

**PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 31<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2024  
IN THE PARISH OFFICE, BOUVERIE HALL, PEWSEY**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Alison Kent (Clerk), Mr Haynes, (Pewsey Vale Rugby Club).

**1. APOLOGIES:** Cllrs Ms Durnford, Mrs Mundy, Cllrs Ford, Marshall, 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 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023.

**4. TENANT REPORTS:**

<b>Bowls Club</b>	A report had been received and circulated to all members. The Clerk had been thanked for assisting with a parking concern.	
<b>Football Club</b>	A report had been received and circulated to all members. The teams were progressing well in their respective leagues and the footfall on match days had increased. The grounds were in the process of being tidied but there was still an issue over dog fouling. New signs would be erected. The gate had still not been replaced following carnival events.	AK
<b>Tennis Club</b>	There was no representative present, but Mr Hewens had thanked the Council for arranging for the Holly tree to be cut back.	
<b>Rugby Club</b>	Mr Haynes gave his sincere thanks for the Council's donation of £2,000 towards new mowing equipment. This would enable other funds to assist with long term infrastructure projects. The Youth section totalled 30 members under age 10, and had held after-school clubs at Pewsey Primary and Rushall. The club had 4 qualified coaches and AG Builders had sponsored new youth team kit. The Clubhouse continued to be used by many groups in the community, including the church, as well as private events. The first team was currently midtable with one new player coming from the Saracens academy. More than 20 players attended training nights and there was an increase in spectators. The grounds were in a good condition and the club hoped to continue the great relationship held with the Council as landlord. Cllr Stevens asked about the defibrillator, as it had been suggested to install it on the outside of the gate, allowing it to be publicly accessible and also allow it to be regularly checked. This would be chased up. Cllr Giles had noted the drainage problem adjacent to the grounds.	
<b>Youth Football</b>	Mr Street had provided a written update which was circulated to all members. With regard to ongoing parking problems, the Rugby club had been kind enough to allow use of their car park when available, however this was not a suitable long-term solution. The wet weather had caused a lot of problems. Quotes for additional parking were being obtained and some areas could be cut back to allow for extra spaces. The clubhouse extension plans were ongoing with quotes being obtained and then an application would need to be discussed for submission.	

<b>Heritage Centre</b>	Cllr Giles reported that off-season maintenance tasks continued with last year's displays removed and looking to install this year's which would focus on agriculture in the area. It was hoped to open for the new season at the end of March. Bookings of the Education Centre continued although the hire rates had increased slightly. There may be a developing problem with the north wall and quotes were being obtained.	
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## 5. REPORTS:

<b>Cemetery and Chapel</b>	The Lytchgate gates and internal roof had been repainted, repaired and replaced. The storage area in the chapel was also in the process of being removed.	
<b>Footpaths</b>	Cllr Judy Kunkler reported the Riverside Path was finished and mostly received praise. The path to Knowle from Broomcroft Amenity area had been very muddy, particularly during the bad weather. She was in discussion with the Rights Of Way officer about a replacement surface. There had been a complaint about the broken wooden boardwalk on PEWS6 Knowle to Hollybush Lane. The RoW officer had applied for and received permission to reinstate as the path was adjacent to an SSSI. It would be replaced with stone once funds were available.	JK
<b>Seats/Bus Shelters</b>	Cllr Judy Kunkler reported both the seats and bus shelters were OK. The plank seat in the Scotchel needed to be removed.	AK
<b>Allotments: Bert's Meadow Broadfields Waiting List</b>	Cllr Kerry Pycroft advised they had not been inspected due to the bad weather and would start again in March. The annual invoices would be issued next week with a concerted effort to collect email addresses in order to be more efficient. Contact with the Allotment Association would be made twice a year to build better communication.	KP
<b>Trees</b>	Cllr Mrs Stevens had amalgamated the Priority 3 and 4 lists in order for the Clerk to seek three quotations.	AK
<b>Scotchel</b>	Cllr Judy Kunkler had met with the Pewsey Avon River Restoration group (PARR) who had cleared quite a bit of debris and a leaning tree out of the river to aid the flow. The Scotchel had flooded at the beginning of the month.	
<b>Way's Way</b>	Way's Way was tidy. She had also noted the graffiti under the railway bridge which looked awful and would be added to the Parish Steward.	AK
<b>River Avon K &amp; A Canal</b>	Cllr Kerry Pycroft had nothing to report.	
<b>Recreation Ground Rectory Grove</b>	Cllr Mrs Hunt reminded the Clerk that the Football Club had not yet returned the gate. The grounds were fine with no parking on the grass. She suggested that deadwood piles were made again following the recent storms.	AK
<b>Whatley Drive</b>	Cllr Kerry Pycroft commented that the contractors for the Riverside Walk had been very efficient and accommodating during the works. It was the correct material, self-binding and appropriate for a rural setting. This item could now be removed from the agenda.	
<b>Play Areas</b>	Cllr Stevens reminded members of his concerns about the play area inspection made at the last meeting and advised that a new inspector had been appointed. A handwritten copy and email version of the report would be provided. Last week's inspection had been outstanding with minor repairs, graffiti removal and a litter pick being reinstated as per the contract. Monthly meetings with the contractor would continue.	
<b>Litter</b>	Cllr Ms Durnford was not present to report. The bin had been put inside the bus shelter on North Street. A new, larger bin was needed at the Pump Track as the other one had split.	AK

	As the Pump Track had been mentioned it was confirmed that the roadside hedge would be left and a couple of new trees planted to give it further height. The reinstatement of the zipwire, basket swing and rotator quotation would be available for Full Council. A minibus from a local charity had turned up to use the track, it would be explained to them that the track was not for commercial use.	
<b>Toilets</b> <b>Noticeboards</b>	Cllr Stevens advised IdVerde had generously offered a free deep clean. A COSHH system had been put in place as previously missing. The garden items recently found had been removed from the service area. . Cllr Mrs Hunt would do a site walk with the contractor to agree the installation of the new village signs.	
<b>Car Parks</b>	Cllr Mrs Brindley advised the new car park signs were being prepared, with both areas currently tidy. Cllr Stevens would speak with IdVerde about adding the parking area by the Bowls Club to the contract as it was owned by the Parish Council, although leased to the Co-Op.	<b>PS</b>
<b>White Horse</b>	Cllr Giles would give consideration to different maintenance options in order to improve the current state of the horse. Again, made worse by the recent bad weather.	<b>RG</b>
<b>Century Cross</b>	Cllr Stevens would replant some of the trees that had failed again. He was giving consideration to chalking the area.	<b>PS</b>
<b>Entrance signs</b> <b>Horse trough</b>	Cllr Mrs Brindley had nothing to report. Cllr Stevens would see if the maintenance of these could be added to the contract.	
<b>Defibrillators</b>	Cllr Mrs Sharpe reported that all were up and operational. The reporting side was causing issues as there were two systems in use. The new device was being installed at Fordbrook estate next week and the Clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks to Precision Engineering, who had been very accommodating.	<b>AK</b>

<b>6. PARISH STEWARD/ HIGHWAYS:</b>	The Clerk advised that the Parish Steward would visit next on 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 26 <sup>th</sup> and 27 <sup>th</sup> February and a list of jobs would be compiled, including graffiti removal and clear the Grove path.	
<b>7. CLIMATE CHANGE:</b>	With regard to the grounds maintenance contract, Cllr Kerry Pycroft, Judy Kunkler and Mrs Hunt had met with the new operative to discuss requirements and provided details of What3Words locations and maps. All the hedges had been cut with the exception of the Rugby Club. It must be made clear that it should be 2 hedge cuts, between October and March. The Clerk would seek updated quotes for car park lighting. An outcome of the Pewsey Green survey was an interest in heat loss surveys. This had been very successful in Great Bedwyn. She had spoken with Caroline LeQuesne to look into the purchase of an infra-red camera, purchased through the Area Board. Pewsey Green would run the scheme.	<b>AK</b>

**8. ANY FULL COUNCIL INFORMATION AND ACTION:** None.

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

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.08pm.

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