

The Minutes of Pendock Parish Council
Held at Pendock School at 7.30pm on 17th October 2012

Present: Cllrs Mr John Humphreys, Miss Rosemary Philipson-Stow, Mr Adrian Lovegrove and Mr Barry Baker,

In attendance: Clerk, and 3 members of the public.

The meeting was adjourned for **Public Question Time**, notes of which are appended to these minutes.

1. **Apologies:** County Councillor Tom Wells, District councillor Bronwen Behan and Councillor Simon Fellows
2. **Vote of Thanks:** The Councillors wished to record a vote of thanks to the outgoing Chairman Mr Robin Williams and outgoing Councillor Mrs Andrea Embley who had given so much of their time to the Parish over many years of service.
3. **Declaration of Interests:**
 - a. **Personal Interests:** Cllr Philipson-Stow re item 4b had a family interest in the Green Waste Site.
4. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on 25th July 2012 were approved and signed.
5. **Progress Reports:**
 - a. **Berrow & Pendock Village Hall Lease:** The Chairman reported that the Landlords had requested some changes to the original lease:
 - Full use of the upstairs rooms to remain with the Church
 - The hall to be exclusively for the Church on Sundays and a further 12 days in the year, some of which will be a Saturday.

The Chairman reported that following a meeting which included the Berrow Parish Council and other parish representatives it was agreed that to be deprived of the upper floor would not be a practical or workable solution and that a letter be sent to Masefield Solicitors acting on the Parish's behalf to negotiate further on the lease renewal.

Some questions were also raised concerning the insurance liability with shared premises, and any agreement to the division of costs of major repairs to the structure of the building. It was also noted that currently Pendock Parish Council did not have a representative on the Village Hall Committee.

The Clerk was requested to contact the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee and raise these matters, together with requesting a statement of finance and the ownership of the funds.

The Chairman reported that he had received a letter from the vicar stating that he was not happy that the repainting of the hall had been completed to his satisfaction. As yet this letter had not been discussed by the Village Hall Committee.

b. **Liaison Group Report – Green Waste Site:** The Chairman reported that he had attended a meeting of the liaison group on 20th September held in the Berrow and Pendock Village Hall. He stated that most of the meeting had been taken up with correcting previous minutes to the satisfaction of all concerned. However, it was also brought to light that over a period since 24th May there had been 74 complaints to the Environmental Agency.

The Chairman advised that any member of the public who wished to make a complaint regarding odour, noise or/and traffic should contact the Agency on 0800 807060 and make sure they take note of the incident number.

c. **Traffic Speed Indicator:** Concerns were raised on the following points:

- What was the delay in getting the TSI in place
- A news letter from Cllr Tom Wells inferred that the TSI would be shared equally between a number of parishes when it was the Council's understanding that the TSI would be solely for the use of Pendock with the occasional loan to other parishes should an emergency arise.

The Clerk was requested to contact Cllr. Wells and determine exactly what the arrangement would be, the Council's insurance liability and who would suffer the costs of maintenance and battery recharge.

d. **Home Security Unit:** The Clerk reported that she had got agreement from the Friends of the School for the Home Security Unit of the Police to be on site at the next school fete on 22nd June 2013. It was suggested that they might also like to provide a tack/saddle security marking facility.

6. **Co-Option of New Councillors:** Following the resignation of two councillors earlier this year two members of the parish had offered their services as councillors.

The Councillors considered both applications and it was duly proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed that Mrs Sarah Noble and Mr John Davison be accepted to the Council. Mrs Noble signed the Acceptance of Office witnessed by the Chairman.

7. **Financial Report:** The Clerk reported that the following transactions had taken place since the last meeting:

Outgoings:	£
Staffing Costs	228.00
Administration	25.33

Incomings:	£
Precept	750.00
Interest	.69
Funds Available:	£
Opening Balance	6,226.67
Less: Outgoings	(253.33)
Plus: Incomings	750.69
Closing Balance	<u>6,724.03</u>

It was also reported that to date the Lengthsman had used £590 of his agreed funding from the County Council all of which had been settled.

It was reported that the audit was now complete for 2011/12, however, it was noted that the audit documents had had to be returned by the auditors because one question had been omitted on the form. Clement Keys the auditors had submitted an invoice for £60 which was accepted for payment.

8. **Community First:** Councillors discussed what opportunities there were to make use of the grant etc. offered to the Parish by Community First in respect of communications and how the parish would best benefit.

The discussion covered the possibility of a photocopier in the shop or a laptop at either the shop or school, but this raised the question of poor broadband speed primarily due to the antiquated exchange at Bromsberrow.

It was agreed that there were wider issues here and that perhaps time should be set aside at the next meeting to discuss more fully what the needs of the parish are. Councillors were asked to sound out as many people as possible to develop a more strategic village plan.

The Clerk agreed to see Community First to put pressure on upgrading Broadband speed, and also to ask the shop their views on a photocopier and/or laptop for wi fi use.

9. **Correspondence for Information:** Noted

- a. It was noted that the planning application 12/1045/HOU which had been approved by the Cllrs in August had now been approved by MHDC.
- b. Worcestershire County Council – an appeal for residents who want faster Broadband to complete yet another Broadband survey.
- c. Worcestershire County Council – Application for Parish grit bins. It was requested that the clerk apply for a County Council grit bin on the School Lane motorway bridge.

10.

11. Councillors' reports :

- a. **Illegal parking at Pendock Cross:** Cllr Philipson-Stow reported that she had noted on a number of occasions recently that there was congestion caused by cars being parked on the cross roads blocking the way for the larger agricultural vehicles using the road. It was agreed that the Clerk should approach the Highways department with a view to getting yellow lines painted at the cross roads as parking at the cross was illegal.
- b. **Withdrawal of Mid-Week Bus Services:** The Chairman reported that he had been to a meeting where Cllr Wells had reported that the County Council was withdrawing funds at the end of the year which would mean the cancellation of the Tuesday service to Ledbury and the Wednesday service to Tewkesbury. He also reported that at the meeting Jackie Phillips from Community first, Malvern would be keen to come and talk to the parish Council and it was agreed that she should be invited to the next meeting.
- c. **Funding Slashed for Pendock School:** As had been reported in the press, the Chairman informed the Parish Council that from 2015 Pendock School could see its funding reduced by 38%.

12. Items for future agenda:

- a. To discuss and identify the future direction of the parish

13. Date of next meeting: 7.30pm on Tuesday 4th December at Pendock Primary School.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Signed

Chairman

Date.....

Notes of Public Question Time

Three members of the public were in attendance and raised the following concerns during Public Question Time:

1. The need to cut back the hedge along the footpath to the school
2. Confirmation that the stock would be removed from the Moors over the winter period
3. Clarification of the withdrawal of funding for the mid- week bus services.