



## PIXLEY & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Janet Chester  
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### Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 29th January 2013

#### Present

Councillors S Swaithe, Mrs J Cowell, H Hodges, Mrs R Jones, E Thompson & P Whitfield

#### In attendance

Janet Chester – Parish Clerk

#### Members of the Public: 1

Cllr Swaithe welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### 1/13 To receive apologies for absence and note the reason

Cllrs Mrs L Clothier (holiday), A Mawby, D Hewitt, K Davies and M Skittery (other meetings) and Ward Cllr P Morgan (ill)

#### 2/13 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 8.1 2013/14 Precept Requirement

#### 3/13 To agree minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2012 (previously circulated)

After making a minor alteration to the wording of 158/12 158.2 the minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record and were duly signed by Cllr Swaithe.

#### 4/13 Open Forum – no matters raised

#### 5/13 To receive a report from Ward Councillor

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

#### 6/13 Discussion

##### 6.1 Councillor Vacancies

The Chairman asked members to think of possible candidates to invite to join the council. A representative of the houses at Poolend was put forward as a possibility. 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.

##### 6.2 Affordable Housing Survey

It was RESOLVED to send a letter to Richard Wilding, based upon the letter Cllr Whitfield had written. The Chairman is to liaise with the clerk to finalise the wording. Cllr Thompson is to consult a person in Gloucester for further information

#### Action

All Cllrs

Clerk / Cllrs  
Swaithe &  
Thompson

### 6.3 Parish Council website management

Cllr Hewitt is to take on this responsibility and give help to the clerk.

Cllr Hewitt

### 6.4 Bus Shelters

A proposal has been received from Amey for replacing the Poolend bus shelter. Although not entirely what the parish council would have liked it was RESOLVED to agree to this proposal and look forward to the work being done in March. There are no plans for the Trumpet bus shelter at present, it remains on Amey's list.

Clerk

### 6.5 Flooding / Winter road conditions / Sandbags/ Salt & Grit Bins

There are potholes either end of Falcon Lane. The clerk is to order a further supply of sandbags. Salt/Grit bins are required at both ends and mid-point of Falcon Lane, in Munsley and at Swinmore. There is flooding at Brook Farm Little Marcle due to a blocked drain that Amey have looked at, the clerk is to chase Amey. There is also flooding along Baregains Lane between Haygrove entrance and Baregains Farm due to a drain silting up. Clerk to ask Amey to investigate.

Clerk

### 6.6 Report from Cluster Group Meeting

Four councillors had attended the most recent meeting of the cluster group. It was thought that this may be a useful pressure group. Terms of reference had been drafted for parish councils to agree:-

- a) The group will deal with issues that are of common interest to the member parishes
- b) The group will share the knowledge and expertise that individual members have with the group
- c) The idea of the group is to give parishes a "bigger voice" and thus issues are therefore taken more seriously particularly given that Herefordshire Council do not give much time for parish councils to respond to some important matters
- d) The group or any individual member cannot make decisions on policy matters as no delegated powers have been given and the cluster group is not to be another level of bureaucracy.
- e) The group will not follow any particular political agenda. Issues to be discussed will be ones that the parish councils are collectively interested in

These were agreed for the Cluster Group to adopt at their next meeting. The cluster chairman had asked for our main concerns regarding traffic issues. The clerk is to advise that our main requirement would be a 50mph speed limit on the A417, A4172 & A438.

Clerk

### 6.7 To receive comments on draft HALC constitution

As there were a few members not present it was RESOLVED to defer this item to the February meeting.

## 7/13 Finance

### 7.1 Precept requirement 2013/14

The clerk had circulated a draft budget for councillors to consider. It was RESOLVED to request £5500 for the forthcoming year because of the possibility of future capping.

### 7.2 Finance Report RESOLVED

### 7.3 Payments RESOLVED

- a) HALC Training Fees - £30
- b) Clerk salary and expenses – as agreed

## 8/13 Planning

### 8.1 Planning Applications to be Considered -

#### 8.1.1 N130014/F Hopton Arms Inn, Ashperton, HR8 2SE

Erection of 6no single storey 2 bedroom log cabins (in addition to 2no existing cabins) for use as holiday lets. Associated hard and soft landscaping.

**PC Comment:** The parish council object to this application. The conditions on previously granted applications for this site have not been adhered to. This site and the public house are two totally separate businesses so this application should not be tied to the pub. The parish council agree with the letters of objection of local residents and the comments within them. The visibility at the junction onto the main road (A417) is very poor and not suitable for the increased vehicle numbers.

**8.1.2 N123427/FH & N123571/L The Barn, Poolend Court, Pixley, HR8 2RB**

Installation of folding doors to rear, rooflights to front elevation and woodburner with associated flue

**PC Comment:** The parish council support this application but would like to see the flue painted black

**8.2 To note comments on Planning applications already considered – none**

**8.3 To note decisions of Herefordshire Council – as planning record**

The parish council have received a letter advising that future planning applications will be advised electronically. If paper copies are required there will be a cost of £4. It was RESOLVED to proceed with the electronic procedure requesting paper copies if/when required

Clerk

**9/13 Training / Meetings**

**9.1 To note HALC training dates – RESOLVED**

HALC Eastern Area Meeting – Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Feb at Ledbury Council Offices at 7.30pm

Ledbury Rural Parishes Cluster Meeting – 13<sup>th</sup> March at Ledbury

**10/13 To note Planning Record (Circulated) – RESOLVED**

**11/13 To note Information Sheet – not available**

**12/13 Items for next meeting (No Discussion)**

- To receive comments on the HALC Draft Constitution

**13/13 Date of next scheduled meeting : Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2013**

*The chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.03pm*

Signed:  
Chairman

Date