

PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 4th APRIL 2018
IN THE PARISH OFFICE, BOUVERIE HALL, PEWSEY

PRESENT: Cllr Eyles (Chairman), Cllr Ford, Cllrs Mrs Carmichael-Owen, Mrs Dalrymple, Ann Hogg, Mrs Hughes, Mrs Hunt, Mrs Stevens, Cllrs Carder, Deck, Hagan, Haskell, McGarry, Morris, Smithers, Stephens and Stevens.

IN ATTENDANCE: Alison Kent (Clerk), Mr Jeffery (Pewsey Vale Youth Football Club), Mr Park (Pewsey Vale Rugby Club) and Mrs Wilson (BMX Group).

1. APOLOGIES: Cllrs Kerry Pycroft, Cllr Giles and Smith. Apologies were also received from Mr Asbury (Pewsey Heritage Centre).

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: All being in agreement the minutes of the meeting held on 7th February 2018 were signed as a true record by the Chairman.

4. TENANT CLUB REPORTS:

a) Bowls Club: There was no representative present to report.

b) Football Club: Cllr Stephens advised the team was doing well, being currently placed 4th in the league. There were problems with vandalism again in the dugouts and lots of broken glass. The police had been informed on each occasion. Cllr Eyles asked for club members to be reminded to shut the gates after use, Cllr Mrs Hunt suggested a notice could be put on the gate as a reminder.

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

d) Rugby Club: Mr Parks advised the senior team were doing well in division one and a new coach had been taken on. Fundraising was going reasonably well with the clubhouse progressing with recently awarded grants of £30,000. The RFU had turned down a funding application. Mr Park apologised for not informing the Parish Council due to the short notice, of the use of the car park facilities by Network Rail who were undertaking some nearby work. They had left the site tidy, not created any noise and given a donation to the club. Cllr Eyles asked whether the Angela Yeates Management Committee would meet, Mr Park felt that the lease signing meeting was sufficient to satisfy the Parish Council's requirements but would arrange a meeting in the near future.

e) Youth Football Club: Mr Jeffery introduced himself as the new chairman of the club. All teams were doing relatively well. With the U13s teams upwards it becomes more competitive. There were a few issues with the clubhouse being sorted with Wiltshire Council. The chain had been put back across the top of the field to stop vehicles going on as damage had been caused which had been disappointing after Mr Murton and Mr Amor had received awards.

f) BMX Group: Mrs Wilson was not sure when the site would be open as there was tidying and maintenance to do before the RoSPA inspection. Members of the group had been informed to provide help once it had dried out. Minor trees works had been done by Cllr Deck and Cllr Eyles.

g) Heritage Centre: Mr Asbury had sent a report which had been circulated to all members.

5. OTHER REPORTS:

a) **Cemetery and Chapel:** Cllr Ford reported the cemetery looked fine and the work had been ordered for the chapel.

b) **Footpaths:** Cllr Haskell had walked some of the footpaths but all were very wet due to the weather. The towpath from Pains Bridge to the Wharf was the worst. The path between Sharcott and up towards the school, in the corner where there is rubble were lots of poo bags just thrown about which looked awful. The Modification Order that was considered on 22nd March was voted

in favour of the walkers and would now go forward to the Secretary of State. The minutes of that meeting were available on the Wiltshire Council website.

c) **Street Lights:** Cllr Deck had nothing to report.

d) **Seats:** Cllr Stephens had not yet checked them due to the weather. Seats at Swan Corner and Way's Way were in disrepair.

e) **Allotments:**

i) **Allotment Inspection:** Bert's Meadow: Cllr Morris had done an initial inspection and sent to the clerk with suggestions for rewording the letters that are sent out to tenants.

ii) **Allotment Inspection:** Sports Centre: Cllr Ford advised there was a vacant plot in the middle.

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 reported two trees had blown over in the Grove, probably due to the level of rain loosening up the roots. Contractors would be needed to clear away due to the amount of brush. He had informed the clerk that a tree which had fallen was now partly underneath the railway bridge on Hollybush Lane.

g) **Scotchel:** Cllr Ford had nothing to report apart from it being very muddy.

h) **River Avon/Kennet & Avon Canal:** Cllr Kerry Pycroft had reported that she had cleared out rubbish from the river which appeared to be the contents of a wheelie bin that had been emptied. She had emailed the Canals and Rivers Trust about the state of the towpath.

i) **Recreation Ground and Rectory Grove:** Cllr Mrs Hunt had received several compliments about the new paths and new bins. The damaged bin would be repaired and put into storage. Cllr Eyles had received a request for a litter bin at Ball Corner which he proposed, seconded by Cllr Deck, all in favour.

j) **Play Areas:**

Broadfields: Cllr Ford reported all was fine.

Aston Close: Cllr Mrs Carmichael-Owen all was OK, with her repair still in place. Cllr Eyles had noticed dog mess within the site.

Easterton Lane: Cllr Mrs Hunt reported all was fine.

Broomcroft Road: Cllr Kerry Pycroft had reported that the area was generally fine although molehills were still there. She would continue to flatten them. She noted the play equipment needed a spring clean. The contractors had been asked not to cut the bank from April onwards.

Cllr Steven wished to join the Zurich inspector on his play area visit, which the clerk would arrange. Cllr Mrs Carmichael-Owen advised the Bee Road launch would take place on 16th April. Cllr Ford asked for an update on the Wiltshire Council owned play areas, Cllr Stevens would progress the project once the weather improves. Cllr Haskell advised that volunteers had come forward to help clean the equipment.

k) **Angela Yeates Memorial Ground and Youth Football ground:** Cllr Ford reported the grounds looked fine. There was a large bough on the edge of the youth football field which Cllr Eyles would check upon.

l) **Litter:** Cllr Smith was not present but had reported an increase in the level of litter. Cllr Morris had received compliments from visitors on how clean the village was which was nice to hear. Cllr Haskell had noted the large wheelie bin at the fire station used by the litter pickers and volunteers. He did not know whether this was now a chargeable service, the clerk would investigate.

m) **Toilets:** Cllr Stevens had nothing to report.

n) **Car Parks:** Cllr Mrs Hunt advised that technically the lease had expired on 1st April, however, a new draft was expected in the next few days.

o) **White Horse:** Cllr Giles was not present but had met with the contractor and was happy with the progress being made.

6. FINANCE: Cllr Mrs Hughes proposed the list of cheques for acceptance, seconded Cllr Morris, all in favour. Cllr Haskell mentioned he would raise again later in the year about nil rates on business premises. The repairs to the Scotchel and Grove footpaths would come from the bequest fund. Cllr Eyles would meet on site with the contractor about the tree near football club. There were no quotations for acceptance.

7. PARISH STEWARD: Cllr Eyles advised the stewards were on fix and find pothole duty until the end of April and then the local steward was on holiday. The annual highways meeting would take place on 23rd May at Kennet House. No further action had taken place at Dursden Lane, with Wiltshire Council now expected to enforce regulations on the landowner. Cllr Mrs Hunt commented that the trench that had been dug when the Ball Road water pooling had occurred, had now sunk and should be reported.

Cllr Smithers asked whether the Parish Council would comment on the Traffic Regulation Order consultation from Wiltshire Council, this would be considered at Full Council.

8. ANNUAL INCREASES: Cllr Mrs Hughes advised that the RPI as at November 2017 was 3.9% and proposed that this increase be applied to the Litter Picker salary, Grounds Maintenance contract and Burial and Memorial fees, seconded Cllr McGarry, all in favour. Cllr Eyles thanked those who had assisted with litter clearance whilst the pickers were away.

9. GARDEN COMPETITION: Cllr Kerry Pycroft was not present but had reported that posters for the allotment and shed competitions had been finalised, the Garden Competition details would be placed in the Messenger with a closing date of 27th July and a letter to the businesses would be delivered in the next few weeks.

10. CORRESPONDENCE: None.

11. ITEMS FOR THE MESSENGER: Items should be sent to Cllr Mrs Stevens before 10th April. Cllr Deck and Cllr Haskell had sent information, car boot sale on 13th May, litter, dog mess, the Bee Road initiative, the success of the Community Morning and award winners. Also, the defibrillator instructions and sites leaflet could be delivered at the same time.

12. ANY FULL COUNCIL INFORMATION AND ACTION: Cllr Morris advised there was a rail users group meeting on 6th April, 7pm in the Bouverie Hall. They were trying to generate a Pewsey group and he would represent the Parish Council.

13. ITEMS VIA THE CLERK: There was a car boot sale on Sunday 8th April.

There being no further business the Chairman moved the meeting into confidential session.

PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL
CONFIDENTIAL ITEM DISCUSED AT ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
4th APRIL 2018

Public toilets

Cllr Stevens provided an update on the delay with refurbishment of the public toilets. An email had been received from the contractor with recommendations for extras to which the Parish Council had replied. Although this was not unusual within the construction trade, this was not an area the Council was familiar with. This would be brought back to Full Council.

The Council wished Cllr Carder a Happy 85th Birthday which he would celebrate the following day.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.02pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____