

PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 1st JUNE 2022
IN THE PARISH OFFICE, BOUVERIE HALL, PEWSEY

PRESENT: Cllr Judy Kunkler (Vice-Chair), Mrs Brindley, Mrs Cobbing, Ellis, Mrs Hunt, Mrs Mundy, Mrs Pullen, Kerry Pycroft, Cllrs Ford, Giles and Morris.

IN ATTENDANCE: Alison Kent (Clerk).

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR: Having received the only valid nomination. Cllr Ford was proposed by Cllr Morris, seconded Cllr Kerry Pycroft, all in favour

2. APOLOGIES: Cllrs Mrs Humfress, Suzanne McGarry, Mrs Stevens, Cllr McGarry.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: All being in agreement, the minutes of the meeting held on 6th April 2022 were signed as a true record.

5. TENANT CLUB REPORTS:

a) **Bowls Club:** A report from the club had been circulated to all members. Cllr Mrs Mundy advised there had been at least 12 new members joining following the open day. Cllr Ford was happy for a new bin to be installed at an agreed site, which would be added to the emptying contract. Cllr Mrs Mundy reported there had been discussion with the youths who hang around and agreed that the seat they use would not be removed as they were being more respectful. It was hoped they would use the bin once installed.

b) **Football Club:** There was no representative or report received.

c) **Tennis Club:** Mr Hewens was not present to report but had asked again about the removal of ivy from the cut back Yew. Cllr Kerry Pycroft would look to remove the dead ivy as one of the working party tasks as soon as nesting season had passed.

d) **Rugby Club:** There was no representative or report received.

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

f) **Heritage Centre:** Cllr Giles reported that visitor numbers had been up, even on a usual year which was very encouraging. Booking numbers for the education centre had also increased. The number of events in the main building had been cut back because of the exhibition. The centre would always welcome volunteers and the maintenance gang were completing lots of jobs.

6. REPORTS:

a) **Cemetery and Chapel:** Cllr Ford reported the grounds were OK. A Yew tree had a broken branch but was hanging in a safe area. The contractor would be asked to clean the Chapel as it was in need, and Mr Dewey would be asked to confirm that the agreement for the storage area had been relinquished.

b) **Footpaths:** Cllr Judy Kunkler advised the walking group were still undertaking the path audits. A letter had been seen in the local paper complaining about the state of some of the footpaths in the Vale, it was felt this was not relating to any paths in the Pewsey area.

c) **Street Lights:** Cllr Ellis advised that one of the lights in Hallgate House car park (KDC 3) was permanently on. The one at the bottom of Wilcot Road was obscured by ivy and had been reported again, especially as a pedestrian had caused themselves injury by not being able to see the bollard in the dark. The Ball Road lamppost and base had been noted as requiring repair, this would be taken up with Highways.

d) **Seats/bus shelters:** Cllr Judy Kunkler advised that the Plank seat was yet to be removed. The two new benches for the Market Place had arrived and a date for installation would be agreed shortly. A further quotation for the new bus shelter on A345 was still required.

e) **Allotments:** Cllr Morris had circulated his report.

i) **Bert's Meadow Inspection:** Letters of concern were required for 9 plots, asking the tenants to work their plots, or at least cover them to stop weeds. The remainder were in good order.

ii) **Broadfields Inspection:** All plots had been allocated and were in good condition.

iii) **Allotment Waiting List Progress Report:** The clerk reported there was still a lengthy waiting list for Easterton Lane.

iv) **Allotment Shed** – Cllr Judy Kunkler reported the shed had been emptied but could not be used as firewood for the Jubilee Beacon and therefore it needed to be demolished and removed. A working party would be arranged in due course.

f) **Trees:** Cllr Mrs Stevens was not present to report. The Clerk advised that three contractors had expressed an interest in quoting to undertake the inspection and provide a report. This would be presented at the next Full Council. She also advised that the trees at Century Cross had been replaced.

g) **Scotchel/Way's Way:** Cllr Judy Kunkler knew of no issues other than the gate hinge which is broken. A request would be made to Whatleys to see if a repair could be made.

h) **River Avon/Kennet & Avon Canal:** Cllr Kerry Pycroft had nothing to report other than the Pewsey Wharf Club was celebrating its 50th anniversary. Cllr Giles asked for a small working party to help clean the river bridge at Swan Corner for a few hours on 19th June.

i) **Recreation Ground and Rectory Grove:** Cllr Mrs Hunt commented that IdVerde had new grass cutting equipment, but had noted that greater care should be taken. The grass was overgrowing the path edgings around the Grove, a quote would be requested and probably added to the contract for next year. The whole contract was to be reviewed and renegotiated for 2023 with the number of cuts likely to be increased but other areas identified that can be left.

j) **Play Areas:** The clerk reported all works up to date new padlocks would be fitted so that the council and the contractors all had the same keys for access.

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

l) **Litter:** Cllr Ellis advised the upcoming Jubilee weekend would be missed. It was good to see the Scout group getting involved which was great for their community engagement.

m) **Toilets/Noticeboards:** Cllr Mrs Hunt had nothing to report on the toilets. The main noticeboard had been removed, with the exception of one post. She had noted the signs over Dewey Mews were in a poor state, as were other street name signs but was not sure who to ask. Cllr Mundy commented that the council's Facebook page should be used more for positive messaging, such as the use of precept for keeping the toilets clean and maintained.

n) **Car Parks:** Cllr Mrs Pullen had not been able to check them recently. Cllr Kerry Pycroft had noticed a white car that had been parked for some time, a polite notice would be placed on the windscreen and on social media to see if anyone knew who the registered owner was. Cllr Mrs Mundy commented on the large vehicles at the top Co-Op car park which were quite unsightly, especially for people visiting the Bowls Club. The Parish Council should show that it cares about the village.

Cllr Mrs Brindley had commented on the parking near the new houses on Old Hospital Road but there were no double yellow lines so very little could be done unless a Traffic Regulation Order was applied for.

o) **White Horse:** Cllr Giles reported that the horse was in a reasonable condition. He had recently seen the contractor and the grass would be cut before too long.

p) **Century Cross:** Cllr Mrs Brindley advised that a new sign had been made for the stone in the same style as the name plates and thanked the craftsman.

q) **Entrance signs/horse trough:** Cllr Ford had asked for the oiling of the entrance signs to be put on the Parish Steward's list. The horse trough had been cleaned.

r) **Defibrillators:** Cllr McGarry was not present. The missing defibrillator had been returned but was not working and was without its case. It was suggested to make a claim through the insurance.

7. PARISH STEWARD/HIGHWAYS: There had been no Parish Steward programme in May, but would recommence in June. There was a list of works including the Market Place railings which were to be stripped back to bare metal.

8. WHATLEY DRIVE FOOTPATH: Cllr Ford should have information available to present at the next Full Council. Quotations for different options were expected to be in excess of £60,000.

9. ANY FULL COUNCIL INFORMATION AND ACTION: None.

10. ITEMS VIA THE CLERK: None.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.32pm.

Signed: _____ Dated: _____