

PEOPLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9th March 2022 at 7.30pm in Peopleton Village Hall

1. **Members and Officers present:** Cllrs Mason (Chairman) Bailey, Wall, Smith, Whittingham, Darby, Baxter, District and County Cllr Robinson. 7 members of the public attended.
2. **Apologies:** Cllrs Hennerley and Phillips sent their apologies
3. **Declarations of Interest:**

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 12th January 2022 were approved as true and correct, as proposed by Cllr Mason and seconded by Cllr Wall.

5. County & District Councillors report:

Covid update:

The infection rate in our District is on a downward trend but remains above the Worcestershire and England average, 35 to 59 year olds are seeing the highest infection rates.

There is a suggestion from government that we are going to have to 'learn to live with Covid'. The advice will still be to stay at home if you test positive. From the 1st April there will be an end to free testing except for the most vulnerable and there will be no need for Covid virus certification. There will be continued protection including targeted vaccines, vulnerable adults with suppressed immunity have been offered a further booster.

The message given is 'to continue protecting ourselves and others by moving to personal responsibility without losing our liberties.'

WDC are pleased to announce that they are planning to restart their bulky waste service an imminent media release will be issued next week.

WCC approved their annual budget last week at Full Council. The total proposed is £373.119million with around £250m. earmarked to fund Adult & Community services and to improve the outcomes of children and young people in Worcestershire. There is an extra £25m. earmarked for adult & children's care.

Our percentage of your Council tax remains one of the lowest in the Country. Wychavon froze their Council tax for the fifth year running.

Last month in the space of three days, WCC had to deal with three high incident storms which left considerable damage to properties. They left a legacy of flooding from high tides on the Severn Estuary combined with heavy rainfall. Flood defences were in place in Upton and Bewdley with many road closures notably in Worcester.

Many residents are asking us how they can help people affected by the war in Ukraine. We have set up a page on our website to try and pull the various appeals for donations going on into one place.

Our Community Development team has been asked to talk to the Voluntary and Community Sector to support the efforts of our communities. The Ukrainian flag will also be flown outside the Civic Centre from next week.

www.wychavon.gov.uk/support-for-Ukraine. The Charity Commission and Fundraising Regulator have urged the public to 'give safely' to registered charities helping and supporting those affected by the invasion of Ukraine.

We encourage people who want to give to visit the Disasters Emergency Committee website:

<https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/ukraine-humanitarian-appeal>.

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

W/22/00274/HP	2 St Nicholas Road Peopleton Pershore WR10 2EN	Removal of hedge and erection of replacement boundary fence	No Objections
-------------------------------	---	--	------------------

PEOPLETON PARISH COUNCIL

7. Progress reports:

a) Chairman's- TM

Cllr Mason received an email from a resident concerned about land being churned up by 4x4 users near Barrels Bridge which he advised to report to the Police and note car registration numbers if possible. Several other parishioners enquired about a car parked outside High House which was affecting drivers visibility, Cllr Mason spoke with the car owner who agreed to park the vehicle further from the junction and look at altering the driveway.

An invoice has been received for membership to Pershore Volunteer Centre which includes discounted photocopying, but it was agreed by all Cllrs to not become a member this year due to little use.

Cllr Mason thanked Cllrs Wall, Bailey and Robinson alongside Steve Pike, Libby and Rob Adams for all their efforts with helping to conserve the trees on Lomax Field.

The welcome leaflet is now complete apart from a couple of corrections, and an email was received from Wychavon Games which has been passed to Kate Saint who is organising any teams from Peopleton.

b) Village Trust- LB

Hall bookings are successful with most days booked up and there has been a number of working parties to help keep the outside area clear and tidy.

Cllr Bailey shared the sad news of John Sargeant passing and expressed how he will be sorely missed.

There is now new led lighting within the village hall installed and everyone is looking forward to Rugby Super Saturday on 19th March and organising the Pony and dog show on 15th May 2022.

c) Village shop-TM

There is a list of items that the shop is collecting which can then be passed on to the crisis in Ukraine.

d) PACT- PH

Nothing to report

e) Lengthsman-LB

Cllr Bailey reported that Steve Pike is doing an excellent job and there is to be a 15% increase in the lengthsman's budget for the coming year- Clerk to check when comms confirms this from Wychavon.

f) Footpaths- LB

Cllr Bailey thanked the lengthsman for putting up 'keep to footpath' signs.

g) Highways & Byways issues- LB

Cllr Bailey stated that after numerous efforts they have tried to get a closure on Green Lane due to damage from 4x4 usage but highways would not authorise this.

h) Flooding- DW

Cllr Wall passed on a request from a parishioner for the Parish Council to made aware of any works that are being undertaken by the drainage department so that they are aware in the future.

Cllr Wall has also been asked to join a panel on a meeting held by Community First to help rural community issues which he has agreed to on the 7th April and asked if any other Cllrs are able to join the meeting too.

Cllr Bailey highlighted that Martyn Cross from Wychavon had agreed to clear the ditch by February and all cllrs requested the Clerk follow up on dates.

A request as also made at the January meeting for the Clerk to contact the Environment Agency which she did but there has been no contact made back since- Clerk to follow up

8. Finance

a) Update on the budget/ Bank balance as of 1st March 2022

Treasurers Account	£11,129.19 (£3452 community bus funds held)
Business Instant Account	£10,309.40

PEOPLETON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Worcester Wheels (December)	£100.00 (paid 02/11/22)
Pershore Volunteer Centre (December)	£154.00 (paid 01/02/22)
Clerk's salary	£465.64
Clerk's expenses	£6.21
Clerk tax (cheque 874 to sign)	£130.60
Lengthsman January	£276.00
Lengthsman February	£TBC
Pata Payroll	£18.40
Pershore Volunteer Centre (January)	£206.00
Worcester Wheels (January)	£90.00
Les Bailey (Trees reimbursed)	£195.00 (paid 01/02/22)

c) Internal Auditor- All Cllrs agreed for Nigel Clay to undertake the audit for the end of year Parish Council accounts.

9. The Queens Jubilee Celebrations

Cllr Bailey confirmed that three trees have been purchased to plant within the park to commemorate the Queens Jubilee, they will be planted during the Picnic event in the park.

10. Local Government Boundary Commission proposals

Cllr Mason has spoken with several residents not in agreement with the proposed boundary changes and all Cllrs agreed to a joint response on behalf of the Parish Council objecting to the changes which Cllr Mason is going to draft and circulate.

Cllr Bailey encouraged all residents not happy to respond on an individual basis too as the more responses the better.

It was agreed by all Cllrs to organise a petition in the shop and more promotion of the issue on facebook which Steve Pike agreed to organise. Cllr Bailey agreed to organise leaflets to be delivered to all households in the village also, any responses need to be made by 21st March 2022.

11. Village Bus services update

Cllr Mason has been in contact with those who organise the Norton Connector as Worcester Wheels run this service also and so it's being discussed if the two services could work together to share the service and reduce costs. This may help to spread funds long enough until the Worcestershire CC Bus Improvement Plan is approved and we then hope that WCC will run the two bus services

12. Correspondence for Information

Clerk reminded Cllrs of the road closure of Peopleton Lane from 23rd March for re-surfacing and the meeting of Throckmorton Community liaison group which Cllr Bailey is attending.

13. Future agenda items and reports:

None discussed

14. **Date of next meeting:** To confirm the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 11th May 2022 at 7:00pm, this will be The Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting at approx. 7:30pm.

Signed

Dated.....

Future meetings

May 11/05/22

PEOPLETON PARISH COUNCIL

AIDE MEMOIRE

One parishioner attended concerned about the boundary changes and the issues of being moved to Drakes Broughton ward which has different demographics to Peopleton. Thy stated Peopleton is much more aligned to Upton Snodsbury which also has grade 2 listed buildings like Peopleton.

Another parishioner attended and was concerned with Lomax field and what was going on with the trees and the attempt to cut them down and whether ecological surveys had been carried out before the attempt to cut them down.

DRAFT