

PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 2nd AUGUST 2017
IN THE PARISH OFFICE, BOUVERIE HALL, PEWSEY

PRESENT: Cllr Eyles (Chairman), Cllr Ford, Cllrs Mrs Dalrymple, Ann Hogg, Mrs Hughes, Mrs Hunt, Kerry Pycroft, Mrs Stevens, Cllrs Carder, Deck, Giles, Hagan, Morris, Smith and Stevens.

IN ATTENDANCE: Alison Kent (Clerk), Mr Andrews (Pewsey Vale Bowls Club) and Mrs Wilson (BMX Group).

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Morris to his first Environment Committee meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr Haskell. Apologies were also received from Mr Asbury (Heritage Centre).
2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST:** Cllr Stevens on item 6.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:** All being in agreement the minutes of the meeting held on 7th June 2017 were signed as a true record by the Chairman.

4. TENANT CLUB REPORTS:

- a) **Bowls Club:** Mr Andrews reported the green was looking and playing well and the club was doing well in the new Wiltshire league. The club had over 80 members with new ones starting this season. The Beech tree was starting to spread over a neighbouring property and would be cut back in the autumn.
- b) **Football Club:** Cllr Stephens was not present to report. Cllr Mrs Hunt had noted a one of the club's vehicles had been parked on the grass which it should not be. Cllr Deck advised that all the railings and uprights had been painted and the dugouts repaired. The club would be reminded to keep the middle gate by BMX site locked.
- c) **Tennis Club:** Cllr Deck reminded members that a year ago the club had decided to lock all the courts because of anti-social behaviour. This had helped but the padlocks kept seizing up.
- d) **Rugby Club:** There was no representative present.
- e) **Youth Football Club:** There was no representative present.
- f) **BMX Group:** Mrs Wilson advised the risk assessment had been completed at the beginning of July. The track was being used but one of the last jumps would be re-worked. She had heard of some issues so attended the site on 20th July to find someone using a moped. She advised the user that this was not a good idea and the user left the site. The grounds have been cleaned up and most of the litter removed. Cllr Mrs Hunt said part of the problem was not knowing who should be using the area. When the gates are locked, some climb over the fence. Mrs Wilson had impressed upon the users that if it was not being used for the right purpose then the facility would be put at risk.
- g) **Heritage Centre:** Mr Asbury had circulated a written report.

5. OTHER REPORTS:

- a) **Cemetery and Chapel:** Cllr Ford advised the grounds were fine and the damaged fence had been fixed. Cllr Giles felt the works to the War Memorial were an excellent job.
- b) **Footpaths:** Cllr Haskell was not present to report. Cllr Eyles would continue to chase up repairs to the path by the new Health and Wellbeing Centre which had broken posts and exposed metal.
- c) **Street Lights:** Cllr Deck had nothing to report.
- d) **Seats:** Cllr Stephens was not present to report.

e) **Allotments:**

i) **Allotment Inspection:** Bert's Meadow: Cllr Smith had been provided with a site plan and would inspect them in due course. There was a mound in the corner that should be removed. The slab for Mr Reed's seat would be installed soon. Cllr Deck explained it had been difficult to identify the plots when the competition judging was taking place.

ii) **Allotment Inspection:** Sports Centre: Cllr Ford advised that all were OK apart from 3 plots which had not been worked. The contractor had not cleared them so they would be publicised for new tenants at no initial cost, although this was not supported by Cllr Eyles.

iii) **Allotment Waiting List Progress Report:** The clerk advised that five people were on the waiting list for Bert's Meadow and none for the Sports Centre.

f) **Trees (Including Way's Way):** Cllr Deck had nothing to report. The tree inspection report had not yet been received.

g) **Scotchel:** Cllr Ford reported the area was all fine apart from one overhanging branch by the bridge end which needed attention. Cllr Morris said the Scotchel was looking particularly nice with the new repairs. Cllr Carder advised there had been some graffiti on the noticeboards which Cllr Ford and another member of the public had cleared off.

h) **River Avon/Kennet & Avon Canal:** Cllr Kerry Pycroft had cleared part of a small dam away. There was nothing to report on the canal. Cllr Mrs Dalrymple reported the central arch in the bridge by the Grove was blocked. Cllr Giles commented that the river in Pewsey had potential viewing points throughout the village but at present most were covered in vegetation. He suggested a long term objective be to open up the river for all to view throughout the parish. Cllr Stevens explained the Environment Agency made clearance very restrictive and that lots of the trees were privately owned. It would be a good objective to pursue and Cllr Smith would take it forward with the restructuring process. Cllr Deck had noted a larger growth of water cress this year.

i) **Recreation Ground and Rectory Grove:** Cllr Mrs Hunt said the Recreation Ground was looking good. There was a big branch fallen in the Arboretum which Cllr Deck would investigate. Cllr Mrs Dalrymple felt a new sign was needed on the bridge by the Grove.

j) **Play Areas:**

Broadfields: Cllr Ford reported the area was fine although the repair had still not been made.

Aston Close: Cllr Kerry Pycroft reported all fine.

Easterton Lane: Cllr Mrs Hunt reported all was fine apart from litter. Cllr Morris noticed the goalposts could do with replacement in the near future.

Broomcroft Road: Cllr Carder had no problems to report as hedge at entrance overgrown, PD will do.

k) **Angela Yeates Memorial Ground and Youth Football ground:** Cllr Ford said all the grounds were looking fine with the two new slabs put down for the new pavilion and storage shed for the youth football club. Several people had been noticed parking up on the grounds solely with the purpose of dog walking. The local police and dog warden would be informed.

l) **Litter:** Cllr Smith said litter was not too bad with the bins being emptied on a regular basis. Cllr Eyles thanked those members who had helped out when the litter pickers were away.

m) **Toilets:** Cllr Stevens said the project was moving forward slowly to ensure the right decisions are made. He would instruct for an electrical test and an asbestos survey to be undertaken. He was still concerned about the level of water usage.

n) **Car Parks:** Cllr Mrs Hunt had nothing to report. Cllr Eyles would meet with Mr Dobson soon and would chase up the blocked gulley and subsidence concern.

o) **White Horse:** Cllr Giles asked for a formal letter of thanked to be written to Mr Barry Giles to thank him for the work he did on the rechalk. The purpose made rammers would be needed in the future and stored in the council shed. He suggested the handles be replaced with thick aluminium tube. The fence desperately needed replacing and quotes would be sought.

6. FINANCE: Cllr Mrs Hughes proposed the list of cheques for acceptance, seconded Cllr Mrs Dalrymple, all in favour.

The quotation from Grist Environmental had been received from the Carnival Committee. It had previously been agreed by the Parish Council that £2,500 would be given towards this cost.

7. PARISH STEWARD: Cllr Eyles had met with the Parish Steward to agree the work list as it was better to meet face to face rather than using the spreadsheet. Cllr Giles said the sign on A345 was still not visible, some of the vegetation had been cut with the request put on the priority list.

8. GARDEN COMPETITION: Cllr Kerry Pycroft reported that all the judging had been completed by Cllr Deck and Anne Diston. The winners would be notified in due course.

9. CORRESPONDENCE: None.

10. ITEMS FOR THE MESSENGER: Car boot sale date, clear away dog mess from all areas but especially the youth football ground. Allotments were available at the Sports Centre site, co-option vacancies and works done to the War Memorial and White Horse.

11. ANY FULL COUNCIL INFORMATION AND ACTION: Cllr Smith reminded members of the Wiltshire Council meetings coming up in September and informed members of the thanks received from Pewsey Primary School for providing the activity table.

12. ITEMS VIA THE CLERK: The PCC had issued an Estates Strategy Plan which could be relevant to Pewsey police station. Cllr Deck would read and update members.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.13pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____