

**Minutes of the Isle Abbotts Parish Council meeting held on
Wednesday 6th May 2009 at 7.15 p.m. in the Village Hall**

PRESENT: Cllrs.Habberfield, Rickitt, Humphry, Jay & Herbert. D.C. Sue Steele, Clerk and PCSO Ben Middleditch were also present.

1. There were no **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

2. There were no **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

At this point PCSO Middleditch was invited to speak as it was thought that he may need to leave the meeting. He explained about the speeding around the narrow country lanes in this area, particularly by young people, and told us about an event being held in the Whatley car park in Langport on Thursday 14th May about road safety, and produced some fliers for us to distribute.

3. The **MINUTES** of the meeting held on Wednesday 4th March 2009 were read and approved after amendment to item 11 (Waste should read Water).

4. MATTERS ARISING: **4.2) Baptist Chapel:** Building Regulations man is keeping a close eye on developments. **5) Wybarn planning application:** Cllr.Humphry had discussed screening issues with residents and Fivehead P.C. and thought that as the new barn could not be screened very easily, would not make observation to planning dept. It is thought that a certain amount of screening is already a condition of application. **8) Cuffs Orchard:** Mr. Barden has cleared the ditch to the end of his boundary. Cllr. Habberfield will clear the end bit with access via Willersley.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: Mr. Bradshaw spoke about the village hall needs for maintenance and improvements. He thanked the Parish Council for their donation towards the new kitchen and presented a refurbishment report for other work required. Estimates for repairing roof and ceiling and to replace flooring in toilet and storage areas was £45-50000.00. He had spoken to Les Collect (SSDC community liaison officer) regarding the best way to proceed and was advised that they would not receive a grant from D.C. or C.C. unless they receive some Parish Council funding. He proposed that the Parish Council offer a grant of £1000.00 per year from 2010 for the duration of the renovations (estimated at 3 to 4 years) which will enable them to obtain further grants from other sources. Involves an increase in the precept. A discussion ensued. Concerns about the few people who would have to pay the precept were raised as it was thought a large number of residents are exempt from paying rates. D.C. Sue Steele indicated that although a grant application through the Somerset County and District Council would need backing from the Parish Council it would not necessarily need to be to the extent requested by the Village Hall Committee. **ITEM FOR NEXT AGENDA**

6. FINANCE: Cllr.Jay presented the accounts for year 2008/9 for approval and was approved by all.

Payments approved: Clerks fee £40.00; Community Council for Somerset £30.

7. PLANNING APPLICATION: 09/01299/LBC The thatching of part of roof with water reed and alterations to existing extension to include re-roofing, re-rendering and installation of a replacement downpipe at Cuffs Orchard, Chapel Road, Isle Abbotts. Application approved.

8. ROADS & FOOTPATHS: Cllr. Humphry had nothing to report. He proposed the election of a Flooding Officer to which Cllr.Herbert volunteered. **NEW AGENDA ITEM.** Residents at Badbury must be asked to keep their ditches clear.

9. There were no **ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE.**

10. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA: 1)Village Hall application for grant 2) Flooding Officers report.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 1st July 2009 8.00 pm

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 20.00

Signed.....Date