



PIXLEY & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Janet Chester
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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 27th November 2012

Present

Councillors S Swaithe, Mrs L Clothier, Mrs J Cowell, K Davies, H Hodges, A Mawby, M Skittery, E Thompson & P Whitfield

In attendance

Janet Chester – Parish Clerk

Members of the Public: 1

Cllr Swaithe welcomed everyone to the meeting.

151/12 To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Mrs R Jones and Ward Cllr P Morgan

152/12 To receive declarations of interest and requests for dispensations -

Cllr Thompson declared an interest in agenda item 6.2 Affordable Housing Pixley

Dispensation granted to all Cllrs to discuss agenda item 9.2 2013/14 Precept Requirement

153/12 To agree minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 30th October 2012 (previously circulated)

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record and were duly signed by Cllr Swaithe.

154/12 Open Forum – the salt/grit bins down Munsley Lane need refilling. The clerk is to contact Amey.

155/12 To receive a report from Ward Councillor

Cllr Morgan had sent the clerk her apologies for not being able to attend the meeting.

156/12 Discussion

a) To co-opt new councillors onto the parish council

Current councillors were pleased to see that Mr D Hewitt had reconsidered and unanimously voted him back onto the council by a show of hands. He completed the necessary forms.

Three vacancies remain on the parish council. The Chairman asked members to think of possible candidates to invite to join the council. HALC have offered to hold a Parish Meeting and publicise the vacancies to encourage new councillors. This was thought to be a good idea and to hold it in March or April 2013.

b) Affordable Housing

As part of the recent survey it was established that not all households were asked to take part. The clerk is to ask Patricia Morgan and another

Action

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representative to attend January's meeting to discuss how this survey was arranged. The basis of the questionnaire was questionable. With an average local salary of £16k, rural Band D properties were hard to afford. No local businesses were surveyed. Why were Aylton and Little Marcle chosen? Cllr Thompson advised that Cheshire Council had done a similar survey but was a much better example of how to carry out such a survey. He will copy to all. Cllrs were asked to send questions to the clerk for her to forward onto Cllr Morgan.

c) Venue for January meeting

The majority of cllrs were concerned that meetings held in the winter had proved to be miserable due to being very cold in Munsley Hall. Because of no real alternative it was RESOLVED that the heating in the hall is to be turned on earlier to allow a comfortable temperature to be reached for the meeting time.

d) Parish Council website management

RESOLVED – Cllr Hewitt volunteered to take on this responsibility.

e) Bus Shelters

The bus shelter at the Trumpet is covered in ivy and in poor condition but is not widely used. The shelter at Poolend is widely used by a lot of residents of Putley. The clerk is to chase Herefordshire Council for an update on both shelters on when any remedial work is to be done and at what cost, and once figures are known to involve Putley Parish Council.

157/12 Policies

157.1 Standing Order amendments

The clerk is awaiting further information and advice so this item was deferred to the January meeting

158/12 Highways & Footpaths

158.1 Report from The Ledbury Rural Parishes Cluster Group Traffic Management Meeting on 20th November

Four Pixley councillors had attended this meeting. Representatives of Herefordshire Council highways department and local police attended. Clive Hall of Hereford Council highways appeared very negative saying their hands were tied with the legal requirement to change speed limits. Inspector Gebbie from Ross Police gave a report of speed restrictions and how they are enforced. The police do not do a lot of enforcement, this is left to the Safer Roads Partnership. The general discussion revolved around three examples, the "B" road running through Bosbury village, the "A" road through the side of Tarrington village and the "A" road in Eardisley carrying a lot of HGV vehicles. The problem this parish council has of the two open roads with a 60mph limit crossing the parishes was virtually disregarded. It is hoped that together with other parish councils such as Stretton Grandison and Yarkhill within the Cluster Group this issue will be pursued. Members were keen to attend the next Cluster Meeting on 12th December to see what further action the Cluster Group would be taking.

158.2 SID's Update and Requirement for 2013

The current data received from the SIDs is proving to be of no benefit in supporting our requests to reduce the speed limit. It is thought that much more data is collected than we are given. It was suggested that it may prove more effective to put up temporary "speed threshold gates" advising vehicles to slow down. The location of the gate is to be decided. It was also thought to put up the gates half way through a month when data was being collected by a SID.

**CLLR MORGAN
/CLERK**

CLLR HEWITT

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159/12 Finance

159.1 The notes from the Finance Group meeting were circulated.

159.2 Precept requirement 2013/14

The clerk had circulated a draft budget for councilors to consider. The final precept requirement is to be decided at the January meeting.

159.3 Finance Report RESOLVED**159.4 Payments RESOLVED**

HALC Training Fees - £90

Church Donations - £60 each parish

Clerk salary and expenses – as agreed

160/12 Planning

160.1 Planning Applications to be Considered - none

160.2 To note comments on Planning applications already considered – none

160.3 To note decisions of Herefordshire Council – as planning Record

N122608/F The Lodge, Newbridge Farm Park, Aylton, HR8 2QG

Continued use of existing holiday cabin for residential use in connection with business

REFUSED by Herefordshire Council

161/12 Training / Meetings

161.1 To note HALC training dates – RESOLVED

None

161.2 Ledbury Rural Parishes Cluster Meeting – 12th December at Colwall Villlage Hall 7.30pm

162/12 To note Planning Record (Circulated) – RESOLVED

163/12 To note Information Sheet (Circulated)

164/12 Items for next meeting (No Discussion)

- Affordable Housing Survey
- Report from Cluster Group Meeting
- Flooding at Little Marcle & Sandbags
- Apologies given by Cllrs Clothier & Hewitt who are unable to attend January meeting

150/12 Date of next scheduled meeting : Tuesday 29th January 2013

The chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.07pm

Signed:
Chairman

Date

ALL CLLRS