

PENSAX PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Pensax Annual Parish Meeting held in Pensax Village Hall at 7.00pm on Tuesday 3rd May 2016

Present: Cllr Greedy (Chairman), Cllr Keron, Cllr Wise, Clerk, 11 Members of the Public, County Cllr Ken Pollock, BT Representative Ian Binks, WCC Broadband Representative Steve Ashton.

- 1. Apologies:** District Cllr Paul Cumming, Cllr Rudd.
- 2. Minutes** of Annual Parish Meeting held on 19th May 2015 were circulated. The minutes were agreed by all and signed by Chairman.
- 3. District Cllrs report** – Apologies received, no matters of concern reported.
- 4. County Cllrs report** – Circulated to all and will be added to end of Parish Council minutes. County Cllr attended late. He supported the placing of Defibrillators in Parishes and would be willing to grant money from his Divisional Funds for this project. He also voiced his concerns regarding speeding issues within the rural parishes. County Cllr was thanked for coming and left the meeting.
- 5. Police Report** – Police were informed of change of meeting date but Clerk has had no correspondence from them. No one attended this meeting.
Complaints of a drone circling over the Snead Common area of Pensax were given to the meeting. It was not known what regulations were in place regarding the nuisance/privacy laws.
Concerns were raised by the recent increase in crime in rural areas (mainly sheds/garages) including in this Parish. Residents were advised to write to the new Police & Crime Commissioner and County Cllr/District Cllr raising their concerns. **Clerk to invite Police to attend next Parish Council Meeting.**
- 6. Chairman's Report** – this was circulated at meeting and is on website.
- 7. Pensax Village Hall** – Trustee Tim Read gave update. There are 2 Trustees, they now need resident's involvement to set up a Committee of 8-10 people to run events to generate income. A larger Committee will help to spread the workload, so far 3 people have shown interest. Tim happy to Chair the Committee for the short-term. Hall is a Charity but deregistered from the Charity Commission some years ago due to low income, will consider registering again.
All matters have been looked into to ensure the hall is safe to hire out. The weekly Thrift Shop has financed the hall over the last year. Funds are down to £74.00. It is hoped the sponsored bike ride will be well supported and help to raise funds for the hall, £300.00 was raised from this ride last year.
Tim's contact details to be put in minutes and on website, also Facebook details.
Work to the back of the hall has been undertaken to stop mould; this was financed by Thrift Shop.
Grants to be claimed to renew kitchen/toilets and to insulate the building, quotes being obtained. It was suggested an industrial kitchen be installed with cooker and fridge. New crockery also needed. Plans for work to the fence by B4202 and to improve car parking spaces are also being looked into.
Hall insured to hold 100 – 120, depending on event, seating for 60 is comfortable but anymore is 'cosy'. Trustees and Parish Council would like to thank the Thrift Shop for their continuing hard work which has been very much appreciated over the last few years of uncertainty.
- 8. Faster Broadband Presentation** – Ian Binks from BT stated the speed of Faster Broadband (BB) is affected by the distance from the exchanges. The costs of upgrading the whole Parish would be high due to Pensax being served by 3 different cabinets, each cabinet will need to be updated to fibre. Costs of upgrading BB to houses not always known until installation being done as infrastructure underground may need upgrading. WCC and BT aim to upgrade as many houses as possible for the money available, rural areas can be expensive as houses are spread out. This is part of the requirement for the funding that is available. WCC and BT are working together to improve speeds in rural areas from July 2016 to August 2017 and parts of Pensax may be in this scheme.
Steve Ashton from WCC stated residents should check their postcode on the WCC website to see if their area is in the programme. Other BB options are satellite or Airband (currently serving some houses within the Parish). Vouchers are available for residents as well as businesses to help fund a solution.
BT stated they are running a scheme called 'Never Say No'. This meeting agreed that Cllr Wise should register an interest in this scheme for Pensax Parish. Areas that are part of the WCC project from July 2016 would not be able to join. BT would do a survey for Pensax as a whole then split it up into areas. Total costs per household are not known at this point in time.
Cllr Wise confirmed a survey of residents had been undertaken and would be followed up. Cllr Wise to check regarding passing on of contact details to BT/WCC. Community to work with BT to identify areas. A 50% fee

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regarding any shortfall in funding would need to be paid upfront by interested residents. Openreach would maintain infrastructure if installed under this scheme.

9. Issues raised tonight –

The Bell Pub – Ian who manages The Bell thanked the Parish for their continued support. He also thanked the Parish Council for their support regarding his application for Business Rate Relief.

Stockton Road – Residents had complained to WCC regarding a long standing flooding issue. Work to remedy this had been undertaken by WCC but appears to have made the problem worse. County Cllr was aware of the issue. Clerk to contact WCC to be updated.

Dog Mess – Landowner reported an improvement in the mess left on his farm land following the issue being raised at the April Parish Council meeting. At the April meeting the majority of the Parish Council agreed to support/promote the Countryside Code. It is an agenda item for tonight's Parish Council meeting with a proposal to install a bin on the roadside with a dog mess sign.

B4202 Speed of traffic – Resident asked if more action could be taken by Police on this matter. Police to be invited to September Parish Council meeting.

Defibrillator for Parish – It will be discussed at the Parish Council meeting to be held in September.

Litter – Roadsides have fast food litter thrown onto them. Could sign be put up, Pensax Lane in particular?

Queens 90th Birthday Celebrations – Plans for celebration at Pensax Village Hall on June 12th 2016.

12. Chairman thanked everyone for coming and meeting closed at 8.52pm.

Signed----- Date
Chairman

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