

PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD IN THE PARISH OFFICE, BOUVERIE HALL, PEWSEY ON 14th MAY 2019 at 6.45pm

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Cllrs Mrs Carmichael-Owen, Mrs Dalrymple, Ann Hogg, Mrs Hunt, Kerry Pycroft, Mrs Saunders, Mrs Stevens, Cllrs Carder, Deck, Del Mar, Eyles, Ford, Giles, Hagan, Haskell, McGarry, Morris, Smith and Stevens.
<u>IN ATTENDANCE:</u>	Alison Kent (Clerk), Cllr Kunkler and members of the public.
<u>5/1 ELECTION OF CHAIR:</u>	Nominations had been requested prior to the meeting. Cllr Haskell, having received the only valid nomination, was proposed by Cllr Stevens, seconded Cllr Mrs Dalrymple, all in favour and congratulated by the meeting. (The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed).
<u>5/2 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR:</u>	Nominations had been requested prior to the meeting. Cllr Smith, having received the only valid nomination, was proposed by Cllr Morris, seconded Cllr McGarry, all in favour and congratulated by the meeting.
<u>5/3 APOLOGIES:</u>	Cllr Stephens.
<u>5/4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:</u>	None.
<u>5/5 CHAIR'S REPORT:</u>	<p>The Chairman began by thanking Cllr Smith for chairing the previous Full Council.</p> <p>He advised that Cllr Smith had been communicating further with GWR about the pedestrian access project. Cllr Haskell had attended meetings with Wessex Water on 30th April; delivered flowers to Mrs Dewey for her 100th Birthday on 7th May; held a Service Devolution and Asset Transfer meeting with officers from Wiltshire Council on 8th May and attended the Pewsey Vale Rail Users' Group on behalf of Cllr Morris on 9th May at which ticketing prices and timetables were discussed and a question raised about special offers.</p> <p>The Campaign to Protect Rural England, on behalf of Pewsey Community Area Partnership and the Parish Council, had written to Claire Perry about the rules surrounding the correct procedure to carry out consultations. Her reply included comments from the Minister for Local Government which had prompted another letter from CPRE to the Wiltshire Council Monitoring Officer, copied to Cllr Wheeler who has been appointed to investigate the Wiltshire Council consultation procedure.</p> <p>Cllr Deck reported that a meeting had been held on 14th May with Cllr Kunkler, officers of Wiltshire Council, Cllr Mrs Hunt and Cllr Haskell relating to the skatepark application. This was to discuss the position taken by Wiltshire Council's Public Protection Officer who was against the proposal and had made observations on the level of noise and felt the mitigation by way of an acoustic fence was not sufficient to provide screening from the local residents.</p> <p>The plan would not be considered at regulatory committee for those reasons and would be withdrawn. This was a disappointing outcome and the S.106 monies allocated to the skatepark may have to be used on other projects although time extensions and/or earmarking would be requested. Cllr Stevens said a list of requirements had been submitted as part of the play area report, should this situation have arisen.</p> <p>During the meeting, the Chairman had the privilege to present the South Western Ambulance Service Chief Executive Commendation Award to two local residents for going "above and beyond" and for their immense bravery and dedication to saving lives.</p>
<u>5/6 POLICE REPORT:</u>	The monthly police report had been circulated to all members. Cllr Deck had noted there had been several incidences of cars being

	<p>broken into, despite whether valuables were in the vehicle or not. Cllr Mrs Stevens would highlight the issue in The Messenger.</p> <p>Community Speedwatch: Cllr Ford advised of an incident on 23rd April whereby two of the volunteers had sought refuge in the Co-Op following aggressive behaviour from the driver of a vehicle who had been speeding. Cllr Ford had personally thanked the staff of the Co-Op and a police report had been made. It was hoped officers would regularly attend the speedwatch sessions.</p>	
<u>5/7 UNITARY COUNCILLOR UPDATE:</u>	<p>Cllr Kunkler had little to report. The next Area Board would take place on 20th May at Grafton and all were welcome to attend. The next CATG would be held on 5th June. Full Council elections at Wiltshire Council would take place on 21st May along with further discussions on changes to the special educational needs provision. He felt the improved provision at Rowdeford was the right way to proceed. He was disappointed in the outcome of the skatepark proposal and would try to help out in the future as much as possible. Cllr Eyles asked if permission had yet been given to replace the water butts at the Campus, Cllr Kunkler agreed that they could be reinstalled. He also mentioned that membership was now up to 750.</p>	
<u>5/8 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES SIGNED SINCE LAST MEETING:</u>	<p>Cllr Deck proposed acceptance of the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 28th March as a true record, seconded Cllr Mrs Hunt, all in favour, no questions.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Stevens proposed acceptance of the minutes of the Finance and Strategic Management Committee meeting held on 30th January, seconded Cllr Morris, all in favour, no questions.</p>	
<u>5/9 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:</u>	<p>All being in agreement, the minutes of the meeting held on 9th April 2019 were signed as a true record, by the Vice-Chair.</p>	
<u>5/10 ELECTIONS:</u>	<p>Nominations had been requested prior to the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Chair of Finance and Strategic Management - Cllr Mrs Stevens b) Vice-Chair of Finance and Strategic Management - Cllr Ford c) Chair of Planning - Cllr Deck d) Vice-Chair of Planning - Cllr Mrs Hunt e) Chair of Environment - Cllr Eyles f) Vice-Chair of Environment - Cllr McGarry <p>Having received the only valid nominations, each position was proposed en bloc by Cllr Carder, seconded Cllr Morris, all in favour with grateful thanks from the Council.</p>	
<u>5/11 FINANCE:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Balance in Current account £76,943.56 and Instant Reserve account £70,094.70. This included the first half of the precept. b) Authorisation of payments as listed were proposed by Cllr Mrs Stevens, seconded Cllr Morris, all in favour. c) There were no quotations for acceptance. d) Petty Cash - opening balance £28.35, drawn down £0.00, less expenditure since last meeting; consumables £2.06, Chairman's Allowance £20.00, materials £6.50, totalling £28.56, leaving cash in hand (£0.21). e) Accounts 2018/19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Risk Assessment Register (circulated). Approval was proposed by Cllr Mrs Stevens, seconded Cllr Ford, all in favour. ii) Assets Register (circulated). Approval was proposed by Cllr Mrs Stevens, seconded Cllr Morris, all in favour. iii) Internal Auditor's Report (circulated) and noted. A letter would be sent to Mr Vokes thanking him for his continued attention. iv) Approval of Accounts 2018/19 (circulated) approval was proposed by Cllr Mrs Stevens, seconded Cllr Stevens, all in favour. v) Annual Governance Statement 2018/19, the Council unanimously agreed each question in turn. Approval was proposed by Cllr Mrs 	AK

	<p>Stevens, seconded Cllr Morris, all in favour.</p> <p>vi) Approval of the Annual Return 2018/19 was proposed acceptance by Cllr Mrs Stevens, seconded Cllr Deck, all in favour, no questions.</p> <p>vii) Appointment of Internal Auditor for 2019/20, Cllr Carder proposed Mr Vokes continue as internal auditor for 2019/20, seconded Cllr Haskell, all in favour.</p>	
<u>5/12 ADOPTION OF REVIEWED STANDING ORDERS:</u>	<p>Cllr Smith had reviewed the Standing Orders which had been circulated to all members. The changes had been minimal to cover the Freedom of Information Act, the General Data Protection Regulations and changes to committee names. Cllr Giles noted that the Emergency Committee structure had not been included. With this addition, Cllr Smith proposed to adopt the Standing Orders as presented, seconded Cllr Ford, all in favour.</p>	DS
<u>5/13 SERVICE DEVOLUTION AND ASSET TRANSFER:</u>	<p>Following the meeting on 8th May, a brief report had been circulated. As there would be a considerable amount of administrative work to undertake, Cllr Ann Hogg would assist the Clerk as there would still be the everyday work to do. Cllr Smith would also join in with any future discussions with Wiltshire Council. Cllr Haskell reminded members that the Parish Council had signed a confidentiality agreement so no questions could be answered in public that may be considered commercially sensitive.</p> <p>Whatever decision taken at Full Council on 11th June would be “in principle”. He suggested that legal opinion, although needed in the final stages, would not be required until WC cabinet had agreed the proposal July. He reminded members to carefully consider their vote on 11th June, they would be voting on the future of the village and its residents.</p> <p>The positives of the transfer - authority to manage the Parish Council’s own destiny and have total control to make decisions and implement them quickly, setting a long-term legacy for the future and protecting itself against further Wiltshire Council cuts.</p> <p>The negatives - increase in costs, primarily grass cutting and litter collection, which would inevitably an increase to the precept. The management systems of the Parish Council would need to be strengthened. Asset transfer is permanent, and Cllr Deck and Cllr Eyles had been asked to check the Title Maps over the coming week. Any further questions should be sent to Cllr Ann Hogg and the Clerk by the end of the week so they can send onto Wiltshire Council. He continued to seek comment from each member:</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Stevens - needed to know the cost implications.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Saunders - wished to view the Title Maps of the assets.</p> <p>Cllr Giles - generally in favour of taking control.</p> <p>Cllr Stevens - assume this did not include Highways as he felt there may be some crossover with grass cutting.</p> <p>Cllr Carder - supported Cllr Giles’ opinion.</p> <p>Cllr Ford - could the public attend the proposed Extra Ordinary meetings, Cllr Haskell explained this could be possible at the beginning but would have to move into confidential to discuss figures and commercially sensitive information. Information could be publicised through the website and social media, although Wiltshire Council would have to approve all press releases.</p> <p>Cllr Morris - would the Parish Council be paying towards the extension of the grass cutting contract and what was the amount of S.106 monies outstanding.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Hunt - the Parish Council would have to carefully consider how many employees it may need if the transfer proceeded.</p> <p>Cllr Deck - against the proposal as it devolved the expenditure to the</p>	AH DS

	<p>Parish Council and with no devolvement of business rates from Wiltshire Council the services were being paid for twice by the taxpayer. The precept would have to be raised.</p> <p>Cllr Del Mar - if an “in principle” decision to transfer could be done in the right way with clarity, then it could be a good thing but shared the concerns of Cllr Deck. What would happen if the proposal was turned down? Cllr Haskell did not know the answer at present.</p> <p>Cllr Smith - had no questions but saw this as a good opportunity to take back control.</p> <p>Cllr Haskell - how often did litter collection take place, where did it get taken to and would the street sweeper still visit.</p> <p>Cllrs Mrs Dalrymple, Kerry Pycroft, Mrs Carmichael-Owen, Cllrs Hagan, McGarry, Eyles had no questions at this point.</p>	
<u>5/14 PEWSEY COMMUNITY AREA PARTNERSHIP:</u>	Cllr Deck reported from a meeting attended on 18 th April at which a presentation by the Bobby Van organisation was made. It was useful to know the advice and practical help that was available, both for people’s property and computer security.	
<u>5/15 LOCAL YOUTH NETWORK:</u>	Cllr Kunkler advised that Cllr Stephens had attended the meeting on 29 th April at which potential projects were discussed to spend the funding that was available. There was no attendance from young people. Cllr Stevens suggested that a temporary skate rink could be considered as an event. This had been popular when it was sited for the day in the Co-Op car park. Cllr Kunkler would investigate.	NS
<u>5/16 BUSINESS AND TOURISM PARTNERSHIP:</u>	<p>Cllr Kerry Pycroft had circulated the Terms of Reference for consideration by members. The review of footfall in the High Street and North Street would take place soon and then again in October and ongoing. A review of all the businesses in the village would take place, including those at Fordbrook and Salisbury Rd.</p> <p>Cllr Deck proposed to accept the Terms of Reference, seconded Cllr Morris, all in favour.</p> <p>Cllr Morris had previously suggested that one of the bank vans come to Pewsey on a Market day and wondered whether this could be followed up. Cllr Kunkler would look into this, although Cllr Haskell reminded members that the Post Office offered most banking services.</p>	
<u>5/17 COMMUNITY LAND TRUST:</u>	Cllr Ann Hogg had attended the meeting held on 7 th May at which discussion took place about the Trust’s artwork, design, website and finance. The open meeting would take place on 16 th May, 6.30pm at the Bouverie Hall at which new members were encouraged to attend as well as voting in the officers to take the project forward.	
<u>5/18 CINDER PATH RAILINGS PROPOSAL:</u>	The Clerk had circulated the proposed drawings to all members. Cllr Deck explained that the request had come via CATG as there had been concern about the speed that skateboarders, cyclists and mobility scooters went down the path. Cllr Deck proposed that the design is accepted as a solution and the Parish Council should offer a 20% contribution, seconded Cllr Morris, all in favour.	
<u>5/19 BALANCING POND:</u>	Cllr Haskell, along with Cllr Eyles and Cllr Smith had attended an on-site meeting with Wessex Water. Funding was not expected to be available until 2020. The original proposal would cost too much money and was not considered justifiable or acceptable. Wessex Water would be sending a blank plan so the Parish Council could put forward its ideas for the site, which would be a lower key plan and give a safer outcome of the council’s concerns. Cllr Morris hoped that changes would be minimum as people do visit that area.	
<u>5/20 WILTSHIRE TRAINING AND NETWORKING DAY:</u>	Cllr Smith and the Clerk had attended this event on 9 th May. Several the presentations were didactic with little interactive work. Presentations were made on transparency, policies, business	

	continuity, social media, the code of conduct and a planning update. This Parish Council tended to come out quite well as the majority of procedures advised were already in place. The Civil Society Strategy puts councils at the centre of local communities but has highlighted how rural communities have been neglected for many years.	
<u>5/21 VILLAGE RANGER:</u>	The Clerk provided the monthly update following the circulation of the task list to each member. It had been a busy month with lots of repairs taking place, particularly to the bookshop roof, the office railings, and to the fencing in the Scotchel. Priority works to be completed were repairs to the fence at Broomcroft Park and starting the annual seat maintenance programme. The Clerk asked members to consider the use of the former BMX site, particularly as part of the fence was now damaged. Cllr Carder felt it should be put back to its former use. Cllr Eyles had considered the fence could be relocated to the balancing pond site. Cllr Kunkler asked whether there had been improvement with the Parish Steward service which there had been.	TE
<u>5/22 ITEMS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC:</u>	A member of the public who regularly attended meetings felt very strongly that should the Parish Council support the service devolution and asset transfer programme, the public would start to take a closer interest in what the Parish Council has to offer. It was important to think of the future of the village and its young people and would give it total support. Another member of the public thanked the Parish Council for the work it undertakes and felt it did a really good job.	
<u>5/23 CORRESPONDENCE:</u>	1. Thank you card from Mrs Dewey for her 100 th Birthday flowers. 2. Pageant Master - VE Day 75 th celebration participation on 8 th May 2020, Cllr Giles took the information to consider.	
<u>5/24 ITEMS VIA THE CLERK:</u>	None.	

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.09pm after thanking everyone for attending.

Signed..... Date.....