

Pebworth Parish Council Annual Report 2014- 2015

This has been another busy year the parish Council with lots going on.

The Honeybourne road saga came to a disappointing conclusion. Despite going through all the hoops As advised by Wychavon and seemingly having a very strong case we were informed that they would not proceed with the naming of the road and so it remains unresolved. We were extremely disappointed by this decision after all the work done to achieve what we were led to believe would be a successful outcome.

The Neighbourhood plan has proved to be equally unrewarding despite all the hard work done by the NHP group the process has ground to a halt. The 2 main reasons for this are the delays in the South Worcestershire development plan and the outline planning granted for 380 houses on the south eastern corner of the parish. The Council decided to suspend the group until after the election for the new Council to consider if there is enough interest to rethink the plan.

There has been some progress on the recreation field off the Honeybourne Road. We had a meeting with a Wychavon officer concerning 106 and new homes bonus funding and discovered that the allotments could not be funded with 106 money. The BMX track was unlikely to get very good support for funding so with that and the high cost of planning application we decided to rethink the plans. The allotments are now up and running funded so far from Parish Council money. There are 10 plots in total and 5 have been taken up. That leaves 5 available to let which can be let as half plots if required. The plot sizes are 14X13 meters and £20 per annum.

For the rest of the field we are considering land drainage, perimeter running track, outside table tennis and a multi use games area. The running track may be simply marking a circuit with distance way markers to see how much use it gets before deciding on any surface work.

The MUGA is an area of approximately 20 meters by 30 meters with a tarmac surface. Fenced all round with football goals and basketball nets at each end and possibly netball nets on the sides. The table tennis would probably be sited just outside the MUGA. We are awaiting quotes to see what cost are and if they fit the funding available.

The Village Hall have taken the management of the project to provide changing and shower facilities within the Village Hall.

The Pebworth in Bloom group organised and set up the memorial area in the corner near the Masons Arms in memory of local men that lost their live in the 1914-1918 First World War. Funded from the 106 arts money.

We are also pursuing funding available for a bus shelter opposite the Masons Arms.

The northern boundary fence on the Close has been replaced. Carla Homes gave the council £5000 towards flood alleviation measures and we have used some of that money to clear the brook adjacent to The Close from Chapel Road to the culvert under Manor Farm. Roof top Housing association paid 50% of the cost to public right of way bridge. The remainder of the money is ring fenced to maintain the brook annually.

Thanks to continuing pressure from our District and County Councillor Alastair Adams flood alleviation schemes are progressing particularly in the Broadmarston area.

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Much needed restoration work has been done on the eastern boundary of the cemetery. Removal of the disused shed and dilapidated fence and levelling of the surface. The fence has been replaced with new wooden panels the cost of which was shared with the adjacent property owner.

This year the precept has been set at £27000. With the new houses to share payments this represents an increase of just 0.1%.

The Council continues to support the Pebworth in bloom group and their army of volunteers making our Village an even better place to live.

The developments of Wesley Gardens and Orchard Close are now finished and occupied. Many of the residents have already become valued members of our community contributing too many of the events going on in the village.

This year is the end of the Councils tenure of 4 years and with 8 applicants for 7 vacancies we will be having an election on the 7th May. As Chairman for those 4 years I would like to say thank you to all Councillors for their diligence and hard work we have had no passengers all have contributed. I make particular note of Councillor June Haycock who is not standing for re-election after serving for 8 years. On behalf of the Council I would also like to pass on our thanks to the Clerk Mr. John Stedman for all the hard work and time which I am sure is in excess of his paid time that he spends on behalf the Parish.

Chairman:
Cllr John Hyde