

**PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 5th JUNE 2024
IN THE PARISH OFFICE, BOUVERIE HALL, PEWSEY**

PRESENT: Cllr Kerry Pycroft (Chair), Cllr Judy Kunkler (Vice-Chair), Cllrs Ms Durnford, Mrs Humfress, Mrs Sharpe and Mrs Stevens, Cllr Ford, Giles, Mulji and Stevens.

IN ATTENDANCE: Alison Kent (Clerk).

1. APOLOGIES: Cllrs Mrs Brindley, Mrs Hunt, Mrs Mundy, Cllrs Marshall, Sharpe and Smithers.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: All being in agreement, the minutes of the meeting held on 27th March 2024.

4. TENANT REPORTS:

Bowls Club	A report had been received and circulated to all members. The season had opened on 13 th April with a recruitment day, a second one being held on 25 th May as part of the Bowls England Big Weekend. Over 30 people had attended resulting in several new members. The 1 st Pewsey and Upavon Brownies had attended an evening of activities, it was hoped this would be an annual event. Wiltshire Bowls Academy would visit the club on 30 th June for a coaching session and match. Spectators would be welcome.	
Football Club	A report had been received and circulated to all members. Both the first and development teams had ended the season well. The first team management had moved to Calne FC, but a new team already in place. Pitch preparations for next season had started with some smaller socket goals replacing the large ones next to the clubhouse. These would be available for community use as well as the club. Repairs were required to the lights which prevented the U18s side competing in the floodlight league, having been successful in the past. The AGM was on 15 th June.	
Tennis Club	There was no representative present or report received.	
Rugby Club	A report had been received and circulated to all members. The senior team had enjoyed a successful season finishing mid table. Over 40 children now attended mini rugby (ages 6-11) with plans to increase the coaching teams and outreach sessions with local primary schools. The repayment of the loan to the Parish Council was on schedule. The new mower was in use with the grounds undergoing its summer maintenance programme. New posts would be erected following receipt of a grant. The refurbishment of the well-used kitchen was in the costing stage and a new 5-year plan would be rolled out with a new board and committee structure. The AGM was on 8 th June. New volunteers were welcome.	
Youth Football	There were no representatives present or report received.	
Heritage Centre	Cllr Giles advised the new season was proceeding very well. The centre would close for a day whilst the vandalised window was replaced. The talk on DDay Logistics had been a sell out and the education centre continued to do well with bookings.	

5. REPORTS:

Cemetery and Chapel	<p>Cllr Stevens reported that the grass had been cut that day and that he would be meeting with the contractor again on 12th June. The upgrade to the chapel lighting would take place this month.</p> <p>Cllr Ms Durnford commented the chains around the ashes area looked unsightly and noted some of the graves appeared not to be maintained. Cllr Giles felt the council should consider the future of the cemetery with many trees and large shrubs uprooting the paths and the graves, and leaves dropping everywhere in the autumn. He would meet on site with Cllr Ms Durnford and Cllr Ford.</p>	<p>HD JF RG</p>
Footpaths	<p>Cllr Judy Kunkler had little to report. The path from Knowle to Pains Bridge was still muddy, although it was hoped to get the wooden part replaced as Wiltshire Council had stated in May/June. The King Alfred trail at the rear of Wilcot Road was very overgrown, particularly the hedge from of the houses. It had been reported to Rights of Way.</p>	<p>JK</p>
Seats/Bus Shelters	<p>Cllr Judy Kunkler advised she had checked the metal window bars in the bus shelters which were OK. She had photographed all but one of the seats for the updated audit. One had been removed from the Scotchel and 2 new ones at the Pump Track. She would look to replace 2 or 3 seats annually.</p>	<p>JK</p>
Allotments: Bert's Meadow	<p>Cllr Kerry Pycroft advised that she had undertaken several inspections at Easterton Lane and have 2 plots to allocate, 6 had been written to for not cultivating, which had prompted 3 to take action. 3 plots had still not been worked. All plots were allocated at Broadfields.</p>	<p>KP AK</p>
Broadfields Waiting List	<p>The waiting list remained Still quite a few on waiting list.</p>	<p>AK</p>
Trees	<p>Cllr Mrs Stevens reported that priority 2 works were still being done with much of the wood left for nature or people to take.</p>	<p>LS</p>
Scotchel	<p>Cllr Judy Kunkler reported all appeared OK, with the tree works done as per the report.</p>	<p>JK</p>
Way's Way	<p>Way's Way was fine.</p>	
River Avon K & A Canal	<p>Cllr Kerry Pycroft had nothing to report. Maintenance on the canal had gone downhill.</p> <p>Banners – there was a new Wiltshire Council policy on banners as it was hoped to stop fly-posting. It had been left to the Parish Council for many years to manage the banners placed on the Market Place railings, permitting charitable events 14 days before an event and then removal straight after. Cllr Mrs Stevens suggested details of what was permitted be put on the Parish Council website and social media.</p>	<p>KP AK</p>
Recreation Ground Rectory Grove	<p>Cllr Stevens advised all was looking good. The path would be refurbished at a convenient time.</p>	
Play Areas	<p>Cllr Stevens advised the Pump Track had taken up a lot of volunteer time. He had moved the goal mouth but would action its return to the side of the Bowls Club. There had been a lot of compliments, particularly at the opening event. There had been some concerns with music being played and litter as the evenings were lighter.</p> <p>Aston Close – there had been some major damage to the slide, most likely by the contractors' mower. The Clerk would ask Aster to consider repairing the damage as it was caused by their contractor.</p> <p>Silver Road – trees and shrubs require cutting back.</p> <p>Cossor Road – trees were overgrown and required major works.</p> <p>Generally, the other areas were looking pretty good.</p>	<p>AK AK AK</p>

	Cllr had written to the Highways Engineer regarding the installation of a “Children at Play” sign for the Pump Track. Many had asked why there was no zebra crossing, which could be considered in the future.	AK
Litter	Cllr Ms Durnford advised in general there seemed to be few issues. She had circulated an email, after meeting with Cllr Ford in the cemetery, to remove the old waste bins and supply a new one for general waster by the Lytchgate. Cllr Stevens would remove them. She also suggested to build a composting area for green waste, either from railway sleepers or pallets. Cllr Giles agreed that pallets worked well and had seen similar at Charlton Church. Cllr Stevens would source some pallets.	PSt PSt
Toilets	Cllr Stevens had been asked about the installation of a baby changing unit, but it was agreed not to pursue as they had caused problems in the past with vandalism and anti-social behaviour.	
Noticeboards	There was nothing to report.	
Car Parks	There was nothing to report. The top part of the North Street sign was still with Kennet Signs.	
White Horse	Cllr Giles had spoken to the contractor who was due to cut the grass and weed control within the coming week. He would speak with the leader of the volunteer group and suggest a lime dusting.	RG
Century Cross	Cllr Mrs Stevens said it could hardly be seen and needed strimming.	LS
Entrance signs	Cllr Giles felt the uprights were approaching the end of their life, with the cracks in the wood getting bigger. Cllr Ford suggested replacement costs could come from the business funding.	LB
Horse trough	The Horse Trough had been cleaned.	
Defibrillators	Cllr Mrs Sharpe reported they were being used quite regularly, with all the units up and running.	
Telephone Box	Cllr Judy Kunkler provided a brief history for the benefit of newer members. It now looked very untidy. Ideas would be welcomed.	JK

6. PARISH STEWARD/ HIGHWAYS:	Cllr Kerry Pycroft advised the steward had turned up the previous week when he wasn't due. Cllr Giles reported that the downstream side of Swan Bridge used to be cut both sides and was now totally overgrown. Cllr Kerry Pycroft advised that it had been cut by the contractor but would ask them to cut it a bit further. Added to the Parish Steward list: both sides of the road on Milton Road opposite on defib; the drain at Kings Corner was level with mud.	KP
7. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT:	Cllr Kerry Pycroft felt that apart from the cemetery, the contractors were doing a good job. The Parish Council did not take part in the No Mow May initiative.	
8. CLIMATE CHANGE:	Cllr Marshall would bring an electric vehicle charging project to a future meeting. The Clerk advised the LED lighting upgrade for the Bouverie Hall car park would take place on 14 th June, with the tree works actioned prior.	RM

9. ANY FULL COUNCIL INFORMATION AND ACTION: None.

10. ITEMS VIA THE CLERK: None.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.16pm.

Signed: _____ Dated: _____