

## Honeybourne Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Council Meeting held at the Village Hall on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2012

**Present:** Cllrs. B Johnson (Chairman), A Attridge, A Simmons, T Probert, M Powell, S Kendrick, D Cowan, , G Clelland, D George, and S Matthews,

**In Attendance:** Mr J Stedman (Clerk) and seven members of the public.

**Apologies:** were accepted from Cllr P Brookes; business matters

### 150. Disclosures of Interests

To declare and disclose any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and to declare any other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature, if necessary.

#### **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:**

Cllr Michael Powell; matters related to the Cotswold View balancing pond

Cllr Sylvia Matthews: matters related to the Village Hall

**Other Disclosable Interests:** None declared

**Register of Interests:** The Chairman reminded members of the need to update their register of interests and that the Clerk has copies of all members register of interests if they wish to review them

**Dispensations:** The Clerk confirmed all members present had submitted written requests for disclosable pecuniary interests' dispensations to enable them to discuss the parish precept for the next four years. Under the Clerk's delegated power all dispensations were accepted and agreed.

151. The Chairman adjourned the meeting for public open forum.

#### **Public Open Forum;**

Mr Shorey's water manager/land surveyor informed the meeting of his proposals to create a flood alleviation system up-stream on the Gate Inn brook as part of the proposed development of the land at the rear of High Street. A large scale topographical survey was presented and the technical details given to the meeting. The scheme consists of three hectares of lagoons approximately one metre deep which would hold back some three million gallons of flood water. The lagoons would be dry and used for agriculture in normal condition. The Chairman thanked the surveyor for his presentation and the Council noted the proposed scheme.

#### **Ward Members Reports**

**Cllr Tom Bean:** Not in attendance

**Cllr Alistair Adams:** who arrived later in the meeting, gave his report which is appended to the minutes

The Chairman closed the adjournment at 7.50 and reconvened the meeting.

152. **Minutes:** Council agreed the wording of the minutes of the November ordinary Council meeting, and the Chairman signed them as a true record of the meeting.

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### 153. Clerk's Report on Matters in Progress:

- a) Station Road litter picking complaint – members reported the litter picking in Station Road was not satisfactory as considerable litter remained in the ditch and on the verge; the Clerk was requested to raise the matter again with WDC.
- b) PROW finger Sign at Vicarage Nurseries – Members reported this was still not re-installed and requested Vicarage are written to again.
- c) WCC verge mowing grant claim for £947.00 now paid in full
- d) Public responses regarding the future of the stone barn on High Street- following the article published in the November newsletter the Clerk reported no one had responded.
- e) School Street name sign replacement reported to WDC – no further information was available; the matter will be pursued.
- f) Mud on the Bretforton Road – response from Vicarage Nurseries; the nurseries had cleared their mud but members reported that W R Haines had now caused a further mud problem at their field access.
- a) Weston Road speed limit for the Grange Farm Development; confirmation has been received that the County Highways will introduce the original 30 and 40 mph speed limit scheme for the development.

### 154. Planning Applications– Lead Members, Cllrs. Andy. Attridge, Sandra Kendrick and Mike Powell

- a) W/12/02385/PP & W/12/02386/LB Miss C Hilyer, 8 China Corner. Single Storey Rear Extension. The Parish Council has no objection or comment on the application
- b) W/12/02468/PP Mr & Mrs Sillence, 3-5 High Street, Honeybourne, Proposal: Single storey rear extension, including demolition of existing timber store and flat roof canopy ; The Parish Council has no objection or comment on the application.

### 155. Planning Decisions to Note: None

### 156. Planning Matters:

- a) The Planning Inspectorate appeal information regarding Byway HY-556 Modification Order 2012 notice of written representation was noted.
- b) Forestry Commission English Woodland Grant Scheme – the Clerk informed the Council that a public meeting was being arranged by the Forestry Commission to be held in Pebworth very soon. The Council again expressed their concerns over the impact of this large scale of the planting and requested the Clerk writes to the Forestry Commission again.
- c) The Clerk reported that the public response to the request for neighbourhood plan group volunteers rendered two responses. Council agreed to give the matter more time and review it again in January.

### 157. Cemetery & Churchyard Lead Members, Cllrs David George and Sylvia Matthews.

- a) Council noted a Burial Ground & Memorials Safety leaflet from Willcox Memorials
- b) The Clerk reported on the interment of the ashes of Mr P Bottell in Plot no. 42 in the Garden of Remembrance and the fees were already paid
- c) The Clerk reported on the purchase of Grave no. 6C and the interment of Joan Sillence
- d) **Brick pathway:** The Clerk reported that two quotations had been received for the remedial works to Churchyard brick pathway and will gain a third quotation to fulfil the requirements of the Council's financial regulation. Investigation will be made into the Council's responsibility to carry out the works and to ascertain if a faculty is required from the diocese.

### 158. Street Lights:

- a) **Lighting faults to be reported:** streetlight 4 in Weston Road and the streetlight on the corner of Brick Walk were reported to be faulty. Clerk to action the repairs.

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#### 159. Public Rights of Way – Lead Members, Cllrs. Trish Probert and David Cowan

- a) PROW matters to be reported to County Council; Cllr David Cowan expressed concerns over the poor tarmac surface on the footpath from Westbourne to Stratford Road. He offered to take this matter up with the County Council officer when she visits the parish next week and provide photographic evidence of the poor state of repair.
- b) Members again reported that polythene from Vicarage Nurseries poly tunnels which had been stacked on the public footpath crossing their land off Bretforton Road was still in place and the matter required further attention. Clerk to correspond accordingly.
- c) The Clerk reported that the County Council footpath officer has arranged to meet Cllr David Cowan to initiate his PPW training and the handover of maps and equipment.

#### 160. Highways: Lead Members, Cllrs. Trish. Probert and David Cowan

- a) Highway matters to be reported to the County Highways.
  - i. Blocked road gullies under the two bridges on the Pebworth Road requiring urgent attention as the road had to be closed during the recent period of flooding as a direct result of this lack of maintenance.
  - ii. Potholes on Bretforton Road in many places
  - iii. The street name plate on Fir Tree Corner is knocked flat and needs up-righting
  - iv. Standing water in Shinehall Lane and Weston Road – grips to be cleared
  - v. High Street gullies are still blocked as water flows over them.
  - vi. The drain pipe from the triangular field off Station Road is blocked under the road and caused flooding of gardens in the locality.
- b) **Floods:** Members expressed their dismay at the lack of any action from the County Council with regard to the flooding at The Gate Inn crossroads. Large vehicles drove through the flood water causing large waves, pedestrians could not cross Weston Road or Station Road and the situation lasted for many hours. It was agreed to contact the Environment Agency requesting an investigation into flood attenuation up stream to relieve the culvert under the cross roads. Also, to request the County Council to supply both permanent and temporary flood signage to be stored in the village and deployed by the Lengthsman.  
The Council agreed to request, the portfolio holder for Highways, Cllr John Smith and The County Highways Engineer, Mr Roy Fullee to attend the Parish Council in February to discuss all aspects of highway maintenance and flooding. It is intended to start the meeting at 7.00 pm to allow public representation and involvement.
- c) **Flood Action Plan:** The Council agreed to the Chairman's proposal to create a flood action plan whereby information could be disseminated throughout the village to ensure procedures and action can take place to minimise the impact of floods and protect properties.
- d) **The Railway Club's** event sign; the Clerk will write to the Club requesting their event sign is removed following any Club event that it advertises.
- e) **Wheelie Bins:** Members reported that the household refuse collectors regularly block the pavements of Westbourne with the wheelie bins causing pedestrians and particularly people with prams or trollies to walk in the road. The Clerk will request the operatives are instructed to be more considerate.

#### 161. Lengthsman: Lead members, Cllrs. Trish Probert and David Cowan

- a) New matters to be reported for action
  - i) Clearing around the bollards on the top of the bridge at the traffic lights on Station Road.
  - ii) Clear the ditch in School Street
  - iii) Check and clear the grips in Shinehall Lane
- b) The Lengthsman reported all the village Grit Bins are full.
- c) The Lengthsman reported on his ditch clearance in School Street which requires the drainage pipe under the road investigating as its discharge point is possibly on private land. The council agree the ditch needs a thorough clear-out over its full length and the County Highways informed of the blocked pipe.

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### 162. Handyman

- a) New matters to be reported for action; None at this time

### 163. The Leys Playing Field

Lead Members, Cllrs. Graham Clelland and David Cowan

- a) **Inspection:** Cllr. Graham Clelland reported that the regular monthly visual inspection took place two weeks ago and found no problems with the play equipment.

### 164. VISA and Recreation Field

Lead Members, Cllrs. Graham Clelland and David Cowan

- a) The VISA report on the progress with the recreation field was not available.
- b) The draft lease for the recreation field was not available for consideration but is expected soon after the solicitor acting for W R Haines agree necessary amendments. The Council agreed to the Clerk, after consultation with the Chairman, dealing with the matter with a view to the draft being available to the next meeting for council approval.
- c) **W.R. Haines solicitors:** Council agreed, in principle, to cover the proposed charges for the services of the Haines solicitors. The Clerk, after consultation with the Chairman, will endeavour to find out from County Council Legal Services what is being proposed and thereafter, will convey the Council's agreement to the solicitors and it was also agreed to delegate to the Clerk the authority to agree the solicitor's final fees after this matter had been clarified.
- d) **Water supply:** The Clerk reported on the Severn Trent water supply application criteria for the field. As this requires a precise meter site to be identified it was agreed to wait until the proposed field layout plans are granted by the WDC planners.
- e) **Field layout:** The Clerk reported on his progress with the suggested amendments to the field layout and access, and presented amended plans and a cost estimate for architectural fees. Mr Doug Rushton, having inspected the plans, indicated his approval of the amendments and requested the new access be widened to allow large vehicle access. The Council agreed the amended plans with a wider access should be submitted for planning permission and also agreed the proposed architectural fees from Mr Bury.
- f) **Hedge cutting:** The Clerk reported on the recreation field hedge cutting and ditch mowing carried out by Hightrees. The work will be completed when the field conditions are suitable for tractor access with minimum surface damage.

### 165. Village Hall:

- a) **Meeting with Trustees:** Sylvia Matthews informed the members she was having difficulties in arranging a meeting at the Village Hall for the meeting with the Village Hall Trustees; members agreed to meet at an alternative venue to expedite the meeting as agreed at the November meeting.

### 166. PACT:

Lead Member Brian Johnson

No matters were raised for the attention of the police

**Note:** Cllr Michael Powell having declared an interest in the following item left the room

### 167. Stephenson Way:

- a) The Clerk reported that the Taylor Wimpey Engrossment Transfer for the balancing pond and the Severn Trent Water Deed of Grant had been received along with an agreement that Taylor Wimpey will pay reasonable legal fees for the Parish Council. The Council agreed the documents should be verified by the Council's Conveyancing solicitor and requested the clerk to forward the documents and outline the Council's requirements.
- b) Members informed the meeting that the dead shrubs have not been replaced and requested Taylor Wimpey be reminded of this.

**Note:** Cllr Michael Powell returned to the meeting

### 168. Broadband and IT matters:

Lead Member Cllr Peter Brookes

Cllr Alistair Adams gave an extensive report on the Broadband update which is in his appended report.

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### 169. Allotments:

a) Cllr. David George informed the Council he had failed to organise a meeting with HAGA to conclude the transfer of management, which they had requested, and expressed his disappointment in their lack of communication. The Council agree to write to the HAGA Chairman requesting the transfer is concluded with expedience as the Council is losing interest in accepting the management.

**170. Newsletter:** The Clerk confirmed the November newsletter was printed and delivered throughout the parish.

### 171. Finance:

- a) The Council approved the Payments, Receipts and Balances as listed in appendix A
- b) The consideration of the precept and budgets for 2013-14 financial year was deferred to the January meeting.

### 172. Matters raised by members and items for future agendas – none

- a) Cllr. George: A review of the list of winter Volunteers; due to many constraints the matter was not pursued at this time.
- b) Cllr. George: Posting emails on the Honeybourne PC website for flooded routes. After considering the implication of communication and regular updates it was agreed not to implement the suggestion.

### 173. Correspondence: For consideration

- a) Letter received from Group Scout Leader requesting permission to plant two Sycamore trees on The Leys playing field – Members suggested the request be referred to the School as the land is controlled by the County Council Education Committee; the Council has no objection to the proposed tree planting.
- b) An email received from Mr Overington regarding flooding was noted

### 174. Correspondence Noted;

- a) GCC Gloucester Waste Core Strategy
- b) Community First-Community Oil Buying Scheme -
- c) Lloyds TSB online Banking
- d) Evesham Art centre newsletter
- e) The Cotswold Line newsletter

### 175. Meeting Dates:

- a) Members agreed the clerk's proposed meeting dates for 2013
- b) Members confirmed the next Ordinary Meeting scheduled for the 8<sup>th</sup> January at the Village Hall at 7.30

**Note:** The Clerk having an interest in the next item left the room while they were considered.

**176.** Exclusion of the Public from the Meeting. The following resolution was agreed: -  
*That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw*

### 149. Mowing Contract:

- a) The Chairman brought to the meeting the tender documents he and Cllr Sandra Kendrick had analysed and verified. After considering each tender it was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr Graham Clelland that the Council accept the tender from Gardens by Design as being the most favourable tender. The proposal was agreed by the Council and the Clerk will inform all the contractors of the Council's decision.



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There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.20 pm.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### APPENDIX A: FINANCE

#### Payments to be Authorised

Dec-12

Cheque No.	Payee	Details	Total Payment	VAT Element	Net Payment
1043	Limebridge Rural Services	Cemetery maintenance	78.00	13.00	65.00
1044	P D Long	Streetlight Maintenance	61.20	10.20	51.00
1045	Arbor Vale	Tree Works on The Green	225.00		225.00
1046	WDC	Newsletter printing	62.40	10.40	52.00
1047	SLCC	Membership renewal 2/3	95.00		95.00
1048	Graham Clelland	Newsletter Delivery	80.00		80.00
1049	J Stedman	Clerks Salary & Expenses	837.83		837.83
			<b>1,439.43</b>	<b>33.60</b>	<b>1,405.83</b>

#### Payments received and banked

Received From	Details	Amount	Banked
WCC	Verge Mowing	947.00	16-Dec
Merstow Green Funeral Home	Int/Purchase G/6C Inv/179	675.00	03-Dec
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,622.00</b>	

#### All paid up Account Balances

CURRENT ACCOUNT	£4,561.49
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT	£74,534.13
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>£79,095.62</b>

**District Councillor report - Honeybourne**

**Month: December 2012**

**Prepared by Alastair Adams – Honeybourne & Pebworth Ward,  
Wychavon District Council**

**Flooding** – the main issue in the last month has been flooding, and I drove around area, and took lots of photographs of the floods. I emailed these to the Deputy MD of WDC and the Chief Engineer, and to Emma Stokes who is the portfolio holder on the Executive Board. This has high-lighted the problem we have. I then emailed a list of all the houses that had been flooded. WDC have written to all these householders asking them to fill in a questionnaire asking for further details. If your house or business was flooded, and you have not received a letter from Wychavon District Council, please contact me on [adams.pebworth@gmail.com](mailto:adams.pebworth@gmail.com) or telephone me 07725 979 277. I have since had a meeting with Tony Jones (Chief Engineer), and he has agreed to visit our villages with Emma Stokes to see the areas where flooding has occurred, with the aim to see how WDC can help in future. This meeting is scheduled for January 11th.

## Honeybourne Parish Council

### Planning

1. **Some good news at last!** – After much pressure at all levels at Worcestershire County Council, the Highways department have confirmed they will reverse their decision over the traffic calming along Weston Rd proposed by Taylor Wimpey in their original drawings shown at their public consultation. This means the 30mph speed limit will be extended 142metre along Weston Rd, and a new 40 mph speed limit will be imposed for 173metre before the 30mph sign. As well as new speed limit signs, there will be large red 40mph and 30mph speed limits gateways painted on the road. Also there will be 68metres of “dragon teeth” markings which remind drivers to slow down as they are entering a village. There will also be traffic islands in the middle of the road with reflective bollards at the entrance into the new housing estate. This new road layout should substantially slow down traffic entering the village from Weston Road.
2. **SWDP** – There was a major hiccup with the SWDP last month as Malvern District Council voted to pull out of the plan. This would have led to increase legal costs to Wychavon DC, and there was a lot of activity as a result. Luckily, Malvern DC has seen sense and they have now voted to do a U-turn and come back into the SWDP. The final version of the SWDP is now being voted upon at the next Council meeting at WDC on 18<sup>th</sup> December. If this is approved (which is the expectation), then the SWDP will start having an influence in all future planning applications which is good news as this should offer some protection against unwanted planning applications. It still needs to be ratified by the Secretary of State which is estimated to be Dec 2013.
3. **More good news- WDC wins a planning Appeal** – The Planning Inspectorate has at last ruled on the planning appeal on Bank Farm in Pebworth, and has dismissed it. This is the only the 2<sup>nd</sup> appeal that the WDC has won out of 11 recent appeals. This bodes well for any future planning appeals, but is too late for Honeybourne!
4. **Long Marston Army camp development** –After much pressure from local councillors, and residents, the developers have now confirmed they have substantially increased the leisure facilities which will be built in the next few years and will be open to all local residents. This will be an asset to the area and include:-
  - Convenience Store / Laundrette 389 sq m
  - Large Sports Hall which can be sub divided 1250 sq m
  - Offices & Reception & shop 150 sq m
  - Restaurant & Cafe 400 sq m
  - All weather Full Sized Multi Purpose Sports Pitch with Flood lighting which can be sub divided. This will be able to accommodate tennis courts as well as Football and Hockey etc.
  - Skate Park and Muga
  - Community Building 433 sq m
5. **SIMS Recycling plant and the Birds Group plans** –
  - a. **for new 380 dwellings** – Still no planning application received yet.
  - b. **Planning application to change the working hours of the SIMS recycling plant** – Still no decision made yet. The latest noise survey seems to raise questions over this application – awaiting to hear what the WRS and EA say about the survey.
6. **Broadband** —There is a small team of people now working on this for Honeybourne & Pebworth (Peter Brookes, Steven Medley, Micheal Poore & myself). We all attended a meeting at WCC on 21<sup>st</sup> November and agreed we would use WCC for helping to submit our DEFRA application for funding. We have also received a quote from Warwicknet to install the fibre optic connections and to provide the service, see <http://www.warwicknet.com/>  
Warwicknet have stated they would install superfast Broadband into both villages and the cost would be £25 plus vat per month if we can get at least 335 Honeybourne and Pebworth households to sign up. Whether we decide to go with Warwicknet, or another Broadband provider we need to know how many residents in Honeybourne are interested in signing up for superfast broadband. So if you want faster Broadband, please fill in the form on <http://www.honeybourne.org.uk/broadband-campaign/superfast/>  
We hope that sufficient numbers will register electronically on the website by the end of December, so please register **now**. In January, we need some volunteers to undertake some door-to-door canvassing to help with this project too – can you help? If so please contact Peter on [peter.brookes5@virginmedia.com](mailto:peter.brookes5@virginmedia.com)

End of report.