

The Minutes of Pendock Parish Council
Held at Pendock School at 7.30pm on 4th December 2012

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

In attendance: The Clerk, the Vicar Rev. Mike Rogers and Karen Humphries and Richard Timney from Community First.

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. **Declaration of Interests:**
 - a. **Councillors dispensation to set a precept:** As all Councillors were disqualified from setting a precept based on having a disclosable pecuniary interest under the Localism Act, dispensations were requested from each councillor until the next ordinary election in order that they may participate in any discussion or matter concerning the setting of the council's budget and annual precept. ***Dispensations were given to all Councillors.***
 - b. **Personal Interests:** Cllr Philipson-Stow re item 4b had a family interest in the Green Waste Site.
3. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on 17th October 2012 were approved and signed.
4. **Progress Reports:**
 - a. **Berrow & Pendock Village Hall Lease:**
 - The Clerk reported that Masfield Solicitors had requested a further advance on their fees and it was agreed to send a further £150 towards the final estimate.
 - The Clerk reported that following a letter to the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee she had received copies of the accounts for 2011 and a current statement for 2012 which showed in excess of £11,000 in the accounts. Unfortunately the element of restricted funds for the disabled toilets was not identified.
 - A number of concerns were raised in respect of Health and Safety, the legal entity and charitable status of the Village Hall and Mr Timney from Community First offered his support and expertise in this matter.

- Based on the concerns above, it was felt that it was imperative to get underway an active committee. It had been suggested that the original make-up of the committee be revived and that the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee was looking for two representatives from both Parish councils as well as the PCC. along with other interested parties. Cllr Sarah Noble and Cllr Adrian Lovegrove agreed to represent Pendock Parish Council.

The Chairman introduced the Rev. Mike Rogers who had requested the opportunity to clarify certain aspects of the revised lease which were causing concerns within the parishes. He pointed out that it was the intention of the Church to sell the vicarage after he retired and the request to use the top floor was so that the new vicar could use it as an office for the administrator – some 4 or 5 hours a week.

The request for the use of the hall on Saturdays was to run marriage preparation days as so many weddings were now taking place at Birtsmorton Court. These would be booked in the normal way and would not take precedence over other bookings.

He acknowledged that under the circumstances some agreement would need to be reached concerning running costs and building repairs, and it was suggested some form of ratio by square foot might be appropriate.

He also suggested that perhaps the way forwards would be, upon the appointment of 2 members from each of the Parish Councils together with 2 members of the PCC, the vicar chair a meeting to agree terms of the revised lease to take back to their respective councils

- b. **Liaison Group Report – Green Waste Site:** Cllr Adrian Lovegrove reported that he had attended a meeting of the liaison group on 8th November held at Eldersfield Lawn School.

He reported that there had been less complaint regarding the minutes of previous meetings which had helped considerably.

There had been less complaints overall of smell and noise but concerns had been raised on the effectiveness of the bunding - Mr Philipson-Stow said that the bunded area was further secured by an underground impermeable membrane; however there were concerns raised that if leachate overflowed then there was the possibility that ground water would be contaminated. Mr Philipson-Stow made it clear that this situation was unlikely to occur – if there was too much water it was tankered away, as had been done last summer.

Other matters raised was the sheeting of the trailers removing waste from the site and noise coming from the site.

It was noted that all approved minutes of the Liaison Group were on the Parish web site and that the next meeting would not be until 7th March as there would be little to no activity over the winter months.

Parishioners were reminded that they should always report any complains to the Environmental Agency on 0800 807060 and contact the Pendock Councillors prior to a Liaison Group meeting if they have any concerns.

- c. **Traffic Speed Indicator:** Further to an email from Cllr Tom Wells after the last Parish Council Meeting nobody had heard anything further, so the Clerk was requested to

contact Cllr Wells to indicate the Council's disappointment that the Traffic Speed Indicator had still not been put in place.

- d. Community First Lap-Top:** It had been determined that the Shop would be delighted to have the laptop available for the parish and customers to use, it could be sited next to the photocopier and be available during shop opening hours. The Council agreed to accepting it and place it at the shop.
5. **A Parish Plan:** Karen Humphries from Community First reported that they had recently approached MHDC for funding to deliver Community Led Planning. MHDC agreed to a pilot scheme involving two parishes namely Pendock and Abberley. Should the Council accept their offer the Parish would get a twelve month period of support and the only costs incurred by the Parish Council would be for holding meetings/events etc. and printing and publishing the plan. She introduced Richard Timney who will be working with Karen to support the process. The Council accepted the offer unanimously and agreed to go ahead starting with the next Council meeting.

6. Financial Report:

- a. The Clerk reported that the following transactions had taken place since the last meeting:

Outgoings:	£
Staffing Costs	198.00
Administration	78.00
Incomings:	£
Precept	
Interest	.22
Funds Available:	£
Opening Balance	6,724.03
Less: Outgoings	(276.00)
Plus: Incomings	.22
Closing Balance	<u>6,448.25</u>

It was also reported that to date the Lengthsman had used £1062 of his agreed funding from the County Council all of which had been settled.

- b. **Budget for 2013/14:** The Councillors were presented with a budget for the ensuing year which included an estimate for the Single Farm Payment for next year in line with correspondence received. It was anticipated that total costs for the lease renewal on the Village Hall would amount to £450 for each Parish Council and a further provision

had been made for training should either of the new councillors request it. It was proposed and agreed that the budget should be accepted.

- c. **Precept for 2013/14:** Based on the agreed budget it was proposed and accepted that the precept should be set at £1530 for the ensuing year.

7. Correspondence for Information: Noted

- a. The Parish was reminded that both loft and cavity wall insulation was available free to each household in the MHDC area. Contact details are available on the notice board and on the parish website.
- b. Community First was setting up a discounted bulk buying oil scheme, forms and contact details are on the notice board and on the parish website.

8. Councillors' reports :

- a. **Faster Broadband:** Cllr Sarah Noble had identified a company that could speed up broadband by use of satellite at a cost of £150 per household should 30 households be interested. It was also noted that the EU had now given the go-ahead for the government £560M funding to improve broadband in rural areas and both Gloucestershire and Worcestershire were in the benefit areas.

9. Date of next meeting: 7.30pm on Tuesday 15th January 2012 at Pendock Primary School.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Signed

Chairman

Date.....

The Chairman requested from all present whether to anybody's knowledge that any household had suffered flooding during the recent rains. At the meeting nobody was aware of any incidents however it later came to light that a house on the B4208 where the stream goes under the road had flooded whilst the inhabitants had been away.