

**Pebworth Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council**

Held at the Pebworth Village Hall at 7.00 pm on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015.

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

**In attendance:** Cllr Alistair Adams, John Stedman (Clerk) and six member of the public.

**219. Apologies were accepted from:** Cllr David Lees.

**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** – None declared.

**Other Disclosable Interests** – Cllr Simon Shiers in Minutes 224a and 239b both as a near neighbours

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

**Open Forum:**

An enquiry as to when the allotments would be ready was put to the meeting and the Chairman confirmed a meeting would be arranged to finalise the letting and allocate plots. The meeting details would be considered later by Council.

A request was made for a salt-grit bin to be placed on the Priory Lane and Broad Marston Road junction. The Chairman confirmed the matter would be considered at the March meeting when a site has been investigated.

The issues surrounding the Profound Decisions role play event was raised and Cllr Alistair Adams explained the situation regarding the pre-application request lodged with WDC as he should have been informed by planning department although it's a confidential matter and therefore cannot be considered in public by councillors. The Chairman confirmed the public meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> January would be considered later by the Council.

**County & District Ward Member** Cllr. Alistair Adams reported on District and County Council matters, his report is appended to the minutes.

The Chairman closed the adjournment and reconvened the meeting at 7.30.

**222. Minutes:** The Council agreed the wording of the minutes of the January meeting and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

**223. The Clerk's Progress Reports.**

- a) Report to STW of two broken inspection chambers at the Recreation Field access – members confirmed the two covers were now sprayed with blue paint but no repairs carried out.
- b) The streetlight at Middlesex reported to have a power failure was repaired by WPD on 21<sup>st</sup> January – noted.
- c) Confirmation received from WDC for the precept demand delivery – Noted.

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**224. Planning Application to Consider:**

- a) W/14/02839/PP & W/14/02821/LB Mr & Mrs Witcherley The Old Vicarage, Front Street, Proposal Lean-to to be partially demolished and reformed within the existing footprint.  
The Council has no objection or comment on the application.

**225. Planning Decisions to Note:**

- a) W/14/02622/PP & W/14/02623/LB: Mr J Vann, The Rowans, Priory Lane, Broad Marston, Pebworth: Erection of log store in garden, cladding existing water tower in timber. Internal and external alterations to Cottage involving removal of modern partitions and stairs, installation of new staircase, replacement windows - Retrospective **Refused** with 2 reasons.

**226. Profound Decisions Event Matters:**

- a. The Clerk's report on the public meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> January for the Profound Decisions Role-play event was considered and members agreed its adoption.
- b. **Profound Decisions Role-play event:** The Chairman informed the Council that a Mickleton Parish Council member had suggested a joint letter of objection from Mickleton, Honeybourne and Pebworth Councils to be sent to Profound Decisions, David Bliss and the Heart of England charity trustees. The Council agreed a letter should be sent but only from the individual Council's requesting the already planned six main role play events are reconsidered in light of strength of feeling and objections from the public. It was agreed that Cllr Pam Veal would draft the council's letter which would be scrutinised by the Clerk and Chairman prior to sending.
- c. Request from the Role Play Pebworth Campaign Steering Group for any comments or questions about the Profound Decisions Role-play event proposal. It was agreed that the Council's minutes and the Clerk's meeting report would be forwarded to Mr Cotgrave as requested.
- d. The Clerk confirmed that the Role-play company Profound Decisions has agreed to pay for the Village Hall hire fees, they will be invoiced directly.

**227. Planning Matters:**

- a. Section 106 Highway infrastructure payment for the new bus shelter. The Clerk reported the matter is being investigated by the Worcestershire County Council highways department and further information will be pursued for the March meeting.

**228. Neighbourhood Plan (NDP):**

- a. Council considered a report from the Clerk regarding a conversation with Mr Andrew Ford the WDC Planning Officer responsible for NDPs on the proposed change of the designation area of the NDP, the report is appended to the minutes.

The report from Andrew Ford and Bob Keith's report will be considered by the NDP steering group and their consideration will be put to the next Council meeting. It was felt that the future of the NDP should be put on hold until June when the new Council will be able to consider the continuance of the NDP.

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**229. Finance:**

- a. Council approved the Clerk's schedule of Payments, Receipts and Balances.
- b. **£1,000 donation received from the Global Gathering:** Council agreed to the expenditure and grant proposals as set out in the letter from Mr Ken Wood. The Clerk informed the Council that only a generic flyer for the oil buying groups could be financed by the council and the Clerk and Chairman would need to confirm the wording of any flyers the Council financed. Cllr Simon Shiers will issue a draft flyer for consideration at the March meeting. Any surplus funds will be made available to the Pebworth in Bloom and Village Hall as requested in the letter from Mr Wood.

**230. Policy:**

- a. Council agreed the adoption of the **Protocol for the Reporting at Meetings** of the Council or Committees. Clerk to post the policy document on the Council's website.

**231. Honeybourne Road Street Signage:**

- a. The Chairman confirmed that due to the Council's work load the matter is unresolved at this time.

**232. Highway Matters:**

- a. New highway matters to be reported. –
  - i. The poor condition of Dorsington Road.
  - ii. The poor reinstatement of the kerbs and verges on the junction of Friday Street and Long Marston Road, Severn Trent Water to be informed.
  - iii. The reported fly tipping on Long Marston Road remains un-resolved.
- b. The **No Parking Signs** for Front Street are now installed; matter resolved.
- c. The broken litterbin lid by the Village Hall. Council rejected a quotation from WDC for the replacement bin and agreed the Handyman should carry out repairs to help prevent further deterioration.
- d. Rain water discharged directly onto Back lane from the property Orchard View, Cllr Pam Veal will carry out investigations as the property is not always occupied, a report will be made to the next meeting.

**233. Lengthsman/Handyman**

- a. Council noted the Lengthsman's report on works carried out and some outstanding.
- b. Council agreed the following Lengthsman or Handyman works.
  - i. Reinstatement of the verge damage on the Friday Street and Long Marston Road junction.

**234. Drainage matters funded by Cala Homes:**

- a. Council considered the ditch clearance works adjacent to The Close is complete and satisfactory.
- b. The Clerk reported issuing an invoice to Rooftop for 50% of the ditch clearance costs.
- c. Proposed ditch clearance works in the field downstream from The Close. The Clerk reported that the landowner was willing to have the ditch cleared if the Council wished it to be done but was reluctant to contribute to the works as it is considered un-necessary. As the quoted £400.00 cost will be funded from the Cala Homes drainage grant the Council agreed to fully fund the cost of clearance and understood the landowner is seeking a further quotation for the works. Clerk to instruct the approved contractor to invoice the Parish Council directly.

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**235. Public Rights of Way:** No matters reported

- a. Report of footpath obstruction on PROW 561C or 562D. The Chairman reported the matter is now resolved.
- b. Members reported the PROW which crosses Dorsington Road is blocked by a locked gate, the Chairman agreed to investigate the matter.
- c. It was reported that PROW 520C to the north of Back Lane has a ditch crossing which is making the path un-useable as the ditch has running water and the mud is making the crossing very difficult. Council agreed that the Handyman should install suitable crossing timbers over the ditch to enable easy access.  
Clerk to instruct the works.

**236. The Close:**

- a. **Inspection:** The Chairman's report: The regular visual inspection of the play equipment found no safety problems with the equipment or the site.
- b. Council agreed to a request to use The Close for a Party in the Park event on Sunday 13th September 2015, approximately from 12 noon till 5pm and to use the Recreation Field for car parking. The agreement is subject to weather and field conditions being suitable on the day of the event.
- c. Council agreed to the removal of the dead ash tree on the bank of the ditch near the swings. The removal will be carried out free of charge and the timber arisings will be removed from site.
- d. A report on the scheduled RoSPA play equipment inspection to take place in March 2015 was noted.

**237. Street Lighting:**

- a. Faulty lights to be reported: none at this time.
- b. The Clerk reported that the replacement of streetlight #24 near the Church was scheduled for the end of January and is still not installed. Clerk to pursue the matter.

**238. Allotment Gardens:**

- a. It was agreed that a meeting with all interested parishioners will be held on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March on the allotment site. It is hoped that the plots can be pegged out and allocated to tenants at the meeting with tenants agreement documents issued. It was further agreed the Handyman would collect the corner posts for plot designation from Hartwell Timber.
- b. It was agreed that the next phase for the creation of the allotment site would be to have the site sub-soiled, de-compacted and cultivated. Clerk to arrange a contractor within a budget of £250.00 and if possible have the work completed before 7th March.

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### 239. Parish Projects:

- a. **BMX track** and youth shelter. In consideration of the WDC planning officer's report regarding gaining planning consent, the cost of making the application and other issues the Council agreed to not proceed with the BMX track and youth shelter project. The relinquished track site will be incorporated into the allotment site. In view of the cancellation of the BMX project it was agreed to investigate the installation of a MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) – Clerk to obtain information for the March meeting for Council consideration.
  
- b. The Chairman reported that the completion of the hedge removal and ditch clearance on the Recreation Field eastern boundary was a very good job. The ditch clearance on Broad Marston Road has created a problem with the levels of the ditch fronting the pedestrian access. It was agreed that the handyman should rectify the problem by removing the ditch pipe and install a suitable timber ditch crossing.  
A further matter to resolve is the access to the post box as it needs reinstating following the clearance works, the Handyman will attend to the matter.

### 240. Cemetery

- a. **Clearance works:** The Clerk reported the eastern boundary clearance works was underway as all the scrub and tree clearance works is complete. The soil levelling and root clearance is intended to be completed by the end of February.
  
- b. **New Fencing:** Council were informed that the clearance works has exposed a large section of panel fencing on the boundary which is in an extremely dilapidated state. Following investigations it was found the fence is the responsibility of both the Parish Council and the neighbouring property. The property owner agreed to share 50% of the cost of installing a new panel fence for £550.00 which is the lower of two quotations received for the installation.  
It was agreed that the Parish Council purchases the materials as the neighbour will help the contractor with the installation. The total cost will be then be equally shared between the Council and the neighbour.  
**Note:** Cllr Simon Shiers gave vital information on the boundary fencing but took no part in the debate.
  
- c. The annual review of cemetery fees and regulations was deferred to the March meeting due to meeting time constraints.

### 241. Parish Council Newsletter

- a. Following some amendments to the Clerk's draft newsletter it was agreed to publish it for an early March delivery. It was further agreed to accept a quotation from Claire Poore for her printing services.

### 242. Pebworth in Bloom: (PIB)

- a. Cllr Simon Shires made a request for the remaining £120.00 of sec 106 arts fund to be requested for the purchase of suitable paint for the metal railings on the corner of Broad Marston Road and Honeybourne Road which the PIB members would paint. Clerk to action the request to WDC.  
A welly walk is organised for 7<sup>th</sup> March when all parishioners are welcome to join in the family event.  
PIB wish to invite "Litter Leaders" to become local area volunteers to help keep the village tidy by litter picking and reporting fly tipping in specific areas.

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- b. The Clerk reported the request for section 106 arts funding for the war memorial project was successful and the £1,529.75 was fully reimbursed.

**243. Correspondence:** Heart of England Forest invitation to a drop-in session to discuss the Heart of England Forest within your parish – The Clerk and Cllr David Cranage agreed to attend on 10<sup>th</sup> February.

**244. Matters raised by members:** None

**245. Next Meeting:**

- a. It was confirmed the next ordinary meeting of the Council is scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 7.00 in the Village Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.20 pm.

**Chairman** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_ .

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## Pebworth Parish Council

### Neighbourhood Development Plan Report

January 2015

Clerk's report on the Neighbourhood Development Plan enquires with the WDC Planning Officer Mr Andrew Ford

The Clerk outlined the Council's wishes to redefine the Pebworth NDP designation area to exclude the Codex development of 380 dwellings as Bob Keith suggested.

Andrew advised this can be done but would require a further six week consultation period as a new planning application would be required to make the changes.

Andrew considered the NDP would have to restart if the plan designation area changed.

He questioned the reason for the change and explained we would need a very strong reason to exclude the majority of dwellings or potential dwellings in the parish because of this the planning application could be refused.

He said the plan's examination public inspector would also need a very strong reason for the exclusion; otherwise the NDP might be rejected on the grounds of excluding the majority of the parish's dwellings.

### **District Councillor & County Councillor Report - Pebworth**

**Month: February 2015**

**Prepared by Alastair Adams  
Honeybourne & Pebworth Ward, Wychavon District Council  
Littletons Division, Worcestershire County Council**

#### **County Council News:**

From April 2015, the Care act 2014 introduces a series of reforms that affect existing and new service users, their families, and carers. There are 60,000 carers in Worcestershire. For more information, see [www.gov.uk/careandsupport](http://www.gov.uk/careandsupport)

First Schools – there is a county wide move by academy schools to hold public consultation on whether to add a year 6 thus making them align with first schools in Gloucestershire and Warwickshire. This is causing widespread concern in middle schools as it will affect their funding. Everyone is asking all schools, high, middle and first schools, to work together to find a solution. The County Council recognises that a move over to a 2 –tier school structure in Worcestershire over time is the most likely outcome as only 5% of pupils in UK schools now use the 3-tier system. However, the schools need to work together on this to achieve the best outcome for our children.

### **Planning – Wychavon District Council**

**The Good News is Wychavon has won some major planning appeals recently and at last the planning inspectors are agreeing that WDC do have a 5 year housing supply. This is a big step forward and should help prevent any more unwanted new housing development in our villages!**

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1. **Profound decisions** – this is a new pre-planning application for an events site halfway between Honeybourne & Pebworth so no information yet on the WDC planning website. However, the paperwork seen to date on the internet suggests up to 1500 visitors each event, and up to 40 events per year – To find out more, please google “Profound Decisions” to find their web page and look on YouTube to see the type of fighting games they run. A meeting occurred last Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February in Pebworth village hall and was well attended with nearly 200 residents showing their opposition to Profound Decisions holding any events on this land. A steering committee has been formed by residents to fight this proposal. A letter has been written to the Trustees of the Heart of England Forest which is a charity set up by the late Felix Dennis to plant 40,000 acres of trees.  
If you want to help fight this and help the steering committee, please contact John Bicknell on 01386 830162 or email him on [J.Bicknell@btinternet.com](mailto:J.Bicknell@btinternet.com)

### Flood alleviation

1. **Priory Lane. – Worcestershire County Council - WCC** to fit a new outlet with a non-return valve from ditch into Noleham Brook, and to install the flood alleviation scheme in Green Lane. Works planned to begin 16<sup>th</sup> March.
2. **Priory Lane. – Severn Trent** - the camera inspection of the sewer has occurred and there are some issues. Awaiting a full report.
3. **Cala Homes flood alleviation scheme** – All the issues have now been sorted by Cala Homes.

### Broadband:

I have had several meetings last month with BT, Openreach and WCC to see if we can find out when Cabinet 3 will be upgraded which serves the village of Pebworth. Still no date has been confirmed. If you want to help exert some more pressure, then please email the Leader of the Council asking when Pebworth cabinet 3 will be upgraded, and why Pebworth Exchange cabinet 1,2, & 4 have been upgraded, but not cabinet 3 that serves the village of Pebworth!

Adrian Hardman, the leader of the council [AIHardman@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:AIHardman@worcestershire.gov.uk)

More emails the better!

### Other:

1. **Mess left by Western Power when they cut the trees by the village hall Thursday 18th December** - I contacted Western Power to complain, but even after they returned to site, the mess was still not fully cleared up. The Parish Council has now cleared the brook, and Western Power have apologised and promised to provide something for the “Pebworth Party in the Park”.

### Councillor’s Divisional Fund

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

1. The old Long Lartin Staff sports ground & club building – a grant has been requested to help turn it into a community asset – paid
2. Roundabout charity that supplies furniture to low income families – a grant to help fund an apprentice – grant form submitted
3. Pebworth Church – help requested to repair a wall - paid
4. Blackminster School – help requested with brochure to promote school - grant form submitted
5. Honeybourne Cycle Fest has requested help with marketing – pending

Finally I visited various businesses in the area last month, and was very impressed with how many people they employ, their successful growth, and their commitment to this area and community. I visited the following:

1. Unipart
2. Kanes
3. Planet Products
4. Organics
5. All Things Rural
6. Roundabout

End of report.