

PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD IN THE PARISH OFFICE, BOUVERIE HALL, PEWSEY
ON 11th JUNE 2019 at 7.00pm**

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Cllr Haskell (Chairman), Cllr Smith, Cllrs Mrs Dalrymple, Ann Hogg, Mrs Hunt, Kerry Pycroft, Mrs Saunders, Mrs Stevens, Cllrs Carder, Deck, Del Mar, Eyles, Ford, Giles, McGarry, Morris, Smithers and Stevens.
<u>IN ATTENDANCE:</u>	Alison Kent (Clerk), Cllr Kunkler, Mr Park and Mr Curle (Pewsey Vale Rugby Club) and members of the public.
<u>6/1 APOLOGIES:</u>	Cllr Stephens.
<u>6/2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:</u>	None.
<u>6/3 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:</u>	Cllr Haskell reported he had attended the Community Land Trust meeting on 16 th May; the Area Board on 20 th May; a police liaison meeting with Cllr Deck, Cllr Smith, Sgt. Foster and PCSO Whiteside on 22 nd May at which he offered the Parish Councils' help and support as much as it could; the Village Ranger review meeting on 22 nd May; the Extraordinary Full Council meeting had taken place on 28 th May and he thanked all those who had attended; meeting with Wiltshire Council officers on 4 th June for further discussions on the Service Devolution and Asset Transfer proposal; in the early evening of 4 th June, Cllr Haskell with several other members were invited to the Rugby Club for an update on the clubhouse progress. They came away suitably impressed by what had been achieved and congratulated them. They needed to finish the clubhouse as soon as possible in order to gain income to help offset the ongoing expenditure. It would be discussed under item 9 on the Agenda. 8 th June had been the Robert Pilon concert at Pewsey Vale School which had been an absolutely memorable evening. The following day he had presented Mr Pilon with a village flag, three village bags and three of the Pewsey Avon Trail books as a gift from the parish. The rest of his time had been taken up on the preparation of item 13 on the agenda. He gave special thanks to Cllr Ann Hogg for all her hard work and support. He also thanked Cllr Smith and the Clerk for their assistance.
<u>6/4 POLICE REPORT:</u>	The monthly police report had been circulated. It was noted that criminal activity had appeared to move from damage to vehicles to dwelling burglaries. Community Speedwatch/SID: Cllr Ford had nothing to report.
<u>6/5 UNITARY COUNCILLOR:</u>	Cllr Kunkler had attended the Wiltshire Cabinet meeting that morning. The next Area Board would take place on 8 th July at The Vale. Questions had been raised on the Marlborough Skatepark as to whether any complaints had ever been raised by the local residents and it appeared that a planning application had not been required at the time the park was installed. He would look into this further in relation to the Pewsey proposal. A report on potential sites had been provided by Wiltshire Council officers for consideration. A new leader of Wiltshire Council would be appointed on 9 th July. Cllr Eyles asked when would the Everleigh site be monitored for gas, Cllr Kunkler advised that DEFRA had visited the site but would check. Cllr Deck stated the preferred site for a new skatepark site would be at the school and had hoped the Governors would consider it, although this was now delayed due to an OFSTED inspection. He hoped that Cllr Kunkler would help to drive it forward.
<u>6/6 ADOPTION OF MINUTES SIGNED SINCE LAST MEETING:</u>	Cllr Deck proposed acceptance of the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 17 th April as a true record, seconded Cllr Morris, all in favour, no questions. Cllr Eyles proposed acceptance of the minutes of the Environment

	<p>Committee meeting held on 3rd April as a true record, seconded Cllr Mrs Hunt, all in favour, no questions.</p> <p>Cllr Haskell proposed acceptance of the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of the Full Council held on 28th May as a true record, seconded Cllr Mrs Stevens, all in favour, no questions.</p>	
<u>6/7 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:</u>	All being in agreement, the minutes of the meeting held on 14 th May were signed as a true record, by the Chairman.	
<u>6/8 FINANCE:</u>	<p>a) Balance in Current account £66,159.98 Instant Reserve account £70,130.42, Lloyds Business Account £462.00 and Fixed Term Deposit £60,000.</p> <p>b) Payments for approval, as listed, were proposed by Cllr Mrs Stevens, seconded Cllr Morris, all in favour.</p> <p>c) There were no quotations for acceptance.</p> <p>d) Petty Cash - opening balance (£0.21), drawn down £300, less expenditure since last meeting; consumables £1.62, postage £1.32, materials £12.82, totalling £15.76, leaving cash in hand £284.03.</p>	
<u>6/13 PEWSEY VALE RUGBY CLUB:</u>	<p>Cllr Haskell introduced Mr Park from the club who circulated an updated paper on the pavilion development. The project had moved on from just being a rugby clubhouse but more a local sports pavilion and outside sports area, for other clubs in the area requiring a home. Senior, youth and ladies' rugby would continue with netball, walking netball, the running club, judo, back to fitness campaign, archery, judo and Age UK schemes all becoming part of the plan. It was also hoped a cricket club could commence. Mr Park provided projected participation figures for a whole year use and its subsequent business plan. A lot had been learnt from Marlborough Rugby Club.</p> <p>Since inception, in the region of £58,200 had been raised from a range of sources with a lot of work undertaken by volunteers. A further £73,000 was required for completion. A £50,000 grant offer had been received from Sport England with one of the caveats being to show how the remaining £23,000 can be raised. Less than a month was left to provide Sport England with a commitment of support for the difference, and if unable then the whole offer could be lost which would be tragic. Mr Park was confident the pavilion would be fully functional by 1st January.</p> <p>Cllr Deck proposed that the Parish Council loan Pewsey Vale Rugby Club £20,000 on an interest free arrangement over 10 years, seconded Cllr Carder, 17 for, 1 against. It was agreed that should funds become available to the club sooner, then the loan would be repaid earlier.</p> <p>Cllr Carder said this was what had been hoped for when the ground was originally purchased, and he supported the development wholeheartedly. Cllr Stevens stated that a promise had been made at the time to keep the name of Angela Yeates alive, it was a great honour to a wonderful young lady.</p> <p>Mr Park said he was personally overwhelmed with the Parish Council's support and confirmed that should other monies become available he would only ask for the difference. He would draft a letter of intent for the council to approve.</p> <p>Both Mr Curle and Mr Park left the meeting.</p>	
<u>6/10 COMMUNITY AREA TRANSPORT GROUP:</u>	<p>Cllr Deck reported from a meeting attended on 5th June.</p> <p>Railway Station Pedestrian Access - a grant of £3,000 had been awarded to the Parish Council from GWR towards new signs and lighting. Wiltshire Council had now designed and costed these signs which would total £775 which the Parish Council would pay for. The lighting still needed to be costed. Cllr Smith informed the meeting</p>	

	<p>that the Clerk had suggested an idea of using UV paint and sunken solar uplighting as a more sustainable plan, this would be looked into Cinder path railings - the installation of one barrier had been agreed at a cost of £628 with the Parish Council contributing 20%. A “No Cycling” sign at the top of the path should also be reinstated.</p> <p>Manor Court pedestrian crossing - the installation of one sign had been agreed at a cost of £360 with a contribution of £50 from the Parish Council.</p> <p>Avonleaze Rd speeding - the metro count results had been very low so the issue had been closed.</p> <p>A new way of reporting issues to CATG would be implemented, with the application coming first to the Parish Council who would then approve it or not before sending onto CATG.</p> <p>Cllr Eyles had been asked about the lack of “Low Bridge” signs by a local business owner. He had found that there were none between Amesbury and Pewsey, or at Marlborough so would follow that up with Highways rather than CATG.</p>	TE
<p><u>6/11 COMMUNITY LAND TRUST:</u></p>	<p>Cllr Ann Hogg reported from a meeting attended on 4th June. The committee had been agreed and applications made for grants to fund legal fees to instruct solicitors to form the CLT and for the design of a website. Meetings would take place the first Tuesday of every month. Cllr Del Mar said there were 48 members which was a good start, but hoped to encourage more through various initiatives.</p>	
<p><u>6/12 BROOMCROFT ROAD BALANCING POND:</u></p>	<p>Cllr Smith, Cllr Eyles and Cllr Haskell had met with Wessex Water to discuss original plan. An access from Broomcroft Park was deemed to be unsuitable with the other path too steep for disabled access, and the bridge idea far too expensive. The only alternative was to put a footpath in from Broomcroft Rd from the fence to the edge of the park. The Parish Council would submit a drawn plan which would open up the land to the north of the balancing pond. The infrastructure would be done and paid for by Wessex Water with the Parish Council taking on a 10-15 year management agreement in due course. Wessex Water would put a formal plan and costs together, return to the Parish Council for a definitive decision. There were no funds available for this project in this financial year and there would be no cost to the Parish Council. The only responsibility would be for litter picking and minor tree maintenance. Cllr Del Mar was happy to assist with the terms of any lease or agreement. Cllr Eyles and Cllr Smith to agree a plan by August.</p>	JD TE DS
<p><u>6/9 SERVICE DEVOLUTION AND ASSET TRANSFER:</u></p>	<p>A report and other documents had been circulated and Cllr Haskell reminded members that a legal confidentiality agreement had been signed. He personally believed that the proposal was an opportunity that should be embraced, that the Parish Council should grab the chance, get on with it and make it work. He accepted that there were issues but that the council should just proceed. He would be disappointed if the council was split. It was a simple question, does the Parish Council wish to take on the assets and services or not. Questions were welcomed from around the table.</p> <p>Cllr Stevens felt that as this was a major decision, the public should be consulted properly with more engagement as he felt it was wrong for only 21 members to make such an important decision. He saw no advantage in taking on these services and assets.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Saunders asked what the level of service would be like if the Parish Council declined the proposal. Cllr Haskell replied that only a small percentage of services were statutory, the rest were discretionary so eventually the services would go.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Hunt was not sure what the council was agreeing to, clearer</p>	

definition was needed. Cllr Haskell said the decision was to agree to accept the principle of the deal. Solicitors would not be appointed until after the Wiltshire Council Cabinet approval on 2nd July. She also asked what the difference was between delegated function and services, it was felt there was no difference.

Cllr Deck had already asked several questions and received the Chairman's view. He was not happy with the proposal per se, but saw opportunities to the community's advantage. Firstly, to gain the freehold of the car parks, secondly, there were a least two parcels of land that would be transferred that could be developed and then passed to the Community Land Trust for a nominal fee which would provide something directly of benefit to the parish. This was not clearly identified in the transfer document and would wish to have a written agreement from Wiltshire Council. Cllr Del Mar explained that any covenants that were applicable to the Parish Council would carry over to any new owner.

Cllr Haskell read out the confirmatory email from Wiltshire Council "it is confirmed that as part of the Freehold Transfer Agreement there is a restriction on the asset to be used for community use, the definition of 'community use' is really broad and covers a myriad of things. If you have plans for an asset that doesn't sit within that definition then please come to Wiltshire Council and we will have a conversation with you about your plans, if you can show evidence that it is of benefit to the community then it would be easier for the Councils to agree. You used the example of Community Land Trusts, although I don't have much information on this piece of work, I'm sure we would be willing to have a positive conversation with you about it if an asset would be deemed appropriate as part of the scheme.

Cllr Del Mar had no questions on the terms and assumed that if the decision today was to agree in principle that was an agreement to move forward. He also asked whether a copy of the third-party contract had been provided, Cllr Haskell said it would be.

Cllr Mrs Stevens asked whether capping would be applied to the Parish Council, the Clerk responded that central government had confirmed that capping would not be applied in 2020/21.

Cllr Morris stated this was a method for Wiltshire Council to pass on its funding problems which would be the Parish Councils' problem to solve. He felt it was a better choice to have a controlled problem.

Cllr Mrs Dalrymple asked whether equipment would be supplied, Cllr Haskell replied the equipment would remain with the contractor.

Cllr Ford did not understand the concept of it in principle as no cherry picking was permitted, Cllr Haskell said the principle could not be altered but after further discussions it might be possible to alter some of the wording.

Cllr Eyles said why had Pewsey been picked, Cllr Haskell reminded him that they had attended a meeting in Trowbridge three years ago about this. Cllr Carder was for the proposal, the council had taken on the public toilets and were able to enhance and control.

No questions or comments were raised by Cllrs Ann Hogg, Kerry Pycroft, Giles, McGarry, Smith, Smithers,

Cllr Kunkler felt the proposal would be challenging but felt it was the right thing to do and would support this difficult decision.

Cllr Haskell resolved in principle to endeavour to conclude negotiations with Wiltshire Council on the devolution of services and transfer of assets, subject to legal advice and a public meeting, seconded Cllr Del Mar, 15 for, 2 against, 1 abstention.

<u>6/14 VILLAGE RANGER REVIEW MEETING:</u>	Cllr Haskell reported from the review meeting held on 22 nd May at which it was agreed to extend the Village Ranger contract to December 2019, at no increase in cost to the Parish Council. It was agreed that we could bring further discussions forward as necessary. The Village Ranger had accepted this. An email about communication had been sent to all members which had been the only area of difficulty. The Council had been generally satisfied with the work that had been done. It was felt that it was not necessary for the Clerk to provide a report at each Full Council meeting as the folder was always available in the Parish Office. Cllr Del Mar thanked the Village Ranger for providing a very good and detailed report showing the extent of the work that had been undertaken in the last year.	
<u>6/15 ITEMS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC:</u>	8.10pm Cllr Deck and Cllr Del Mar left the meeting. A member of the public congratulated the Parish Council on the decision it had just taken on the service devolution and asset transfer proposal.	
<u>6/16 CORRESPONDENCE:</u>	None.	
<u>6/17 ITEMS VIA THE CLERK:</u>	The clerk advised she would be on holiday from 24 th -28 th June.	

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.12pm after thanking everyone for attending.

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