

**PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON**  
**WEDNESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**  
**IN THE PARISH OFFICE, BOUVERIE HALL, PEWSEY**

**PRESENT:** Cllr McGarry (Chair), Cllr Judy Kunkler (Vice-Chair), Cllrs Mrs Brindley, Ms Durnford, Mrs Hunt, Suzanne McGarry, Kerry Pycroft, Mrs Stevens, Cllr Giles and Stythe.

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

In the absence of Cllr Ford, Cllr McGarry had been asked to Chair the meeting. He welcomed Cllr Ms Durnford and Cllr Stythe to their first Environment Committee meeting.

**1. APOLOGIES:** Cllrs Ellis, Mrs Humfress, Mrs Mundy, Cllrs Ford, Morris and Smithers and Mr Hewens (Pewsey Tennis Club).

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

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:** All being in agreement, the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 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. The club had been busy arranging a number of social events and fundraising for their centenary. The first open day would be held on 15<sup>th</sup> April. Preparations were underway, with a new playing shirt being designed and a booklet outlining the club's history being compiled. Some sponsorship had been obtained but more would be welcomed. Mr Kimber invited members to come and have a go.

b) Football Club: No representative was present, or report provided.

c) Tennis Club: Mr Hewens had sent his apologies. Cllr Mrs Hunt had asked the planning officer about whether permission would be required to change the club floodlights to LED. It appeared that it was not a requirement, and the club would be informed they could go ahead.

d) Rugby Club: No representative was present, but a report had been circulated. The club continues to maintain its core objective which is maintaining and developing the use of all the facilities available at the ground. The youth side had been relaunched and local primary schools approached. A walking rugby competition would be held on 18<sup>th</sup> March.

e) Youth Football Club: No representative was present, or report provided.

f) Heritage Centre: A report had been circulated. This year's display would include photos and memorabilia from local sports organisations, particularly recognising the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Bowls Club. Cllr Giles advised that repair works to the guttering had taken place but as they were very high a platform hoist had been required. The centre would reopen on 1<sup>st</sup> April. The Parish Council had been thanked for its annual donation of £500.

**5. REPORTS:**

a) **Cemetery and Chapel:** Cllr Ford was not present to report.

b) **Footpaths:** Cllr Judy Kunkler had received an email about a blocked path at Knowle, but it was not a formal path. The Footpath Group now had its own equipment and would work on paths as they arise. Cllr Giles mentioned the autumn leaves that are left to rot that would benefit from a leaf blower. This would be considered as a separate issue.

c) **Street Lights:** Cllr Ellis not present. The Clerk advised there was a change in the street lighting contractor and quotations had been sought for repairs and replacement for the North Street car park and Hallgate House car park now that they were the responsibility of the Parish Council. The repair cost was £65.46 per hour plus materials and would repair the lighting adjacent to the Bouverie Hall in the first instance.

d) **Seats/bus shelters:** Cllr Judy Kunkler reported that three of the new seats had arrived for Broomcroft Road, the Scotchel and Rectory Grove; the tree seat at Broomcroft Park was being delivered soon. All of them would be installed by IdVerde who would also repair the damaged guttering on the bus shelter by the Methodist Church. It was hoped the new bus shelter on A345 would be installed soon.

e) **Allotments:** Cllr Morris was not present to report. The Clerk advised the annual invoices had been issued which was prompting some holders to vacate their plot.

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

ii) **Broadfields Inspection:** All plots had been allocated.

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

iv) **Allotment Shed:** Cllr Judy Kunkler reported the new shed had been ordered and extra paid for installation.

f) **Trees:** Cllr Mrs Stevens advised that once permission had been received from Wiltshire Council, the contractors would be given the go ahead. The works would be publicised on social media.

g) **Scotchel/Way's Way:** Cllr Judy Kunkler reported all was OK. A tree had fallen across the path in Way's Way but had been cleared away.

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

i) **Recreation Ground and Rectory Grove:** Cllr Mrs Hunt requested that more of the edging strips through Rectory Grove needed replacement as not all of them had been previously. It was lovely to see the snowdrops appearing. Cllr Mrs Stevens would give thought to replacement planting once the tree works had been completed; Cllr Giles suggested plants such as primroses could be put in.

j) **Play Areas:** A few minor faults had been identified on the weekly report and would be repaired as necessary.

k) **Litter:** Cllr Ellis was not present to report. Cllr Stythe felt that more signs were needed which Cllr Ellis would be asked to consider.

l) **Toilets/Noticeboards:** Cllr Mrs Hunt advised there had been a leak in the disabled toilet which had been repaired. The Clerk had sought a quotation for some repairs. Discussion took place about the village map which needed to be updated and could be moved to the wall leading to the Co-Op. Cllr Mrs Hunt would include it in the list for the Market Towns Programme grant.

m) **Car Parks:** Cllr Mrs Brindley would take on the regular checks.

n) **White Horse:** Cllr Giles advised the weeds would be dealt with in the Spring.

o) **Century Cross:** Cllr Mrs Stevens advised that new trees had been ordered to replace the ones not growing.

p) **Entrance signs/horse trough:** Cllr Ford was not present to report.

q) **Defibrillators:** Cllr Suzanne McGarry confirmed all the units were working. A new battery had been fitted to the Scout Hut unit but had been concerned that the old battery was only a year old. It would be sent back to Community Heartbeat for them to check if there was a problem as batteries should usually last 5-6 years.

**6. PARISH STEWARD/HIGHWAYS:** The Clerk advised that the Parish Steward had been unavailable since December due to gritting duties.

**7. CLIMATE CHANGE:** Cllr Kerry Pycroft wished to keep this item under the Environment Committee and would concentrate on projects the Parish Council could do. She had emailed out suggestions and had received nine replies. Priorities to consider were changing lighting to LED in the public toilets/car parks and chapel; the Clerk would seek quotations. Cllr Ford would be asked to investigate the possibility of installing solar panels on the public toilets. Consideration would be given to replacement planting where trees were being felled.

**8. ANY FULL COUNCIL INFORMATION AND ACTION:** Cllr McGarry proposed payment of the invoice for Professional Woodworkers Ltd, seconded Cllr Mrs Stevens, all in favour.

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

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.09pm.

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