

PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 6th DECEMBER 2017
IN THE PARISH OFFICE, BOUVERIE HALL, PEWSEY

PRESENT: Cllr Eyles (Chairman), Cllrs Mrs Dalrymple, Mrs Hughes, Mrs Hunt, Kerry Pycroft, Mrs Stevens, Cllrs Carder, Deck, Giles, Haskell, McGarry, Smith, Smithers, Stephens and Stevens.

IN ATTENDANCE: Alison Kent (Clerk), Mr Andrews (Pewsey Vale Bowls Club) and Mr Parks (Pewsey Vale Rugby Club).

1. APOLOGIES: Cllrs Ann Hogg, Fleming, Ford, Hagan and Morris. Apologies were also received from Mr Asbury (Heritage Centre) and Mrs Wilson (BMX Group).

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Cllr Haskell on item 6.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: All being in agreement the minutes of the meeting held on 4th October 2017 were signed as a true record by the Chairman.

4. TENANT CLUB REPORTS:

a) Bowls Club: Mr Andrews had nothing much to report, the greens were being cut regularly and bedded down for the winter.

b) Football Club: Cllr Stephens reported all was going well. The team were fourth place in the league and had won team of the month. Lots of young people now involved and the grounds were also being tidied up well.

c) Tennis Club: Cllr Deck had nothing to report.

d) Rugby Club: Mr Parks apologised for not attending previously. The club continued to do well, with new players, new coaches and the youth section was progressing. The clubhouse roof was completed and the windows would be installed soon. He thanked the council for its support which had helped the club to be in a position to get bigger grants next year. Cllr Carder asked when the next management committee meeting would be so that he could attend.

e) Youth Football Club: Mr Flach was not present but had reported the pavilion was nearly complete with the grand opening on 15th December to which all members were invited.

f) BMX Group: Mrs Wilson was not present to report.

g) Heritage Centre: Mr Asbury had circulated a written report.

5. OTHER REPORTS:

a) **Cemetery and Chapel:** Cllr Ford was not present but had reported everything was fine.

b) **Footpaths:** Cllr Haskell commented that a lot of people were having mobility problems on the tarmac paths, Cllr Eyles were putting pressure on Highways for repairs. Cllr Haskell informed members that Wiltshire Council had decided to proceed with the request from local walkers for a path to be included in the definitive map. A 61 page report had been prepared that recommended approval of this request. Milton Lilbourne Parish Council had supported the request. At present, Pewsey Parish Council was the only objector along with two landowners. Individual members may object should they wish to do so, until 29th December. If the objections are not withdrawn then the order must be referred to the Secretary of State for determination. Prior to this the case goes before the regulatory committee with its recommendation added to the order. A public inquiry would be held within 12 months of the regulatory committee. Cllr Haskell was aware that the landowners were taking solicitors advice. He did not believe that the Parish Council should do any more at this point as an objection had already been made. He had tried to broker an arrangement between both parties and was surprised it had gone this far. Cllr Giles had previously made the point that the landowners had helped the parish over the years and this view should not be changed. The Parish Council had already confirmed its original statement.

c) **Street Lights:** Cllr Deck had nothing to report. Cllr Mrs Dalrymple said some lights were still out at Brunkards Lane.

d) **Seats:** Cllr Stephens advised that most were fine but a few needed some repair which he would do once the weather improved. Cllr Eyles informed members that a request from Mrs Perren had been received for permission to install a seat in remembrance of her son. The Council were happy for a seat made from recycled material, to be placed at her preferred location in the Scotchel, proposed Cllr Carder, seconded Cllr Eyles, all in favour.

e) **Allotments:**

i) **Allotment Inspection:** Bert's Meadow: Cllr Morris was not present to report with Cllr Smith saying they were fine.

ii) **Allotment Inspection:** Sports Centre: Cllr Ford was not present to report. The clerk advised that only one plot was vacant.

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 considered the Parish Council's own planning application for the tree review project.

17/11661/TCA WORKS TO TREES IN A CONSERVATION AREA as per tree schedules submitted at Recreation Ground, Tennis Club, Rectory Grove and Scotchel, Pewsey.

WE SUPPORT THIS APPLICATION

Proposed Cllr Deck, seconded Cllr Mrs Hunt

All in favour.

g) **Scotchel:** Cllr Ford was not present to report. Cllr Eyles explained there was a small length of path edging that needed replacing and a piece of fencing was still in the river. He had met with Idverde to request a repair quotation.

h) **River Avon/Kennet & Avon Canal:** Cllr Kerry Pycroft advised the river was flowing well with the litter cleared when the Christmas lights were put up. A Green Flag award given to the entire length of the Kennet & Avon Canal which was the longest stretch of designation awarded.

i) **Recreation Ground and Rectory Grove:** Cllr Mrs Hunt reported all was fine, although there were lots of leaves on the Grove path. The carnival committee knew nothing of the locked gate and it was agreed that the football club would cut the lock and put the gate back in the right place. Idverde had been asked to quote for the weeding and resurfacing the path and replacing edging boards where necessary.

j) **Play Areas:**

Broadfields: Cllr Ford was not present but had reported all was OK.

Aston Close: Cllr Mrs Carmichael-Owen was not present to report.

Easterton Lane: Cllr Mrs Hunt said the area was fine. Cllr Stevens advised the repair to the roundabout had not yet been done and would meet with the contractor on site.

Broomcroft Road: Cllr Kerry Pycroft felt the equipment could do with a clean in the spring and there was an increased mole problem. The basketball hoop was not being used much and she asked whether this was because the surface was grassed and not hard enough. Cllr Stevens advised it was done that way as the equipment was a multi-purpose play area with the hoop an added extra. Cllr Stevens advised that the insurance inspections for all areas were fine, apart from the zip wire which needed raising again.

Results of play area survey: Cllr Stevens briefed members on the current position with Wiltshire Council play areas as they had stated that they would no longer be maintaining them as they deteriorated and eventually close them. The Parish Council was responsible for maintaining its own play areas. The only sites owned by Wiltshire Council in Pewsey were five on the Old Hospital site

which had been added at each stage of the development. There were in various states of disrepair and varied in age ranges.

The Council had decided to get feedback from residents so he and Cllr Haskell delivered a survey to each house in the area. 300 had been delivered and the response was 31 which was disappointing. Out of the 31 returns, 6 respondents did not want any action to be taken, however, Cllr Stevens felt that side of the village had been neglected, yet probably had the highest population of children. Cllr Stevens had met with Wiltshire Council to discuss the original proposal of a licence which would be held for 6 years, 11 months meaning they would never come into the ownership of the Parish Council. The implications of this would be the doubling of the insurance premium and cost of weekly inspections as it would be too arduous for councillors to do.

Cllr Stevens had personally inspected all the sites.

Bailey Close: one large piece of wooden equipment unsafe and fenced off

Cossor Road: equipment filthy dirty

Little Island: equipment in bad condition and should be removed

Netherleaze: nicest area with little work required

Silver Road: only issue is drainage as the area floods, trenches have been dug to drain water

Cllr Stevens suggested the way forward was not to commit the Parish Council into taking on all five sites but to work in partnership with Wiltshire Council, involving no formal commitment. Wiltshire Council would continue to insure and inspect the sites, but the Parish Council would be responsible for maintenance for the sites chosen, which would cost approximately £5,000 in 2018/19.

Bailey Close: remove equipment and use as a kickabout area in the future

Cossor Road: community clean

Little Island: not consider under any circumstances

Netherleaze: lots of potential, new child seats, painting

Silver Road: can be left for time being

Cllr Stevens proposed to enter into a partnership with Wiltshire Council on the play areas as stated above, seconded Cllr Mrs Hunt, 14 for, 1 abstention.

k) **Angela Yeates Memorial Ground and Youth Football ground:** Cllr Ford was not present to report. Mr Parks said the grounds were all tidy.

l) **Litter:** Cllr Smith was not aware of any issues.

m) **Toilets:** Cllr Stevens explained the project was moving forward with one quotation outstanding. It was hoped to approve the project at Full Council.

n) **Car Parks:** Cllr Mrs Hunt advised that the council had been approached by the Tourism Partnership as to whether the Bouverie Hall car park could be suggested as a coach park. Unfortunately they had required a quick answer so the request was declined but it may be considered at some point in the future. Cllr Stevens had noted the Salisbury Reds buses were regularly parking up in front of the public toilets and suggested a planter could be placed, Cllr Eyles would speak with the supervisor first.

o) **White Horse:** Cllr Giles noted the fence repair had not yet taken place, neither had the regular maintenance with a new contractor. Cllr Stevens confirmed the fencing would be completed before Christmas.

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

Tenders had been requested for the priority one tree works with four contractors having been invited, but only two responding. Cllr Eyles proposed that Conservation Contractors be awarded the contract in this instance, seconded Cllr Deck, all in favour.

7. PARISH STEWARD: Cllr Eyles had met with the Highways Engineer, Mr Dobson, to discuss the outstanding jobs list. Works to rectify the flooding at the River Street crossing and some white lining would be completed in this financial year. The other jobs would be considered but unlikely to be finished. Cllr Stevens had asked for a quotation from Dyno-Rod to jet the blocked drain in the Bouverie Hall car park which was £550. As this had been promised by previous Wiltshire Council officers, Cllr Eyles had requested again for this to be done. It was also confirmed that Wiltshire Council would not purchase signage for the disabled toilet facility at the library.

8. GARDEN COMPETITION: Cllr Kerry Pycroft had met with Cllr Mrs Carmichael-Owen, Cllr Eyles and Cllr Morris to discuss revitalising the annual garden competition and introduce some new categories. This could include a Best Public Space category looked after by residents or volunteers and a Best Enhancement of a Public Space award. Additional categories could include the Most Improved garden, Best Large garden and Best Small garden. The Best Kept Allotment would be joined by a Best Kept Allotment Shed of the year. All these ideas would be progressed in the new year. Cllr Stevens suggested a young person's category.

9. CORRESPONDENCE: None.

10. ITEMS FOR THE MESSENGER: Items to Cllr Mrs Stevens before 10th January. Cllr Carder mentioned the recent article in the Messenger that made no reference to the Parish Council as the main financial sponsor of the newsletter.

11. ANY FULL COUNCIL INFORMATION AND ACTION: None.

12. ITEMS VIA THE CLERK: The clerk reminded members to bring refreshments to next week's Full Council meeting.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____