

Honeybourne Parish Council
Minutes of the Honeybourne Parish Council Ordinary Meeting held at 7.15 pm
in the Village Hall on Tuesday 10th March 2020

Prior to the meeting the NDP group community members; Heath Jobes, Wendy Pickler, Melanie Bent, Martin Clarke and Stuart Nimmo were congratulated and thanked by the chairman for their dedication and time given in carrying out the research and evidence collecting to create the Neighbourhood Development Plan which will help guide the future development of the parish of Honeybourne. The group received a resounding round of applause from the public and councillors expressing their appreciation of the group's efforts in achieving an outstanding referendum result.

The presentation of a gift in appreciation of their efforts in creating the NDP will be made later as the gifts were not available for presentation at the meeting.

Minutes:

Present: Cllrs. Graham Clelland (Chairman), Cathryn Steward, Colin Clear, Chris Gear, Andy Attridge, Sylvia Matthews, Trevor Askew, Heath Jobes, and Matt Henson

In Attendance: Cllr Thomas Havemann-Mart, Cllr **Alastair Adams**, John Stedman (Clerk) & twenty members of the public

243. Apologies were accepted from: Cllrs Jonathan Barnes & Graham Taylor

244. Disclosures of Interests

To declare and disclose any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and to declare any other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature, if necessary.

Disclosable Pecuniary; None

Other Interests: None

Register of Interests: Members were reminded to update their register of interests

Chairman to Move: The meeting be now adjourned for Open Forum –

Summary of matters raised:

- A question regarding the land ownership of the verges in Dudley Road was asked as no grounds maintenance has been carried out and the grass is very long, the Chairman confirmed the council has no information as to the new owners, this may need to be pursued if the grounds maintenance continues to be neglected.
- A request was received to help to have abandoned vehicles removed from the front garden of 22 Fernihough Avenue as they are considered an unacceptable eyesore on the street scene. The Clerk will bring the matter to the attention of the WDC environmental officers requesting action is taken to resolve the problem
- A request was received for a litter bin to be installed in a suitable position in Perrie Drive as street litter is a problem. The Chairman confirmed the matter will be investigated to find a suitable site on land controlled by a local authority as the owners of the amenity land in the area is currently unknown.
- A request for information on the progress with the speed watch group was asked and Cllr Chris Gear confirmed the initiative is still in hand but the traffic speed criteria is not currently met and the group cannot be initiated. PC Jamie Lee also confirmed to criteria for the group to operate. Speed cameras were suggested for Stratford Road and PC Jamie Lee confirmed the road did not offer any suitable sites for the camera van to operate from.

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- PC Jamie Lee reported that as West Mercia and Warwickshire police have ended their partnership and the criteria for traffic speed enforcement is still unresolved making it difficult to carry out the issue of speeding tickets. However, he confirmed he will use his hand-held speed camera in the Recreation Field entrance as the council has identified a speed problem in the area. PC Lee also reported several trailer thefts have taken place locally, but general crim remained very low.
- Comments were received regarding the wording of the play equipment questionnaire as it was considered it should have several options and not just a yes/no option, the Chairman confirmed the large comment box on the questionnaire was to receive options if respondents wished an alternative to the proposals.

Ward Members Report:

Cllr Thomas Havemann-Mart his report is appended to the minutes, he also indicated he would help facilitate a village litter pick if a volunteer group could be found to carry out the task. The Chairman thanked Thomas for his help in resolving the Fair Acre attenuation pond problems.

Cllr Alastair Adams report is appended to the minutes and members raised concerns over the continuing road subsidence on the railway bridge and road surface deterioration at the Shinehill lane junction

The Chairman Closed the open forum and reconvened the meeting at 8.10

245. Minutes:

The Council agree the wording of the minutes of the February ordinary meeting and the chairman signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

246. Clerk's Report on Matters in Progress:

- a. The WDC Planning enforcement officer is continuing investigations into the need for planning permission for the container sited on the Recreation Field
- b. Tree planting on the Recreation Field to screen the container is completed and was approved by the next-door neighbour
- c. All other reports are recorded in the minutes

247. Planning Other:

- a. **20/00439/CLEA:** Bew Hill Farm, Stratford Road, Honeybourne, Description of Proposal: Certificate of Existing Lawful Use to establish non-compliance with agricultural occupancy condition (Condition 3 of planning applications ref: W.404/82 and W.702/82) attached to Bew Bungalow; The Parish council has no local knowledge of the occupation of this property therefore offers no comments

248. Neighbourhood Development Plan: NDP

- a. The Clerk reported the result of the NDP referendum which was a 28% turnout (455 of 1624 electors) with an 89.5% "yes" vote (407) and 10.8% "No" Vote (48).
The next stage is the final adoption process is when WDC to formally adopt the plan at their meeting on April 22nd making it a legal planning policy document.
- b. Members agreed a thank you letter and a small gift to be sent to Becky at Brodie Planning for all her professional administration in creating the planning document.

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249. Finance:

- a. Council approved the schedule of payments as in appendix A, cheques were signed accordingly.
- b. The Clerk confirm the budgetary expenditure for utility services to the pavilion is now part of the financial reports for each meeting.
- c. **Grant:** Council considered a grant request to financially support the Honeybourne Village News publication and agreed a grant can be offered in line with the budget set last year and not as requested, Clerk to liaise with the publisher requesting more details and enquire if advertising rates were increased annually.
The request to be reconsidered at the April meeting.

250. New play equipment

- a. Council agreed the Play Equipment Group's proposals listed in their meeting report dated 17th February and agreed to progress the project following the outcome of the public consultation on March 21st.
- b. The Clerk confirmed the public presentation for the Leys play equipment is arranged for March 21st when four members of the council will be in attendance to answer questions on the proposals. The event is fully advertised throughout the parish also 25 flyers have been hand delivered to all households in and around Brick Walk, the full consultation documentation is on the Parish Council website.
- c. It was agreed the PEG group will hold a further meeting in early April to collate the questionnaire responses and analyse the comments received via the questionnaires.

251. The Leys and Recreation Field

- a. **Inspection:** The weekly visual inspection report for the Recreation Field and The Leys was noted with no safety issues reported.
 - b. **Hedge cutting:** The boundary clearance and hedge cutting on the Leys and Recreation Field is now suspended as the cutting cannot be carried out with the proposed flail mowers. The removal of the brambles on the boundary of the play equipment site will be considered when appropriate.
 - c. **Maintenance:** Council agreed having the Recreation Field aerated to improve drainage and a moss control treatment and a fertiliser application carried out under the approved maintenance contract, applications will be carried out at appropriate times when the field conditions are suitable.
 - d. **VISA Field:** Council agreed the Recreation Field should be referred to in the Village News as the "Honeybourne Sports Field" and not the "VISA Field". The field was originally managed by the VISA charity to gain development funding, but this was circumvented by Sec 106 funds being available. As VISA was the Village Interactive Sports Association the field has always been a designated sport field and the council has agreed to retain its original concept as a replacement for the Leys sports field. The name "Recreation Field" was promoted at the planning stage as a consideration was made to build the new Village Hall on the field which never materialised.
- a. The Clerk reported the new litterbin is now installed on the Recreation Field

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- b. **Quad bike:** Members reported on the evidence of a quad bike accessing the Recreation Field through the pedestrian gate on Bretforton Road and driving around the field. No evidence of the perpetrators is known, and the situation will be monitored
- c. **Enhancement scheme:** Members considered a request to have the Ragwort on the lower end of the Leys regularly mown and it was agreed the matter is in hand as the proposed environmental enhancement scheme is under consideration for the Leys field and will progress when the play equipment project is resolved.

252. Pavilion Matters

- a. The Clerk reported that the fixing of the hook and eye retainers to the patio doors is completed
- b. The Clerk reported that issues with the Defibrillator installation are now resolved and the two Defibrillators are fully operational with thanks to the Honeybourne Harriers Football Club saving the parish £1,400 on the normal purchase price.

253. Council and Community Matters

- a. **Dog poo** campaign: Members were issued with encapsulated posters in A3 and A4 sizes which will be posted throughout the village.
- b. **Hedge at Bramble Chase:** Members reported the roadside hedge at Bramble Chase has been cut back, but no formal confirmation of ownership has been received
- c. **Harvard Avenue:** The Clerk reported on a request from a developer to present their proposal to the council for the development of land off Harvard Avenue. It was agreed that the presentation could be received at the APM on April 21st if the developer was agreeable as the council meeting on April 14th would not allow enough time for a presentation.
A further alternative would be to facilitate an open public meeting for the developer to make the presentation. Clerk to liaise with the developer to agree a date for their presentation.

254. Village Hall:

- a. The Chairman reported the new Village Hall building is progressing well and an issue of the delivery access route from the highway was now resolved with Taylor Wimpey and County Highways to allow the incumbent contractor to construct the access and ensure a sec.38 highway adoption agreement can be resolved without problems arising.

255. Flooding:

- a. **Fair Acres Estate:** Council noted the reports from Cllr Alastair Adams and Cllr Thomas Havemann-Mart on the problems identified with Fair Acres Estate attenuation pond whereby an obstruction was removed from the outlet. A further investigation revealed the pond's engineering infrastructure was lacking the necessary Hydro Break and this was quickly resolved by Taylor Wimpey. Matter resolved
- b. **Attenuation pond:** Cllr Alastair Adams reported on the progress with the landowners regarding the proposed attenuation pond site upstream of the Gate Inn and confirmed the proposal is progressing – see Cllr Alastair Adams report appended to the minutes
- c. **Depth signage:** Cllr Alastair Adams reported on the installation of flood depth signage at the railway bridges on Stratford Road agreed for February 10th - see Cllr Alastair Adams report appended to the minutes.
- d. The Clerk reported Bretforton PC has resolved the ditch and grips clearance on Bretforton Road between Bretforton and Honeybourne.

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256. Highways: matters to be reported

- a. New highway matters to be reported to County Highway: -
All matters referred to Cllr Alastair Adams - open forum
- b. **Speed enforcement:** PC Jamie Lee confirmed he will carry out speed enforcement checks on Bretforton Road using the Recreation Field access for a camera site.
- c. **Verge mowing:** The Clerk reported on request for regular mowing of the grass verge outside Pipistrelle Barn, High St, and confirmed this will be carried out by the council's contractor at no extra charge.
- d. **A missing bollard** in Chestnut Drive will be reported to the Bramble Chase site maintenance company requesting it is replaced to prevent vehicular access onto the footpath also a further bollard to prevent access to the POS on the Bramble Chase site

257. Lengthsman:

- a. Jobs for the Lengthsman
- b. **New works** –
 - i. Clear the grips on Bretforton Road through to the parish boundary
 - ii. The follow two items are delayed due to wet soil condition
 - iii. *Repair the verge damage at the Gate Inn crossroads*
 - iv. *Repair the verge damage by the Spar Shop and add a bollard to prevent vehicular access*
- c. **VAS report:**
 - i. Bretforton Rd. 15564. 16 days
 - ii. Stratford Rd. 1337. 7 days

Note: Stratford Rd. Is of little value there have been traffic lights for a few days.

258. Handyman matters

- a. Attend to internal door problems in the pavilion – Liaise with Cllr Mat Henson for full details
- b. Clerk to pursue a new Handyman for PROW maintenance and clearance works in the summer months.

259. Public Rights of Way (PROW):

- a. Actions for any reported PROW problems or issues. None

260. Allotments

- a. The Clerk reported that rent demands have been issued to all tenants.
- b. The Clerk reported 14 allotment plots are currently vacant and the council agreed to suspend the Foreigner rule of 20% occupation and advertise the vacancies in neighbouring parishes as well as Honeybourne.
- c. The vacant plots have become overgrown and it was agreed the mowing contract to be requested to mow them off and keep the weeds under control throughout the growing season.

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- 261. Streetlights:** Any lights in need of attention –
- i. streetlight #38 on Station Road near Silverdale has been reported for repair
- 262. Cemetery: Reports**
- a. The Clerk reported on the interment of T/L Ronald George Sillence in Grave 7c on March 12th The grave ERB was purchase in 2013
 - b. The Clerk reported on the interment of T/L Peter Maddocks in Grave 21C on March 20th
 - c. To note a new headstone to be placed on the existing grave of Ann Simms was agreed by the Clerk
- 263. Matters Raised by Members** for the next meeting agenda –
- a. A member request to establish the persons responsible for the ongoing checks and maintenance of the Defibrillator at the Spar shop – Cllr Heath Jobes to investigate and report to the April meeting
 - b. A request to hold a 24-hour charity football event in support of the MIND charity to be staged in August with floodlights operating at night

264. Meeting Dates:

- a. It was confirmed the next Ordinary Council Meeting is scheduled for the 14th April at the Village Hall at 7.15 pm,
- b. It was confirmed the APM is on April 21st in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:58

Chairman _____ Date _____

Appendix A Payments

Cheque Number	Payments Authorised		Gross Payment	Net Payment
	Payee	Details		
1914	Worcestershire CALC	Training Fees	40.00	40.00
1915	Proactive Business Supplies	Printer ink	139.16	115.96
DD	IOC	Information commissioner	35.00	35.00
1916	BPS	Pavilion Maintenance	6.55	5.46
1917	John Hyde	Lengthsman Works	81.40	81.40
1917	John Hyde	Handyman works	101.00	101.00
1918	J Stedman	Clerk's salary and expenses	***	***
1919	Limebridge RS	Hedge Cutting & Tree planting	1140.00	950.00
DD	British Gas	Pavilion electricity bill	69.76	66.44

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County Councillor Report - Honeybourne

Month: March 2020

Prepared by Alastair Adams

Littletons Division, Worcestershire County Council

Some good news that was hidden in the newspaper last month that you may have missed, so I reproduce it here:

The UK's CO2 emissions fell by 2.9% in 2019, according to Carbon Brief analysis. This brings the total reduction to 29% over the past decade since 2010, even as the economy grew by a fifth. The 2.9% fall in 2019 marks a seventh consecutive year of carbon cuts for the UK, the longest series on record.

Another 29% reduction in coal use last year was the driving force behind the decline in UK emissions in 2019. Carbon emissions from coal have fallen by 80% over the past decade, while those from gas are down 20%

And Worcestershire County Council is doing their bit to help by using "Warm Mixed Asphalt" to re-tarmac your roads. The council lays over 125,000 tonnes of tarmac each year and by using "Warm" Asphalt rather than "Hot" Asphalt saved 275,000Kg of carbon dioxide emissions. Worcestershire County Councils is one of the few councils in the country using "Warm Mixed Asphalt" and is proud to be a pioneer in this new method of road surfacing.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Worcestershire

At the time of writing this report 10/3/20, there are no known cases of the virus in Worcestershire.

The latest information and advice from GOV.UK is available on

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public>

The County Council website has a page dedicated to advice about Covid-19; See

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Update on flooding

I had a meeting last month with the WDC Flood Engineers and Thomas to look at the attenuation pond by the New Village Hall where someone had fitted a plywood board over the outflow stopping the water leaving the pond. The engineers discovered that once the panel was removed, the outflow of water from the pond was not to the designed specification (it is supposed to restrict the flow of water to help in flood situations). This was reported to Taylor Wimpy and within days they had installed the hydro brake that restricts the outflow. This should help reduce the flow of water from the Grange Farm Estate into the ditch opposite the Gate pub thus partially alleviate the flooding. I also had a good meeting with the farmer upstream of the Gate to look at installing a flood plain on his land which I believe if built will stop the flooding at the Gate crossroads altogether. This is ongoing but hopefully progress will be made. Some funding from the Parish Council may be required to compensate the farmer for the use of his land.

REMEMBER the Worcestershire Parkway Station is now OPEN for business

The Worcestershire Parkway Station opened its doors on Sunday 23rd February! So you can get on a train in Honeybourne and change at Worcestershire Parkway where the Cotswold Line meets the Cross Country Lines, so you can change here to go South or North.

More Investment in our County's infrastructure. Last Month the County Council confirmed they would provide extra Capital Investment as follows: -

- An extra £6m on Highways with a further £6m for 2021/22 making Worcestershire Roads some of the BEST in the UK
- An extra £4m on pavements with a further £4m for 2021/22. There is still a lot to be done to improve our pavements but there are a lot of them in the County but this will help

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- An extra £1m on smaller flood mitigation with a further £1m in 2021/22 and I have already asked for some of this for our area!

Highway issues

To keep up to date on the roadworks, look at the national roadworks website below, and type in Pebworth or Honeybourne in the top right box to search.
www.roadworks.org

1. Double Yellow lines to be installed along High Street opposite Fancutts Garage/new development. Agreed and waiting to be installed
2. Honeybourne pedestrian crossing on Station Rd – zebra crossing to be sometime in 2020 – latest estimate July/August.
3. Flood Depth signs to be fitted to the bridges – 2 out of the 3 signs fitted to the bridge closest to Honeybourne. The 3rd sign could not be fitted as the bridge nearest Pebworth was too wet. Currently awaiting approval from Network Rail to screw the sign into the bridge structure.
4. Flooding on Buckle Street in Ullington – reported to Highways and flood warning signs. WDC to contact landowner to request their ditches are dug out. Highways have also jettied the culvert under the road.
5. Overgrown Hedge along Station Rd – reported to Network Rail to cut.

As always, if you have any issues on any Highways matters, please report it on the WCC website http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/homepage/98/report_it

Also remember a photo of the Highways problem is as good as “a thousand words” so always take a photo where possible.

Crime is changing! Instead of burglaries, or car thefts, crime is increasingly becoming more telephone based fraud or computerised fraud. Read the latest 2 reports from the Police below and heed their advice and make sure you don't become a victim of this new form of crime.

POLICE REPORT 1: Criminals are targeting members of the public with automated calls stating that the recipient has been charged for an Amazon Prime subscription.

Action Fraud has received over 500 reports from people about an automated call scam impersonating Amazon.

The recipient of the call is informed that fraudsters have used their personal details to subscribe to an Amazon Prime subscription and are instructed to Press "1" if they'd like to cancel the purchase. When victims do this, they are automatically connected to criminals posing as Amazon custom service representatives who attempt to remotely access the victim's computer in order to steal personal and financial details.

The criminal tells the victim the Amazon Prime subscription was purchased fraudulently and that they need remote access to the victim's computer in order to fix a security flaw that will prevent it from happening again. The victim is instructed to download an application called Team Viewer and asked to log onto their online banking account. The software download grants the fraudster remote access to the victim's computer and allows them to see the victim's personal and financial details.

Other variants of the crime involve victims being told they are due a refund for an unauthorised transaction on their Amazon account.

What can you do to protect yourself?

Action Fraud is reminding people to never install any software as a result of a cold call.

"Unsolicited requests to remote access your computer should always raise a red flag. It's easy to feel embarrassed when faced with unexpected or complex conversations but it's okay to stop the discussion if you do not feel in control of it. **JUST PUT DOWN THE PHONE AND HANG UP THE CALL.**

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"If you've received an unexpected phone call, or other communication, stop and take a minute to think about whether an organisation would get in touch with you out of the blue in this way. Instead, contact them directly using a known email or phone number."

Remember, if you have been a victim of fraud or cybercrime, report it to Action Fraud online or by calling 0300 123 2040.

If you or someone else is in immediate danger or risk of harm dial 999.
<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

POLICE REPORT 2: Be on your guard of telephone callers pretending to be police, HMRC and from other official bodies

Please remain vigilant and on your guard. Make your neighbours, family and friends aware...'to be forewarned is to be forearmed'.

A Worcestershire resident on the 9th Feb has become the latest victim of telephone fraudsters. They received a phone call from a person claiming to be from HMRC and informed the resident that they owed an amount of income tax. The caller then asked for some personal details and instructed the resident to obtain cash and gift cards which an "officer" would come around and collect. The caller also requested the reference numbers off the back of the gift cards.

We are continually urging people to be vigilant to Courier Fraud.

- Police officers, HMRC, banks will NEVER ask for account details or PINs over the phone.
- They also would NOT come around to your house to collect your cards or property.
- They will NEVER ask for payment in gift cards (this is the equivalent of handing over cash to the fraudster).
- If you receive a call by someone claiming to be a police officer, HMRC, Bank or other official body asking for money, hang up immediately, wait 10 minutes and call 101 using another phone if possible. In an emergency or if a crime is in progress call 999.
- Fraudsters can seem to be highly credible, but if someone you don't know contacts you out of the blue asking you to help with 'an investigation', be suspicious!

We would encourage anyone with elderly relatives or friends to talk to them about the Courier Fraud Scam, and make sure that they are aware.

County Council Divisional Fund

Divisional grants deadline is looming, so any community organisation that needs a little support to buy equipment or some essential service can apply by contacting me.

Grant requests received in last 6 weeks are

1. Evesham Walking Festival – grant requested for 2020 event - paid
2. Cleeve prior Heritage Trust – grant for new machinery - Paid
3. Cleeve Prior Cricket Club – new equipment – paid
4. Honeybourne Harriers - new children's football kit – paid
5. Countryside Access Pebworth Volunteers - grant for gates
6. Offenham Village Hall - grant for the refurbishment of the village hall floor

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

Honeybourne Parish Council**Ward members report form
Cllr Thomas Havemann-Mart**

This past month I was thankful to be able to go along with the engineering team from Wychavon as they investigated the flooding by the Gate inn and its causes.

During this meeting we inspected the attention pond on the new estate and found that no hydro break had been installed. This is a vital piece of equipment that allows the pond to work limiting the amount of rainwater that can drain from the pond and stopping a rush of water from the estate into the culvert that is already at capacity.

I extracted the wooded board that had been placed in the attention pond and the water began draining at a quick pace the engineering team advised this wouldn't help matters during heavy rains and due to the capacity of the pond asked me to put the board back.

Taylor Wimpy have since installed a water break and removed the board.

Homeless shelter in Evesham,

Wychavon have had approval to convert an old folks' home into a halfway house for the homeless. This will help ensure the district keeps meeting its requirement to house homeless people within set time periods.

On another note I was taking part in the annual Pebworth litter pick this past Saturday and was amazed at how much rubbish we collected. I was thinking Honeybourne could do a similar event and help clean up the village, I would be happy to get Wychavon to assist with grabbers, bags and collecting the rubbish collected.

Cllr Thomas Havemann-Mart