

PENSAX PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Pensax Parish Council held in PENSAX VILLAGE HALL at 7.00pm on Monday 25th September 2017

Present: Cllr Keron (Chairman), Cllr Rudd (Vice Chairman),
Cllr Weston, Cllr Abraham, Cllr Gready

In Attendance: Clerk, District Cllr Paul Cumming.

1. **Apologies:** Received and accepted from Cllr Hingley.
2. **Declaration of Interest:**
 - a. **Register of Interests** – Cllrs are reminded to keep their registers up to date.
 - b. **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests** – Cllr Weston item 10b and item 17 – 17/01073/HP – Rose Cottage, Menith Wood. Cllr is a near neighbour to the property.
 - c. **Other Disclosable Interests** – None.
3. **Dispensations** –
 - a. To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) – **None requested.**
4. **Public Question Time** – None.
5. **County Cllr Report** – Apologies received. Report at end of minutes.
Dist Cllr Report – Brief report given, see notes at end of minutes.
6. **Minutes** of Parish Council Meeting held on 17th July 2017 were agreed by all and signed by Chairman. Clerk had noted a Clerical error on minutes dated 3rd October 2016 minute reference 9a and 9f should show £253.25 for Clerks expenses, not £253.55 as written. It was agreed by all minutes should be corrected and Chairman initialled the correction.
7. **Progress reports for information:**
 - a. **BT Box** – Contract signed, BT to remove payphone before PC can take ownership. Chairman to contact resident who showed interest in refurbishing the BT Box. Ideas for future use to be asked for.
 - b. **Community Speedwatch** – Clerk had met with the person co ordinating this scheme. Police requirements for H&S for volunteers are must be tarmac pavement, not a driveway, 100 metres within speed limit with visibility of 60 metres both ways. It is possible B4202 by Pensax Village Hall may be suitable, speed to be monitored and Clerk to be updated when results are known. No other areas fit criteria for hardstanding.
8. **Reports on Meeting attended by Clerk or Councillors - None**
9. **Finances -**
 - a. **Payments made** – Mrs S Burrows (BT Box purchase) = £1.00, Mrs S Burrows (see item f) = £120.39, Pensax PCC (see item 14) = £250.00, Royal British Legion (see item 13 b and c) = £100.00, Mr D Nunn (see item 13 d and e) = £144.00.
 - b. **Payments received – August** – WCC LM payment (April/May 2017) = £406.00.
 - c. **Bank Reconciliation** (circulated) - Signed for July/August 2017. Balance agreed as £9065.99 in cash book.
 - d. **Externals Auditors Report** (circulated) - comments made regarding clerical omissions. Notices to be put on website and noticeboards.
 - e. **Bank Mandate** – it was agreed to leave until all Cllrs are present.
 - f. **Clerks Expenses 2016-17** – it was agreed by all to pay £120.39 as circulated, details in files.
10. **Planning:**
 - a. Plans circulated since last meeting – **See item 17.**
 - b. Decisions received since last meeting-
17/01073/HP – Rose Cottage, Menith Wood, Worcester, WR6 6UB – Proposed Replacement Roof and Loft Conversion. **Application withdrawn by applicant.**
 - c. **Plans for comment on tonight** – **None.**
 - d. **Update - 14/01586/FUL – APP/J1860/W/15/3133352 – Ridding Coppice, Worles Common, Stockton.** The platforms the yurts were standing on have not been removed, legal action is being considered by MHDC due to the occupier not responding to letters. The occupier should have applied for a Certificate of Lawfulness for the caravan now on the site, letters have been sent by MHDC but no replies received. Enforcement action is being considered by MHDC.

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11. Road report -

- a. **Lengthsman** – Work to keep drains/gullies clear ongoing.
- b. **Problems to report** – Problems reported at last meeting have not been done, but roads have been marked.

12. **Pensax Village Hall** – It was agreed Chairman to look at rebuilding costs for insurance purposes. PC insurance due for renewal from 26th October 2017, Clerk to enquire about putting hall onto PC insurance from January 2018. Chairman to meet with Hall Trustees. Cllr Gready confirmed Clerk had been sent Indenture of 1969 and Trust Document.

- a. **Community First Membership** – It was agreed by all to continue with membership when it becomes due, costs £135.00. Chairman to discuss further with Hall Trustees.

13. Pensax and Stockton War Memorial Funds –

- a. **Remembrance Service – SUNDAY 12TH NOVEMBER AT 3PM** – Chairman has been in contact with Vicar and usual service sheets to be used, responsibility of printing to be confirmed by Chairman. Clerk has booked British Legion and the Bugler. Insurance for service covered by PC. Clerk will need to do risk assessment for the service with some Cllrs input, date to be arranged by email.
- b. **Poppy Wreaths 2017** – It was agreed by all to donate £50.00 to The Royal British Legion for two wreaths, to be taken out of PC funds. Clerk has asked Stockton Parish Meeting Chairman if they wished to contribute to one wreath, Stockton residents were emailed but no one responded.
- c. **Poppy Wreaths 2016** – It was known The Royal British Legion had not received a donation for last years wreaths. It was agreed by all to donate £50.00 to The Royal British Legion for these wreaths, money to come out of War Memorial Funds.
- d. **Strimming by War Memorial** from 1st June 2017 – It was agreed by all to pay invoice of £84.00 from 1st June to 22nd September 2017. Money to come out of PC funds. It was agreed by all to pay for 15 cuts per year, other cuts to be agreed with PC. Clerk to inform contractor.
- e. **Strimming by War Memorial** – It was agreed by all to pay invoice of £60.00 from 30th March to 1st June 2017. Money to come from War Memorial Funds.

14. **Pensax Church Mowing 2017-18** – Letter and Accounts had been circulated. It was agreed by all to increase the grant to £250.00 due to increase in costs. It was agreed to consider further requests for funding this year if the Church feel they need extra help. Clerk to write to PCC Treasurer.

15. **Smart-water initiative from Police** – It was agreed by all to invite someone to speak on this matter.

16. Correspondence for information –

Email correspondence circulated - list in minute's folder.

Training dates as circulated.

MHDC Conference 23rd October 2017 Malvern – 6-8.30pm

CALC AGM 15th November 2017 – Worcester – 6.30-8.30 (Trade fair 5pm)

MHDC Consultation on 5 year Plan consultation

Velo bikeride 24th September – residents to be asked for comments to pass to WCC

Broadband – WCC have advised the Cabinet for Pensax should go live this month

17. Clerks report on Urgent Decisions since last meeting.

Plans circulated 30th July 2017 to all by email.

17/01073/HP – Rose Cottage, Menith Wood, Worcester, WR6 6UB – Proposed Replacement Roof and Loft Conversion. It was agreed by the majority to make no objections to this application. (Cllr Weston did not comment due to being a neighbour).

August 2017 - WFDC Consultation on Local Plan Review – Comments to object to the proposal of using land at Clows Top as a potential site for Travelling Showpeople. Details in files.

18. Councillors' reports and items for the next agenda.

Agenda items – Broadband, Pensax Village Hall, BT Box, Remembrance Day Service.

Closer working with Menith Wood Millennium Green will be investigated by Chairman.

19. Date of next meeting - MONDAY 20th NOVEMBER 2017 AT 7.00pm PENSAX VILLAGE HALL

20. **Cllrs agreed to close meeting to Public and Press due to the confidential nature of business to be discussed**

21. **Clerks Review** – Chairman had not written up review. Items of concern - Clerk to ensure backup copies of computer records stored away from computer. Cllrs to respond to emails promptly if reply needed.

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22. Meeting Closed 9.15pm.

Signed-----
Chairman

Date 20th November 2017

District Cllr Report

Planning – still delays on planning applications. Council Chambers have been listed by English Heritage, was hoped a new building could be erected. The Council House work has now been completed. MHDC Magazine not delivered to all households for reasons unknown by MHDC.

COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

- 1. WCC affairs** - WCC are very concerned about balancing the books for this current financial year. You will be aware that our Children's Services have been judged inadequate and the complicated and detailed remedial system that has been activated will cost many more millions of pounds than has been budgeted. Despite this the results of our many road shows around the county and the Viewpoint surveys are reasonably encouraging and seem to endorse our priorities, namely vulnerable adult and children and maintaining the roads and pavements in good condition. While we are all rightly critical of poor performance in the latter, it is worth noting that this county has better road conditions than most of its near neighbours.
- 2. Tenbury Public Realm** - The final phase of the work in Tenbury started this month, and we anticipate that it will be completed by the end of November. The teams are aware of the need to make allowance for Applefest in October with no work going on that weekend. All changes to street lighting were completed before the start of the footway work. These will take place during the working day on weekdays. Carriageway work, will take place at night to minimise disruption. I am assured that the raised tables will be re-laid in the specified red tarmac, both in the new table at the pedestrian crossing, but also in all the existing raised tables. The necessary Traffic Regulation Orders are in consultation at present. I trust that this phase of work will be less disruptive than the earlier ones. Some traffic management will be required around Crow Corner.
- 3. Velo Birmingham Bike Race** - The controversial Velo Birmingham cycle sportive took place yesterday and from my observations at about six places along the route, it was well received and passed off peacefully. Some people have complained to me, but I felt the BBC Midlands Today report last night was fair and balanced when it indicated that the public in general seemed very supportive. There has been criticism of the organisers, CSM, being a profit making business. WCC has many such relationships, most obviously with Ringway, who maintain the county's roads. It is not the fact that these companies wish to be profitable, as that they fulfil our requirements at a reasonable price. CSM were faced with two mass mailings, to 208,000 each, huge amounts of unique signage, many barriers and cones to be deployed, as well as costly provision of police support. While they may have taken well over £1 million in entry fees, I can believe them when they say they will not make a profit in 2017. It is important to restate that WCC has a very strong pro-cycling and walking policy, confirmed in the latest local transport plan (LTP4). This is demonstrated by our continued support for the Redditch bike race in May and the Tour of Britain. This started on Sunday, 3rd September in Edinburgh and finished on Sunday, 11th September, with a leg that I watched starting in Croft Road, Worcester. It was shown live each day on ITV4. Velo is, by contrast, not a race but a mass participation event, called a sportive, to promote general wellbeing and appreciation of the countryside. We are assured that it will also bring economic benefits to the county.
- 4. Road and footway conditions** - I will be very happy to discuss any particular problems with road and footway conditions at the meeting, bearing in mind the importance of our £12m "Driving Home" project and the £6m being devoted to improving footways (pavements).

County Cllr Ken Pollock, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL50 2BZ