

**PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON**  
**WEDNESDAY 6<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2022**  
**IN THE PARISH OFFICE, BOUVERIE HALL, PEWSEY**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Ford (Chairman), Mrs Brindley, Mrs Cobbing, Mrs Dalrymple, Ellis, Mrs Hunt, Judy Kunkler, Mrs Stevens, Cllrs Giles, Haskell and Smithers.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Alison Kent (Clerk) and Mr Hewens (Tennis Club).

**1. APOLOGIES:** Cllrs Mrs Humfress, Mrs Mundy, Mrs Pullen, Kerry Pycroft, Cllrs McGarry and Morris.

**2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:** None.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:** All being in agreement, the minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 were signed as a true record.

**4. TENANT CLUB REPORTS:**

a) Bowls Club: A report from the club had been circulated to all members.

b) Football Club: A report from the club had been circulated to all members.

c) Tennis Club: Mr Hewens advised the tree work had been started and levelled off, although there was still some wood to clear away, with thanks to the Parish Council. It was hoped some of the sprigs of Yew showing would turn into a low hedge. Further consideration would be given to the removal of the remaining ivy.

d) Rugby Club: A report from the club had been circulated to all members.

e) Youth Football Club: There was no representative present or report received.

f) Heritage Centre: Cllr Giles reported the centre had reopened with the seasonal display being based on public houses over the years. Posters would be sent to those pubs who remain for their support. The education centre was doing well with bookings, which were mainly from U3A.

**5. REPORTS:**

Cllr Ford felt that when people volunteer to become Councillors that part of the role was to give up time to help, particularly on environmental matters around the parish, such as working parties.

a) **Cemetery and Chapel:** Cllr Ford advised the chapel needed a clean and asked whether this should be a working party or to pay. It was agreed to request the previous contractor to clean it. It had been noted that part of tree had been damaged during the recent storms but it would be left at present as it was not affecting any graves nearby.

b) **Footpaths:** Cllr Judy Kunkler reported the new footpath group, made up all of volunteers, was now established and auditing footpaths in the parish. Defects were reported with the group then deciding how to proceed. £450 had been applied for towards equipment through Wiltshire Council.

c) **Street Lights:** Cllr Ellis had nothing to report.

d) **Seats/bus shelters:** Cllr Judy Kunkler had checked nearly all the seats, with the exception of the White Horse and the missing one in the cemetery. They were all serviceable. She showed pictures

of the Plank bench on A345 which was quite badly rotten and needed either repairing or removing. Cllr Giles stated the seats should never have been painted, but oiled. Cllr Judy Kunkler proposed to remove the Plank seat and not replace it, seconded Cllr Haskell, 10 for, 1 against.

e) **Allotments:** Cllr Morris was not present but had circulated his report.

i) **Bert's Meadow Inspection:** The plots were generally in good condition with the clerk sorting out a problem with one plot which had just been reallocated, but the former tenant appears to be cultivating it.

ii) **Broadfields Inspection:** All plots had been allocated and the bramble bush cut back and fence posts fixed.

iii) **Allotment Waiting List Progress Report:** The clerk reported there was still a lengthy waiting list for Easterton Lane. The annual rent invoices had been issued.

iv) Allotment shed – Cllr Judy Kunkler had inspected the shed which was rotten but there is a small amount of equipment inside that needs to be cleared. The PEAS area also needing to be sorted out. Cllr Judy Kunkler proposed to clear out, remove and replace the shed with help of a working party, seconded Cllr Mrs Hunt, all in favour.

f) **Trees:** Cllr Mrs Stevens reported that three contractors had expressed an interest in quoting to undertake the inspection and provide a report. She also advised that the trees at Century Cross had been replaced.

g) **Scotchel/Way's Way:** Cllr Judy Kunkler reported the Pewsey Avon River Restoration group (PARR) had been undertaking a lot of work; rebuilding part of the fence and erecting some wire to stop dogs going onto the banks. The tent and rubbish was still there and would be removed.

h) **River Avon/Kennet & Avon Canal:** Cllr Kerry Pycroft was not present but had circulated a report and asked for the PARR proposals to be considered at the next Full Council.

i) **Recreation Ground and Rectory Grove:** Cllr Mrs Hunt advised The Grove was looking great, with lots of wild garlic growing; the snowdrops and daffodils had also looked superb. There were bits of wood all over following the recent storms which did look a bit untidy and suggested a tidy up to create habitat areas. The Recreation Ground looked fine with less litter although the grass was overgrowing the path which would be passed onto the contractor.

j) **Play Areas:** The clerk reported all works up to date and the pressure wash of each area should have been completed this week in time for the Easter break. The outstanding quotation for the removal of part of the fence at Little Island would be chased up for consideration.

k) **Angela Yeates Memorial Ground and Youth Football ground:** Cllr Ford reported the areas looked fine.

l) **Litter:** Cllr Ellis reported there had been a good turnout to the monthly litter picks and the local scouts were getting involved. Fourteen bags of rubbish had been collected, mainly small stuff. Specific areas would be targeted. She asked for a spare key to the PEAS area to be provided.

m) **Toilets/Noticeboards:** Cllr Mrs Hunt reported no issues had been noted at the toilets, with the exception that the handwash unit in the ladies wasn't working and had only recently been serviced. The clerk would request an engineer visit. The clerk reported the noticeboard by the police station was now beyond repair and should be removed, which was unanimously agreed.

n) **Car Parks:** Cllr Mrs Pullen reported that all was fine.

o) **White Horse:** Cllr Giles reported the grass was in good order; the horse itself could do with a spray and he would ask the contractor. He may consider experimenting with whitening the chalk with bleach. The bench looked in good condition.

p) **Century Cross:** Cllr Mrs Brindley advised the new signs had been made, with grateful thanks to Cllr McGarry for arranging this work to be done. They now needed to be installed.

q) **Entrance signs/horse trough:** Cllr Ford advised that the outside of the trough was covered with moss and he would give it a good clean. The village entrance signs required oiling, but a licence to work on the highway would be needed. It was suggested the Parish Steward could be asked.

r) **Defibrillators:** Cllr McGarry was not present to report but would report to the next Full Council.

**6. PARISH STEWARD/HIGHWAYS:** Cllr Haskell advised that the planned meeting had been postponed at the request of the Highways Engineer.

**7. WHATLEY DRIVE GROUNDS MAINTENANCE:** Cllr Ford and Cllr Haskell had met with some of the resident's association to discuss maintenance requirements now that the land and S.106 monies had been transferred to the Parish Council. The main project was the resurfacing of the path and discussion would need to take place on the type of material to be used. Cllr Ford was in the process of obtaining samples and quotations. Cllr Smithers would also assist.

The Parish Council should consider forming a cost plan of how the ringfenced maintenance money would be spent over the next 20 years, with 2 small amenity areas and the path to maintain. Cllr Mrs Hunt felt the council needed to remember the setting that the path was in and any material should be sympathetic to that setting.

**8. ANY FULL COUNCIL INFORMATION AND ACTION:** Cllr Haskell had nothing to report.

**9. ITEMS VIA THE CLERK:** None.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.04pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_