

PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE PARISH OFFICE ON 12th MARCH 2024 at 7.00pm

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Cllr Mrs Stevens (Chair), Mrs Brindley, Ms Durnford, Mrs Humfress, Mrs Hunt, Judy Kunkler, Mrs Mundy, Kerry Pycroft, Cllrs Ford, Giles, Marshall and Stevens.	
<u>IN ATTENDANCE:</u>	Alison Kent (Clerk), Cllr Kunkler, Mrs Wilson (PCAP) and members of the public.	
<u>3/1 APOLOGIES:</u>	Cllr Mrs Sharpe and Cllr Sharpe.	
<u>3/2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:</u>	Cllrs Kerry Pycroft, Mrs Stevens and Cllr Stevens on item 7 (b).	
<u>3/3 CHAIR'S UPDATE:</u>	<p>The Chair confirmed the new defibrillator had been installed at Fordbrook Industrial Estate. She thanked Mr Bowerman for offering straw to curb the oil spill in the river, although the Fire Service had subsequently attended with containment booms.</p> <p>She advised that the electrical test in the chapel had failed so new lighting and remedial works had been approved.</p> <p>The public toilets had been deep cleaned.</p> <p>She had attended a Church lunch in Woodborough to welcome the new clergy who would work in the community.</p>	
<u>3/4 UNITARY COUNCILLOR:</u>	<p>Cllr Kunkler reported that unfortunately the Chief Constable had not attended the Area Board meeting on 4th March due to not being informed of the change of venue. She had been asked to attend on 17th June, at a venue to be decided.</p> <p>The remaining grant funding had been awarded. The next LHFIG meeting would be held on 24th April, and he welcomed new projects to be considered. The 2024/25 budget had been approved on 28th February with an increase of 4.99%.</p> <p>He requested a Confidential Item at the next convenient meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Stevens asked whether LHFIG could consider funding towards road signage for the new Pump Track, Cllr Kunkler would progress.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Hunt stated a lot of potholes seemed to be caused by utility companies not filling the land back properly, could a complaint be made? Cllr Kunkler explained that no complaint could be made, however, consideration was being given with planning developments to request utilities to install under pavements rather than roads.</p>	
<u>3/5 POLICE MATTERS:</u>	<p>No police report had been received.</p> <p>Speedwatch: Cllr Mrs Humfress reported there were three new volunteers who were waiting to be trained.</p> <p>SIDS - Cllr Mrs Humfress had spoken to three companies and a Cllr in Durrington to obtain more information. From the existing results, and following the rules and criteria, she considered SIDS really were not feasible and recommended not to purchase. Cllr Ford agreed that there were two areas of concern, being the A345 out of the village towards St. Francis School and Salisbury Road, but other areas had a natural slowing down process.</p> <p>Traffic surveys would still be requested via the usual process. Cllr Stevens that the focus should be on education rather than devices.</p>	AK
<u>3/6 APPROVAL OF THE LAST MINUTES:</u>	Cllr Mrs Mundy proposed that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 th February were signed as a true record, seconded Cllr Judy Kunkler, all in favour.	
<u>3/7 FINANCE:</u>	a) Balance in Current account £40,141.35 Instant Reserve account £42,616.85, Lloyds Business Account £7,212.87, Lloyds Business Savings Account £30,944.99, Nationwide Savings Account £89,393.51, Cambridge Building Society £87,030.09, Unity Trust Savings Account £87,605.09.	

	<p>b) Payments were proposed for approval by Cllr Ford, seconded Cllr Stevens, all in favour.</p> <p>c) Three quotations had been sought for the priority 3 and 4 tree works combined, only one had been received. As it was a substantial cost, the Clerk explained how the quotation had been split into geographical areas and would be spread over two financial years. Cllr Mrs Hunt proposed to accept the quotation from Steven Parker, seconded Cllr Kerry Pycroft, all in favour.</p> <p>d) Petty Cash - opening balance £300.54, transfer £300 back to the current account for accounting purposes, leaving £0.54 cash in hand.</p> <p>e) The annual increase to the cemetery fees by RPI was proposed by Cllr Ford, seconded Cllr Marshall, all in favour.</p>	
<u>3/8 CO-OPTION OF SIX COUNCILLORS:</u>	No applications had been received.	
<u>3/9 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:</u>	<p>a) PL/2024/01807 NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSED WORKS TO TREES IN A CONSERVATION AREA T1 - Yew tree - cut canopy back to boundary; T2 - Acacia tree - fell; T3 - Holly tree - cut back to boundary; T4, T5 and T6 - 3 x Sycamore trees - crown lift to 5m at The Rectory, Church Street, Pewsey. No Objection, proposed Cllr Stevens, seconded Cllr Mrs Stevens, all in favour.</p> <p>b) PL/2024/02053 CONSENT UNDER TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS H1 - Holly - reduce northern 10m to 2-3m above ground level, annual prune the middle section and prune the southern section (side) by up to 1m (removing the two self- set Elders). T7 - Lime - crown reduction by up to 2m; T8 - Holly - remove tree to a safe height, up to 3m above ground level; T11 - Ash - fell to ground level due to prolonged infection from Ash Dieback at 21-41 Whatley Drive, Pewsey. Please clarify the house numbers on the application. We support the application was proposed Cllr Mrs Hunt, seconded Cllr Ford, all in favour.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Mundy asked for all members to attend the Planning Committee meeting to be held on 27th March, where possible, to consider the old police station application.</p>	
<u>3/10 YOUTH PROJECTS:</u>	Cllr Mrs Brindley reported all going well. She and other volunteers had been on a First Aid training course. Grant funding had been awarded from the Local Youth Network to support sports coaching sessions. Two more volunteers had attended the Friday night café. Community First would undertake a leaflet drop to all houses.	LB
<u>3/11 COMMUNITY LAND TRUST:</u>	Cllr Mrs Mundy reminded members the planning application had been registered and comments were being made online, both for and against. The Parish Council would make its recommendation on 27 th March, and she hoped it would be supported. Cllr Kunkler would usually be asked to call in an application such as this but, despite his own concerns, would let the process take its course.	LM
<u>3/12 COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP:</u>	Cllr Mrs Sharpe was not present to report but Cllr Mrs Mundy advised that the first meeting had taken place to agree Terms of Reference. They, and the Clerk, would look to attend a course on Wordpress to enable greater understanding. Cllr Kerry Pycroft had made a slight amendment to the Social Media policy which would be circulated. Content was still needed for the website.	GS/ LM/ KP
<u>3/13 EVENTS WORKING GROUP:</u>	Cllr Mrs Humfress confirmed the Community Morning was being held on 6 th April and hoped to set up on the Friday afternoon. A raffle would be held to raise funds for the defibrillators and more prizes would be welcomed. There would be a fancy dress competition for children. Cllr Marshall would sort refreshments. A few craft stalls would attend and hopefully the weather would be good enough to allow activities outside. The Primary School poster competition for the Pump Track would be judged by their council.	LB/ LH/ LS/ MH

	A provisional date of 27 th May had been agreed for the official opening of the Pump Track, although a response from Velo was still awaited. Cllr Stevens hoped that all the other equipment would be reinstalled as soon as the ground had dried out.	
<u>3/14 MARKET TOWNS PROGRAMME:</u>	Cllr Mrs Hunt was waiting to find out whether a time extension was permitted in order make further purchases, or whether funds would need reimbursing. The list for 2023/24 funding (to be spent by 31 st March 2025) was being collated for approval. Cllr Mrs Mundy stated a couple of local contractors were happy to maintain floral displays at the four “Welcome to Pewsey” signs which would provide some colour.	MH/ LH
<u>3/15 VISITWILTSHIRE FUNDING CUT:</u>	The letter from the Pewsey Community Area Partnership to Cllr Clewer, Leader of Wiltshire Council relating to the cut to the Visit Wiltshire provision had been circulated to all. Cllr Mrs Hunt explained that although the renewal of service had been known for some time, there had been little consultation and had now been cut altogether from the recently approved Wiltshire Council budget. Despite having funding from the Market Towns Programme and some knowledge on how to assist local businesses, parish councillors did not have the experience in the business of improving tourism. Cllr Mrs Hunt invited Mrs Wilson to speak, although the Chair had requested this should be to answer questions from Council only. Mrs Wilson continued to explain that nobody could know the impact of this decision and how the new service, to be provided by Wiltshire Council, would be delivered and how successfully. Cllr Ford asked how many parishes there were in Wiltshire - 253. Cllr Stevens asked why Wiltshire Council had decided the service was not worth renewing, Mrs Wilson answered that she felt Mr Clewer (Cllr) could not see that VisitWiltshire delivered value for money. Cllr Kunkler advised that Wiltshire Council were ready to deliver its own app which would be under one umbrella with Swindon Borough Council. Cllr Marshall felt that Pewsey was not represented well on VisitWiltshire, Cllr Judy Kunkler said it was very out of date. Cllr Ford asked why was this being discussed? Cllr Mrs Hunt replied that there was a possibility of providing some sort of contribution. Cllr Stevens stated there was an old scheme and now a new scheme, he proposed that Cllr Kunkler arrange for the relevant officer to present the new scheme to the Parish Council once it was up and running, seconded Cllr Mrs Hunt, 11 for, 1 abstention.	MH
<u>2/16 CORRESPONDENCE:</u>	None.	
<u>2/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:</u>	A member of the public asked whether the Pewsey Community Land Trust was in receipt of private investment and was that allowed. This was a question for the for the PCLT and not the Parish Council to answer. The decision point of the planning application would be the end of the Parish Council’s involvement. Mrs Wilson advised that Wiltshire Council had set up the Pewsey Community Area Partnership as Pewsey Foodbank, via a voucher system sent directly to the family. A third-party referral form would be required with 8 families currently being supported.	
<u>2/18 ITEMS VIA THE CLERK:</u>	None.	

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