC Drapers police report, as follows:

"The Police are still at the Council Offices in Thornbury, we have no date to move to the Town Hall in Thornbury High Street as yet.

There have been reports of vehicles parking in Mill Lane, Falfield and this is currently being looked into by Police and the Council.

There has been a report of vehicles parking on the single yellow lines outside the church on Sunday's hill Lane recently. Police and Council are aware and will monitor the area.

There was a report of theft of copper cable in Cutts Heath at the end of June. This incident is being investigated.

There was also a report of a stable yard being broken into in Cutts Heath around the same time.

There has been higher than normal incidences of Travellers in and around Thornbury, mostly they have not been a problem but there was a particular group that arrived off Morton Way in Thornbury who were very aggressive. They moved on swiftly after a couple of days of their own accord before a notice was served on them to vacate.

Just a brief overview on the position of the police when travellers arrive in the area - because South Gloucestershire has a dedicated travellers liaison officer the travellers like to come to the area. When the travellers arrive on private land, it is a civil matter and the police can't do anything, it is up to the landowner to go to court to get an eviction notice, which could take 2-3 weeks, only at this point could the police then be involved in helping to evict them. If there was a significant increase in crime or complaints from the public, then the police could apply for a section 61 notice to move them on.

PCSO Dawn Golding has decided to leave the police force, and officially retired on June 28th. She will be sorely missed by many of the local community."

00562/15 Planning Matters

00562.1/15 To Note the Following Notices

PERMIT - PT15/2253/F - Cherry Tree Cottage, Bristol Road - Demolition of existing building and erection of detached annex. (Re submission of PT15/1457/F)

00563/15 Financial Matters

00563.1/15 To Note the Payments Received

Oldbury on Severn Parish Council – SLCC Contribution (50%)

£ 59.00

00563.2/15 To Approve the following Payments

It was proposed by Cllr Fryer, seconded by Cllr Jarvis and **resolved** unanimously to approve the following payments.

Mrs D. Bramley – Salary (May) via Monthly Standing Order	£ 289.72
South Gloucestershire Council – Buy Back Grass Cutting Q1 (written)	£ 99.50
Mrs D. Bramley – Salary (Jun) via Monthly Standing Order	£ 289.72
Mrs D. Bramley – Expenses (Office Cost, Ink, Paper, Stamps)	£ 64.53
Mr R Hathway – War Memorial Weed Killer	£ 11.99
Benefice Newsletter - 5 Alive Donation	£ 75.00
Falfield Village Hall Rental 14 th July 2015	£ 9.00
South Gloucestershire Council – Village Green Grass Cutting	£ 166.91
South Gloucestershire Council – Uncontested Election	£ 175.00
Collett Builders - War Memorial Slabs Repair Works	£ 350.00

00563.3/15 To Note Annual Return Completion with no queries or comments

It was noted that the External Audit was returned with no queries or comments.

00563.4/15 To Note 2015/2016 Budget & Payments/Receipts Statement

The Budget & Payments and Receipts Statement, circulated to Cllrs before the meeting, was noted and signed.

00564/15 Highway Matters

00564.1/15 To Receive Feedback regarding Orchard View Track & Wild Flower Bed

Orchard View Track

There was a special Meeting on 14th July attended by Orchard View Parishioners and Simon Spedding that discussed this matter in detail. The Parish Council is waiting for parishioners to come back with their action plan along with how the Parish Council can assist/support them further.

Wild Flower Bed

Ward Cllr O'Neill stated that Streetcare have apologised and this appears to have been a result of delegation and poor communication leading to poor service. I have been assured that the horticultural team will now deal with this matter and resolve it. The area will be re seeded by South Gloucestershire Council, if needed.

00565/15 To Receive Reports from Councillors

00565.1/15 To Note Feedback from Charfield, Cromhall and Tortworth SSCG Feedback

The next meeting is on the 23rd July 2015.

00565.2/15 To Receive Town & Parish Council Forum Feedback

Cllr Hathway attended the meeting on the 14th July 2015 and the minutes will be available on the South Gloucestershire Council Website. In summary: There was an hour presentation from Amanda Deeks, Chief Executive of South Gloucestershire Council which included housing, the joining service, travellers and that south Gloucestershire is the most populated area in the country. This was followed by a 35 minute broadband update which resulted in a great deal of questions. Finally there was a 25 minute briefing about the Community Infrastructure Levy that comes into force in August 2015. The Planning Liaison and Election issues were deferred until the next meeting.

Ward Cllr O'Neill stated that Broadband representatives were attending the Cromhall Parish Council meeting in September. It was agreed to invite them to attend a Falfield Parish Council. **Action: Clerk**

00566/15 To Discuss/Approve Formal Documents (Standing Orders & Financial Regulations)

It was proposed by Cllr Hathway, seconded by Cllr Jarvis and resolved unanimously to approve the Standing Orders with no changes.

It was proposed by Cllr Hathway, seconded by Cllr Jarvis and resolved unanimously to approve the Revised Financial Regulations, with the changes as recommended.

00567/15 To Discuss/Approve Risk Assessment & Asset Inspection Document

The Risk Assessment and Asset Inspection document was circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. Cllr Fryer went through the actions from the document including any progress that had been made, as listed below:

Asset	Issue/Action	Progress
War Memorial	Paving Slabs are loose	Repaired - July 2015
	Chain could do with painting	Monitor
	Bollard render is starting to	Monitor

	come off several of them	
Bus Shelter – The Huntsman (South Bound)	Over grown bush next to shelter needs cutting back	This has been cut back by SGC but needs to be reduced further in height Action: Clerk
Bus Shelter – The Huntsman (North Bound)	Have dumped carpet removed from bushes next to shelter	The carpet has been reported to SGC Ref: 270590.
Bus Shelter - Whitfield Gate Farm (North Bound)	Clean graffiti and monitor ivy and other plant growth	No progress

Cllr Hathway also mentioned that the St George Church Cherry trees were overhanging the War Memorial and needed cutting back. The Church groundsman was attending the meeting and will look at the trees.

00568/15 Correspondence (*Italics – available by email*)

Respond to:

Consultation: PSP Local Green Space Designation Consultation Response (Expiry: 30th July 2015)

Council Response: None Needed as Green Space justified and meets criteria

For Information:

Clerks & Councils Direct July 2015 & the Clerk July 2015

Healthwatch South Gloucestershire ebulletin June & July, Press Release from Independent Monitoring Board at HMP Eastwood Park, Minutes of Oldbury Site Stakeholder Group meeting on Wednesday 29th April 2015, Minutes of the Town & Parish Council Forum 14th April 2015 & Planning Enforcement News June 2015

00569/15 Matters for Further Discussion / Information

Bramble bushes along the B4509 verge (South Side) need to be cut back as they are hazardous for parishioners walking in this area.

Moorslade Lane has pot holes which need to be filled again and the soil in the centre of the lane is building up again so needs to be cleared.

The location and signage for the 88 Service Bus Stop on the A38 / B4509, Tortworth Road junction is currently with the South Gloucestershire Transport department.

Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 15th September 2015 at 7.30 pm

This concluded the business of the meeting, which closed at 8.50 pm.