

# PENSAX PARISH COUNCIL

## Special Parish Council Meeting of Pensax Parish Council held in Pensax Village Hall at 7.00pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2016

**Present:** Cllr Rob Greedy (Chairman), Cllr Wise, Cllr Keron, Cllr Weston.

**In Attendance:** Clerk, Paul Cumming (District Cllr) and 9 Members of the Public.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Rudd, apologies received and accepted.
2. **Declaration of Interest:**
  - a. **Register of Interests** – Cllrs to keep updated.
  - b. **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests** – None.
  - c. **Other Disclosable Interests** – None.
3. **Dispensations** –
  - a. To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) –
  - b. **Dispensations requested** – None.
4. **Public Question Time** – See notes at end of minute
5. **Finances** –
  - a. **Payments made** – Standing Order for Clerks Salary increase was agreed at May meeting but letter to bank was incorrect. It was agreed to sign new letter tonight, copy in files.
6. **Planning:**
  - a. Plans circulated since last meeting – **None**
  - b. Plans for comment on tonight –  
**16/00678/FUL – Photo Voltaic Solar Energy Farm – Stockton Court, Stockton, Worcestershire, WR6 6UT**  
After much discussion it was decided to have a site visit. No date for a future visit could be agreed so the Chairman suggested Cllrs visit site tonight.  
**The Chairman agreed to adjourn the meeting at 8.07pm to attend a site meeting.**  
**The meeting was re-opened at 9.07pm, no Members of the Public were present.**  
Following the site visit it was agreed by all the visual impact had been mitigated for houses close to the site but not for views further away. It was agreed by all to object to the application due to the visual impact. Cllrs wished it to be known they are all supportive of Solar Farms if placed in suitable locations. Clerk to draft letter for circulation. Letter of thanks to be sent to landowner for allowing the visit at short notice.
7. **Update on broadband project** – Cllrs agreed to do a door to door survey as soon as possible to establish interest in Broadband and Pensax Village Hall. Cllr Wise to circulate survey.  
**Electors contact details** – Survey would be way of establishing more contact details of residents. Article to be put in local magazine.
8. **Defibrillator for Parish** – Clerk had obtained funding from British Heart Foundation for Defibrillator. It was suggested it be put on outside of Pensax Village Hall. Clerk has written to trustees for consent, awaiting reply.  
**Box for Defib** – A cheaper purpose made box is being brought onto the market soon, Clerk to forward details.
9. **Date of next meeting: 19th SEPTEMBER 2016 - 7.00pm**
10. **Meeting Closed 9.40pm.**

Signed-----  
Chairman

Date 19th September 2016

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**Solar Farm planning application** – Clerk advised Planning Officer had agreed comments from PC could be sent in by end of June. Cllr gave outline of this application. It was noted it is slightly smaller (1000 panels less) than the last application, but still 4/5MW output which would entail work to the overhead cables at a future date. (This is not part of the application).  
**Residents Comments** - Notice of this application did not give clear date for comments to be made, Dist Cllr to alert MHDC to this matter. Many residents read out statements of objection to the application. References were made to views from footpaths and further away and the noise generated by inverters which would be onsite. This noise could upset horses using bridleway as well as the horses at the stable business near to site. Site not flat so would be more visible, amount of HGV traffic whilst site being constructed, Solar Panels more suitable to urban areas or on roofs of large rural buildings.

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Dismantling of site would be the responsibility of owner of land at that point in time. The three inverters and 2 metre high exterior fencing would industrial the site.

Mr Sinnetts spoke to answer queries raised. He stated the visual impact for property close to site had been improved (this was disputed by owner of house in question). Substation now by his farm would be improved so no need for another substation. The visual impact on the area had been undertaken by independent person. Planning Officer wanted to approve application as it met all criteria. Applicant to pay for upgrade of power lines if application approved. Electric would be stored at night for daytime use. If panels put on roofs they would need strengthening, angle of building not always ideal. Mr Sinnetts invited anyone to visit the site. Chairman thanked Mr & Mrs Sinnetts for attending the meeting and they left.