

PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 20th SEPTEMBER 2023
IN THE PARISH OFFICE, BOUVERIE HALL, PEWSEY

PRESENT: Cllr Kerry Pycroft (Chair), Cllr Judy Kunkler (Vice-Chair), Cllrs Mrs Brindley, Mrs Mundy, Mrs Sharpe, Mrs Stevens, Cllr Giles and Stevens.

IN ATTENDANCE: Alison Kent (Clerk), Nick Hewens (Tennis Club)

1. APOLOGIES: Cllrs Ms Durnford, Mrs Humfress, Mrs Hunt, Cllrs Ford and Sharpe.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: All being in agreement, the minutes of the meeting held on 7th June 2023.

4. Tenant Club Report: Bowls Club	Reports from the club, covering the cancelled August meeting and in anticipation of the changed October meeting had been circulated to all members.	
Football Club	There was no representative present or report provided.	
Tennis Club	Mr Hewens informed the meeting of the club's league successes this year. The laurel had been cut back from the footpath near the tennis courts which would grow back. He asked the Council to consider cutting back of a very large Holly which was starting to interfere with the guttering of the clubhouse. The Parish Council would see if a tree notification was required and arrange works accordingly.	Check planning
Rugby Club	There was no representative present or report provided.	
Youth Football	There was no representative present or report provided.	
Heritage Centre	Cllr Giles reported the visitor season had been satisfactory with the Pewsey sports club exhibition being well received. Booking numbers for the education centre continued to be good. The centre was indebted to Mr and Mrs Bond for their hard work. Three broken windows had been reported to the police.	

5. Cemetery and Chapel	The Lytchgate and wall had been repaired and the invoices submitted to the insurance company. The chapel doors had been oiled on the inside, repaired and repainted on the outside. The Lytchgate gates would benefit from a repaint, also inside the gate and roof beams so a further quote would be sought. The Clerk would request the temporary storage area to be removed unless this had been passed to a new funeral director.	Seeking quotes Remove storage
Footpaths	Cllr Judy Kunkler had little to report apart from the ownership of land on which FP29 was sited was being clarified as the map and actual site was different. A check with the Land Registry would be made.	Land Registry check
Seats/Bus Shelters	Cllr Judy Kunkler reported all OK. A seat required replacing which had been ordered.	Install seat
Allotments: Bert's Meadow	Cllr Kerry Pycroft, Mrs Stevens and the Clerk had walked around Bert's Meadow. Four plots had now been allocated but some were still untidy. The previous holder of 10D/11D had created a small parking area, so two half plots would be created	Parking area

<p>Broadfields</p> <p>Waiting List</p>	<p>to retain the parking area. The parking area that was previously suggested near the High Street entrance would not proceed and the plot reinstated as a full size one.</p> <p>A plot had been vacated and subsequently allocated. There were no issues to report.</p> <p>The Clerk advised there was still a lengthy waiting list although this had been reduced since the last meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Kerry Pycroft advised there was no legal requirement for the Parish Council to locate any more land for allotments as the criteria suggested by the National Allotment Society continued to be exceeded. She had designed an application form which would be put on the website. Small changes to the rules would be made, to include bees, in time to issue with the invoices.</p>	<p>Website Rules update</p>
<p>Trees</p>	<p>Cllr Mrs Stevens had been informed that the priority 2 tree work should be completed next week, then the priority 3 works could be planned.</p>	<p>Priority 3 works</p>
<p>Scotchel</p> <p>Way's Way</p>	<p>Cllr Judy Kunkler reported a branch had partially come down which she had cleared with the help of a member of the public. Several rails had come down that needed replacing; Cllr Sharpe would undertake this task. Cllr Stevens had tightened the entrance gate again. Cllr Kerry Pycroft had circulated the draft new sign which Cllr Stevens would measure up for.</p> <p>There was nothing to report.</p>	<p>Repair rails</p> <p>Measure signs</p>
<p>River Avon K & A</p>	<p>Cllr Kerry Pycroft had been in discussion with Wiltshire Council regarding the ownership of a small section of the river by the thatched cottages. Wiltshire Council would offer a 50-year licence at no cost to the Parish Council. This would cover such activities as planting up and cutting back as needed by the carnival committee or the Pewsey Avon River Restoration Group. The offer was unanimously accepted.</p> <p>She continued to explain that the Canal & River Trust had very little money so the towpaths were not being cut and lots of litter bins had been removed. Cllr Mundy knew of ongoing problems with illegal moorings near Milton, mess and difficult behaviour.</p>	<p>Obtain licence</p>
<p>Recreation Ground</p> <p>Rectory Grove</p>	<p>Cllr Mrs Hunt was not present but had submitted a report. The grounds were generally OK. The Grove footpath could do with topping up and the edgings were left uncompleted last year. There are a couple of trees that are clearly dead but not shown on the tree survey, Cllr Mrs Stevens would check.</p>	<p>Check tree inspection</p>
<p>Whatley Drive</p>	<p>Cllr Kerry Pycroft reported that out of five contractors that had been approached, only three had responded and not yet quoted. Cllr Smithers had met with a further contractor on site and a quote would be supplied. It would be checked to ensure it included all the works agreed with the Whatley Drive Residents Association. A quote would also be obtained for Rectory Grove footpath.</p>	
<p>Play Areas</p>	<p>Cllr Stevens had taken on the role of checking the play areas and organising repair works where required. He had concerns, particularly with the lack of regular inspection reports from the contractor.</p> <p>RoSPA recommended weekly inspections, so the Council was being left open to criticism. The Council's insurers had picked up some concerns during its bi-annual inspection which had not</p>	<p>Chase IdVerde for inspection reports</p>

	been identified by the contractor. He had made some minor repairs, the grass had not been cut and the cleaning had not taken place as contracted for the end of last month. There had been a lot of vandalism in recent weeks. Simon Last had replaced a fence panel for nothing as a community gesture.	Rescind order for cleaning
Litter	Cllr Ms Durnford had taken on this role but was not present to report, Cllr Kerry Pycroft would liaise with her about the task. The Clerk reminded members that a salt bin audit was required.	Salt bin audit
Toilets	Cllr Stevens had arranged for the minor repairs to be done, including the lighting, doors and internal fittings. An electrical inspection was overdue which he would arrange. A deep clean was required.	Deep clean
Noticeboards	Nothing to report.	
Car Parks Streetlighting	Cllr Mrs Brindley and Cllr Kerry Pycroft had measured up the frames for the new car park signs which were being designed.	Order signs
White Horse	Cllr Giles reported the horse looked satisfactory, with the contractor doing a good job.	
Century Cross	Cllr Mrs Stevens advised a lot of the trees had died again and would be replaced. The areas had been strimmed.	Replace trees
Entrance signs Horse trough	A couple of the entrance signs still required cleaning. Cllr Mrs Brindley would look after the Horse trough.	Clean signs and trough
Verges/ small green spaces	Management of the smaller spaces would need consideration.	IdVerde maps
Defibs	The Clerk advised that a new person would be required from the end of the month to take on the checks required and updating the system. Cllrs Mrs Sharpe would undertake this with guidance from Cllr Stevens. A location was needed for the new defibrillator and Cllr Stevens had received verbal permission from the owner of Precision Engineering who were also happy to pay the electricity cost. Written permission would be obtained.	Set up new contact Written permission

6. PARISH STEWARD/ HIGHWAYS:	The Clerk advised that the next visits would be from 25 th -27 th September, 24 th -26 th October, 22 nd , 23 rd and 27 th November.	
7. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT:	The Council would be meeting with the contractor to discuss issues with the current contract.	Meeting
8. CLIMATE CHANGE:	Cllr Kerry Pycroft had no update but asked the Clerk to check what had happened with the upgrading of car park lighting to LED.	Lighting upgrade

9. ANY FULL COUNCIL INFORMATION AND ACTION: Cllr Liz Stevens reported that she had accepted the resignation of Mr King and written a letter of thanks to him.

10. ITEMS VIA THE CLERK: None.

There being no further business the Chairman moved the meeting into Confidential Session.

PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL
CONFIDENTIAL ITEM DISCUSSED AT ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
20th SEPTEMBER 2023

Easterton Lane seat – due to the sensitive nature of the request, Cllr Stevens advised that he had been approached by a member of the public to install a new seat in the play area at Easterton Lane, in memory of his wife who had recently passed away. It was agreed that a new bench could be installed, paid for by the gentleman and with his agreement to maintain in the future.

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

Signed: _____ Dated: _____