

Pebworth Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council
Held at the Pebworth Village Hall on Monday 4th February 2013.

Present: Cllrs. John Hyde, Albert Jeffrey, Simon Shiers, David Cranage & Pam Veal

In attendance – John Stedman (Clerk), Ward Member Cllr. Alistair Adams, 9 members of the public.

219. Apologies were accepted from: Cllrs. June Haycock, David Lees, & Tom Bean

220. Disclosures of Interests

- a. Members were reminded of the need to keep their register of interests updated.
- b. To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Items on the agenda and their nature.
- c. To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests Cllr Albert Jeffrey – Planning as in minute 226a

Other Disclosable Interests – None declared

221. Chairman Statement: Having received comments regarding the use of the “Chairman’s casting vote” the Chairman reminded the council of the mandatory standing order which allows the original and casting vote to be used at the Chairman’s discretion when there is a tie in voting on a resolution

222. Chairman Moved: The meeting be now adjourned for Open Forum

Open Forum: Clerk’s report.

Dog Mess:

Mrs Cotton asked what actions the Parish Council were taking regarding dog mess on The Close and surrounding areas. Cllr Pam Veal informed the meeting that The Close was thoroughly inspected the day following the last meeting and only two incidences of fox faeces were found on The Close. References were made over dog mess on the footways adjoining The Close and members confirmed this is a problem. It was also reported that the majority of dog owners are responsible and clean up as the dog bins are very well used but it appears one owner is risking the £500 fine for failing to clean up after their dog. The Chairman confirmed the matter will be considered later in the meeting.

Snow:

Several reports were made regarding the lack of salt gritting carried out within the village centre with particular reference to Friday Street and Front Street as both are well used and were iced over for many days. The Chairman confirmed the matter will be considered later in the meeting.

Flooding:

A resident from Priory Lane thanked Cllr Alistair Adams for arranging meetings on village flooding matters and wished a further meeting with Parish Councillors to identify further flood attenuation measures in the Broad Marston area. The issue of flood water entering the main sewerage system is a major concern as the sewerage then emanates from the manholes in Broad Marston and Priory Lane. The Chairman and Cllr David Cranage agreed to meet and consider the proposals.

Allotments and Housing:

A parishioner made several legal statements regarding the provision of allotments and social housing on the land at the rear of Chapel Road. The unfulfilled need for single bedroom dwellings was also put and the Chairman informed the meeting this would be considered when making comments on the Carla homes development proposals.

Pebworth Parish Council

Heart of England Forest:

A resident who lives in the proposed forest planting area made several comments of objection to the proposal. The Chairman confirmed the matter will be considered later in the meeting.

Ward Member Cllr. Alistair Adams gave his report which is appended to the minutes.

223. Chairman Moved: The adjournment be closed at 8.00

224. Confirmation of the Minutes: The council agreed the wording of the minutes of the January meeting and the Chairman signed them as a true record of the meeting.

225. The Clerk's Progress Reports.

- a) The Clerk's inspection of damage to a grave memorial in the cemetery found no evidence of damage or items being moved.
- b) Dog mess on The Close; The Clerk and Councillors reported no dog mess was found when an inspection was carried out but in consideration of further reports in open forum further inspections will take place and the matter will be publicized in the Council's newsletter.
- c) The Timberplay Zip wire repair was requested on 12th January and is not yet completed
- d) Recreation field tree planting was completed by the Heart of England Forest team on 31st January. Cllr Albert Jeffrey suggested that one of the standard trees in the northwest corner be moved to the car park area to fill a gap; his suggestion was agreed and the Clerk will arrange for the move to be carried out.
- e) Administrative internal auditors report: the report was considered by members and the remedial actions and requirements were noted
- f) Request for football on The Close: Welford FC requested the use of The Close for two junior football matches next Saturday, Council agreed to allow the request subject to reasonable surface conditions on the day, the Chairman offered to inspect The Close and liaise with Welford FC.
- g) Heart of England Forest: An email received from Mr Wayne Barnes the Forestry Commission officer stated the consultation window is now closed and further representations would be considered particularly if new issues arose.

Note: Cllr. Albert Jeffrey having declared an interest in the following item left the meeting.

226. Planning Application considered

- a) **W/12/02817/PN** Carla Homes application Honeybourne Rd Pebworth -12 dwellings, access road and water attenuation ponds, and landscape works.

The Council considered the development layout and house design is acceptable and in keeping with the neighbouring development proposals. However, it would be desirable to include one or two single bedroom dwellings to accommodate a locally identified need. A planning condition is requested to ensure that facing works using only natural local stone are included on buildings within the development to ensure that they blend in with existing village design and the neighbouring Jeffrey's transport yard site.

The matter of local flooding was fully examined along with the JBA modelling study to which members raised several concerns over factual misrepresentation and therefore offer the following statement on their concerns regarding local flooding:

It is critical that flood risk downstream of this Greenfield site development is not increased. Pebworth has a history of flooding – most recently in 1998 and 2007. The developers state that surface water run-off will be increased by 60% by this development. It is therefore critical that the attenuation pond functions effectively in extreme storm conditions.

Pebworth Parish Council

We ask that both the Environment Agency as consultees and the Flood specialists at Wychavon DC thoroughly examine both the positioning and design of the attenuation pond. Concerns have been raised that this pond is located in a flood plain and may be ineffective as it could be overwhelmed by water coming down Honeybourne Road.

Comments reference - The JBA modelling study to support the FRA: -

The JBA modelling study is highly technical and difficult for the lay person to understand.

However based on local knowledge it contains inconsistencies and inaccuracies.

Concerns are raised about the credibility of this report for the following reasons:

Figure 2-1 seems to say that there is no possibility of Elm Close flooding even in the worst storm in 1000 years.

Figure 2-2 and 2-3 and paragraph 2.2 imply that Elm Close did not flood in 2007.

This is not the case and the council submits Appendix 2 of Pebworth Parish Council's submission to the first SWDP consultation which contains photos of the 2007 flood events. These photos clearly show that Elm Close which is immediately downstream from the site (and Friday Street) did flood. And a similar flood event also happened in 1998.

Section 3 states that "Historical flooding in Pebworth are mainly attributed to the Chapel Road and Friday Street culverts being blocked by debris during high flow conditions".

There is no evidence for this critical assumption. It does not fit with local recollections of 2007 or 1998 floods. The watercourse and culverts simply could not cope with the huge volumes of water.

Again we ask that the Environment Agency and Wychavon Flooding Experts thoroughly evaluate and comment to the planning officer/committee on the both the FRA and the JBA Modelling Study

Furthermore, the Parish Council wishes to bring to your attention the already dysfunctional local sewerage system which suffers from storm water ingress and foul discharge from street located manholes.

With regard to this development of 12 dwellings and the now approved neighbouring development on the transport yard, the Parish Council requests an assurance that both these developments are set against the SWDP housing allocation for Pebworth.

Note: Cllr. Albert Jeffrey returned to the meeting

227. **Planning Matters:**

- a) **Planning decision; W/12/02516/PN Mr J Zubek Windy Ridge**, Buckle Street Two detached dwellings with garages and amendment to access and parking at Windy Ridge. **Refused** with one reason. Members noted the decision
- b) The Clerk reported on his response to WDC regarding Sec 106 funding for the parish recreation field development, new play equipment and the creation of community allotments. Members noted the response.

228. **Neighbourhood Development Plan (NP) Working Group**

- a) Cllr Pam Veal reported on the progress with the NP questionnaire publication which is scheduled for distribution in the near future with a return deadline of 18th March for inclusion into the £100 prize draw which will take place at the Annual Parish Meeting in April. A covering letter will be sent with the questionnaire and the Clerk will create and print the letter. A question was asked on the content of the questionnaire and an assurance was given that it fulfilled the requirements of the NP scheme. The Clerk will receive all the returned questionnaires and process the information for the NP group. Cllr Pam Veal informed the meeting the NP website is now live on the web and Carole Longden is working to complete it.
- b) The Clerk reported the planning application for designation of a Neighbourhood Area by Pebworth Parish Council is lodged with WDC.

Pebworth Parish Council

- c) The Clerk reported on the Clerks purchase of postage stamps for the questionnaire returns and will check the letter weight of the return envelopes before purchasing the stamps.
- d) Council considered the Clerk's requests for payment of the extra hours worked in connection with the neighbourhood plan administration and questionnaire analysis. This was agreed by Council as the payments would be attributed to the neighbourhood plan funding account.

229. Highways:

- a) New highway matters to be reported.

County Highway matters

- (a) Potholes in Back Lane
- (b) Potholes in Front Street
- (c) Potholes on Long Marston Road
- (d) Potholes in Back Lane on the Friday St Junction
- (e) Potholes on Honeybourne Road under the two bridges
- (f) Verge damage in Front Street opposite Bank Farm

Lengthsman jobs

- (g) Blocked gullies in Friday Street
- (h) Blocked Gullies by the Church

Clerk to write to landowner

- (i) Over grown hedge at Ullington cross roads

- b) Council considered purchasing flood warning signs from the County Highways for Lengthsman deployment and declined the offer due to excessive cost and storage facilities.
- c) Snow clearance in Broad Marston: Complaints have been received over the lack of highway salt gritting in the recent snow when Friday Street, Front Street and Broad Marston were not gritted. The Council will request these areas are gritted as part on the highways gritting scheme. The Clerk will obtain the cost of parish owned grit bins for consideration at the next meeting.
- d) Cllr. Alistair Adams reported the officer dealing with the Honeybourne Road street signage has now returned to work and the legal notices will be posted in the near future.
- e) Council noted emails from Cllr Alistair Adams regarding speeding and accident data on Buckle Street. A request has been made to County Highways for speed monitoring to be carried out in Bickmarsh.

230. Lengthsman/ Handyman:

- a) Matters for the Lengthsman and Handyman's attention; Highway matter as in minute 229 g&h
- b) Members report on the works carried out in November & December and express concerns over the time allocated to some works and mileage claims, the Clerk will write to the Lengthsman regarding the Council's concerns and include the Council's thanks for the good works carried out in the parish.

231. Public Rights of Way Reports. (PROW)

The Clerk reported on investigation into issues with PROW 538, west of Friday Street leading to The Close.

The land owner requested a meeting with the Clerk in December to inspect the path surface as local concerns were raised with Cllr Alistair Adams over the surface as it is made up of flag stones which are very slippery in wet conditions, the land owner requested confirmation over the responsibility of the surface in case a claim for damages was made if someone slipped or tripped on the path. The complaint received at the Parish Council meeting regarding the existing squeeze stiles being blocked by gates to stock proof the field was also considered but the resolve of this was unclear.

Pebworth Parish Council

As the County footpath officer (Fiona Argyle) was involved in the responsibility of the slippery surface matter she was asked for advice on the problem with the squeeze existing stiles not being stock-proof and the temporary use of sheep hurdles to secure the field. A second site meeting was held on 24th January with the land owner, Fiona Argyle and the Clerk. Fiona issued information confirming the surface of the path is the responsibility of the County Council and not the land owner as the flag stones are listed in the paths' definition and have been in place for very many years.

With regard to the existing squeeze stiles not offering any livestock security the land owner has requested the County Council to install new kissing gates at each end of the path which will greatly improve public access while ensuring livestock security. The County Council will carry out the work at their expense and re-set any flag stones requiring attention.

A question was raised regarding the proposed site changes as the Friday Street stile is in the conservation area and forms part of the street scene, The Clerk will inform the County Council officer of this point.

232. Street Lighting:

- a) A quotation from WPD for the work required on the mains supply was accepted with the proviso that the total cost of the works for the replacement of streetlight 20 did not exceed £1,200, a further quote for the column and lantern is awaited.
- b) Faulty lights to be repaired; N \bar{O} 30 Front Street on all day, Broad Marston Road bus shelter not working and the streetlight in Priory Lane has a loose lens

233. The Close and Recreation Field:

- a) The Chairman's report that the regular visual inspection of the play equipment found no problems with the equipment and the Timberplay cableway spring replacement works is not yet completed.
- b) Council agreed to undertake the annual RoSPA safety inspection due in March

234. Cemetery:

- a) Fees review- it was agreed not to increase the fees for 2013
- b) The Clerk reported on the installation of the memorial for Valerie Folkes on grave 601
- c) The Clerk reported that the excess soil on the Eileen Stanley grave will be removed by the grave digger if it fails to settle satisfactorily.

235. Allotments:

Council considered the Community Land Trust proposals put by Mr Vic Allison at the January meeting and agreed to pursue the initiative as a demand for allotments and single bedroom dwellings has been brought to the council's attention. Further enquiries will be made with Mr Allison to advance the proposals and a scale plan of the site will be requested to consider issues over the size of the site access and the feasibility of the proposals.

236. Pebworth in Bloom:

- a) Cllr Simon Shiers reported that a funding event and talk on birds in the Village Hall raised £150, a village walkabout is arranged for 10th February and the Christmas tree lights were a great success and will continue.
- b) The Council considered funding requests to carry out tree surgery at Town Pool and deferred the matter until an Arboriculturalist has issued a report and quotation on the proposed works. A further request to plant flowers in the cider press stones on The Close was rejected on the grounds of practicality. It was suggested that the Worcestershire Probation Services be asked if they could help in getting the iron fence painted in Friday Street.

Pebworth Parish Council

237. Tree Safety Inspection:

Council considered the Clerk's tree inspection report and agreed the trees identified to be in need of attention should be dealt with forthwith. The Clerk will obtain quotations to pollard the large willow in the corner of The Close and remove two smaller dead trees along with a canopy lift to low tree branches on the eastern boundary.

238. Annual Parish Meeting:

It was agreed that the neighbourhood plan £100 prize draw will take place at the meeting. The Pebworth In Bloom committee will give a presentation and an update on the Community Land Trust project will be presented. The Clerk will check the Village Hall main room is available and move the meeting venue to the Fire Station if necessary.

239. Finance:

- a) Council agreed and approved the Payments, Receipts and Balances as in Appendix A
- b) The Chairman signed the precept and grant requirements form for 2013-14

240. Correspondence for consideration: None

241. Correspondence to note: Clerks and councils direct

242. Matters Raised by Members for Consideration and or items for future agendas.

- a. **Cllr David Lees** – Report on the meeting with Tony Jones and Cllr. Alistair Adams

Report by Cllr David Lees

Flooding – I attended Alistair's meeting on Friday 11th with Tony Jones (Chief Engineer), and Emma Stokes (Executive Board Member) to see the areas where flooding has occurred, with the aim to see how WDC can help in future. This proved a useful exercise as a number of residents in Broad Marston were able to point out the flooding problems first hand and what measures need to be taken to reduce the risks. The group also took a quick look at Friday Street. The meeting was very useful in giving WDC a first-hand appreciation of the flooding issues. Hopefully this will lead so some flood protection proposals

Cllr Albert Jeffrey:

Request to reconsider the council's submission to the Forestry Commission regarding the Heart of England Forest proposals following comments from parishioners after reading the draft January minutes which were thought to be ambiguous. The Chairman stated that the council's standing orders prohibited resolved motions being reconsidered within six months of the resolution being agreed and this could only be circumvented by a special resolution signed by three members and presented to the Clerk. Having received the email from Wayne Barnes stating the closure of the consultation on the forest any further debate would be pointless unless new issues arose for consideration (minute 225g). Cllr Albert Jeffrey's request was left in abeyance.

243. Next Meeting:

- a) It was confirmed the next Ordinary Meeting is scheduled for the 4th March at 7.00 pm

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.55 pm

Chairman _____

Date _____.

Pebworth Parish Council

APPENDIX A: FINANCE

PAYMENTS TO BE AUTHORISED

Feb-13

Meeting

Cheque No.	Payee	Details	Total Payment	VAT Element	Net Payment
DD	Npower	Streetlight Energy	313.69	14.94	298.75
DD	Npower	Streetlight Energy	46.25	7.71	38.54
1354	WDC	Newsletter Printing	34.56	5.76	28.80
1355	J Stedman	Clerks Salary and Expenses	894.66		894.66
			1,289.16	28.41	1,260.75

Account Transfers

Received from	Description	Amount	Date
Clifford & Sons	Mem/Tablet inv/173	60.00	28-Jan
David Baker	Interment Eileen Stanley 571	350.00	28-Jan
Total		410.00	

All Paid Up Bank Accounts	
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT	30209.90
CURRENT ACCOUNT	6330.97
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	36540.87
Reserve Lighting Fund	4000.00
Reserve Capital Fund	5000.00
Revenue available	27540.87

Pebworth Parish Council

District Councillor report - Pebworth

Month: February 2013

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

1. **Flooding** – I met with Tony Jones (Chief Engineer - WDC), and Emma Stokes (Executive Board Member responsible for flooding issues - WDC) on 11th January in Pebworth, and we toured the parish meeting up with various residents to discuss the recent flooding issues. We met with David Lees, Barbara Woodthorpe-Brown, Joy Thyeson, Rob & Liz Brown, Roy Jeffries, and others. Afterwards, Tony requested photos of the flooding in Elm Close in 2007, sent a map to Roy asking him for more information, requested the residents that received a letter from WDC after the recent flooding to fill in the questionnaire that was sent to them and to return it to him. Since the meeting, I have met Tony again, and actions to date are:
 - a. He has written to Cotswold District Council re the current planning application covering the 16,000 solar panels down Mickleton Lane to ask for some flood alleviation scheme to be considered as part of that planning application.
 - b. He has requested financial support for flood alleviation in Pebworth from the County wide review of flooding issues, and this looks promising.
 - c. We have had 2 meetings with Carla Homes concerning the Jeffreys Yard and obtained improvements to the flood schemes on this site.
 - d. We have a meeting planned to discuss the flood alleviation scheme proposed on the Honeybourne Rd site this Friday 8th Feb.
 - e. He has agreed to survey the culvert that goes under Friday Street with cameras (Also Carla Homes has offered to pay £5000 to improve this culvert)
 - f. He is writing to Gloucestershire County Council re the ditches in Broad Marston
 - g. We are contacting Severn Trent to find out their plans for upgrading the pumping station and the sewage works
2. **Planning – Jeffreys Transport Yard** - I attended a meeting with Simon Rees (Planning Officer) and Carla Homes on 24th January to seek assurances that the new houses planned for Jeffreys Yard will be built using some natural stone – Cotswold and blue lias to match the existing vernacular in the village. Assurances were given by Carla Homes, and with this agreed, and with the improved flood prevention scheme, I supported the planning application at the planning committee on 31st January. It was approved, and work on the site will start in the next few months.
3. **Planning – Honeybourne Rd signage.** Sara Stovanovic has now returned from sick leave and has written the legal notices that need to be erected. These need to be signed by Head of Planning and the WDC MD.
4. **Planning - SIMS Recycling plant and the Birds Group plans –**
 - a. **for new 380 dwellings** – a planning application has now been received. It has also been submitted to Stratford District Council and Wychavon District Council.
 - b. **Planning application to change the working hours of the SIMS recycling plant** – Still no decision made yet. The latest noise survey raised questions over this application – Some 3D modelling is being looked at.
5. **Planning – Heart of England Forest** – I wrote to the Head of Planning seeking clarification on the view of the WDC on this scheme, and he replied “ Using land for agriculture / forestry use does not need planning permission, so there is little that the council can do in relation to planning controls. However, the Heritage Manager, Jim Burgin, had written to the Forestry Commission expressing concerns on the impact on the Landscape Character, and we await the Environmental Impact Assessment”. I have arranged a meeting with the Head of Planning and Jim Burgin once this report is received.

Pebworth Parish Council

6. **Funds for the village hall** – Jem Teal, WDC Communities Manager, has arranged to visit the Pebworth Village Hall on 7th Feb to see how the council can help with develop the hall.
7. **Broadband** —I attended a meeting at County Hall on 23rd January. The main messages are:
- a. Unfortunately only 36 people in Pebworth have registered their interest on <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/broadband> in getting superfast Broadband and this is only 12.9% of the number of houses in Pebworth.
 - b. We need to get 50% to support our bid for the DEFRA grant. If we don't, it is unlikely we will get superfast Broadband in Pebworth in the near future.
 - c. Therefore, if you have not, (or cannot remember if you did), please register your interest by clicking on <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/broadband> It only takes 2 minutes!
 - d. Also, please spread the word and get all your neighbours to complete the online registration.
 - e. If your neighbours do not have access to the internet, then you can help them fill in the form on your computer, or they can fill in a paper version (copies can be downloaded from the website. I also have copies if anyone needs them)
 - f. Also, as well as registering your interest, "Case Studies" are required on why you want Superfast Broadband, and how it will help your business, or your children's learning, etc. Please, can you also complete a case study form – see below
 - g. Case study form for businesses:
<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/pdf/Case%20Study-%20Businessesv4a.pdf>
 - h. Case studies form for local residents:
<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/pdf/Case%20Study-%20Residentsv3a.pdf>
- I also need some volunteers to undertake some door-to-door leaflets drop around the village to help with this project too – can you help? If so please contact me on adams.pebworth@gmail.com or 07725 979 277 (so far I have 2 volunteers) The printed cards are being produced by WCC
8. **Speeding in Bickmarsh** – I have at last got Highways to agree to carry out a speed survey in Bickmarsh following a request from a local resident
9. **Chipping Campden School** – I wrote to the Head master requesting what will happen to the children in Pebworth who want to go to Chipping Campden school once the new house are built in Long Marston. They are looking to change their catchment area to protect traditional villages that have used the school.
10. **Skate Park in Pebworth** – I met up with the lads who requested the skate park, and reminded them that the council were waiting for their plans on what they wanted. I also gave them various books from suppliers that specialise on skate-park equipment for ideas. There seems to have been a mis-understanding that the skate park in Long Marston that has recently been approved meant that one in Pebworth was no longer going to be built. I do not see any reason why we cannot have a skate park in Pebworth even if there will be one in Long Marston. So, come on lads – lets have your plan for the Pebworth Skate-park!

End of report.