

Pebworth Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

Held at the Pebworth Village Hall at 7:00 pm on Monday 1st February 2016.

Present: Cllrs. John Hyde, Pam Veal, David Lees, Sue Peace, Richard Weller, & Simon Shiers

In attendance: 1 member of the public and The Clerk, John Stedman.

160. Apologies were accepted from: Cllr David Cranage

161. 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 David Lees declared a disclosable interest in any matters relating to the oil leak in Back Lane.

162. Minutes: The Council agreed the wording of the minutes of the January ordinary meeting, the Chairman signed them as a true record of the meeting.

163. The Clerk's Progress Reports.

- a. Receipt of a thank you letter from the PCC for their grant of £250; noted
- b. Reminder of the Heart of England Forest Drop in session Wednesday 2nd March; noted
- c. Letters sent enquiring about the siting of the Defibrillator at the School, Village Hall, Fire Station and Masons Arms. Noted and further reports at minute 169b
- d. The Pensions Regulator required information posted on the Government website; noted

164. Planning Application to Consider:

- a. **W/16/00066/PP:** The Homestead, Back Lane, Pebworth. Proposal, Replacement of existing wood front windows that have become end of life, with similar hardwood windows that meet current Energy and safety standards Applicant: Mr A Budd
The Council has no objection or comment on the application.

165. Planning Decision noted:

- a. **W/15/02886/AC** Mr K Thompson Orchard Cottage, Buckle Street, Ullington.
Proposal: New access onto classified road (dropped kerbs not required) **Granted** with 5 condition
- b. **W/15/02482/PN** Little Meadows Farm, Little Meadow: Proposal, Conversion of abandoned cottage and Dutch barn to 2no. Dwellings and associated works. **Application withdrawn**

166. Planning Matters

- a. Members reported on the Rooftop public presentation of the proposed development of land off Chapel Road. The event was attended by parishioners from the immediate area of the development site and many filled in questionnaires. Members will make their comments on the proposal when a formal planning application is considered.

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167. Neighbourhood Development Plan: NDP

- a) Members considered a letter from Brodie Manning planning consultants offering NDP support and agreed to request a meeting with their representatives on 30th March when they would be at Honeybourne. Clerk to arrange the meeting and confirm the arrangements.

168. Finance:

- a) **Payments:** Council approved the Clerk's schedule of payments receipts and balances which is appended to the minutes.
- b) Council considered a funding request from the Evesham Area Community First Responders and agreed that if a local First Responder was identified then further consideration would be given to the request.

169. Defibrillator:

- a) The Clerk reported on responses to the letters sent to proposed Defibrillator installation sites. The Pebworth first School response pointed out several difficulties regarding 24-hour public access. The Fire Station and the Village Hall both agreed to using their sites. The Chairman informed the meeting that the Masons Arms proprietor also agreed the use of the premises.
- b) Cllr Simon Shiers proposed that the Defibrillator installation should be sited in the telephone kiosk which is intended to be moved to School Street by the PIB group and sited by the Rooftop Bungalows and near to the Parish Council's streetlight to enable a power supply. Furthermore, the whole project of moving and refurbishing the kiosk and installing the Defibrillator should be funded from the New Homes Bonus as a Parish Council scheme. After considerable debate the proposal was put to the vote by the Chairman and carried by 4 in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention. The Clerk was requested to check the proposed kiosk siting with the planning officers at WDC and ensure New Homes Bonus funds are available for the whole project. Cllr Simon Shiers will pursue the consent for siting the kiosk from Rooftop Housing. It was noted that the Clerk confirmed Western Power Distribution would connect the kiosk to the nearby streetlight.
- c) A report from Richard Shepherd on the previous village First Responders current situation indicating there is no First Responders in the village, the report was noted.

170. New Homes Bonus

- a) **Village Hall Project Funding:** An email from Jane Cromack suggesting a change to the New Homes Bonus funding for the Village Hall refurbishment projects was considered by the council. The proposed change was to increase the requested funding for the Village Hall project from £19,300 to £30,000 as it was understood this level of funding would be available as of 1st April 2016. Following an intense debate, the council unanimously agreed to the suggested £30,000 funding for the Village Hall project subject to an assurance from WDC that the New Homes Bonus fund is available for the project. During the debate, Cllr David Lees tendered his resignation as the Parish Council's delegate to the Village Hall committee.
It was further agreed the required parish wide New Homes Bonus questionnaire for the Village Hall project would be part of the Parish Council's project for the Defibrillator and telephone kiosk move as in minute 169b. This questionnaire will be distributed along with the MUGA consultation letter and questionnaire.

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171. Flood Alleviation Project:

- a) The Clerk issued his report on his meeting with Tony Jones the WDC engineering officer and the flood alleviation project guidelines issued by the District Council. The Clerk pointed out the relevant sections of the guide and the responsibilities the Parish Council would need to undertake. The Clerk confirmed there would be a cost implication for the Council of approximately £2000.00 for professional fees and the scheme funding will not cover such costs. After considering the available information, the Council agreed to proceed with the project and instructed the Clerk to manage the project and engage an architect to carry out a site survey and produce working drawings to enable the project to proceed.

172. Highway Matters:

- a) New highway matters to be reported.
 - i. Verge damage in Back Lane and Front Street caused by lorry impact - Lengthsman to respond
- b) Cllr David Lees updated the meeting on his oil leak in Back Lane, several skips of contaminated soil have been removed and de-contamination operation applied to the surrounding areas. Oil continues to seep into the road drainage system which will eventually subside. No reports from the Environment Agency or Severn Trent Water were offered.
- c) Cllr David Lees reported on the blocked road drains in Back Lane and informed the meeting that the County Highways had cleared the drains all the way down Back Lane, installed 3 new drain gullies and a new inspection chamber. A 9inch concrete drain was found to be carrying a strong flow of what was considered to be spring water from the top end on Back Lane. Drain clearance work is continuing and will be completed next week. The works should stop the regular flooding near the School.
- d) The Clerk gave Confirmation that Honeybourne Parish Council has agreed the loan of the VAS for a month free of charge. The Chairman confirmed it would be deployed at four different sites throughout the parish.

173. Public Rights of Way: PROW

- a. PROW matters in need of attention. None at this time
- b. The poor or missing way-marking on PROW 511 off Dorsington Road has been resolved by the Council's PPW. Other PROW matters in the area have been referred to the County Council footpath officer for possible enforcement.

174. Lengthsman/Handyman

- a. New Lengthsman or Handyman matters.
 - i. A reflective bollard has been flattened in Back Lane. Lengthsman to investigate

Matters reported at the last meeting

- ii. Removal of the dead willow tree on The Close - completed
- iii. Verge damage repairs on Front Street and Back Lane – awaiting dry conditions
- iv. New verge grips made in various sites throughout the parish. – mostly done monitoring is continuing

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175. Recreation Field Development Projects:

- a. The Clerk reported that the meeting with the Sovereign Play representative is delayed and is scheduled for mid-February when samples of MUGA fencing will be available. It was agreed to wait for the meeting with the representative before further actions are taken.
- b. An information letter from WDC regarding Sec 106 funds was noted and the Clerk will confirm the funds are still required for Recreation Field development.

176. The Close and Recreation Field:

- a. The monthly safety inspection found no matter of concern on The Close. It was reported that the timber fencing along the eastern boundary is in a poor state and will require attention in the future.
- b. Quotations for a replacement of the Spring Chicken equipment on The Close were considered and budget of £600 was agreed. Clerk to progress the procurement of the device in consultation with members.
- c. Confirmation was received that the annual RoSPA playground inspection will take place in March
- d. **New Goal posts:** following a suggestion from Cllr Alastair Adams to make an application for his community funding it was agreed to purchase a pair of 5-aside goal posts for the Recreation Field, Clerk to action the purchase and make an application to Cllr Adams.

177. Street Lighting:

- a. Faulty lights to be reported.
- b. The streetlight at the top of Front Street remains on all day, this will be reported when the engineer is in the parish to avoid a callout fee

178. Cemetery:

- a. To consider the annual review of Cemetery fees and regulations – this matter was deferred to the May meeting
- b. The Clerk reported that the large accumulation of rubbish by the water tap has been removed by the amenity contractor. It was agreed that the Village Handyman would monitor the cemetery for dumped litter and place it in the litterbins to stop any accumulations
- c. The Clerk reported the replacement of failed laurel bushes would be available in the first week of February.

179. Allotments

- a. The Clerk reported that Ms D Robinson has rented plot 7 and all plots are now occupied

180. Pebworth in Bloom:

- a. Cllr Simon Shiers gave a PIB news update which is appended to the minutes.

181. Correspondence: None

182. Matters Raised by Members: for consideration and or items for future agendas.

- a. Cllr David Lees brought to the council's attention the intentions of Profound Decisions to hold six events at Bidford Grange in 2015

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183. Confirmation of meeting dates:

- a. Council confirmed the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council is scheduled for Monday 7th March at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.55 pm

Chairman _____ **Date** _____.

Payments Authorised			Gross	Net
Cheque Number	Payee	Details	Payment	Payment
1586	John Hyde	Lengthsman work	214.25	214.25
1586	John Hyde	Handyman Works	127.50	127.50
1587	J Stedman	Clerks Salary and Expenses	***	***

PIB Report from Cllr Simon Shiers

PIB committee expressed their thanks to Parish Council for £300 grant given for PIB work on village improvements

Clean for the Queen - National campaign on 4th - 6th March 2016 is being supported by PIB via the WI village litter pick on 5th March and anti-litter posters to be put up around the village. The poster is the winning competition entry by Dan Harding from last year's Party In The Park competition.

2 more owl boxes have been constructed and will be placed in high trees around the churchyard.

Britain in Bloom - There is a change to this year's marking process and 1/3 of the overall points are now awarded for conservation. We are therefore concentrating more on these projects and a new initiative has been created in partnership with residents from Wesley Gardens and Orchard Close. This will focus on the wildlife and plants around the Cala Homes flood attenuation pond which is now blending very well into the landscape and is becoming a village feature.

Church footpath - We are in contact with the Heritage Manager at Wychavon who is advising on possible repairs to this path.

Forthcoming events

Saturday 20th Feb - Village Hall and The Close tidy up (volunteers welcome!)

Saturday 5th March - Village litter pick

Thursday 7th July - Britain in Bloom judging day

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District Councillor & County Councillor Report - Pebworth Month: February 2016

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

Driving Home Programme - Some good news, Worcestershire County Council has recently announced a significant investment in a two-year highways infrastructure improvement programme. £12 million of capital funding will be used on rural and urban roads across the county.

Local Flood Risk Management Strategy - WCC also launched a public consultation on its draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy to ensure every resident and business has the opportunity to express their views. The consultation is open until Monday 29 February 2016. The Council, as a Lead Local Flood Authority, has a duty to manage flood risk from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses across the county. To read the draft Strategy and comment visit www.worcestershire.gov.uk/flooding

Council Tax - The proposed WCC council tax increase is 3.94% for the WCC (of which 2% is the ring-fenced grant for Adult Social Care services, as allowed by the Spending Review). Wychavon District Council is looking at increasing its council tax by £5 per year

Blocked drains and oil leaking down Back Lane – WCC Highways will finish this week unblocking and re-instating the drains in Back Lane. They have fitted 3 new drain heads and connected an old drain to the new system. This should be a significant improvement, and hopefully stop some of the water running down Back Lane.

The ditches near Pebworth Holt were to have their inlet and outlet headwalls rebuilt by WCC Highways to prevent the pipe connecting the 2 ditches getting blocked again. This work has now been postponed to Feb.

New bus Shelter - WCC have started to install the new bus shelter opposite the pub.

Some anti-social behaviour at night time near the village hall was reported to the Police last month. As a consequence, there will be more Police patrols around Pebworth. Registration number plates of the vehicles and the names of the teenagers involved have been passed to the Police.

Rooftop Housing Association did a public presentation of their scheme in Chapel Rd, and I attended and got agreement from their manager that he would supply me with the feedback from the questionnaires

Divisional Funds. Last month the following were approved:-

- o Bretforton Community Shop – new notice board
- o 1st Badsey Cubs & Scouts - £1000 towards their refurbished scout hut
- o Cleeve Prior heritage Trust – new electricity cable to the Field Barn

Also it has been suggested to purchase some goal posts for the Pebworth recreational field using the Divisional Fund.

Remember there is still the chance to obtain a grant for a local community project, contact me.

Your District & County Councillor, Alastair Adams can be contacted on adams.pebworth@gmail.com or mobile 07725 979 277