

Honeybourne Parish Council

Minutes of the Honeybourne Parish Council Ordinary Meeting held at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall on 8th December 2015

Present: Cllrs. C. Clear, G. Clelland, M. Powell, S Preater, A. Perry, A. Attridge, S. Walsh, S. Sidwell, D. Cowan, & H. Jobes.

In Attendance: Cllr Alastair Adams, J Stedman (Clerk) and 27 members of the public

Prior to the meeting commencement PC Jamie Lee introduced himself as the local area police constable standing in for Julie DeParis who is currently on sick leave. He is covering the 8 parishes in the Evesham North area and will be carrying out traffic speed checks in most villages including Honeybourne. He will be on patrol throughout all the 8 villages and asked to be approached with any issues of concern. He left his contact details with the Clerk and offered to return to the APM unless Julie DeParis returns to duty.

162. Apologies were accepted from: Cllr T. Probert

163. 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 and other Interests: None declared

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

164. Chairman to Moved: The meeting be now adjourned for Open Forum

Public Open Forum:

Village News: The editor of the Village News, Claire Poore, made representation to the council regarding the grant request to support the continuance of the village news publication. Claire confirmed the distribution had reached 760 per month and the new developments were receiving copies. A fully detailed report was issued to all councillors prior to the meeting to ensure a well-informed consideration of the grant request. The Chairman confirmed the matter would be considered by the council very early on the agenda.

Village Show: The show organiser, Rita Booth, outlined the details for the 2016 Village Show which embraced many of the difficulties raised from the first show last year. Next year the show will be better organised and generally bigger all round. It will be held on a Sunday and not clash with the show at Morton. Rita was pleased to know water and electricity is now available on the field and hoped toilet facilities would also be in place. Rita made a request for Parish Council sponsorship in writing to all councillors and reiterated it in her address to the meeting.

Perrie Drive and Fernihough Avenue Residents

Some 25 plus residents from Perrie Drive, Fernihough Avenue and Dudley Road attended and made strong representation regarding the new fencing being installed by Homes & Community Agency (HCA) around the greens fronting their homes. The fencing now prevents any vehicular access to their properties. The following comments were made by residents: -

They were not given any prior notice of the fencing being installed

The greens have had free access to vehicles ever since the estate was built in 1972

The exclusion of vehicular access to properties around the greens will have a dramatic and serious impact on elderly and house bound residents of which there are many.

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The exclusion of emergency vehicles to house frontages is a serious risk to many elderly and infirm residents who have benefited from such services in the past.

The reason given by HCA for installing the fence is on Health & Safety grounds, but was consideration given to the Health & Safety of the residents when the assessment was made. The residents of the area have always looked after the greens in the area.

A severe lack of parking exists in the area of Perrie Drive and Fernihough Avenue and this has not been considered.

A strong request was made for the greens to be sold to the local authority to enable local control.

The Chairman informed the residents that the Parish Council has no power to take actions over the matter as the land is now in the ownership of HCA and as all the properties bordering the greens have a statement in their deeds stating they do not have vehicular access across the greens for footways to their property. The Clerk will correspond with the HCA raising the residents' concerns and questioning the Health & Safety assessment to install the fence.

Cllr Alastair Adams informed the meeting that the District Council are in negotiations with HCA over the purchase of HCA land in Littleton whereby the Parish Council may purchase some land for development use. He will raise the Honeybourne matter with the District Council to help find a resolve to the fencing.

Ward Members Report: Cllr Alastair Adams's normal report is appended to the minutes

165. The Chairman closed the adjournment and reconvened the meeting at 8.40 pm.

166. Minutes:

- a) Council agreed the wording of the minutes of the November ordinary meeting; the Chairman signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

167. Clerk's Report on Matters in Progress:

- a. Contact with Bovis Homes regarding sponsorship of small project is in progress with the Clerk
- b. Request to Royal Mail to install a new letter box on the High Street. Contact has been made with royal mail but no progress to date, Clerk to pursue the matter.
- c. New Honeybourne sign on Weston Road obscured by the hedgerow growth has been referred to Cllr Alastair Adams and is waiting a resolve.
- d. Correspondence regarding superfast broadband referred to Cllr Alastair Adams who informed a parishioner that the situation would be improved by March 2016
- e. A letter sent to a resident of Abacot Fields regarding the private play area used by the general public. No response received to date.
- f. Clerks response to a request for a party event on the Recreation Field. The request was rejected on planning condition grounds and no further response has been received to date
- g. Invoice for £588.00 sent to Fortis Living group for 2015 grounds maintenance - Noted

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168. Grant Applications

- a. **Village News:** Council considered a grant request from the Village News Group editors to continue the support the council gave last year. The council considered the request and agreed the service to the parish was an essential part of community life and agreed to provide the same support as last year with a grant of £2,400.
- b. **Village Show:** The Council considered the grant request for the 2016 village show and agreed in principal to financially support the Village Show. Financing details will be presented when available next year

169. Planning Applications:

- a. **W/15/02590/PN:** Honeybourne First School, School Street: Proposal: Extension into courtyard and replacement of temporary classroom units with permanent buildings. Observations made under the Clerk's delegated power, the Council has no objection or comment on the application.

170. Planning decisions to Note:

- a. **W/15/02251/LB:** Baldwyn House, High Street, Honeybourne, Proposal: Various refurbishment and repair works to the garage of Baldwyn House.
Granted with two conditions
- b. **W/15/02324/RM:** Land off, High Street, Honeybourne: Construction of 14 dwellings, application seeking reserved matters approval following outline planning permission reference number W/13/00719/OU. **Granted** with two conditions

171. Planning Matters

- a. **Station parking matters:** Cllr Mike Powell gave a detailed report on his survey of Honeybourne Station users and he informed the council he would carry out further surveys on different days in the future. The Chairman thanked Mike for his diligence and efforts in dealing with the public on a sensitive issue. When Mike has completed his survey his analysis report will be appended to the minutes.
- b. The Clerk informed the council of the campaign to promote the rail link from Honeybourne to Stratford with a new station being built at Long Marston.
- c. The Clerk reported on complaints received over HGV's using High Street to access the Taylor Wimpey development site. The Taylor Wimpey managers were informed of the complaints and no further incidences have been reported.
- d. The Clerk reported on his request to the Bovis Homes site manager to clean the mud from Station Road, install new "No Construction Traffic" signage on Dudley Road and have the new streetlight and footway installed on Station Road. Members confirmed none of the above had been carried out. Council wish the above matters to be resolved along with the installation of onsite wheel washing facilities, the barriers protruding into Station Road are removed as they are a traffic hazard, and the extinguished streetlight replaced or reconnected as soon as possible as the area is a danger to pedestrians and road users in the dark winter nights. Cllr Alastair Adams will be asked to support the council's requests by contacting senior management at Bovis Homes.

172. Neighbourhood Development Plan: NDP

- a. Council agreed procuring a NDP logo based on the quotations gained by Cllr Alex Perry and circulated by email from Alex – various designs ideas were put to Alex who will present a draft to a future meeting.

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173. Finance:

- a. **Payments:** Council approved the Payments, Receipts and Balances as circulated by the Clerk. The approved payment schedule is appended to the minutes.
- b. **Bank Mandate:** Council considered new cheque signatories as the bank mandate is still unresolved and needs a restart as Cllr Trish Probert wishes to be removed from the mandate. It was agreed that Cllrs David Cowan, Mike Powell, Heath Jobes and Sandra Walsh will be added to the mandate along with the existing members of Andy Attridge and Graham Clelland. Cllr Trish Probert to be removed along with Mr Brian Johnson.
- c. Council considered opening a B&Q Trade account in the name of the Parish Council, as existing suppliers were considered rather expensive. It was agreed that the Chairman would make investigations into an account with B&Q and Screw Fix as concerns were raised over paying by unsupported cheques. Chairman to report to the January meeting

174. Cemetery & Churchyard:

- a. The Chairman reported on the satisfactory completion of the willow pollarding in the Cemetery he commented a job well done.

175. Street Lights:

- a. Streetlights reported in need of attention: None at this time
- b. The Clerk reported the power supply for the new streetlight on Stratford Road is in hand with Western Power Distribution and will be installed when the new streetlight column is in place.
- c. New streetlight in Stratford Road, the council agreed to order E-on to install new streetlight column and LED lantern in the verge by the village shop, Clerk to action the order.
- d. Redundant streetlight on Stratford Road, the disconnected old streetlight on Stratford Road was agreed to be removed and disposed of by the amenity contractor. Clerk to action its removal.

176. Public Rights of Way (PROW): David Cowan (PPW)

- a. To receive any reported PROW problems or issues – None reported
- b. Footpath 526 connecting Westbourne & Station Road, A Chain Link Fence is Broken down and a possible hazard. The Chairman confirmed he has delivered a letter to the occupiers of the adjacent property requesting confirmation of land ownership. As the occupiers are tenants in the property the letter has been passed to the property agents and awaiting a response.
- c. The Clerk reported on surface remedial works on the junction of PROW 550c & 551C on the Leys playing field as excessive mud was making the path difficult to traverse.

177. Highways:

- a. New highway matters to be reported to County Highways.
- b. Subsidence across the road on the Railway Bridge (Bidford side) appears to be increasing and requires investigation.
- c. Footway surface deterioration on the north side of Stratford Road and the north side of High Street opposite the Village Hall
- d. Request WDC to enforce further ditch clearance off Shinehill Lane in both flooding areas as the clearance has never been completed.
- e. To receive a report on VAS data for November: -
 1. High Street 21days 3646 speed infringement

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178. Lengthsman and Handyman:

- a. Report on works issued to the Handyman: -
 - i. Two areas of flooding on Shinehill Lane – to be chased up
- b. Footway by Silverdale on Station Road, overhanging nettles need strimming back to clear footway

179. The Leys Playing Field:

- a. **Council noted** the weekly visual inspection report for The Leys, no remedial recommendations were reported.
- b. **The Leys gate padlock** to a combination lock to save having a key holder. Chairman to obtain the new lock and replace the old one.
- c. **Council agreed** to clearing extensive moss from the safety surfacing under the swings as the usage has declined significantly. Handyman to apply appropriate moss killer.

180. Lock code changes: it was agreed all the combination locks now in use on council assets will have new access numbers, the Chairman will make the changes and he informed the members of the new lock access number.

181. Sports & Recreation Field Development Project.

- a. A written report from Ken Watkins on the Recreation Field snagging meeting in November was circulated to members and noted. Outstanding matters included re-seeding many areas of grass in the spring as the ground is currently waterlogged. Also padlocks to be fitted to the drop bollards as the original are missing.
- b. The Clerk reported on a payment retention of £5,000 following the snagging meeting and the re-issue of the payment cheque to M J Phillips made at the November meeting as the original cheque is cancelled following the snagging meeting.
- c. The Clerk reported on placing an order with the Handyman to replace the land drainage heavy duty manhole cover adjacent to the north field access as issues with the landowner had arisen.
- d. The Ken Watkins report raised the matter of the landscaping proposals as indicated by the WDC landscape officer. Ken will refer this back to the officer as unnecessary and not supported by the Parish Council.
- e. Handyman requested to move the Recreation Field litterbin to near the Youth Shelter – matter **resolved**
- f. **Metal storage box:** The costs of circa £350.00 for a metal storage box for MUGA equipment and the tennis nets was agreed by council. Clerk to arrange the purchase and request the Handyman to install the box on a suitable hard surface between the field hedgerow and the Muga. A suitable notice will be fitted to the box indicating its contents and access instruction.
- g. **Simply Run Events:** Council considered an application from Steve Bullen to use of the Recreation Field for the Simply Run events in 2016 and the placement of banners on the MUGA. The full proposal was agreed and supported by the Council.

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182. Community Centre Project:

- a. The Clerk reported that Taylor Wimpey had responded to his request for information on the land transfer and was informed that all the documentation was with the WCC awaiting their response to the conveyance document. Following several emails to the WCC conveyancer no further reports were available. The Clerk will make further representation to the senior solicitor at the County Council legal department and request Cllr Alastair Adams to intervene by direct contact with the legal department.

183. Existing Village Hall

- a. To receive any project update reports from members. No reports were available
- b. **Land registration timing:** A report from the land registry was circulated to members which stated that the time to conclude the land registration was indeterminable due to the complexities of the parcels of land.
- c. **Financial Report:** The Village Hall committee's financial report was noted by members and will be fully considered at the precept and budget meeting on December 15th.

184. Matters Raised by Members for information or Items for Future Agendas:

- a. **Chairman:** To consider a letter from the VISA Chairman
- b. **Correspondence: None**

185. Meeting Dates:

- a. Members confirmed the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council is scheduled for the 12th January at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.43 pm

Chairman _____

Date _____

Payments Authorised			Gross	Net
Cheque Number	Payee	Details	Payment	Payment
1381	SLCC	Membership Fee 60% of £167	100.20	100.20
1382	Limebridge RS	Cemetery tree pollarding	198.00	165.00
1383	John Hyde	Lengthsman Works	92.10	92.10
1383	John Hyde	Handyman Works	15.00	15.00
1384	J Stedman	Clerks salary and expenses	***	***
1385	JM Phillips & Son	Rec Field Access & car park	96,493.20	80,411.00
1385	JM Phillips & Son	Snagging Retention Credit	-6,000.00	-5,000.00
1386	Ken Watkins	Rec Field project fees Nov	560.00	560.00

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District Councillor & County Councillor Report - Honeybourne Month: December 2015

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

WISHING YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

- **Superfast Broadband** As mentioned last month, BT can not connect any more residents to Superfast Broadband as the new fibre cabinet is full. Originally BT were saying an additional cabinet would take up to a year to install, but after much arm-twisting, they confirmed the good news that a second cabinet will be installed in January/February 2016.
- **Bidford Bridge**. Now the bridge is open, a conference was held with Warwickshire County Council, Bidford Parish Council, and the Police to discuss what further actions can be taken to prevent HGV's using this ancient bridge which has a weight limit. A review of all the weight limit signage will occur, and a traffic survey. Options include installing a turning circle so lorries can turn around at the Marcliff/Barton junction, warning flashing lights, width restrictions, and volunteers called Bridge Watch!
- **Offenham Rd/Elm Road roundabout**. A new roundabout is desperately needed here to ease the congestion now the hundreds of new houses have been built at Lavender Fields/Abbey Vale. I organised a meeting with the Head of Infrastructure at Worcestershire County Council with 4 other councillors to demand progress. We have now received assurances that by the end of February the roundabout designs will be finalised so the developers can start to build this roundabout.
- **Overflow car parking for the Station**. Discussions are still proceeding between WDC, Network Rail and Bovis to build an overflow parking area. In the meantime, please can anyone using the station, please park with consideration for the residents of Stephenson Way, and do not cause an obstruction that could impede the passage of emergency vehicles like the fire engine.
- **Traffic calming measures at entrance to the village from the south**. Awaiting the extra length of hedge to be cut in front of the village entrance sign, and the flashing signs and dragon teeth road markings to be installed.
- **Adoption of Roads in Stephenson Way** Our MP has written to Network Rail on this matter to try and speed things up.
- **New pavement on the north side of Bretforton Road to the Recreational Ground**. I have asked Highways to look at this early next year on H&S grounds. Also more signage to be erected to warn drivers of pedestrians going to and from the new Recreational facilities.
- **Fencing erected around the green in Perrie Drive** I have asked the Deputy MD at WDC to contact HCA and find out more on their intentions, and possible opportunities for the Parish.
- **Schools** I attended a meeting with the Worcestershire County Council's manager for school placements to seek help for Blackminster School in moving forward now several of their feeder First schools are looking to add a 6th year. WCC will help look at future models and 2- tier schooling using a consultant.

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



And finally.....I visited The Houses of Parliament this month to attend a meeting on Superfast Broadband in rural areas with our MP Nigel Huddleston. Further investment by the government and BT and the Councils is being made to reach the "hard to reach" 5% rural areas so everyone can access Broadband.