

# PEOPLETON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September @7.30pm via zoom

1. **Election of Chair.** Cllr Mason was elected as chair, proposed by Cllr Phillips, and seconded by Cllr Wall. Acceptance of office to be signed
2. **Election of Vice Chair.** Cllr Phillips was elected as Vice chair, proposed by Cllr Mason and seconded by Cllr Smith
3. **Public question time:** Added as aide memoire
4. **Members and Officers present:** Cllrs Mason (Chair) Phillips, Wall, Bailey, Smith, Baxter & Hennerley  
In attendance: Clerk, CCllr Adams, DCllr Robinson & 3 residents
5. **Apologies:** None
6. **Declarations of Interest:** None  
Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests.  
To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in terms on the agenda and their nature  
To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature  
Written requests for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) are to be with the clerk at least four clear days prior to a meeting  
Councillors who have declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, or an Other Disclosable Interest which falls within the terms of paragraph 12(4) (b) of the code of conduct, must leave the room for the relevant items.
7. **Standing orders & Code of Conduct** was adopted by all Cllrs
8. **Members were appointed to the following working groups:**  
Staff working Group: Cllrs Mason, Phillips and Wall  
Planning committee: Cllr Smith to lead all Cllrs to join
9. **The following documents were adopted by the Parish Council:** Financial regulations, Risk assessment, Asset Register and Insurance Requirements (Cllr Bailey noted a change in the risk assessment, Clerk to amend)
10. **Minutes:** Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting May 2019 and ordinary meeting 8<sup>th</sup> July 2020 were approved as true and accurate
11. **Councillors were appointed to the following roles:**

Village Trust	LB
Village shop	TM
PACT	PH
Lengthsman	LB
Footpaths	LB
Highway & Byways issues	LB
New Residents welcome pack	TM
Website	PH
Flood Alleviation Group	DW
12. **District Councillors' report:**

Firstly, thank you to Cllr Adams for his support in the role and welcome Cllr Mason to the role of Chair at Peopleton.

The Clerk has circulated some updates and I would like to draw your attention to those concerning proposed Government's white papers for this Autumn. The first is on proposals for Devolution and the handing down of powers to local government with potentially an enhanced role for town & parish councils in its 'levelling up agenda'.

Also are two proposals on Planning and changes to the current planning system with a focus on streamlining & modernising the planning process. This raises concern that the local voice could be taken away from the planning process and with it the benefit of local knowledge and has raised much consternation at District level. The second is on changes to the recommended standard method for calculating the housing requirement in a local plan such as our SWDP Review .This could have consequences for Wychavon as the proposals suggest

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nearly a doubling of numbers so may not be in our favour. Our SWDP consultation on the preferred options has fallen behind and is now more likely to go public next October. Finally Wychavon have set up a Community Recovery fund to help local communities and our local economy recover. The Upton Snodsbury ward has a £500 allocation however there is strict guidelines to apply.

## 13. County Councillors report

There is a major push currently on encouraging young people into work through apprenticeship schemes with financial incentives for businesses to do so. There is also work behind the scenes to try and get day centres back open again although this needs to be done with care as many of the people that use them are very vulnerable. With regards the white papers and devolution of government Cllr Adams does not see this as an urgent matter yet but will need to see how it moves forward.

## 14. Planning

- It was noted that a planning application had been submitted for dwellings at the Mill but the Parish Council had not been consulted. Cllr Smith to send Cllrs a link and it was proposed that a planning meeting with the committee be organised to discuss the application on 23<sup>rd</sup> September.
- Proposed new planning laws- A response on behalf of the Parish Council is to be compiled during a meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> September and this is also to be sent to Nalc and Nigel Huddleston

## 15. Progress reports:

### a) Village trust

No income at present due to the effects of Covid-19 however there are still basic costs to cover such as cleaning. The play area is making good progress and would like to thank Steve Smith as Chairman for doing a great job.

### b) Village Shop

The shop is back to normal working hours now however would like to continue opening on Bank Holiday Mondays to ensure there is a milk delivery. Turnover is down from the end of June and so please continue to encourage people to use the shop when they can.

### c) Highways

Manhole cover saying 'not BT' still has not been fixed and is sunken- Clerk has reported twice but will email highways and copy in Cllr Adams. Also ongoing issue with foul drainage smell coming from opposite the shop, needs Highways and Severn Trent onsite to resolve- Clerk to email again chasing answers. Cllr Bailey has liaised with the Housing association with regards the height of trees in the middle of the village adjacent to properties, awaiting arboriculturists report back.

Cllr Mason has enquired to highways as to whether some land owned by the housing association opposite the shop could possibly be turned into a layby for visitors to the shop, possibly investigate ongoing.

### d) Welcome Pack

This needs updating-put on hold until May 2021- can everyone just make Cllr Mason aware if they see or know of new people moving into the village so that one can be delivered as some people may be missed

### e) Website

All up to date- Clerk to ensure dates of upcoming meetings are advertised on the website

### f) Flooding

To be kept as a priority ongoing- Working party to discuss the flood alleviation report and possible options on 23<sup>rd</sup> September for Cllrs. Clerk to thank Parish Lands for funding the report.

## 16. Finance

- a) The Bank balance at 21/08/2020 was:
- |                    |            |
|--------------------|------------|
| Treasurers Account | £52,003.62 |
| Business Instant   | £7,304.01  |

- b) All Cllrs agreed to sign up to internet banking via Lloyds whereby payments are set by the Clerk and authorised online by two signatories. Clerk to send dates to signatories to meet at Lloyds bank to set up the online banking process

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The following payments were approved-

Lengthsman July	£150
Lengthsman August	£118
Limebridge Mowing July	£324
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BWB Consultants	£2190
Clerks salary	£398.84
Clerks expenses	£43.17
PATA Payroll	£18.00
Zoom subscription	£46

## 17. Local Bus Service

Cllr Mason attended a meeting with Madeleine Sumner from Wychavon to try and co-ordinate a demand led bus service from Peopleton for three months in order to show demand for transport in the village. If successful after this period it may be possible to get a regular bus route. Through investigation and help from parishioner Sue Taylor the following was discussed:

Bus to Pershore:

- It was agreed that the best day for this bus would be Friday getting passengers to Pershore for about 10.30 and leaving Pershore at 12.30.
- A possible route could be for the bus to leave Pershore at 9.30 and going to Upton Snodsbury, Broughton Hackett, Churchill, While Ladies Aston, Peopleton, Drakes Broughton, Wadborough and into Pershore.

Bus to Worcester:

- It was agreed that Tuesday would be the best day for this service. The aim would be to get passengers to Worcester at about 10.30 and leave at 1.30
- The main pick-up points would be Peopleton and Drakes Broughton but it could also pick up passengers in Wadborough, While Ladies Aston, and Sneachill (Nightingale).

General Points

- The services would be Demand-Responsive Community Buses. Passengers would need to phone in on the previous day or, possibly, early on the day of the service to book a ride.
- The service providers would be Pershore Volunteer Centre and Worcester Wheels.
- The fares might be £3 for a single journey, £5 return. Those with bus passes could get £1 off each journey.

Progress is being made and Cllr Adams agreed that he would help using his divisional funds to try and make up any financial shortfalls in revenue

18. **Correspondence for Information:** None

19. **Future agenda items and reports:**

- Risk assessment for November meeting
- Flooding and planning working party 23<sup>rd</sup> September

20. **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021** will be the date set for the next Annual Parish Council Meeting

..... **Signed Chair**

.....**Date**

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## AIDE MEMOIRE NOT FOR NOTICEBOARD

### Open Session

- A parishioner enquired as to the ongoing foul smell coming from the corner of Monks Way as referred to in Highways report- Clerk to chase
- A parishioner enquired as to the trees in the middle of the village hanging over properties- Cllrs to awaiting feedback from Highways Association

### Confidential matter

- The clerk on pay scale 21 is now due a pay increase from 1<sup>st</sup> September with a new pay rate awarded of £13.74 per hour as agreed by Cllrs Mason, Phillips and Wall
- Cllrs agreed to increase the Clerks hours from 15 per month to 16 per month as agreed by Cllrs Mason, Phillips and Wall
- The Clerk is due a backdated pay rise of 2.75% on existing salary from 1<sup>st</sup> April which totals £23 as agreed by Cllrs

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