

Honeybourne Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of an Ordinary Council Meeting held at the Village Hall on 10th July 2012

Present: Cllrs. B Johnson (Chairman), A Attridge, S Kendrick, T Probert, G Clelland, D Cowan, D George, S Matthews, A Simmons, P Brookes and M Powell.

In Attendance: Cllr. Alistair Adams, Mr J Stedman (Clerk) and one member of the public.

Prior to the meeting, Ms Carole Longden gave a presentation on the proposed planting of the 300 acre Heart of England Forest between Honeybourne and Pebworth, a summary report is at minute 74b.

67. Apologies were accepted from: Cllr. Tom Bean

68. Disclosures of Interests

a. To declare and disclose any personal or prejudicial interests in items on the agenda

Personal Interests: None

Personal and Prejudicial Interests: None

b. Register of Interests: The Chairman reminded members of the need to update their register of interests and that the Clerk has copies of all members register of interests if they wish to review them.

69. The Chairman adjourned the meeting for public open forum.

Public Open Forum; no public representation

Ward Members Reports

Cllr. Tom Bean: No report available

Cllr. Alistair Adams: (Attended after a WDC Committee meeting but is minuted here for convenience,) gave his report which is appended to the minutes.

The Chairman closed the adjournment at 7.50 and reconvened the meeting.

70. Minutes: Council agreed the wording of the minutes of the June ordinary Council meeting, with one minor amendment, and the Chairman signed them as a true record of the meeting.

71. Clerk's Report on Matters in Progress:

- a.** The Vicarage Nurseries visit arranged for mid-August when the second crop will be ready
- b.** Fly tipping on Stratford Road and Brick Walk was cleared by WDC
- c.** Drain inspection at the recreation field, the County Highways engineer David Lavender is to have the drain inspected by a camera and report the findings to the Clerk. David Lavender also considered that the main drainage pipe of 150mm was not big enough to clear the water from the field run off in heavy rain conditions.
- d.** Letter to Western Power distribution regarding intermittent power supplies; reply awaited.
- e.** The Npower direct debit mandate sent to Npower
- f.** Highway potholes reported at The Gate Inn and Dudley Road now repaired

72. Planning – Application for consideration

- a.** W/01368/PP Mr Richmond, 3 Fernihough Avenue New conservatory at the rear of dwelling - The Council has no objection or comment on the application.

73. Planning Decisions to Note:

- a.** W/12/00936/PN 1, Brandon Villas, Station Road –New house and vehicular access. Granted with conditions
- b.** W/12/01110/PP Mr D Hall, 49 High Street, Ground floor extension for kitchen and utility, The Council has no objection or comment on the application. Granted with condition

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74. Planning Matters:

- a. Sharba homes planning appeal; The Chairman confirmed he would represent the Council at the appeal on 18th 19th and 20th July and speak.
- b. Proposed 300 acre broadleaf forest planting as presented by Carole Longden; Members expressed many concerns over the proposal which included: - the scale of change in the rural landscape between Honeybourne and Pebworth, the loss of countryside views, the changes in the local ecology and wildlife habitat and the loss of high grade farm land. To enable a better understanding of the impact of the proposals the Worcestershire County Council landscape and forestry officer will be asked to attend a Parish Council meeting to give the County Council's view on the proposed forest.
- c. Members report on the SWDP briefing at Pershore, 26-28th June; Cllr. Peter Brooks attended the meeting and reported that very many objections were raised over the SWDP proposals. He further reported that the development of the Shorey land off High Street was proposed to be taken out of the plan but other plan changes will not affect Honeybourne.

75. Neighbourhood Plan

- a. It was agreed to initiate a parish forum to investigate a way forward with the neighbourhood plan. This will be advertised throughout the parish and the lead planning officer from WDC will be invited to attend and guide the forum through the procedures to attaining the neighbourhood plan.

76. Cemetery & Churchyard

- a. Council considered a request for permission to install a memorial seat in the cemetery and considered the proposed site was unsuitable due to its proximity to the Garden of Remembrance. It was agreed three members should meet with the applicant on site to consider an alternative position for the seat.
- b. Mowing report: Following the request to the contractor to collect the grass members reported the mowing was satisfactory and the general appearance was good.
- c. A members report on the state of some grave plots and site maintenance was considered and it was resolved to: - request the sunken grave plots are filled to surface levels, a large rose bush is pruned and some deteriorated artefacts are removed. Clerk to contact the families concerned. A manhole cover in the cemetery has a trip hazard due to tarmac deterioration; the handyman will be requested to remedy the problem.

77. Street Lights:

- a. Lighting faults to be reported: none at this time.

78. Public Rights of Way –

- a. The PPW reported on the clearance of the Bretforton Road Bridle way overgrowth and the strimming of the footpath from the Church to the Gate Inn.
- b. Strimming of both Westbourne footpaths and The Gate Inn footway was completed by the handyman.
- c. PROW matters to be reported to PPW. None at this time

79. Highways:

- a. Highway matters to be reported to County Highways
 - i. Gate Inn footway fence concrete post damaged
 - ii. Pothole in Stratford Road opposite Grove Avenue
 - iii. Sunken utility device at the bottom end of High Street

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b. Other Highway Matters;

- i. Ivy overhanging the wall at Baldwin's Court is obstructing the footway. Clerk to write to the property occupiers requesting its cut back
- ii. Inconsiderate lorry parking at the top of High Street where building works are taking place. See Minute 84 below.
- iii. A dead Hawthorne tree on the bend in Stratford Road needs removing. Clerk to investigate the ownership arrange its removal.
- iv. VAS: due to the lack of support from Cllr. Tom Bean to have the VAS returned to Station Road the Council agreed to write to Cllr. John Smith (County Council portfolio holder for Highways) requesting the VAS is returned to Station Road as soon as possible where speeding problems have been identified in the past. It was noted that Badsey have the shared VAS on a very regular basis.

c. It was confirmed that the replacement of the Litterbin in Stratford Road is now resolved.

d. Re-surfacing works on Bretforton Road; Roy Fullee will arrange to have the area inspected, from which he will also be able to identify whether the proposed planned works are still in the pipeline for this financial year. Further information will be available for the next meeting.

80. Lengthsman

- a. The Clerk reported that most works scheduled for last month were completed and the two outstanding jobs will be completed shortly.
- b. New matters to be reported for action; none at this time

81. Handyman

- a. New matters to be reported for action; none at this time

82. The Leys Playing Field

- a. The regular monthly visual inspection; Cllr. Graham Clelland reported no safety problems with the play area and suggested a dog proof fence should be installed around the play equipment site, it was agreed to consider design specifications at the next meeting. It was also agreed to request a donation for the works from Cllr. Tom Bean. He also indicated the tall hedge around the play equipment would need cutting back in the near future. Clerk to request a quote for the hedge cutting.
- b. Cllr. Graham Clelland reported on the safety inspection report from Wicksteed and considered the litterbin needed securing as it is very loose and hard-core should be placed in front of the public seat to mitigate any slip hazard, Clerk to action these jobs.

83. VISA and Recreation Field :

- a. The VISA report on the progress with the recreation field was not available.
- b. **Field Lease:** The Chairman confirmed that the latest draft of the recreation field lease to VISA had been returned to VISA immediately following the June council meeting with some amendments and explanations for VISA's Solicitor to consider. After making enquiries into its progress the Chairman was assured it would be concluded shortly. No further information was available for the meeting.
- c. **The grant of easement** at 1 Gloster Ades from Thomson Bancks solicitors was received and council agreed to date the grant on 10th July 2012. Thomson Bancks solicitors will be informed of the date.

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- d. Damaged Headwall:** the Clerk reported the brick built headwall at the field entrance had suffered vehicular impact and was damaged beyond repair. In considering its replacement it was agreed not to rebuild it but to stabilize the tarmac edging with concrete edging and install a wooden post and rail fence to have a more visible structure on the edge of the access. Clerk to request a quotation for the works involved.
- e. Grass Maintenance:** Cllr. David Cowan reported that Ian Trout had been ill and unable to carry out mowing etc. He is now in a position to continue and will resume maintenance and weed spraying when the weather permits. The clover cover is the main aim of the weed spraying.
- 84. PACT:** Council requested that the PCSO be informed of the un-supervised Lorries parking on the bend in High Street to deliver building materials to two properties having building work done and which were nearly opposite each other and which were causing traffic problem due to the lack of visibility and supervision on the bend.
- 85. HAGA:**
- a.** The Clerk reported rent for two plots is still outstanding and being pursued. The Vacant plots were now advertised on the notice boards and Mrs Fairfax will be bringing further rent money to the office shortly. A work party was being organized to clear some vacant plots.
- 86. Party in the Park Report:**
- a.** A final un-adopted event balance sheet was issued to council indicating a surplus balance of £950.64. A cheque for £1,500 was issued to the Clerk in re-payment of the pyrotechnic display which had received interim financing by the council. The Jubilee groups next meeting is on Monday 16 July to adopt the final accounts, consider donations from the profits and to discuss staging a simple music and fireworks evening in September. This is primarily to have the Fireworks display that was postponed from the Jubilee Party due to the awful weather. The evening will be held on the Gate Inn field as they already have all the necessary insurances, licences, and facilities etc., which will simplify the organisation and avoid overheads. An update will be given to Parish Council at the August meeting.
- 87. Mowing issues**
- a.** Council considered several complaints received over the quality of the amenity mowing on the Leys and the Greens in Brick Walk. It was confirmed that the frequency of mowing had lapsed and added to the continued wet condition the situation needed remedial action. Council agreed to instruct the contractor to mow all amenity areas at ten day intervals until the contracted number of mowing's was achieved and the mowing quality is restored. Clerk to action this with the contractor.
- 88. Policy: Matters**
- a.** Adoption of the Worcestershire model code of conduct; The Chairman considered in his professional opinion that the wording of the new code did not offer a clearly defined code of conduct and wished to raise this with the WDC Monitoring Officer. The matter will be reconsidered at the August meeting as no date for adoption is set.
- b.** The Clerk issued to all members the new declaration of interest's form which will be returned to the Monitoring Officer by 28th July. All forms have been signed and returned to the Clerk by the end of the meeting?
- 89. Finance:**
- a.** The Council approved the Payments, Receipts and Balances as listed in appendix A
- b.** To consider and agree the first financial quarter's account balances, budgets and bank reconciliation.

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- 90. Matters raised by members and items for future agendas –**
- a. Members requested a draft newsletter should be considered at the next meeting.
- 91. Correspondence: For consideration**
- a. Information and works request regarding the path fronting the cottages on The Green. The Clerk reported he had spoken with the correspondent and resolved many issues. The path fronting the cottages is believed to be the responsibility of the cottages but the section fronting the old church wall is still questionable, further investigation will be made to resolve the ownership to enable the path to be cleared of vegetation to ensure a clear access.
- 92. Correspondence Noted –**
- a) Shakespeare Hospice Newsletter
 b) WCC National travel pass renewal scheme
 c) Evesham Arts Centre booklet
- 93. Meeting Dates:**
- a. It was confirmed the next Ordinary Meeting is scheduled for the 14th August at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm
- 94.** There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.15 pm.

Chairman _____ Date _____

APPENDIX A: FINANCE

Payments Authorised

Jul-12

Cheque No.	Payee	Details	Total Payment	VAT Element	Net Payment
1008	Wychavon District Council	New Litter Bin	717.49	119.58	597.91
1009	Wicksteed	Playground Inspection	72.00	12.00	60.00
1010	Hightrees	Mowing Contract	352.68	58.78	293.90
1011	J Stedman	Clerks Salary & Expenses	185.08		185.08
1012	HMRC	PAYE & NIC	681.94		681.94
1013	John Hyde	Handyman Works	143.75		143.75
1013	John Hyde	Lengthsman works	91.38		91.38
			2,244.32	190.36	2,053.96

Payments received and banked

Received From	Details	Amount	Banked
	Total	0.00	

All paid up Account Balances

CURRENT ACCOUNT	£13,170.53
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT	£58,572.59
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	£71,743.12

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District Councillor report - Honeybourne

Month: July 2012

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

1. Planning

- a. **44 dwellings – Sheep Sales Fields – Sharba Homes W/11/02686/PN** - The developers have appealed against the decision. The date of the appeal is **18th July to 20th July** at the Civic Centre in Pershore. I had a meeting with the Head of Planning, Head of Legal and the planning officers involved with the Chairman of Honeybourne Parish Council to discuss how to organise ourselves for the appeal. Everyone interested is invited to attend on all or any of the 3 days. If you want to speak at the event as a resident this is possible – you can now simply attend on the first day and express your interest that you want to talk at some point, and they will give you a time slot.
- b. **70 dwellings - Lioncourt Homes development at Station Road** - Literally a few days after the Sharba Homes appeal is the one for Lioncourt. The date of the appeal is **24th July to 26th July** at the Civic Centre in Pershore. As above, anyone interested is invited to attend on all or any of the 3 days.

On both appeals above, it is impossible to say at this stage how the inspector will rule. The best approach is to assume it is a very close call, and if you do not want these developments to go ahead, then you need to show your opposition to these developments by attending the above days. The more local residents that attend this event, the more the inspector will see that there is genuine local opposition.

- c. **SWDP** – The results from the public consultation have at last been printed, and for Honeybourne it states:
 “ SWDP23-27 Delete Site”
 “The above could be come forward through the NDP”
Because the above is considered a significant change following the 1st public consultation, there will be another opportunity for everyone in Honeybourne to voice their approval/disapproval of these changes. The 2nd public consultation will be advertised shortly. If you have any views either for these changes or against these changes, please feel free to email me on adams.pebworth@gmail.com.
- d. **Taylor Wimpey Site – 75 dwellings** this is going to planning committee next Thursday

2. Resident queries:

- a. None

3. **Broadband** – The consultant is still awaiting a reply from BT with the information he requested. We have submitted a request for some money from DEFRA last week to help with this Broadband project. We have requested £300,000.

End of report.