

Pebworth Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council
Held at the Pebworth Village Hall on Monday 06th August 2012.

Present: Cllrs. John Hyde (Chairman), June Haycock, Albert Jeffrey, Simon Shiers, David Cranage, David Lees, & Pam Veal

In attendance – John Stedman (Clerk), Ward Member Cllr. Alistair Adams, Tom Bean and four members of the public.

73. Apologies: none.

74. 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** None declared
Other Disclosable Interests None declared

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

Open Forum: Two members of the public expressed their serious concerns over the Sims Metal planning application for 24hr plant operations. Matters of concern included continuous noise levels, particularly at night, increase in traffic movements, particularly HGVs as the current operations are causing many highway infrastructure problems. Strong inferences were made over the company's integrity as many statements in the application documents were considered to be untrue as the current working times are in conflict with the section 106 conditions. Cllr Alistair Adams stated that the Joint Parish Council Working Group is being re-convened to consider all the current planning issues relating to the Long Marston camp site. There is much concern in neighbouring villages on the proposed 380 homes proposed by Mr Bird, and the 24 hour working at SIMS which could increase lorry traffic. In addition the MD of Wychavon District Council has asked for the Heads of Planning from Stratford on Avon, Wychavon and North Cotswold District Councils to meet to consider the situation.

A resident from Elm Close expressed his objections to the proposed skate board ramps in the recreation field saying it would encourage anti-social behaviour, excessive noise and is not needed in such a small village as Bidford has a ramp and locals should use that.

Mr Guy Wakefield of Hunter Page Planning gave an overview of his planning application for the agricultural workers dwelling off the Dorsington Road. He explained the need for the dwelling as the farm cattle breeding programme was impossible without on farm staff, He answered several question from members.

Ward Members

Cllr. Alistair Adams gave his report which is appended to these minutes.

Cllr. Tom Bean reported that the Hartlebury waste to energy plant has now been approved by the Secretary of State after it was approved by the County Council and then called-in with the support of the local Member of Parliament. The approval followed a nine day inquiry and the expense of a QC for the County Council; he added that local protesters had no case to put.

76. Chairman Moved: The adjournment be closed.

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77. Confirmation of the Minutes: Council agreed the wording of the minutes of the July meeting and the Chairman signed them as a true record of the meeting.

78. The Clerk's Progress Reports.

- a) Members register of interests were posted to the monitoring officer on 9th July.
- b) The new Code of Conduct and supporting information has been issued to all members.
- c) Parish Pump newsletter has been printed by WDC and ready for distribution.
- d) Blocked gully opposite the church and in Friday Street reported to County Highways.
- e) A reminder notice for the streetlight in Friday Street received from E-on, investigation continues.

79. Planning – New Applications.

- a) **12/01464/PO** Sims Metal Long Marston Vary sec 106 to allow unrestricted working hours
In consideration of the public response to the application and the Council's wishes to strongly object to the variation of section 106 it was agreed to delegate to the Clerk, in consultation with members, the wording of the council's objections which will take in the many comments received.
- b) **W/12/01484/PN** Sims Metal Long Marston removal of condition 3 from W/11/00939/PN to allow unrestricted working hours – the application is withdrawn and will be referred to the County Council
- c) **W/12/01446/PN** Sims Metal Long Marston removal of condition 3 from W/11/00937/PN to allow unrestricted working hours of plant and machinery - the application is withdrawn and will be referred to the County Council
- d) **W/12/various/PP** - 13 applications from Evesham & Pershore Housing Association for properties in Broad Marston Road, Middlesex, and Chapel Street, all for external wall insulation with render finish to all elevations. The Council has no objection to the applications but wished the Chapel Street conservation area to be considered when dealing with the application.
- e) **W/12/01242/PN** Mr & Mrs Waters, Baldwins Farm, Dorsington Road, Erection of an agricultural workers dwelling. The Council has no objection to the application but considers that permitted development rights should be removed to preserve the size and character of the dwelling, The Agricultural occupancy needs to be rigorously enforced by conditions.

80. Planning Decisions to note – none

81. Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

Cllr David Lees reported that the first meeting of the group was very good and considered an early consultation meeting with the parish. The second meeting is scheduled for next week when plan scoping will be discussed. The Parish Council will be kept informed of the group's progress and will be asked for their views on the plan content.

82. South Worcestershire Development Plan

- a) Members noted the SWDP Significant Changes Consultation public meeting is on August 22nd at Honeybourne Village Hall 4.00 till 8.00 pm. and agreed to consider any responses to the consultation at the next Parish Council meeting.
- b) A draft letter to the owners of the land at the end of New Road was considered and it was agreed the Clerk should send it as circulated.

83. Highways:

- a) **Honeybourne Road Signage:** The Clerk reported no further information was available and the matter would be pursued.
- b) Highway matter to be reported:

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- (a) The road gullies in back lane are not operational as storm water discharges from them indicating blocked drainage pipes.
- c) Flash flooding incidents were reported in School Street and Chapel Street following a very heavy rain storm, the Village Hall car park also suffered flash flooding from Chapel Street. It was considered that no drainage problems were evident as the flood water subsided reasonably quickly. Concerns were raised over the field ditch in Friday Street as it receives all the storm water from Back Lane, Chapel street and Honeybourne Road areas. The ditch has suffered from an excessive amount of watercress growth and other weed due to the wet summer conditions. The District Council drainage officer is due to inspect the Friday Street ditch and a report will be made at the next meeting.

84. Lengthsman/ Handyman:

Report on referred matters; some handyman tasks are still outstanding and will be dealt with in the near future.

- a) Matters for the Lengthsman and Handyman's Attention
 - (a) Ullington cross roads visibility strimming was carried out last week, no new matters were raised.

85. Public Rights of Way Reports.

- a) The Footpath off Back Lane reported to be partly blocked with undergrowth and a leaning fence is now cleared and un-obstructed

86. Street Lighting –

- a) Streetlight faults to be reported. A streetlight in Back Lane is malfunctioning and will be closely monitored.

87. The Close and Recreation Field

- a) The Chairman's visual inspection report on the play equipment. The wooden ladder on the Timberplay equipment has a broken rung; the Clerk was requested to instigate the necessary repairs within a budget of £200. Six fence rails on the ditch boundary are in need of replacement and it was agreed the Handyman should carry out the repairs as soon as possible. All other equipment is in a safe condition.
- b) The Chairman reported he has the new bushes and shackles for the swings and will fit them shortly.
- c) The Chairman's report the queries regarding the RoSPA inspection report are now resolved with the receipt of an updated report. No matters require attention only regular monitoring.
- d) A request to repair the boundary fence adjacent to the ditch was received and remedial measures are in place.
- e) The Clerk issued a recreation field inspected report from Mr. Ian Trout a professional groundsman; Council noted the reports recommendation and agreed to keep it on record without implementation as there is no immediate sporting need for the field. The Chairman confirmed the Pebworth football team may be disbanded due to lack of members. The option to put sheep in the field for the winter was re-affirmed and a maintenance review will be carried out in the spring. A letter of thanks will be sent to Mr. Trout for his kind gesture of carrying out the inspection and issuing a comprehensive report free of charge.
- f) Skateboard Ramp; The Clerk distributed photographs of other play park ramps and informed the Council that the Bidford on Avon Park cost approximately £30k. He also informed the council he would be attending the SALTEX show in September when further information would

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be brought back for consideration at the October meeting.

88. **Pebworth in Bloom:**

- a) Cllr Simon Shiers reported on the judging day on 13th July and considered it to be very encouraging and the judges appeared to be impressed. The highlight of the judging tour was the School garden and input from the School Children. Committee members will be attending the Regional finalist's ceremony in Birmingham on 13th September. Simon confirmed a good financial balance and the in bloom work throughout the parish would continue in readiness for next year's event. He offered thanks from the committee to the Parish Council for their support helping the event to be a success.
- b) Simon also report a small soil retaining wall in Town Pool is in disrepair and requested the Handyman to inspect it and report to the next meeting.

89. **Policy:**

- a) Member considered and agreed to adopt the 2012 Worcester model Code of Conduct.
- b) An amendment to the Council's standing orders as recommended by CALC was not agreed and members agreed it should be referred back for clarification by CALC.

90. **Insurance:**

- a) Council considered and approved the insurance schedules and indemnity levels, the addition of the in bloom planters was noted.

91. **Finance:**

- a) Council agreed and approved the Payments, Receipts and Balances as in Appendix A
- b) Council accepted the report from the Chairman on the recreation field mowing charges for June as the excessive grass growth added considerable time to the mowing.
- c) The Clerk reported on the receipt of the 2011 VAT claim for £568.11

92. **. Correspondence for Consideration:**

- a) Email requesting the field hedge is cut in Broad Marston Road – Council agreed the Clerk should request the tenant to cut the hedge as soon as possible.

93. **Correspondence Noted:**

- a) Get involved with planning.
- b) Evesham Arts Centre.

94. **Matters Raised by Members:**

- a) **Cllr. Albert Jeffrey** – Changes to the Parish Pump article on the Heart of England Forest. – Cllr Jeffrey questioned the removal of some of the text from the Parish Pump Newsletter article as he considered it should have been a more detailed report, members pointed out the newsletter is for general information and not a policy statement, The Clerk informed the meeting the newsletter was already printed therefore amendments could not be made.
- b) **Cllr Pam Veal** – Request for information on the on-going monitoring of the Sims metal factory working times and noise levels, particularly at 05.00 and 23.00 hours – Clerk to make enquires with WDC and report to the next meeting

95. **Next Meeting:**

- a) It was confirmed the next Ordinary Meeting is scheduled for the 3rd September at 7.00 pm

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.00 pm

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Chairman

Date

APPENDIX A: FINANCE

PAYMENTS TO BE AUTHORISED

Aug-12 Meeting

Cheque No.	Payee	Details	Total Payment	VAT Element	Net Payment
1302	Nick Holdsworth	In Bloom Committee	100.00		100.00
1303	Hartwell & Co Ltd.	In Bloom Committee	113.70	18.95	94.75
1304	GB Sports & Leisure	Play equipment spares	22.32	3.72	18.60
DD	Npower	Streetlight Energy	45.76	7.63	38.13
DD	Npower	Streetlight Energy	310.26	14.77	295.49
1305	Limebridge RS	Mowing contract	508.80	84.80	424.00
1306	Zurich Municipal	Insurance renewal	2264.04		2264.04
1307	J Stedman	Clerks Salary and Expenses	527.85		527.85
			3,892.73	129.87	3,762.86

Received from	Description	Amount	Date
	Account Transfers	6000.00	July
HMRC	VAT claim from last year	568.11	02-Jul
Total		568.11	

All Paid Up Bank Accounts	
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT	23629.35
CURRENT ACCOUNT	7447.79
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	31077.14
Reserve Lighting Fund	4000.00
Reserve Capital Fund	3000.00
Revenue available	24077.14

District Councillor report - Pebworth**Month: August 2012**

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

1. Planning

- a. **SWDP**– The good news for Pebworth following the first public consultation of the SWDP was the reduction of new houses imposed on the village being reduced from 57 to 20; of which 10 have already been approved in the Jeffreys Transport yard. So only 10 more houses need to be built as part of the SWDP. The 2nd public consultation on the SWDP starts on 6th

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August and lasts until 14th September. There will be an exhibition on these changes at the Honeybourne village hall on Wednesday 22nd August from 4pm to 8pm; everyone welcome.

- b. **SIMS Recycling plant in Long Marston/Birds Group** – Since my last report there has been a lot of activity and communication about various issues:
- i. **Pre-planning application for 380 dwellings** – the concern about this proposed planning application by Birds Group has stirred up a lot of resident reaction in Quinton, Long Marston, Dorsington and Pebworth. Although, it is believed it would be extremely unlikely to get planning approval, as it is not in the SWDP, there is still fear about it. The various parish Councils in the area are joining forces as they did to fight the Eco Town, and their first meeting of the Joint Parish Council Joint Working Party is this week, Wednesday 8th Aug at 6.30pm
 - ii. **Planning application to change the working hours of the SIMS recycling plant** – 3 different applications have been submitted to remove the restrictions on the working hours which could mean 24 hours, 7 days a week working. Naturally again there is concern from surrounding villages due to noise and increase in lorries. Two of these applications have now been ferred to Worcestershire County Council.
 - iii. **Weed-killer applied to a large area within the site** – it was brought to the attention that weed-killer had been applied to a large area within the site which had been proposed for the 380 houses. As such under the pre-scoping report for pre-planning, an environmental and ecological report had been requested as part of pre-planning.
 - iv. **Noise** – the on-going complaints from local residents about the noise since the erection of the ASR1 buildings, and the noise that goes on throughout the night, ie the residents believe the plant is working outside its allowed working hours.

Wychavon District Council representatives have visited the site on numerous occasions in the last 6 weeks; I visited it with the Head of Planning, the MD of WDC has visited, planning enforcement officers have visited, etc. As this site borders 3 different district councils, and any changes on the site can effect residents in all 3 councils, it has been agreed to organise a tri-partied meeting with the Heads of Planning of all 3 councils; Stratford District Council, Wychavon District Council and Cotswold District Council to discuss all the issues surrounding this site.

2. Resident queries:

- (a) **Skate Park requested for Pebworth** – A group of Pebworth young lads have asked whether it is possible to get a skate park built with part of the section 106 monies from the Jefferies Transport Yard or via grants. They attended the Parish Council meeting on 9th July and presented their request, and the Parish Council discussed it and supported the idea. The next thing is for the young lads draw up a design of the skate park, and to take photos of other local skate parks. AA will ask them to attend the next meeting to show their design.
- (b) **Smells from smouldering heap at Oak House Farm, Honeybourne Rd** – Very unpleasant smells from the bonfire were still being reported by some residents during July. The Evesham/Pebworth Fire Brigade have attended the site.

- 3. Broadband** — The consultant has had responses back from BT and it is positive news – the fibre Optic cable is close by to the village and the cost of linking the cabinet from the nearest fibre optic node should not be expensive. We should hear back from DEFRA in September about our application for funding.

End of report.

DRAFT