

**PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD IN THE PARISH OFFICE ON 12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023 at 7.00pm**

<b><u>PRESENT:</u></b>	Cllr Mrs Stevens (Chair), Cllr Mrs Brindley, Cllr Ms Durnford, Mrs Humfress, Mrs Hunt, Judy Kunkler, Mrs Mundy, Mrs Sharpe, Cllrs Giles, Marshall, Sharpe, Smithers and Stevens.
<b><u>IN ATTENDANCE:</u></b>	Alison Kent (Clerk), Cllr Kunkler (WC), Mrs Wilson (PCAP) and members of the Youth Café.
<b><u>12/1 APOLOGIES:</u></b>	Cllr Kerry Pycroft and Cllr Ford.
<b><u>12/2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:</u></b>	Cllr Mrs Sharpe on item 12/10 Planning application b) ii)
<b><u>12/3 CHAIR'S UPDATE:</u></b>	<p>The Chair had attended the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the building of the Methodist Chapel. She had also attended the Area Board meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> November focussing on local highways issues. She thanked the volunteers who had installed the Christmas lighting in the Market Place, there had been lots of positive remarks. She and Cllr Stevens had attended the Youth Café and were very impressed. She thanked PC Doctor Dave for all his past work for the Parish Council now that the Council had left his service.</p> <p>She had been invited to the Carol Service on 21<sup>st</sup> December, 7pm at St. John's but was unable to attend or read the lesson. She would welcome a willing volunteer.</p> <p>She invited the representatives of the Youth Café to announce the name - Jerry's Café as he had helped put it all together. A new logo and poster had been designed by the young people.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Stevens thanked everyone who has helped this year; a lot had been achieved, especially the Pump Track and Christmas lights.</p>
<b><u>12/4 UNITARY COUNCILLOR:</u></b>	<p>Cllr Kunkler thanked the group for naming it Jerry's Café, and also thanked Mrs Wilson, Mrs Jeffery and Cllr Mrs Brindley for their hard work in getting it established. He would continue to support it as best he could to make it even better, along with the Parish Council.</p> <p>Wiltshire Council had received an Ofsted report rated outstanding for children's services, with thanks especially to Cllr Laura Mayes.</p> <p>Over 120 people had attended the recent Highways Area Board meeting with lots of questions and concerns raised. The next Area Board would be held on 4<sup>th</sup> March at Bedwyn but may move it to Pewsey as the police Chief Constable was due to attend. He would welcome all questions and concerns to be raised prior.</p> <p>He had attended Cabinet that day to discuss budget setting.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Mundy said the output from the highways meeting was that responses would be made available; Cllr Kunkler affirmed this would happen as soon as possible, but informative responses were required. It was hoped the officer had noticed the seriousness of the effect on people's lives within this rural area, especially as the same amount of council tax was paid as other areas.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Hunt reminded Cllr Kunkler the roadwork signs remained in the High Street from October and asked them to be removed.</p> <p>He wished the Council a Happy Christmas and New Year, thanking members for their support this year.</p>
<b><u>12/5 POLICE MATTERS:</u></b>	<p>There were no police matters to discuss.</p> <p>Speedwatch: Cllr Mrs Humfress reported the device had been used for a couple of sessions. She had spoken with Wiltshire Police about SIDS and it had been suggested up to date traffic surveys were undertaken as the last one had been done in 2020/21. It was agreed to request all speedwatch sites to be surveyed.</p>

<b><u>12/6 ADOPTION OF MINUTES HELD SINCE LAST FULL COUNCIL:</u></b>	Planning: 18 <sup>th</sup> October, proposed Cllr Stevens, seconded Cllr Judy Kunkler, all in favour. Environment: 20 <sup>th</sup> September, proposed Cllr Judy Kunkler, seconded Cllr Stevens, 11 for, 1 abstention for absence from relevant meeting.	
<b><u>12/7 APPROVAL OF THE LAST MINUTES:</u></b>	Cllr Mrs Stevens proposed the minutes of the meeting held on 14 <sup>th</sup> November were signed as a true record, seconded Cllr Smithers, all in favour.	
<b><u>12/8 FINANCE:</u></b>	a) Balance in Current account £109,620.67 Instant Reserve account £82,461.61, Lloyds Business Account £601.63, Lloyds Business Savings Account £80,637.80, Nationwide Savings Account £88,519.40, Cambridge Building Society £85,394.95, Unity Trust Savings Account £87,002.03. b) Payments, as listed, were proposed for approval by Cllr Mrs Stevens, seconded Cllr Stevens, all in favour. c) None. d) Petty Cash - opening balance £14.82, drawn down £300.00, consumables £3.59, leaving £311.23 cash in hand.	
<b><u>12/9 PRECEPT 2024/25:</u></b>	Discussion took place, particularly on the need for a sensible increase as there would be a lot of tree works in the coming year. Cllr Judy Kunkler proposed to increase the Precept by 5% and set it at £157,500 for 2024/25, seconded Cllr Stevens, all in favour.	
<b><u>12/10 PLANNING:</u></b>	a) Decisions: i) PL/2023/08463 HOUSEHOLDER PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED for demolition of existing garage and replace with new garage with room over at 13 Raffin Lane. ii) PL/2023/08948 WORKS TO TREES IN A CONSERVATION AREA GRANTED 3 x Birch trees - crown reduce by 2m-3m; thin and shape at 43 High Street. iii) PL/2023/09170 WORKS TO TREES IN A CONSERVATION AREA GRANTED T1 - Japanese Rowan tree - 20% crown reduction; T2, T3 and T4 - Ornamental Cherry trees - 20% crown reduction at Phoenix House, Phoenix Square. iv) PL/2023/09411 WORKS TO TREES IN A CONSERVATION AREA GRANTED T1, T2, T3 and T4 - Alder tree - crown reduce by 15% and remove deadwood; T5 - Alder tree - pollard to 1.8m height, currently leaning substantially over river and towards the car park at 5 Avon Place. b) Applications: i) PL/2023/10381 NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSED WORKS TO TREES IN A CONSERVATION AREA - 19 x Holly trees - fell; 2 x Cypress trees - fell; 1 x Holly tree (in garden of 85 High Street) - cut back overhanging branches to boundary at The Willows, 89 High Street, Pewsey. NO OBJECTION - proposed Cllr Stevens, seconded Cllr Giles, all in favour. ii) PL/2023/10444 HOUSHOLDER PLANNING PERMISSION for timber framed entrance porch beneath existing archway. Enlarge bedroom window at 5 Highway House, Green Drove, Pewsey. NO OBJECTION - proposed Cllr Mrs Stevens, seconded Cllr Judy Kunkler, all in favour. PL/2022/05942 Planning appeal upheld for Withy Tree Cottage, Knowle Pewsey. The conclusion being to remove the disputed Condition no. 6 and add a differently worded Condition no. 6.	
<b><u>12/11 CO-OPTION OF SEVEN COUNCILLORS:</u></b>	One application had been received and circulated to all members. The application was proposed acceptance by Cllr Mrs Hunt, seconded Cllr Mrs Humfress, all in favour. Mr Marshall signed his Declaration of Acceptance and was welcomed to the table.	
<b><u>12/12 YOUTH PROJECTS:</u></b>	Cllr Mrs Brindley thanked the youth attending earlier and thanked Cllr Mrs Stevens and Cllr Stevens for attending the youth café last Friday. She was very happy with the way it was growing. She had met with Wiltshire Council, Community First, Mrs Wilson and Mrs Jeffery	<b>LB/ HD</b>

	to look at ways of securing an outside space (the old MUGA at the school) The school held the keys and would permit it to be used. Funding was potentially available for spring/summer activities and at the Pump Track site. Cllr Mrs Mundy advised that the Bowls Club were always seeking younger people to have a go at the sport.	
<b><u>12/13 WHEELED SPORTS:</u></b>	Cllr Smithers stated the build was progressing really well. A RoSPA inspection would take place next week and would be added to the weekly inspections. The bat and bird boxes needed purchasing. Pallets from the new turf delivery would be kept and used to form the new log pile that is required. A basic entrance sign would be erected temporarily. Hopefully, it will be accessible by Christmas with a formal opening in the Spring.	<b>AK</b>
<b><u>12/14 COMMUNITY LAND TRUST:</u></b>	Cllr Mrs Mundy reported that advice was being sought, particularly via the support team at Locality. There were other options to move forward; to continue with the CLT as the proposer of the community order; persuade the Parish Council to propose the community order or to pass the development order to Wiltshire Council planning. The officer overseeing the order at Wiltshire Council had not attempted to move it forward for months.	<b>LM</b>
<b><u>12/15 WEBSITE/ COMMUNICATIONS:</u></b>	Cllr Mrs Mundy confirmed the website was up and running and the email transfer had also taken place. Cllr Mrs Sharpe advised that she would restart the communications working group, would take the lead and arrange a meeting soon.	<b>LM/ KP/ GS</b>
<b><u>12/16 EVENTS WORKING GROUP:</u></b>	Cllr Mrs Brindley would look to arrange a community open afternoon on 6 <sup>th</sup> April in Bouverie Hall. Consideration would be given to inviting a guest speaker and involving the schools to make it interesting and get more people attending.	<b>LB/ LH/ LS/ PSt</b>
<b><u>12/17 MARKET TOWNS PROGRAMME:</u></b>	Cllr Mrs Hunt advised the Clerk had collated all the relevant invoices and submitted the interim report to Wiltshire Council. There were remaining funds to be spent by 31 <sup>st</sup> March, including frames required for the new village maps. The Clerk was ordering new signs for both of the car parks Cllr Mrs Hunt had led the application for 2024/25, for a further £10,000 which had been accepted. She also advised that the Neighbourhood Development Plan had been sent to Wiltshire Council for screening, but had been informed this would not take place until January/February.	<b>MH/ LH</b>
<b><u>12/18 PEWSEY VALE RAIL USERS GROUP:</u></b>	Cllr Sharpe had little to report, except to advise passengers to plan their journeys carefully due to continuing industrial action.	
<b><u>12/19 LHFIFG:</u></b>	Cllr Mrs Brindley reported that Cllr Ford had attended a meeting on site with Highways to discuss whether to remove or add another speed hump on Wilcot Road next to Crown Close. Most people seemed to drive around the existing one. It was suggested a cheaper option would be to install a planter which a neighbour had agreed to maintain. Cllr Mrs Brindley proposed a substantial planter be placed adjacent to Crown Close next to the existing speed bump, seconded Cllr Mrs Sharp, all in favour.	<b>LB/ JF</b>
<b><u>12/20 COUNCIL MEETINGS:</u></b>	Cllr Sharpe reminded members that he had proposed in August to trial a combination of meetings to ensure they were more quorate. He had reviewed the Standing Orders which were fit for purpose although the meeting frequency may need to be changed. The discussion was to consider whether to continue with combined meetings or revert to the original arrangement. Each member gave their opinion; in general, it was agreed that the new arrangement worked as long as the meetings did not go on too long as people became sidetracked, many had mixed feelings. Cllr Mrs Mundy preferred the individual frequency of meetings.	

	Cllr Sharpe proposed a six-month extension of the trial and to review in May, seconded Cllr Smithers, 12 for, 1 abstention. He would establish a new meeting date of the Community Emergency Response Team in January and had spoken with Wiltshire Council and reviewed other community plans.	PSh
<u>12/21</u> <u>CORRESPONDENCE:</u>	The Bouverie Hall had asked for support towards the costs of substantial drain repairs, having submitted one quotation. The Council would ask them to obtain two further quotations and to check whether the damage could be claimed against their insurance.	
<u>12/22 PUBLIC</u> <u>PARTICIPATION:</u>	None.	
<u>12/23 ITEMS VIA THE</u> <u>CLERK:</u>	The Clerk advised there were no further meetings until January and would send out the meeting diary as soon as possible. She wished everyone good wishes for the festive season and thanked members for their support throughout the year.	

There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.36pm.

Signed.....

Date.....