

# PEOPLETON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 7.30pm in Peopleton Village Hall

1. **Members and Officers present:** Cllrs Mason (Chairman) Phillips, Bailey, Smith, Wall, Hennerley, Whittingham, Darby, Baxter, District and County Cllr Robinson. Two members of the public attended.
2. **Apologies:** None
3. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Mason declared an interest in item 11.

### Public Question Time

The time allocated is at the discretion of the council/chairman. Residents are invited to give their views and question the parish council on issues on this agenda or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the chairman. Members of the public may not take part in the parish council meeting itself. This period is not part of the formal meeting; brief notes will be appended to the minutes as an aide memoire.

4. **Minutes:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021 were approved as true and correct.
5. **County & District Councillors report:**

I hope you have all enjoyed your brief summer break as we now approach Autumn, and the children go back to school

Latest Coronavirus update:

The infection rate in our district is currently at 208 cases per 100,000. (99 of which are over60) This has risen by 2% in the last 7 days (information correct as of 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021). In Worcestershire as a whole there have been 1,661 confirmed cases in the last week. Communications will focus on continuing to encourage people to get vaccinated reminding people of the basic precautions they can take to protect themselves and others. View the latest infection rate on the Coronavirus dashboard. Yesterday (26 August), Public Health England (PHE) published its latest weekly COVID-19 vaccine surveillance report. The latest estimates suggest that 105,900 deaths and 24,088,000 infections have been prevented as a result of the COVID-19 vaccination programme, up to 20 August. The estimate was calculated by comparing the estimated impact of vaccination on infection and mortality against a worst-case scenario where no vaccines and no non-pharmaceutical interventions were in place to reduce infections and mortality.

### Afghanistan Resettlement Scheme

There are 2 schemes relating to Afghan resettlement to the UK:

1. The Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP) for Locally Employed Staff (LES) in Afghanistan. This scheme is designed to support those Afghan nationals who have worked with our forces e.g., interpreters. This scheme was launched in April 2021.
2. The Afghan Citizen Resettlement Scheme (ACRS). This was the scheme that was announced last week and which is designed to welcome 5,000 vulnerable Afghans into the UK in the first year of the scheme and 20,000 over the longer term. Further guidance on this scheme is still awaited.

Locally, the current Afghan resettlement scheme is being co-ordinated by Worcestershire County Council and this will be the same for ACRS. The County Council will work closely with the West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership who are delivering this programme for the West Midlands on behalf of the Government. The County Council will consider wider support arrangements for Afghan arrivals, co-ordinate financial support from Government and donations from communities.

As non-housing stock councils we are working with our housing association partners and private landlords to identify accommodation. Commitment has been sought from both Platform and Rooftop to begin to identify suitable family sized accommodation within our districts that could be appropriate, and both have responded positively to these requests. In addition, we will be working with voluntary groups in due course to help them with their work supporting new arrivals and getting access to funding.

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The following interesting article was published yesterday in the Droitwich Standard and raises differences between our aim to be greener and the desire to be tidy. 'THE COUNTY's grass cutting programme has finished for the year with more than 8,000 km of grass being chopped – the equivalent distance from Worcestershire to Brazil. The county has more than 6million metres of rural verges and in excess of 320,000m2 of central reservations in place across the county. When the visibility splays and road junctions are cut back, only one metre or two metres of grass is now cut back from the carriageway, leaving significant uncut areas available for wildlife. Coun. Alan Amos, cabinet member for Highways and Transport, said: "Although our primary duty with regards to roadside verges is one of safety, we have made a pledge to support the recovery of pollinator populations within Worcestershire and this includes the way we now manage the sites.

"There are 37 roadside verge Nature Reserves designated for rare or special species and habitats across our county and all sites now receive a bespoke approach to ensure protected or rare species are fully considered when it comes to maintenance." During the summer months, the roadsides grow very quickly and there is a statutory duty to maintain them and to make sure the road network is safe.

However, the changes implemented over the past six years have seen significant improvement to biodiversity opportunities on Worcestershire's network.'

Another clue that summer is nearly over is a request I received today that on the 15<sup>th</sup> October WCC's Winter Service will be launched. They are currently programming the refill of the County's grit bins so if you have any that are damaged so long as they are in regular use they will replace them. Your clerk can then report them plus any that need re filling.

## District Issues:

I hope you have all received your Wychavon magazine and the informative Waste reduction & recycling guide. Our Annual Residents survey has gone live and is available on [www.wychavon.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.wychavon.gov.uk/consultations) until midnight on 3rd October. Last year we received 1,280 responses, the feedback from which all helps shape and improve our services. Uniquely this year it will also look at our response and ongoing recovery to the Covid-19 pandemic.

For noting my new County e mail address is LRobinson2@worcestershire.gov.uk

## 6. Planning: The following applications were considered between meetings:

<a href="#">21/01700/CU</a>	Jim Crow Corner Norchard Lane Peopleton Pershore WR10 2ED	Change of use of redundant agricultural building to visitor accommodation.	Pending Decision
<a href="#">21/01859/HP</a>	Harahan Court Main Street Peopleton Pershore WR10 2EA	Proposed single storey rear extension along with internal alterations	Pending Decision
<a href="#">21/01526/HP</a>	6 Monks Way Peopleton Pershore WR10 2EH	Addition of front porch	Application Approved
<a href="#">21/01346/HP</a>	8 Stonecroft Cottage Main Street Peopleton WR10 2EA	Erection of porch	Application Approved
<a href="#">21/01132/FUL</a>	Land At (Os 9392 5017) Peopleton	New farm access track	Application Refused

## 7. Progress reports:

### a) Chairman's- TM

Following on from the sad death of John Lashley Cllr Mason expressed his thanks for all that John did for the village in a letter to John's wife Sue. There has since been a Parish Lands meeting whereby Kate Saint has joined the committee and Mike James wishes to stand down.

Welcome leaflet still to be updated but is in progress.

Community speed watch is still in progress with David Canvin being the organiser.

Clerk's appraisal is due and will conduct this month alongside Cllr's Wall and Phillips.

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## b) Village Trust- LB

Hall bookings are very busy including two weddings which is good news, and the finances are all good currently. The cleaner is sadly leaving at the end of November and so there is a vacancy to fill and there is some painting planned for the south side of the Hall in October.

Mouse racing in October is cancelled but the Autumn Show was a great success with a record turnover, thanks to all involved.

The Play Area is proving popular with more visitors from outside the village coming to visit, some comments have been received regarding the long grass but it was always the plan to keep some long grass and wild flowers for contrast.

## c) Village shop-TM

Encouraging people to shop locally and reduce their food miles currently as well as looking for more volunteers-please contact Jenny if interested and hours can be very flexible to suit.

## d) PACT- PH

Nothing to report.

## e) Lengthsman-LB

All fine, some grit is required for the winter- Clerk to order and state Cllr Bailey as the contact for delivery.

## f) Footpaths- LB

Few repairs due to the footbridge.

## g) Highways & Byways issues- LB

Manhole cover still requires remedial work- Clerk to forward details to Cllr Robinson.

## h) Flooding- DW

As covered in public question time.

Clerk to follow up on date from Martyn Cross to inspect the culvert in the village.

## 8. Finance

### a) Update on the budget/ Bank balance as of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021

Treasurers Account       £13,565.52 (£6,000 community bus funds held)

Business Instant Account   £10,008.90

### b) The following payments were approved for the Clerk to pay-

<b>Lengthsman July</b>	<b>£162</b>
<b>Lengthsman August</b>	<b>£150</b>
<b>Clerk's salary</b>	<b>£432.62</b>
<b>Clerk's expenses</b>	<b>£24.70</b>
<b>PATA Payroll</b>	<b>£18.40</b>
<b>HMRC Clerk tax</b>	<b>£36.60</b>
<b>Limebridge July</b>	<b>£324</b>
<b>Limebridge August</b>	<b>£660</b>
<b>Worcester Wheels</b>	<b>£350</b>
<b>Pershore Volunteer Centre</b>	<b>£1260</b>
<b>PKF Littlejohn (finance audit)</b>	<b>£480</b>

## 9. Asset of Community Value, The Crown Pub

All Cllrs agreed that the application for retaining The Crown as an asset of community value should be re-submitted before 19<sup>th</sup> October- Clerk to action.

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## 10. Village Bus service

The plan is to keep the current two services running using the funds generated through community crowd funding until the end of March, when if still proving popular the hope is County Council will re-issue the routes. Important to therefore keep numbers up and publicity high so locals and parishioners know of the services and to use them.

## 11. Allotment's update

Cllr Whittingham reported that Sam Lole has expressed that she would only currently be interested in exploring an annual lease for use of her lands as allotments which unfortunately would not be suitable therefore other options need to be explored. Cllr Mason suggested one possibility might be the small strip of land behind Main Street but expressed an interest in this option as it was behind his own property. Cllr Mason to speak with landowner.

## 12. Flood liaison group

Cllr Darby expressed that as the flooding historically in Peopleton is not of the type that causes immediate threat to life it is not thought an emergency plan would be required and the current flood working group is adequate for the village needs- as agreed by Cllr Wall and all others.

## 13. Peopleton Parish Lands

Cllr Mason reported that Mike James wished to stand down as a member of the Parish Lands and proposed Paul Darby as a replacement, this was seconded by Cllr Wall.

## 14. Correspondence for Information:

Correspondence from Martyn Cross covered in Public question time

## 15. Future agenda items and reports: None

## 16. Date of next meeting: To confirm the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 7:30pm.

Signed .....

Dated.....

Future meetings

January	12/01/22
March	09/03/22
May	11/05/22

## AIDE MEMOIRE

One parishioner expressed how numerous ditches in the village were vastly overgrown with weeds, especially the one next to the pumping station and although they are due to be inspected in Autumn this works needs doing sooner- Clerk to chase date. They also wanted to express their thanks for the Autumn Show which was enjoyed by everyone.

One parishioner expressed concern that a flood report was conducted by BWB last year as funded by Parish Lands but no action has been taken from the report. They suggested the use of 'flood storage lands' in the report should be considered if and when landowners are in agreement. They also warned of the possibility of any future planning applications for developments. in the village and how this could greatly exacerbate the flooding issues