

Honeybourne Parish Council
Minutes of the Honeybourne Parish Council Meeting held at the
Village Hall on 13th August 2013

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

In Attendance: Mr J Stedman (Clerk), Cllr Alistair Adams and four members of the public

Apologies: all in attendance - Cllr Graham Clelland arrived late at 10.10.

77. 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 Interests: Cllr Trish Probert Min 85 b Post Office report

Other Disclosable Interests: None

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

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

Public Open Forum: Mr Andrew Shorey made several comments regarding his application for 14 dwelling at the rear of High Street, the main issues he raised was the flooding and informed the meeting it is the only development site to offer flood relief in the village and lowering he raised footpath would further the flood relief. His comments were noted.

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

The Chairman closed the adjournment and reconvened the meeting.

79. 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.

80. Clerk's Report on Matters in Progress:

- a) Replacement of the Honeybourne Road street name sign on Fir Tree corner is in hand with the District Council
- b) Power outages reported WPD informed the Clerk that the pylon line from Feckenham to Evesham is being replaced by underground cables which should stop the current problems
- c) GCC Highways reported the potholes on the Weston-Sub-Edge road will be filled shortly
- d) Severn Trent Water major works at Corner Farm and the Gate Inn pumping station to commence this week
- e) Camping on The Leys – members requested the PCSO is asked to monitor The Leys for campers
- f) Westbourne footpath resurfacing - Cllr Alistair Adams informed the meeting the works are scheduled to be done by County Highways

81. Planning Applications–

- a) **W/13/00719/OU:** Mrs V R Hall, Mr A J Shorey & Mrs E A O'Sullivan Outline application residential development comprising of up to 14 no. dwelling houses, access road, area of open space and drainage improvements.
 As the application was withdrawn from the July planning agenda it was now to be considered on Thursday 15 August 2013 when the Chairman will speak at the planning meeting giving the Councils response to the application.

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82. Planning Matters:

- a. **Grange Farm planning matters** – an email from Kathrine Ventham outlined the developer's response to questions raised by the Parish Council on the reserved matters application. Members noted the information.
- b. **Stevenson Way Balancing Pond legal matters** - an email from Eleanor Bonham, the Parish Council Convayancer, indicated that Taylor Wimpey has supplied their draft legal documentation and only Severn Trent Water's documents were outstanding to start the transfer process
- c. **Street naming:** Members considered street naming suggestions for the Lioncourt development and agreed to offer the following four names for the estate: - Hawthorn Close, Sycamore Drive, Chestnut Walk and Birch Grove
- d. The Clerk reported on enquiries to H&SE into the use of land on the Lioncourt site for recreation use and the response was somewhat ambiguous and further investigation will be made

83. Finance:

- a) The membership renewal for the Cotswold Promotion group at a cost of £10.00 was agreed
- b) The Council approved the Payments, Receipts and Balances as listed in appendix A
- c) The Clerk reported on the NJC Clerk's pay scale increase of 1% as from April 2013

84. Audit:

- a. The Clerk reported that the 2012-13 annual return is complete and returned with no matters of concern
- b. The audit closure notice has been placed on the village noticeboards as required by the auditor.

85. Council and Community Matters for Consideration–

a. Mowing contract:

Members noted the email response from the mowing contractor regarding a complaints letter sent from the July meeting and agreed to continue the contract monitoring. Members also reported the contractual weed spraying was satisfactory

- b) **Post Office:** The Council noted that there had been confusion in the closure dates of the High Street Post Office and it was confirmed it will close on 3rd September 2013 and the services will be re-located to Premier Stores on the Stratford Road on 23rd September. No discussion took place on this item.
- c) **Spare Leys keys:** due to the Post Office closure it was agreed the 'Spare Leys keys' should be held by Cllr Sylvia Matthews & Cllr David George
- d) **New Noticeboards:** Council considered the cost of aluminium noticeboards and Cllr Colin Clear suggested he makes further investigation at Long Lartin Prison requesting a specification and cost for suitable wooden notice boards, the matter will be considered at a future meeting. This was agreed.
- e) **New Homes Bonus:** Members noted the new homes bonus annual report for advanced payment.
- f) **Wychavon Sports:** the letter confirming entry to 3 games was noted.

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86. Cemetery & Churchyard

- a) **Path Remedial Works:** The Clerk reported the Vicar was not available to give the report from the PCC – Clerk to pursue the matter
- b) Members reported that the handyman remedial works carried out in the cemetery was complete and satisfactory
- c) The Clerk reported on an added memorial inscription for Arthur Edkins

87. Public Rights of Way:

- a. The Clerk reported that the costs for PROW 537B bridge repair works will be reimbursed by the County Council

88. Highways:

- a) Highway matters to be reported.
 - i) The Bretforton Road footway surface is in a very poor state of repair
 - ii) Potholes on the Weston Road side of the Gate Inn Cross roads
 - iii) The hedge around the Vicarage on Stratford Road is obstructing the footway
 - iv) Congestion caused by inconsiderate parking at the top of High Street – Clerk will write to the Honeybourne Pottery requesting their consideration when they hold events.
- b) Bretforton Road repairs; Cllr Alistair Adams assured the Council that patching works will start in September with a full surface dressing next spring
- c) The Clerks report on the VAS deployment and infringement counts were noted. A request to sight the VAS further north on Station Road will be passed to the Lengthsman.
- d) Correspondence received regarding the BOAT HY 556 was noted.

89. Lengthsman and Handyman:

Matter attended to: -

- a. **Ditch clearance** in School Street – the County Highways are aware the discharge pipe from the ditch is blocked and it is beyond the Lengthsman scope to clear it
- b. **Bench repair** in the Gloster Ades bus shelter – following a small repair job the Handyman reported the old wooden seat was beyond future economical repair. Cllr Colin Clear will check the size and design of the bench and ask the Prison for a cost to make a new one.

90. The Leys Playing Field:

- a. **Inspection:** The regular weekly visual inspection report was considered to be satisfactory but some minor repair works were agreed to be carried out. Clerk to instruct the handyman accordingly.

91. Allotments:

- a. Cllr David George informed council that Mr Kevin Gisbourne had taken the administrative role for the allotments and is pursuing the letting of vacant plots. Site maintenance works have been carried out and the site is running smoothly.

92. VISA Field and VISA Ltd :

- a. **Project Manager:** The engagement of Mr Ken Watkins as project manager for the funding and development of the VISA field will be considered at the extraordinary meeting on 22nd August.

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- b. **Grant request:** In consideration of a letter from VISA Ltd. requesting financial support and following a lengthy debate when the Chairman allowed the VISA Ltd. Chairman and Secretary to offer comments to the meeting it was unanimously agreed to grant VISA Ltd. £1,500 to help cover their immediate legal expenses as unexpected additional legal work had arisen during the processing of the lease. A cheque was issued to VISA Ltd. at the meeting.
 - c. **Use of The Leys for football matches:** It was agreed to send a letter to The Gate Inn Football Club and VISA Ltd. setting out the council's policy on the future use of The Leys for football or other matches. After considering the availability of the VISA Field and the costs of maintaining The Leys the Council agreed that any organised football or other matches played on The Leys would be charged at £20 per match regardless of the circumstances or what teams are playing. The charges will apply from 1st September and The Leys would only be made available with the explicit permission of the Parish Council when the VISA field is confirmed, in writing, by VISA Ltd, to be unplayable.
 - d. **VISA Ltd. minutes:** The VISA Ltd. recent meeting minutes indicated giving exclusive use of the VISA field football pitch to the Gate Inn team. This was brought to the attention of the VISA Ltd. Chairman as this may be in contravention of the field lease agreement. The VISA Ltd. Chairman gave an assurance that this minuted statement would be withdrawn at the next VISA Ltd. meeting.
 - e. **Water supply:** VISA Ltd requested the Parish Council make an application to Severn Trent Water for a water supply on to the VISA Field. It was agreed to discuss this matter with the Project Manager at the meeting on 22nd August.
93. **Village Hall:**
- a. Council noted the report from Richard Kendrick on the Community Centre project and the contents of a letter from Paul Taylor
94. **Matters Raised by Members for Consideration or Items for Future Agendas.**
- a. **Cllr Peter Brookes:** The Rural Community Energy Fund; Peter outlined the £15m fund available for renewable energy feasibility studies, he offered to get the application form and give consideration to using the fund for the new Village Hall and Pavilion projects
 - b. **Cllr Trish Probert:** Mobile phone signal local coverage on the next meeting agenda.
95. **Correspondence : Noted**
- a. Festival Housing Strategic Plan 2013-18,
 - b. CLPG Newsletter
 - c. Rural Fair Share petitions
96. **Meeting Dates:**
- a. Members confirmed the extraordinary Meeting which is scheduled for the 22nd August at the Village Hall at 7.30
 - b. Members confirmed the next Ordinary Meeting is scheduled for the 10th September at the Village Hall at 7.30

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.16pm.

Chairman

Date

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APPENDIX A: FINANCE

Payments to be Authorised

Aug-13

Cheque No.	Payee	Details	Total Payment	VAT Element	Net Payment
D/D	Npower	Streetlight Energy	603.96	100.66	503.30
1112	J Hyde	PROW Bridge repair	30.00		30.00
1112	J Hyde	Handyman Works	262.50		262.50
1112	J Hyde	Lengthsman's Works	107.65		107.65
1113	Hartwell & Co Ltd	PROW Bridge repair	23.94	3.99	19.95
1114	Grant Thornton	External Auditor	360.00	60.00	300.00
1115	GBD	Mowing Contract	427.03	71.17	355.86
1116	CLPG	Subscription	10.00		10.00
1117	Wychavon Sport	Parish Games	18.00		18.00
1118	J Stedman	Clerks Salary and Expenses	1,112.13		1,112.13
1119	BPS Ltd	Burial Ground Works	15.47	2.58	12.89
1119	BPS Ltd	Burial Ground Works	62.34	10.39	51.95
1120	WDC	Newsletter Printing	90.72	15.12	75.60
1121	VISA Ltd	VISA Grant	1,500.00		1,500.00
			4,623.74	263.91	4,359.83

Account Transfer

Payments received and banked

Received From	Details	Amount	Banked
SC Alder	Allotment rent for plot 404	20.00	
Total		20.00	

All paid up Account Balances

CURRENT ACCOUNT	£6,850.34
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT	71,054.41
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	£77,904.75

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District Councillor report - Honeybourne

Month: August 2013

Prepared by Alastair Adams

Honeybourne & Pebworth Ward, Wychavon District Council

1. **Planning – Grange Farm** – Taylor Wimpey have now re-submitted their planning application for 75 houses on this site, and it is being presented at August's planning committee on 15th.
2. **Planning – Sheep Sales Field** – Contrary to rumour, the developer is still negotiating with WDC to build less houses on this site.
3. **Fire at SIMS Re-cycling plant** –Still no news from the Environmental Agency re their report on the fire.
4. **Planning - 380 new houses next to SIMS re-cycling plant in Pebworth/Long Marston**– This is being presented at August's planning committee on 15th, even though the developer has taken it to Appeal for non-determination. The Secretary of State has also stated he will make the decision following the Planning Inspector's Enquiry.
5. **Planning – 13/00719 Land off High Street for 14 dwellings** - I attended a meeting on 5th August with the Planning Officer, the EA, the developer, the WDC Flood Engineer, Brian Johnson, and others to express my concerns over this development and the flooding issues. I agree with the Parish Council that this planning application should be rejected. I do believe there is an opportunity that this developer could help with the severe flooding issues at the Gate, but this application does not resolve the flooding issues and could be a lot better. I will speak to oppose this current application.
6. **Broadband** —Still no news! The tender for Broadband for the county was received on 5th July but we are still waiting to hear how it will effect Honeybourne...

End of District Councillor report

County Councillor Report- Honeybourne

Month: August 2013

Prepared by Alastair Adams

Littletons Division, Worcestershire County Council

Highways –

Here is an update on the following road works in this area. We are making progress!

C2006 Buckle St, Station Rd , Weston Rd Honeybourne Patching- **Completed**

C2274 Mickleton Rd Honeybourne Patching - **Completed**

C2009 Sheenhill Lane South Littleton Patching- **Completed**

C2214 Arrow Ln North Littleton Patching - **Completed**

B4085 Blackminster Surfacing - ?

B4035 Bretforton (Main road through) Patching & Surfacing - **Completed**

C2049 Long Marston Rd Pebworth Patching - **Completed**

B4510 Offenham Surface Dressing – **date confirmed**

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I had a meeting on 5th August with Ian Bamforth Head of Highways – he called the meeting – to discuss progress with the roads around here. He confirmed he has visited Pebworth & Honeybourne and the surrounding villages to see some of the things I have reported and to check the work is being done! Nice to know we are getting such personal service now!

He also stated that the roads patched this year will be surface-dressed next year sometime between April to July.

Bretforton Road – Ian Bamforth also confirmed the Bretforton Road will be repaired in September this year (only proviso is the weather!). It will be extensively patched and then surfaced-dressed next year. I asked him to make sure the worse areas are full-width patched as per the road into Pebworth from Long Marston. He stated that the engineer will assess the road just before the works start, but took on board my request.

Issues - Points Raised since last meeting with updates:

1. **Hedge overgrown over pavement near Main Street junction with B4510, Aldington - enquiry re 5726941** - I logged this request, and it has been confirmed that it is the responsibility of Network Rail, and they have confirmed they have instructed their contractor to cut it.
2. **Visit by Peter Luff to Cleeve Prior on 14th August-** the bridle path is a no go area at the moment because of dangerous dogs. This issue has been flagged up to Bill Longmore (Police Commissioner)

30mph stickers and “Slow Down” stickers for wheelie bins These are now being produced by the West Mercia Safer Road Partnerships, and I have some if anyone wants some; I left some of each with the Parish Clerk.

FutureFit – is the WCC Corporate Plan. I attended a meeting on the County Council’s main strategy which is called “commissioning”. This basically means looking at all services and deciding whether there is a better way of supplying the service; different supplier? more cost effective way? different way of doing things, Etc. Their phrase is “*The right service from the right provider at the right price for the tax payer.*” Currently less than 50% of the WCC budget is spent externally. The likely consequence of being an excellent commissioning authority is that a growing percentage will be spent externally with private companies, voluntary organisations and charities, social enterprises tailored to local communities, or other public sector organisations. The aim is to provide a better service with greater choice and flexibility, and to save tax payers money (target £100million). The expectation is the number of staff employed by the council directly will fall from 4500 to less than 3000.

Campaign on fairer funding for rural councils Peter Luff is urging all Parish Councils to sign the petition to Parliament to campaign for fairer funding for rural councils. Urban councils currently receive 50% more per head than rural areas in central government grant, despite evidence that many services are more expensive to deliver in sparsely populated rural communities. With budgets reducing it is essential that we move to a fairer allocation of limited public resources.

Points Raised by residents or council with updates:

1. **Buckle Street – overgrown hedge as you go up the hill out of Honeybourne on the Bidford Rd.** Following a call from a resident, I have reported this.
2. **Footpath from Westbourne to Stratford Rd** – I have reported this and it has been inspected and agreed it will be done. Just awaiting confirmation of when.

Points Raised at meeting to be followed up next month

1. Pavement going up Stratford Road – surface cracking
2. Is section 106 monies for the 2 possible new sites in Honeybourne going to Honeybourne – AA to chase Jem Teal

End of report