

**PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD IN THE PARISH OFFICE ON 8<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2024 at 7.00pm**

<b><u>PRESENT:</u></b>	Cllr Mrs Stevens (Chair), Mrs Brindley, Mrs Humfress, Judy Kunkler, Mrs Mann, Mrs Mundy, Kerry Pycroft, Cllrs Ford, Giles, Mulji, Purcell, Sharpe and Stevens.	
<b><u>IN ATTENDANCE:</u></b>	Alison Kent (Clerk) and two students from Pewsey Vale School.	
<b><u>10/1 APOLOGIES:</u></b>	Cllr Ms Durnford, Marilyn Hunt, Mrs Sharpe, Cllrs Marshall and Smithers. Apologies were also received from Cllr Kunkler (Wiltshire Council).	
<b><u>10/2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:</u></b>	Cllrs Mrs Brindley, Kerry Pycroft, Mrs Stevens and Cllr Stevens on item 7(b), and Cllr Mrs Mann on item 9.	
<b><u>10/3 CHAIR'S UPDATE:</u></b>	The Chair reported she had attended the recent Area Board meeting where the Bouverie Hall had been successful in its grant application. The Market Place railings had been painted. She had attended the 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the Tourism Partnership and commented the flu clinic had been organised very well. She was unable to attend the next PCAP meeting on 17 <sup>th</sup> October at Ham village hall, Cllr Mrs Brindley and Cllr Mulji would attend in her place. The Chair reported the sad news that the former Devizes MP, Michael Ancram, had passed away. He had been a very good MP and supportive of Pewsey.	
<b><u>10/4 UNITARY COUNCILLOR:</u></b>	Cllr Kunkler was not present but had advised that the request for "Children Crossing" warning signs was on the LHFIG agenda for discussion the following day and he would push for this to be accepted and funded. KAMP had made a presentation at the previous Area Board relating to the surgery. It was hoped both KAMP and Boots were now in dialogue relating to the dispensing of medicines. It continued to rain and yesterday the gully tanker was in the main streets clearing drains, hopefully this would help improve things. The next Area Board would be held on 25 <sup>th</sup> November. The next WC Full Council would be held on 15 <sup>th</sup> October and would report back in November. Cllr Mrs Stevens advised that KAMP would like to attend a Parish Council meeting.	
<b><u>10/5 POLICE MATTERS:</u></b>	No police report had been received. Speedwatch: Cllr Mrs Humfress reported all was going well and would be setting up more sessions for the volunteers. Cllr Mrs Brindley reminded Cllr Stevens that he had asked the police at the last Area Board meeting to attend more parish meetings; it was disappointing to note that no offer had been made.	
<b><u>10/6 APPROVAL OF THE LAST MINUTES:</u></b>	Cllr Sharpe proposed the minutes of the meeting held on 10 <sup>th</sup> September as a true record, seconded Cllr Mulji, all in favour and signed by the Chair.	
<b><u>10/7 FINANCE:</u></b>	The Clerk advised there had been a significant issue with the office computer and despite best efforts, the repair looked likely to be very expensive. It was an old computer, with unsupported software within the next year. Cllr Mrs Stevens proposed to replace the computer with a new system, seconded Cllr Ford, all in favour. Cllr Sharpe noted some balances were above the £85,000 Government guarantee and should look to move funds accordingly. a) Balance in Current account £86,340.98 Instant Reserve account £42,877.93, Lloyds Business Account £7,031.84, Lloyds Business Savings Account £31,134.62, Nationwide Savings Account £91,325.91, Cambridge Building Society £47,030.09, Unity Trust Savings Account £89,426.08. The Clerk confirmed the 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of the precept had been received.	<b>AK</b>

	<p>b) Payments were proposed for approval by Cllr Stevens, seconded Cllr Mrs Mundy, all in favour.</p> <p>c) Quotations for tree works at Silver Road, Wheeler Close and Swan Meadow had been sought and obtained from two contractors. It was proposed to accept the lowest quote for each area by Cllr Mulji, seconded Cllr Ford, all in favour.</p> <p>A quotation for clearance of the drains and gulleys in council owned car parks had been obtained at a cost of £2,500. Cllr Sharpe proposed this for acceptance, seconded Cllr Ford, all in favour.</p> <p>d) Petty Cash - opening balance £0.54, no expenditure, leaving £0.54 cash in hand.</p> <p>Cllr Sharpe reported the External Audit report for 2023/24 had been received, by 30<sup>th</sup> September, with a couple of observations relating to procedure which would be corrected.</p>	AK
<b><u>10/8 CO-OPTION OF THREE COUNCILLORS:</u></b>	An application had been received and was considered by the Council. The co-option of Mrs Kilminster was proposed by Cllr Mulji, seconded Cllr Ford, all in favour. A discussion took place and it was agreed to review the Co-Option policy.	LS
<b><u>10/9 PLANNING:</u></b>	<p>Decisions: To report at the next Planning Committee meeting.</p> <p>New Premises Licence Application: The Garden Kitchen, 20 High Street. Cllr Mrs Mundy had concerns about the lateness of serving on a Thursday evening, otherwise saw no reason to object to the proposal.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Stevens proposed to support the application as presented, seconded Cllr Judy Kunkler, all in favour.</p>	
<b><u>10/10 YOUTH PROJECTS:</u></b>	Cllr Mrs Brindley advised the last of the sports sessions had taken place. They had engaged well with the young people over the summer and it would be beneficial to use them again next year. They were looking more at internal activities, especially to celebrate the café's first anniversary, Halloween and Christmas. A "Pewsey's Got Talent" event had been suggested with the young people as judges. She was pleased to inform the meeting that the café had been selected to receive an award from Community First for Most Innovative Community Run Project; Cllr Mrs Brindley was congratulated by the meeting.	
<b><u>10/11 COMMUNITY LAND TRUST:</u></b>	Cllr Mrs Mundy advised the CLT had acknowledged the loan money remained outstanding. It was hoped that planning permission would be obtained, but then the required funds would be needed. All CLTs were experiencing problems funding their projects.	LM
<b><u>10/12 COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP:</u></b>	<p>Cllr Mrs Sharpe was not present to report. Cllr Mulji advised they were looking into improvements that could be made to the website, particularly on the home page. The Clerk would still be responsible for uploading regular documents, but the working group would divide the remaining information for review and update accordingly.</p> <p>Physical improvements suggested included posters from the sports clubs, headers on the noticeboards and stickers for litter bins.</p> <p>It would not be possible for the Council to keep a diary of events.</p> <p>The social media policy had been reviewed and agreed.</p> <p>He would continue to push for more space in the Messenger.</p>	GS/ LM/ KP/ KM
<b><u>10/13 EVENTS WORKING GROUP:</u></b>	<p>Cllr Mulji reported that he would be meeting with the school to look at ideas for VE and VJ day. A display of children's art at the gallery had been suggested. The Clerk would ask what other councils were doing to commemorate the anniversaries.</p> <p>8<sup>th</sup> May beacon/brazier location to be decided; 9<sup>th</sup> May music concert in the Bouverie Hall; 10<sup>th</sup> May afternoon tea with sketches.</p> <p>It was suggested the group contact Mrs Parsons who had organised previous events of this nature. Cllr Stevens advised there was a nice area in the Grove, behind the bench, to plant a tree.</p>	KM/ LH/ LS AK

<b><u>10/14 STRATEGIC REVIEW:</u></b>	Cllr Sharpe reported that the workshop had been held on 19 <sup>th</sup> September. The group had identified and discussed the Council's strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities, in order to design a 5-year strategic plan. The Vision and Mission statements would be firmed up, with key priorities set for short, medium and long term. The next stage was to consider the objectives over the next couple of months through the Committee leads and report back in December.	<b>PSh</b>
<b><u>10/15 MARKET TOWNS PROGRAMME:</u></b>	Cllr Humfress was pleased the railings had been painted. She had met with Cllr Marilyn Hunt and the Clerk to discuss the current position and the next two year's application for £20,000 combined. The focus would be on business and the local economy in the centre of the village. Suggestions included a networking event, food festival for local producers, branding, grants for shop frontage decoration and advertising. The application was required by 31 <sup>st</sup> October; they would meet with Wiltshire Council on 17 <sup>th</sup> October to assist with ideas. Cllr Sharpe reminded members the current year (£10,000) was split £5,000 for the village centre, £2,000 events and £3,000 on economy and best proposal to attract business into Pewsey competition. The Clerk advised that she had received advice from Wiltshire Council Highways to try one planter on the Market Place railings to see the effect on the wooden uprights, as the weight of full planters was a concern. Cllr Mrs Stevens asked Cllr Mrs Mann whether the width of the pavement and planters could affect users of mobility scooters and wheelchairs, Cllr Mrs Mann had concerns about this.	<b>MH/ LH/ PSh/ KM</b>
<b><u>10/16 PLAY AREAS:</u></b>	Cllr Stevens advised he was still waiting for a quotation to install a table tennis court onto individual pads. The only play area with sufficient space was Aston Close which provided for the safety requirement of 4m clearance. Cllr Ford asked whether Aster would be likely to ask for the return of the land, Cllr Stevens replied the long leasehold was indefinite. He would agree the supplier of the table with Cllr Ms Durnford.	<b>PSt/ HD</b>
<b><u>10/17 FLOOD WORKING GROUP:</u></b>	Cllr Sharpe reported that two flood events had taken place this year. 15 properties had flooded in the most recent deluge, due to surface water and a lot of inconsiderate motorists. There was a superb volunteer response, each house visited with help and advice given. The working group benefited hugely from a local expert who worked all his life on flood related issues. The flood plan had been rewritten and an action plan was in place. A river clearance session would take place on 20 <sup>th</sup> October, being careful to only clear certain areas. About 40 households in Pewsey had been identified as being potentially at risk and a handout would be delivered to them with advice on how to prepare and recover from a flood. A letter would also be sent to riparian owners. Pewsey was represented on the operational group. There was funding available for flood prevention projects. Gulleys known to be blocked had been reported to Highways for clearance.	<b>PSh</b>
<b><u>10/18 CORRESPONDENCE:</u></b>	Wiltshire Council had notified the Parish Council of a TPO to be placed on trees at land near Ball Farm.	
<b><u>10/19 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:</u></b>	None.	
<b><u>10/20 ITEMS VIA THE CLERK:</u></b>	Messenger articles to be sent to Cllr Mulji. A date for the building works in the office was not yet known, but imminent.	

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.15pm.

Signed.....

Date.....