

## Honeybourne Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Council Meeting held at the Village Hall on 14<sup>th</sup> August 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 seven member of the public.

Apologies were received from: **Cllr. Tom Bean**  
Disclosures of Interests

- a. **To declare and disclose** any Pecuniary interests in items on the agenda
- b. To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature, if necessary.  
**Pecuniary Interests:** Cllr Trish Probert – Minute 101c Grange Farm development  
**Other Disclosable Interests:** None
- c. **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.

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

### **Public Open Forum;**

The three co-owners of the Shorey land west of High Street presented their proposals for the development of the land and requested the Parish Council to support the proposal and in doing so, reject the option in the SWDP to delete the site from the plan. Their proposal included 16-18 dwelling with a site access through the site of 49 High Street and a large community area adjacent to the Gate Inn Brook which also incorporates flood alleviation controls. The public rights of way would be unaffected by the development and 40% of the dwellings would be affordable housing.

### **Ward Members Reports**

**Cllr. Tom Bean:** No report available

**Cllr. Alistair Adams:** Gave his report which is appended to the minutes.

The Chairman closed the adjournment at 8.12 and reconvened the meeting.

97. **Minutes:** Council agreed the wording of the minutes of the July ordinary Council meeting, and the Chairman signed them as a true record of the meeting.

98. **Clerk's Report on Matters in Progress:**

- a. The Vicarage Nurseries visit is arranged for 21st August, meeting point to be confirmed
- b. Cllr John Smith regarding VAS – Cllr Smith requested Roy Fullee to investigate the VAS issues and offer the Parish Council an opportunity to purchase a VAS for £750. The Council agreed in principle to take up the offer and raised several matters to be resolved prior to proceeding. The Clerk will report to the September meeting with further information.
- c. Heart of England Forest: The County Council Landscape Officer informed the Clerk that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) should be carried out under Defra regulations as the proposed 300 acre forest will have a significant impact on the local rural landscape. The Officer was making enquiries with the Forestry Commission regarding the EIA for the forest it could not be confirmed; and a meeting with the officer and the Forestry Commission is arranged to consider the situation. The officer recommended the Parish Council and individual parishioners write to the Forestry Commission expressing their concerns over the impact of the proposed 300 acre new forest in the parish and request the Parish Council is a consultee to the EIA.

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- d. Road potholes in Green Close were reported to Rooftop Housing and members confirmed the matter is resolved.
- e. Highway matters reported to WCC; the Clerk reported seven highway defects in July, most of which are resolved.
- f. Printing and distribution of the Council's newsletter; Collected by Cllr Alistair Adams and delivered by Graham Cleland's delivery team.
- g. Dead tree removal from Stratford Road - County Highways confirmed they will be removing the dead tree.
- h. Private path clearance on The Green - The path is reported to be cleared by the local residents, matter resolved.
- i. Ivy overhanging the wall at Baldwin's Court – the property owner has been asked today to clear the ivy and he said he would do so very soon.
- j. Neighbourhood Plan Forum arranged for Monday 15th October @ 6.30pm – The event will be publicised as fully as possible as it is a community forum and public involvement is essential.
- k. Western Power Distribution response – their response was noted and the Clerk was asked to write again as three more interruptions were recorded last weekend.
- l. The Npower confirmation of direct debit payments was noted

**99. Planning** – Lead Members, Cllrs. Andy. Attridge, Sandra Kendrick and Mike Powell

**Application to be reported on as the consultation is complete**

- a) **W/12/01020/OU** –Taylor Wimpy, Grange Farm amended plans for hedge removal and highway matters - Under the clerk's delegated power the following comment was made to WDC: -

The Parish Council is seriously concerned that the Highway Authority appear to have such little regard for road safety that they will allow an estate road to exit onto an approach road to a village without reducing the 60 mph speed limit to 40mph as had been previously indicated. This proposed junction involves a right turn lane which is a potential road safety hazard without speed restriction and this would also have provided the means of slowing traffic down prior to entering the village and thereby reducing the existing speeding problem on Station Road which is well known and documented with the Highway Authority, the West Mercia Police and the Safer Roads Partnership. The suggestion of the 40mph reduction was also fully endorsed by the developer's agents in pre application discussions. We would therefore like to see Plan 2b accepted as the proper and safest option, but at the very least we would be prepared to accept Plan 3 as the speed reduction from 40 to 30 is critical. Plan 3d is totally unacceptable to the Parish Council.

**100. Planning Decisions to Note:**

- a. W/01368/PP Mr Richmond, 3 Fernihough Avenue New conservatory at the rear of dwelling – Granted with 2 conditions

**101. Planning Matters:**

- a. The Chairman reported on the Sharba homes three day planning inquiry which he attended each day and gave evidence on behalf of the Parish Council. Several Honeybourne parishioners also attended each day demonstrating support for the objectors. Members thanked the Chairman for his attendance and input, his presented evidence is filed in Council records.
- b. Cllr Sandra Kendrick reported on her attendance at the Lioncourt planning appeal. Cllr Alistair Adams, Sandra and three parishioners attended on the first day. The appellant stated that Lioncourt were happy to reduce the number of dwellings and turn round the houses that backed on to the railway line. The Barrister for Wychavon said that the planners thought the housing was of very poor design. Sandra's report is filed in Parish Council records.

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- c. Council considered the Proposed Significant Changes to the SWDP plan.  
Two changes are proposed for Honeybourne:  
**SOC 073 Delete site SWDP23/27- land behind the High Street.** The Council considered the reasoning put for the deletion of the site and the development proposals put by the landowners in open forum. Further consideration was given to the pending outcome of the Sharba Homes and Lioncourt appeals along with the grant of outline permission for 75 dwellings on the Grange Farm site. The time scale for responding to the SWDP consultation allows the matter to be considered at the September Council meeting when it is hoped the decisions of the two appeals might be available to enable a more informed debate on the deletion of SOC 073.

**Note:** Cllr Trish Probert having declared an interest in SOC 074 left the room for the debate

**SOC 074 Increase SWDP23/26 High Street / Weston Road site area to accommodate an additional 25 dwellings.** Council considered that as the granted outline planning application for 75 dwelling was supported by the Parish Council no further comments were required.

- d. Members were reminded of the SWDP consultation event at the Village Hall on 22nd August.  
e. Members were reminded of the planning meeting at WDC 6th September 7.30 - Planning Initiatives in the Localism Act presented by Andrew Ford.

### 102. Cemetery & Churchyard

Lead Members, Cllrs David George and Sylvia Matthews.

- a. Clerk reported that the seat placement request from Mr Shorey was now agreed  
b. Clerk reported the maintenance of various grave plots is delayed due to time constraints.  
c. Council considered remedial works to level the memorial plaques on the Garden of Remembrance plots and a general cemetery tidy up. The Lead Members and the Handyman will carry out an inspection and agree the necessary works for the Handyman to offer a quotation for the works. A public notice will be placed on the Garden of Remembrance indicating the proposed works will be carried out in the autumn.

### 103. Street Lights:

- a. Lighting faults to be reported: none at this time.  
b. The Clerk reported streetlight 24 in Green Close was not working but repairs have been completed.

### 104. Public Rights of Way – Lead Members, Cllrs. Trish Probert and David Cowan

- a. PROW matters to be reported to PPW  
i. The footpath from Station Road to Westbourne is overgrown and needs strimming.  
ii. The Footpath from Fancutts in High Street to The Ranch and its extension is overgrown and needs strimming.  
iii. It was noted that many of the footpaths in the parish are overgrown due to the wet summer conditions but clearance must be prioritised as funding is not available to clear all paths. The Council agreed an immediate budget of £150 to clear priority paths, Clerk to action the works as soon as possible.

### 105. Highways: Lead Members, Cllrs. Trish Probert and David Cowan

- a. Highway matters to be reported to County Highways  
i. Sunken utility device at the bottom end of High Street

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### b. Other Highway Matters;

- i. Extension of the 30 mph on Station Road to the north side of the railway bridge. Clerk to make enquiries with Roy Fullee to investigate all options as it is considered the new traffic lights are causing speeding problems in the area and this matter has been raised with him before.
- ii. The Verge fronting the Domestic Fowl Trust is in need of attention and the Clerk will request the Trust cuts back the overgrown vegetation.
- iii. Several highway matters will be referred to the Lengthsman

- c. Re-surfacing of Bretforton Road; Roy Fullee has indicated that the prioritising of county highways works has delayed the resurfacing until 2013/14 when the matter will be re-considered.

### 106. Lengthsman Lead members, Cllrs. Trish Probert and David Cowan

- a. New matters to be reported for action;
  - i. Clear Grips in Bretforton Road south side.
  - ii. Strim the nettles on the verge in Station Road fronting the Sheep Sale field.
  - iii. Strim the weeds and nettles on the verge in High Street opposite the raised footway.
  - iv. Canopy lift and reduction of the trees in the verges of School Street.

### 107. Handyman

- a. New matters to be reported for action;
  - i. Remedial works are required to the Cemetery gates as a weld has failed on the gate side panels leaving the panel unsupported.
  - ii. Cemetery site visit with lead members to consider remedial work to graves as in minute 102c.

### 108. The Leys Playing Field Lead Members, Cllrs. Graham Clelland and David Cowan

- a. **Inspection:** Cllr Graham Clelland reported that the regular monthly visual inspection found no problems with the play equipment and further reported the grass mowing was satisfactory and the grass is in good condition.
- b. **Play area fencing:** Members agreed the design specification put forward by the Clerk for the play area proposed fencing. The Lead members will measure the linear dimensions for the proposed fence to enable quotations to be requested for its installation.
- c. **Funding:** Cllr. Tom Bean has agreed to help fund the proposed new fencing from his community fund subject to other funding support in the parish.
- d. The Clerk reported on information received regarding dog control orders, members considered the information did not answer the question of dog control and further enquiries will be made.
- e. **Remedial works to the seat area:** Council agreed a quotation to install a gravel standing area in front of the seat to prevent water ponding and mud.
- f. **Hedge Cutting:** Council agreed a quotation to cut back the hedge behind the swings and remove the arising from the site.

### 109. VISA and Recreation Field :Lead Members, Cllrs. Graham Clelland and David Cowan

- 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 is almost complete but errors and omissions still exist, he has raised these matters with VISA and awaits further communications. Council agreed that the Clerk has delegated authority to refer the lease to the Council's Conveyancer when it is returned from VISA for final checks to ensure all matters are resolved and then to have the Lease signed in accordance

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with the Council's previous authorisation.

- c. **Grass Maintenance:** Cllr David Cowan reported that the clover in the field had been sprayed and may require a second treatment; further works are being carried out by Mr Ian Trout to improve the grass sward which is showing improvements. The field will be rolled when conditions are favourable.
- d. **Damaged Headwall:** The Council considered a quotation from the Handyman for the removal of the damaged wall and the installation of new kerbs and a post and rail fence; the quotation was accepted and the Clerk to action the works.

### 110. PACT: Lead Member Brian Johnson

- a. Members reported that the problem with Lorries parking in High Street is still on-going. The Council requested that the PCSO be informed again of the un-supervised Lorries parking on the bend in High Street and asked for firm action to be taken.
- b. The Chairman suggested the police should be informed of the potential 28% increase in housing stock in the village and asks what increase in policing levels we can expect when the new houses are occupied. Clerk to make the enquiry.

### 111. Newsletter

- a. The Clerk reported the August newsletter had been printed and distributed throughout the parish.
- b. **Distribution:** Council agreed a cheque should be issued to Mr Graham Clelland to enable payments to be made to the distribution team as soon as possible.
- c. **Advertising:** Council considered a request for advertising in the newsletter and declined the request as the newsletter is for Parish Council business only but agreed to refer any such enquiries to the Editor of the Parish News.

### 112. HAGA:

- a. **Management of the allotments:** The Clerk reported that Mrs. Fairfax wished to be relieved of the responsibility of the financial management of the allotments and asked the Parish Council to take over the general management and administration of the plots and the tenants. Cllr David George offered to take on the responsibilities on behalf of the Council and Council agreed to accept his offer. David will liaise with Mrs. Fairfax and the Clerk to enable the handover of documents and records. Members thanked David for his offer in taking on the responsibility.
- b. **Allotment Rents:** The Clerk reported all plot rents were now received for 2012/13.

## 2. Stevenson Way

- a) **Commuted Sum:** Council considered the Taylor Wimpy offer of a commuted sum for the balancing pond maintenance which is calculated on the 15 year term. Taking advice from a legal officer at WDC it was confirmed that a 20 year term is a normal time span, Council considered the 20 year term was verbally offered originally and it was agreed to respond to the Taylor Wimpy offer stating the terms for the commuted sum should be a minimum of 20 years plus a consideration for inflation.
- b) **Balance Pond Adoption:** The Clerk reported on correspondence received regarding the balance pond adoption which included the Land Registry Transfer document and the Severn Trent Water Model Deed of Grant for the balancing pond. It was agreed these documents could not be considered until clear evidence was received relating to the transfer of title of the balancing pond from every property on the estate. Clerk will respond accordingly

### 113. Party in the Park Report:

- a. Cllr Trish Probert issued an updated report on the proposals for the party arrangements on the

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8<sup>th</sup> September. The report is filed in the parish office.

### 114. Mowing issues

- a. Following the Council's request to the contractor to increase the amenity cutting frequency to 10 days further complaints were received over the excessive grass on The Leys as it was not cut at the frequency requested, it was also noted that the scheduled July verge mowing had not been carried out and the small green on the corner of Green Close had been missed again. Council agreed to review the mowing contract at the September meeting when an option to re-tender the contract for 2013 would be considered.

### 115. Broadband and IT: Lead Member, Cllr Peter Brookes

- a. Cllr Peter Brookes reported on local broadband improvements and supported the report by Cllr Alistair Adams which is appended to the minutes. He added local businesses will be canvassed to take up the improved services.

**116. Audit:** Clement Keys, the external auditors has given a qualified audit report for 2011/12 which the council noted and the clerk reported the audit closure notice was posted on the village noticeboard

**117. Finance:** The Council approved the Payments, Receipts and Balances as listed in appendix A

**118. Matters raised by members and items for future agendas** – none

**119. Correspondence: For consideration** - none

### 120. Correspondence Noted

- a. Cotswold Line Newsletter
- b. Get involved with planning
- c. Wychavon new homes bonus

### 121. Meeting Dates:

- a. It was confirmed the next Ordinary Meeting is scheduled for the 11<sup>th</sup> September at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm

**122.** There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.37 pm.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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### APPENDIX A: FINANCE

Payments Authorised

Aug-12

Cheque No.	Payee	Details	Total Payment	VAT Element	Net Payment
DD	Npower	Streetlight Energy	601.72	100.29	501.43
1014	Brian Johnson	Travel and Parking expenses	53.00		53.00
1015	P D Long	Streetlight Maintenance	79.20	13.20	66.00
1016	Clement Keys	External Audit	480.00	80.00	400.00
1017	Cotswold Line promotion	Annual subscription	10.00		10.00
1018	Hightrees	Mowing Contract	501.84	83.64	418.20
1019	WDC	Printing Jubilee Newsletter	31.20	5.20	26.00
1020	J Stedman	Clerks Salary & Expenses	758.96		758.96
1021	G Clelland	Newsletter Delivery	80.00		80.00
			<b>2,595.92</b>	<b>282.33</b>	<b>2,313.59</b>

Payments received and banked			
Received From	Details	Amount	Banked
Campion & New	Interment Avis Inv 175	110.00	
HMRC	VAT Repayment	1,134.26	
Jubilee Committee	Jubilee Event Donations	1,500.00	
J&K Curtis	Allotment Rent	20.00	
Briggs & Briggsova	Allotment Rent	20.00	
Buckley	Allotment Rent	25.00	
Cash	Allotment Rent	<b>95.00</b>	
Total		<b>2,904.26</b>	

#### All paid up Account Balances

CURRENT ACCOUNT	£13,143.07
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT	£48,574.41
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>£61,717.48</b>

**District Councillor report - Honeybourne**

**Month: August 2012**

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

### 1. Planning

- a. **Planning Appeals** – I attended both appeals at the Civic Centre in Pershore, and spoke at both to support the District Council, Parish Council and the local residents majority view and asked the inspector to reject the planning for:
  - i. **44 dwellings – Sheep Sales Fields – Sharba Homes W/11/02686/PN - 18<sup>th</sup> July to 20<sup>th</sup> July**
  - ii. **70 dwellings - Lioncourt Homes development at Station Road - 24<sup>th</sup> July to 26<sup>th</sup> July**

There was a good attendance from local residents to the Sheep Sales Appeal, but the weather improved the following week and there was less locals who attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> appeal. The developers had spent considerable money on top barristers, consultants and support teams to put their side forward, and concentrated on the 5 year housing supply as the main reason why they should be granted planning approval.

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On both appeals, it is impossible to say at this stage how the inspector will rule. I think we have put up a good fight, but we must now wait for the ruling. Lets keep our fingers crossed! I have just received a letter from Peter Luff, our MP, who supported us throughout these applications and appeals.

- b. **SWDP** – The results from the public consultation have at last been printed, and for Honeybourne it states that one site for potential development (SWDP23-27 ) has been deleted, and the other site (SWDP 23-26) has been increased in the size but the overall number of new homes is static at 75. There will be another opportunity for everyone in Honeybourne to voice their approval/disapproval of these changes as the 2<sup>nd</sup> public consultation has now started and more details can be obtained on <http://www.swdevelopmentplan.org>. **There is a public event at Honeybourne village hall on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August from 4pm to 8pm – everyone invited.**
  - c. **Taylor Wimpey Site – 75 dwellings** This is the site mentioned in the SWDP 23-26 between the High Street and Weston Road and it went to planning committee on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July and was voted unanimously for resolution for approval for Outline Planning.
  - d. **Long Marston Army camp development** – I attended the Joint Parish Council Working Committee looking at the design of the first 280 houses on this site and we asked for a lot of changes. The first designs were very bland and monotonous with no use of local architectural features or materials. The developers have taken on board many of the comments and re-designed the houses. Some leisure facilities are being built on the site such as a cricket ground, badminton hall, with more promised in phase 2. I understand all these facilities will be open to all villages in the area. The JPCWG is also pressing for a spa facility similar to the Wildmoor to be built there.
  - e. **SIMS/Bird Group Long Marston** have put in planning application to work 24/7 at this recycling plant. There is already concern about noise from the site, and heavy lorries travelling to and from the plant. In addition the Bird Group is at advanced stages of the pre-planning application for building 380 dwellings next to the plant. The Joint Parish Council Working Committee has had a meeting about this proposed development and is totally against it. They have agreed they will join forces to fight it as they did when the so-called “Ecotown” of 5000 new homes was first proposed.
2. **Parish Council Newsletter:** I collected the printed versions and delivered them for distribution in Honeybourne
  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. I should receive his full report by our next meeting.
  4. **Ward Walks** – I will be accompanying Jack Hegarty, the MD of Wychavon District Council, on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September when he visits our villages. These ward walks are designed to give feedback to the local District Council from residents, businesses, and community groups. He wants to try and visit all the businesses in the ward, and see how the local council can help local businesses grow and employ more staff. If you have any questions or comments for Jack, or would like him to visit your business, or community group on this date, then please email me [adams.pebworth@gmail.com](mailto:adams.pebworth@gmail.com), or phone me on 07725 979 277

End of report.