

**PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON**  
**WEDNESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2022**  
**IN THE PARISH OFFICE, BOUVERIE HALL, PEWSEY**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Ford (Chair), Cllr Judy Kunkler (Vice-Chair), Cllrs Mrs Hunt, Suzanne McGarry, Kerry Pycroft, Mrs Stevens, Cllrs Giles, McGarry and Morris.

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

**1. APOLOGIES:** Cllrs Mrs Brindley, Ellis, Mrs Humfress, Mrs Mundy, Mrs Pullen and Cllr Smithers.

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

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:** All being in agreement, the minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> October 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. Mr Kimber introduced himself to those who did not know him and advised he had been elected as the new club Chairman. 2023 was the club's Centenary year and six special representative games would be held alongside the normal season, including a highly prestigious fixture against Bowls England on 18<sup>th</sup> May. The club had been fortunate to find sponsorship for the additional costs associated with these matches. He sought permission to install a wooden ramp by the handrail to make access easier for users, planning permission would not be required, and the request agreed.

A defibrillator was available from the clubhouse, but only during opening hours. The litter bin had been moved to a better location and would be properly strapped in place. They also wished to put up a temporary flagpole. Cllr Mrs Hunt suggested a trophy be purchased to commemorate the Centenary and would obtain ideas for consideration.

b) Football Club: Mr Stephens had sent a report which had been circulated to all members.

c) Tennis Club: Mr Hewens asked when the remaining ivy would be cleared although he would continue to do some himself. He informed the Council that the old lighting would be converted to LED at great expense, starting next year. Cllr Mrs Hunt would check whether planning permission would be required upon receipt of the details from Mr Hewens.

Cllr Ford asked whether the proposal for the school was progressing; Mr Hewens advised that the initial stage of re-establishing community engagement and input had commenced but the next stage of firm commitment was yet to be seen. Both the Parish Council and Cllr Kunkler were in support, but a meeting was yet to be held with the school and campus.

d) Rugby Club: Mr Soper had sent a report which had been circulated to all members.

e) Youth Football Club: A local resident had raised concerns about parking at the club which had been passed to the Chairman and was being dealt with.

f) Heritage Centre: Cllr Giles reported it had been a reasonable season with a number of groups using the education centre, particularly U3A and music events taking place.

**5. REPORTS:**

a) **Cemetery and Chapel:** Cllr Ford advised it was fine. A clean of the chapel would be arranged in the New Year.

b) **Footpaths:** Cllr Judy Kunkler had nothing to report. The footpath at the side of the Grove was in a mess and the street lighting obscured by trees. This would be reported but also contact made with the resident to clear their side.

c) **Street Lights:** Cllr Ellis was not present to report. Cllr Judy Kunkler mentioned that a lot of the lights in the Bouverie Hall car park were not working, as well as one in the top car park by the Bowls Club. One was permanently on in the Hallgate House car park. The Clerk would contact Atkins, the street lighting contractors.

d) **Seats/bus shelters:** Cllr Judy Kunkler reported the tree seat had been removed and presented three options for consideration. She proposed option 1, preferably in brown, seconded Cllr Mrs Stevens, 6 for, 3 against.

The bus shelters were in good order with the exception of general litter. Cllr Ford advised the new bus shelter on A345 had been ordered; Cllr Morris suggested a plaque be installed.

e) **Allotments:** Cllr Morris had inspected the sites and provided a report.

i) **Bert's Meadow Inspection:** Three plots were vacant and in the process of being let out.

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

iii) **Allotment Waiting List Progress Report:** There was still a lengthy waiting list for Easterton Lane with 18 on waiting list.

iv) **Allotment Shed:** Cllr Judy Kunkler advised that there was still some of the old shed to get rid of and then the new one could be ordered.

f) **Trees:** Cllr Mrs Stevens advised the tree inspection report had been received and was very comprehensive with 19 actions needed as soon as possible but not all on Parish Council land. A pack was being put together for the tender process. Notification consent for works to trees in a conservation area would need to be applied for. It was hoped to complete the priority 2 works before the spring.

g) **Scotchel/Way's Way:** Cllr Judy Kunkler confirmed recent works had been completed including replacement of some of the worn edging boards, the fence at the Broomcroft Road end and removal of graffiti off the bridge. The new bench had arrived and would be installed shortly. A plaque would be ordered for the bench as it was to commemorate the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

h) **River Avon/Kennet & Avon Canal:** Cllr Kerry Pycroft had nothing to report.

i) **Recreation Ground and Rectory Grove:** Cllr Mrs Hunt advised the top part of the footpath had been cleared but not all as the contractor had not been available. The area around the Recreation Ground needed to be tidied.

j) **Play Areas:** A few minor faults had been identified on the weekly report and would be repaired as necessary. Cllr Mrs Stevens had been asked by residents of Little Island if they could put in some raised beds but will wait for a formal request to be received.

k) **Litter:** Vouchers had been presented to the volunteers as a thank you from the Parish Council.

l) **Toilets/Noticeboards:** Cllr Mrs Hunt advised that new seats were needed in the ladies' toilets and the lights required checking as the disabled one appeared to be on permanently. The noticeboards were in good condition.

m) **Car Parks:** Cllr Ford reminded members that changes to the signs had previously been discussed but no further action taken. He would establish a working group to recommend what restrictions should be made, although it was acknowledged that the Parish Council had no powers to enforce them.

Cllr Giles noted a lot of street signs and road nameplates were in a dreadful condition and felt it was important to have visible signs. He was asked to provide specific examples which would be taken forward with Highways.

n) **White Horse:** Cllr Giles advised that no works would be required until the Spring.

o) **Century Cross:** Cllr Mrs Stevens advised more replacement trees were needed and would arrange for them to be purchased and planted.

p) **Entrance signs/horse trough:** Cllr Ford advised these were fine.

q) **Defibrillators:** Cllr Suzanne McGarry confirmed the devices were all active. She was still investigating a suitable location further out of the village to site a new device.

**6. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT RENEWAL:** Cllr Ford asked the Clerk to arrange a meeting in early January to consider any changes that were required.

**7. PARISH STEWARD/HIGHWAYS:** Communication with the Parish Steward appeared to be a problem again. A meeting was planned with Highways in January.

**8. DISPOSAL OF LAND AT BAILEY CLOSE:** Cllr Ford explained that an area of land at 24 Bailey Close had been transferred to the Parish Council as part of the asset transfer. The owner of the property had regularly maintained the land and had previously approached Wiltshire Council to purchase it. The same discussion had taken place now the land belonged to the Parish Council. The Clerk would write to Wiltshire Council to inform them of the proposal as 50% of the assets should return to them as per the transfer arrangement. It was suggested the land could be sold for £1,500 with the resident paying for the legal fees. The land was of no particular use and a liability of the Parish Council.

Cllr Giles proposed to sell the land, seconded Cllr Morris, all in favour.

**9. ANY FULL COUNCIL INFORMATION AND ACTION:** Cllr McGarry advised that he had received a letter of resignation from Mrs Cobbing which he had reluctantly accepted. The Bouverie Hall committee had approached the Parish Council for a one-off grant to fund the cutting back of the hedges and shrubbery around the hall, including to the side of the Cinder Path. Quotations had been sought and Cllr Morris proposed that A Dean be awarded the contract, with the funding provided from the business grant, seconded Cllr Mrs Hunt, all in favour.

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

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm.

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