

**The Minutes of Pendock Parish Council**  
**Held at Pendock School at 7.30pm on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

**Present: Cllrs Mr John Humphreys (Chairman), Miss Rosemary Philipson-Stow, Mr Simon Fellows, and Mr John Davidson, Sue Giles, and Mr Charles Rush**

**In attendance:** County Councillor Tom Wells, Richard Davis from Kier Construction, Highways England and Gerry Brienza from Worcestershire County Council Highways department. Also in attendance the Clerk and 6 villagers

The meeting was adjourned to discuss the repairs to Pendock Bridge and Bury court Bridge which would necessitate the closure of School Lane and The un-named road from Camers Green to the A417 at Red Marley

- 1. Apologies:** Apologies were received from Cllr Bronwen Behan
  
- 2. Declaration of Interests:**
  - a) Councillors were reminded to ensure that they need to update their register of interests should their situation change
  - b) Cllr John Humphreys declared his personal interest in the Promould Plastics planning appeal.
  
- 3. Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> December were approved and signed.
  
- 4. Progress Reports:**
  - a) **Garage Site:** Although no further information regarding the enforcement notice has been received the Council noted that it had considered a planning application for houses on the garage site and had approved this application.
  - b) **School Lane Closure:** See notes at the end of the minutes – Public Question Time.
  
- 5. Finance Report:**
  - a) The Council approved the transactions below:

<b>Outgoings:</b>		
Lengthsman		354.00
Hire of hall		45.00
Clerk's salary – s/o/n		<u>297.00</u>
<b>Total Outgoings</b>		<b>£696.00</b>
<b>Incomings:</b>		
Lengthsman scheme		118.00
Interest		.39
Single Farm Supplement		<u>1,302.13</u>
<b>Total Incomings</b>		<b>£1,420.52</b>

Total funds at 6<sup>th</sup> December 2016    £10,200.55

**Total funds at 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017    £10,925.07**

**6. Correspondence:**

- a) **BT Payphones:** It was noted that of the two payphones considered obsolete in the area Berrow Parish Council had requested to keep the box at Sledge Green outside the Caravan Park and with the possibility that the Berrow Charities may consider using it for a defibrillator.
- b) **Promould Plastics Appeal ref: 15/01560/FUL:** The Clerk reported that she had received notification that this appeal had been dismissed.
- c) **Application No. 16/01748/FUL Cromer Farm – Conversion of granary into ancillary residential unit including single story extensions:** The council reviewed this application and had no objections to the proposal.
- d) **Alma Cottage application for conversion of disused agricultural building to residential use:** Following the refusal of this application by the planning authority the application has now gone to appeal. The Parish Council approved the original application and had no further views to add.
- e) **Proposed Public Space Protection order pursuant to dog control:** MHDC are asking for views regarding making various offences subject to fixed penalty when in charge of a dog. The Council felt this was not relevant to the parish and therefore would not be completing the survey.
- f) **Appeal Decision at Land Adjacent to Brookmead:** Further to the Council's concerns that the granting of this appeal went against all the recommendations of the parish, Bronwen had contacted a Planning Officer and her comments to the Parish council's major concerns were  

"I can see that flooding was raised as an issue on this site but that the Inspector determined that the development would be wholly within Flood Zone 1 and that the proposed measures in the FRA were sufficient to ensure that the development would not be affected by flooding or increase flood risk. Further, the Inspector did not consider that the requested 8m maintenance strip was necessary as this was not policy and that a less strip would still allow for maintenance."
- g)

**7. County Councillor's report**

Cllr Tom Wells was thanked for his input regarding the road closures and his support with County highways.

He had earlier in the evening been at a meeting concerning broadband in his area and enquired as to which areas in the Parish were now connected to super fast broadband. He reported that Bushley were considering acquiring a faster speed by using an alternative supplier to BT.

**8. Date of the next Meeting:** It was agreed that the next meeting would be on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Signed .....

Chairman

Date.....

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**Notes of Public Question Time:**

Richard Davies from Kier Construction outlined again for the meeting the scheme to replace the parapets on the two bridges. The work would take 41 weeks and involve the closure of the carriageway to vehicles.

That to aid disruption there would be quite times at the start and finish of school in order to assist the children who cross the bridge pedestrian way to have a safer, easier crossing.

At this time there were no plans to shorten the programme or to work nights.

With a representative of Worcestershire County highways present the Chairman raised the following matters that had been outlined at the previous meeting and that needed action and/ or consideration by all parties.

- 1. Shortening the work programme to finish early September:** The village was concerned that the school may struggle to fulfil its new intake when new parents find they have to negotiate the bridge repairs daily for a full term before completion. It was put to the attendees whether they would object to longer working hours in the summer daylight months in order to bring the completion date forwards and there was a unanimous show of hands wishing that the project could be completed ahead of current schedule and preferably before the commencement of the Autumn School Term. It was therefore agreed that Keir Construction would revisit their work programme and time schedules to see if they could accommodate the village and the school.
- 2. School Lane:** As part of the diversion route, School Lane (single track road) would be subject to a great deal more traffic than currently uses it. It is currently in a bad state by the Old Vicarage and again by Underwood Farm. It was agreed that Highways would look into possibly supporting the verges with scalplings to enable passing places along its length. Netherley Lane would also suffer as in previous bridge closures and it was stressed that some guarantees of repair after the work had been completed would be essential. The Parish Council would like to see some form of written guarantee to this effect.

- 3. Gritting:** As the closure was due to come into effect on Monday it was requested that both ends of School lane be on the gritters schedule, though it would have to be a small gritting lorry to access the northern end of the lane to the school.
- 4. Provision of Services:** There were concerns that neither, post, mobile Library, Refuse Collectors, School bus services etc. were aware as yet that their routes would have to change. It was hoped that some effort could be undertaken to ensure that all essential services were aware of the closure.
- 5. Safety aspects of dropping off children on the south side of the bridge to walk to school, cars turning, reversing and parking:** As no provision was being made for car parking and the pavement was only wide enough for a single person there would be considerable risk to children. It was proposed that a few rules and procedures be put in place – perhaps a Health & Safety Officer could assess the situation and advise the school in this matter.
- 6. Diversion Routes:** It was noted that the diversion route for lorries coming from Malvern and heading for the M50 would now turn right at Pendock Cross and visa versa for those heading to Malvern from the M50. It was pointed out that a 38 ton articulated lorry turning right into Red Marley lane and meeting another coming in the opposite direction would cause total chaos and this would happen a number of times a day. It was the view of the County Highways Officer that this diversion route was totally unsatisfactory and he would see what he could do to advise that all heavy traffic at least continues on to Staunton and turns right there onto the A417 to the M50 junction 2.

It was noted that there would be considerable initial confusion when the road closure signs go up on Monday, that great many people will have issues and complaints; as the village has suffered these disruptions now for many years it was hoped that Worcestershire County Council Highways would action any patching, and pothole filling to make those affected by the disruption as easy as possible.