

Honeybourne Parish Council

Minutes of the Honeybourne Parish Council Ordinary Meeting held at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall on 9th December 2014

At 7.00 pm, prior to the formal meeting Mr Alan Field, the Honeybourne Station Manager addressed the meeting and took questions from the public; a summary of the debate is appended to the minutes.

The Chairman opened the formal meeting at 7.50pm

Present: Cllrs. D. Cowan (Chairman), A. Simmons, G. Clelland, B. Johnson, C Clear, A. Attridge, S. Matthews, P Brookes, M Powell and new Councillor A Perry

In Attendance: Mr J. Stedman (Clerk) and 35 members of the public.

163. Apologies: Apologies were accepted from: Cllr. T. Probert.

164. 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 and other Interests: None.

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.

165. Co-option of a new Councillor

- a. The Clerk confirmed that only one candidate for the vacancy had been received. The Chairman proposed that Miss Alex Perry be elected to fill the vacancy on the council the proposal was agreed unanimously.
- b. Miss Perry read out her declaration of office, signed the declaration and accepted the role of Councillor. The Chairman welcomed her to the meeting.

166. Public Open Forum:

No representation as all members of the public who attended the open meeting had left.

Ward Members Report: Cllr Alistair Adams's report is appended to the minutes.

167. Minutes:

- a) Council agreed the wording of the minutes of the November ordinary meeting; the Chairman signed them as a true record of the meeting.

168. Clerk's Report on Matters in Progress:

- a. Ditch clearance on Shinehill Lane, members reported that the local landowner had carried out considerable ditch clearance which should clear the flooding on Shinehill Lane. Members will continue to monitor the situation.
- b. The Chairman's letter sent to the Housing Minister Brandon Lewis MP was noted.
- c. Recreation Field storage unit acceptance of conditions confirmed by VISA Chairman.

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- d. Letter of thanks sent to Mr David George for his services to the Council. Noted
- e. Requested extra amenity mowing progress update, The Clerk reported that the amenity mowing was carried out and completed today.
- f. The pavement parking article published in the Village News was noted and members reported the inconsiderate practice is still ongoing.

169. Planning Applications –

- a. Town and Country planning Act order 2014, Public footpath stopping up and diversion order 2014, Footpath 541 Weston Road. – Council noted the order.

170. Planning Decision Noted:

- a. W/14/02150/PN, Camson Nurseries Ltd, 40 Stratford Road: Erection of single storey extension to create fish and chip shop as approved by permission W/13/01881/PN without compliance with condition 4 and to allow opening on Bank Holidays. **Granted** with 2 conditions.
- b. W/14/02194/PP: Meadowhead Barn, Bretforton Road, Honeybourne. Proposal, New Garage. **Granted** with 4 conditions.
- c. WCC 12/000082/CM (C13/00892/CM) Green waste composting operation on Honeybourne Air Field. **Granted** with 18 conditions.
- d. W/14/02248/PP: Mr G English, Applebee, Station Road, Honeybourne, Proposal: Single storey extension to the side of existing property – **Granted** with 4 conditions

171. Development Matters:

- a. **Bovis Homes site access** off Dudley Road. Following an information request from a parishioner Bovis Homes confirmed the only construction traffic using Dudley Road would be to build the six houses which have an access onto Dudley Road, the main site access is on Station Road.
- b. **Taylor Wimpey site works** taking place on Sunday 16th November. The onsite construction manager informed the Clerk of the extenuating circumstances for the Sunday working and confirmed it was a very necessary one off situation.
- c. **Mud deposits on the Weston Road** from the Taylor Wimpey site. The matter has been reported to the Taylor Wimpey site manager on two occasions and he gave an assurance that the road is cleaned three times every week. Members reported that lumps of mud are often present and the matter needs reporting again, the local police will also be informed of the problem.
- d. **Taylor Wimpey land transfer** for the new Village Hall. In consideration of a report from the County Council conveyancer it was agreed that a further approach be made to Taylor Wimpey for clarification concerning the detail of their proposed conditional contract for the agreed land transfer.
- e. **Highway speed limits.** Cllr Alistair Adams reported on the highway speed limits proposed for the Taylor Wimpey site. The details are in Cllr Alistair Adams report appended to the minutes.

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172. Community Matters:

- a. **Local power outages** causing problems to local businesses and residents. It was agreed to contact Western Power Distribution and complain regarding the persistent short power failures causing problems to businesses and residents.
- b. **Station Matters:** Matters arising from the meeting with the Station Manager Mr Alan Field. The Council offered their thanks to Mr Field for his positive attitude towards helping to resolve all the problems raised by the Council and members of the public. Mr Field confirmed he would supply up to six no parking signs to be placed in Stephenson Way, the wording of the signs to be agreed by residents before First Great Western engineers install them at sites agreed by the residents. He will also get the pedestrian walkway cleared of vegetation and have the surface cleaned.
Mr Field will inform the Clerk of the Network Rail executive who has taken over from Mr David Northey and can deal with the problems of commuter parking and the transfer of the access road to Worcestershire County Council.
- c. **Section 106 arts funding** contribution from parish developments, a proposal to use the funding for the stage and other art related facilities in the new Village Hall is to be investigated by the Clerk and a report made at the January meeting.
- d. **Field Event:** Council agreed to a request from the Village Hall committee to use the Recreation Field for a village event on 5th September 2015.

173. Finance:

- a. Council approved the Payments, Receipts and Balances as circulated by the Clerk
- b. Members considered the 2015-16 budget expenditure and precept report from the finance group and agreed the precept will be agreed at the January meeting when the council tax base number should be available from WDC.
- c. **Aircraft Museum:** Members considered a funding request for an Aircraft Museum at Honeybourne Airfield, the Clerk advised the council that it had no direct power to fund a museum. The Council were very supportive of the initiative and agreed to offer support where possible and keep a funding option open should circumstances change. Clerk to respond accordingly.

174. Cemetery

- a. Having an interest in this item the Clerk left the room for the debate.
Council considered a quotation from the amenity contractor to remove the cemetery central hawthorn hedge, dispose of the arisings and re-instate the area to amenity grass. The Council agreed to accept the quotation and specification for the works to be carried out when soil conditions are favourable.
- b. Members noted the installation of a grave memorial for Joan Sillence in the cemetery and the receipt of the appropriate fee.

175. Street Lights:

- a. To report any lights in need of attention. None at this time.
- b. Council agreed a **quotation from E-on** for the replacement of the streetlight at the Gate Inn cross roads with a dusk to dawn timer and one in Green Close with a 25% dimmer activated after 23:00 hrs. Clerk to action the works as soon as possible.

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- c. **Switched off streetlights** in Stratford Road, No adverse reports have been received by the Clerk or members. Council agreed that a replacement streetlight needs to be considered at the junction of the access road to the Church and Cemetery. The Clerk will make enquiries for a new LED streetlight to be installed in the verge on the southwest corner of Stratford Road and Church access junction. A new underground power supply will be required to supply the light.

176. Highways:

- a. **New highway matters** to be reported to County Highways.
- i. Pothole in Station Road opposite Abacot Fields entrance
 - ii. Raised footway fence on the Gate Inn crossroads
 - iii. The rutted road surface south of Ullington
 - iv. Very poor road surface between the Weston sub Edge cross roads and Weston sub Edge village, to be reported to Gloucestershire County Council
- b. **Weight limit on Mickleton Lane:** Council noted correspondence from Cllr Alistair Adams regarding the weight limit on the Mickleton Lane which confirmed that Gloucestershire County Council will lead on imposing a weight limit on this road, with the support of Worcestershire County Council.
- c. **Double yellow lines:** Council considered a report from the County Highways officer regarding enquiries into having double yellow lines on Station Road to help prevent rail users parking there. The report indicated some problems which could arise from the request and the Council agreed to request a site visit with the officer and ward member in the early spring when the Bovis Homes site access and the Ranch Caravan site will be operational and rail commuters are likely to increase.
- d. **VAS data:** To receive the Lengthsman's report on the VAS data collection.
- i. Station Road for 24 days 20,228 recorded
- e. **Speed monitoring:** Members requested a further request to the Safer Road Partnership for speed monitoring equipment being placed on Station Road. Clerk to make the request.
- f. **Community Speed Watch Scheme:** The Clerk reported he has received six parishioner responses from the call for volunteers for Community Speed Watch scheme. Safer Road Partnership will be informed that we have the six volunteers and what the next step is to enact the scheme.
- g. **Verge damage in Grove Avenue:** The Chairman reported the shop owners had kindly installed bollards on the verge to prevent damage caused by parked cars at the fish and chip shop. Unfortunately cars have managed to park between the bollards and are still causing damage.

177. Lengthsman and Handyman:

- a. The Clerk reported on actions raised at the last meeting.
- i. Leaf clearance at Green Close bungalows - completed
- b. **Notice boards:** The Clerk reported the installation of the 3 new notice boards will be carried out next week. Members agreed to send a letter of thanks to the prison for the excellent workmanship in constructing the notice boards.
- c. New matters for the Lengthsman or Handyman.
- i. Check the salt grit bins for grit levels

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178. The Leys Playing Field:

- a. Inspection:** The regular weekly visual inspection report was considered to be satisfactory.

179. Sport & Recreation Field Development

- a.** Members noted the comments in the report from Mr Ken Watkins on the public presentation held on 22nd November.
- b. BMX track:** consideration of the suggested installation of a BMX track utilising the waste soil from the drainage scheme it was agreed not to utilise the soils or construct a BMX track at this early stage of the development. The BMX/Skate board facilities can be considered again when phase one is complete and funding availability can be re-assessed.
- c. Planning:** Council agreed to lodge a planning application with WDC for the Recreation Field phase one development including the new access. Clerk to instruct Ken Watkins to proceed making the application on behalf of the Parish Council.
- d. Litter on the field:** The Chairman and Cllr Ann Simmons recommended a Glasdon Topsy Jubilee 100 litre litterbin, colour red, at £239.87 for installation on the recreation field by the pedestrian gate on Bretforton Road. Clerk to order the bin and the Chairman will accept delivery in readiness for the handyman to install it.
A request for corporate litterbin sponsors will be placed in the Village News.

180. Community Centre & Village Hall Cllr. Graham Clelland

- a.** Cllrs Brian Johnson reported that further progress needs to be made with the legal title to the Village Hall. The Village Hall Committee had agreed that the Parish Council should carry out the project administration and would be concluding their arrangements with their Solicitor accordingly. Once this has been confirmed it was agreed to request the WCC Principal Conveyancer to further investigate and secure the best title possible for the Village Hall land title on behalf of the Parish Council. Clerk to progress the arrangements for engaging the conveyancers services.

181. Matters Raised by Members: None

182. Correspondence Noted: Cotswold Line Promotion Group newsletter

183. Meeting Dates:

- a.** Meeting dates for 2015, following two corrections members agreed the Clerks proposed meeting dates for 2015.
- b.** Members confirmed the next Ordinary Meeting is scheduled for the 13th January at the Village Hall at 7.30.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.58 pm.

Chairman _____

Date _____

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Summary report of the meeting with Mr Alan Field, the Station Manager for First Great Western.

Mr Field informed the meeting he was aware of some of the problems the village is suffering with the station. He outlined his position as Station Manager and his areas of responsibility which are station safety and cleanliness as the station property and tracks are the responsibility of Network Rail along with the car park and parking matters. He confirmed that the parking problems in Honeybourne are widespread throughout the 11 stations he manages on the Cotswold line.

The main topic from the 35 residents present was the lack of car parking at the Station over spilling into Stephenson Way and Station Road. With future new housing developments in the immediate area either coming to completion or about to be commenced the problem will be greatly exacerbated in the future.

The following points are the key matters of the discussion with the Parish Council and public

Residents in Stephenson Way are frustrated by the many cars blocking their drives, parking on pavements and parking on the green area at the junction of the Station access road to Stephenson Way.

A strong request was made for signage on the green area and on the road to stop cars parking. Mr Field confirmed he would request 6 signs from "On the Spots" Signs and use residents wording which he requires as soon as possible. The signs would be installed by First Great Western and placed where the residents required them.

Residents requested the British Transport Police carries out patrols in area. Mr Field informed the meeting they have no powers over parking on private roads but he will request a once a week visit by British Transport Police.

A concrete bollard on the green area has been pushed over and broken by rail users. It is Network Rail's job to replace it and not the responsibility of First Great Western. Mr Field will request Network Rail to make the replacement as soon as possible

The Parish Council requested the name of a Network Rail executive after David Northey left his post, Mr Field will make a request to Network Rail to provide a contact name.

Mr Field will make a request for Network Rail to consider land at Peace Farm/North Side Siding's as a possible additional car park being accessed from Shinehill Lane.

A suggestion from the public indicated that Bovis Homes are possibly looking to sell a small part of their land for Office/Car Parking use. Mr Field will pursue this with Network Rail requesting them to seek information on this possible sale.

A request will be made to Network Rail to pursue the adoption process of the Station green area and the access road to Worcestershire County Council as this is 15 years overdue.

The persistent request from the Parish Council to have vegetation removed from the road allocated Walk Way leading from the Station entrance to car park will be actioned via First Great Western Vegetation team to start as soon as possible.

The long-time abandoned white car in the Car Park has been chased up with DVLA and /Wychavon Council for immediate removal.

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Mr Field gave an assurance that he will do all he can to resolve the matters raised and liaise with Network Rail to get them to address the pressing matters.

District Councillor & County Councillor report

Month: December 2014

Prepared by Alastair Adams

Honeybourne & Pebworth Ward, Wychavon District Council

Littletons Division, Worcestershire County Council

WISHING YOU ALL A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Planning

1. **Grange Farm – Taylor Wimpy** – I am still fighting WCC re the traffic calming scheme and a senior manager at WCC was appointed to review the decisions. I have spoken to him a length, and he appears sympathetic to our concerns. He has agreed to the dragon teeth and the red surfacing to be put back into the plan, and I am still negotiating to get some of the other traffic calming measures re-instated.
2. **Long Marston Airfield** – Cala Homes have put in planning application into Stratford District Council for 400 new homes on the Long Marston Airfield – for more details go to the Stratford District Council web site <http://apps.stratford.gov.uk/eplanning/>

Highways :

1. **Ways to stop HGV's using Mickleton Rd as a rat run** - We have agreement that GCC will lead on imposing a weight limit on this road, with the support of Worcestershire CC.
2. **Overflow from Honeybourne Railway Station** – yellow lines are being consider down Station Rd by WCC. Stephenson Way is a private road so yellow lines could be put down, and a private parking enforcement established with correct signage. Ideal solution is for Network Rail to extend their car park, or a new overflow car park is built locally
3. **Buckle Street near Ullington Hall –Grooves in road** –reported back in August, and in the program of Highways work

County Council News: Broadband

1. Superfast Broadband continues to be rolled out across Worcestershire with most of the cabinets in the area are now live including Honeybourne. So if you want Superfast Broadband, see <http://www.superfastworcestershire.com/how-to-get-it> or contact you provider.
2. If you experience any problems trying to upgrade to superfast Broadband , please email me on adams.pebworth@gmail.com
3. The remaining cabinets that need upgrading are the ones that serve Pebworth, Adlington Cleeve Prior, and South Littleton. The latter should be done by the end of this month. Then Cleeve Prior should be next. We are still waiting a date for Pebworth & Adlington.

Councillor's Divisional Fund

In addition to the good causes already authorised, the following actions have happened this month:

1. Evesham Sea Cadets – grant for tools to help repair the boats used by the cadets – Approved
2. The old Long Lartin Staff club building – a grant has been requested to help turn it into a community asset – pending further information
3. Roundabout charity that supplies furniture to low income families – a grant to help fund an apprentice - pending