



PIXLEY & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Janet Chester
Mapleside, Ashperton, Ledbury, HR8 2RZ
Tel: 01531 670036
e-mail: pixleyclerk@btinternet.com

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 24th November 2014

Present:

Councillors D Hewitt, Mrs L Clothier, Mrs J Cowell, Mrs W Cox, H Hodges, Mrs R Jones, M Skittery, S Swaithes, E Thompson, Mrs M Thwaites & P Whitfield

In attendance:

Frome Ward Councillor Patricia Morgan
Janet Chester – Parish Clerk

Members of the Public: 6

Cllr Hewitt welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the format the meeting would take and what participation public could take in the meeting.

1/11/14 To Accept Any Apologies for Absence and Note the Reason

Cllr K Davies & Cllr A Mawby (other meetings)

2/11/14 To receive declarations of interest and requests for dispensations –

Cllr Name	Agenda Item	Interest Declared
Cllr E Thompson	7c Pixley End Caravan Site	Other - neighbour
Cllr P Whitfield	8c Falcon Lane temporary access	Other – neighbour
All councillors	9c - precept	residents

3/11/14 To approve minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 30th September 2014 (previously circulated)

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

4/11/14 Public Participation Session:

Residents from the Aylton / Putley border raised concerns about large lorries using Glebe Lane and the lane from Pool End to access Dragon Orchard, single track roads which are unsuitable for these heavy articulated vehicles, and causing damage to the roadside verges. Concerns were also raised for other users of this road meeting these large lorries. The clerk had been previously advised of these problems and had asked the Balfour Beatty Locality Steward to view and investigate.

Action

Clerk

5/11/14 Brief report from Frome Ward Councillor Patricia Morgan

Cllr Morgan gave out a copy of Herefordshire Council Budget Sheet (attached). The budget this year should come in around target. The 2015/16 budget is also expected to balance. However £33 million out of a net budget of £150 million is to be saved by 2016/17. Ward Cllr Morgan is meeting with Cathy Berkeley, Balfour Beatty Locality Steward on 5th December to discuss local issues, the exact time is to be confirmed.

Ward Cllr Morgan

6/11/14 Guest Speakers

Cllrs Liz Harvey and Terry Widdows from both Herefordshire Council and Ledbury Town Council had been invited to speak on A4172 concerns and Localism and its effects on our area. Both had given their apologies for not attending shortly before the meeting.

7/11/14 Correspondence / Discussion

a) A4172 update

As a result of the questionnaire responses press releases had been sent to the Hereford times and Ledbury Reporter to highlight the problems. Ward Cllr Morgan advised that the A4172 has been put forward on Balfour Beatty's resurfacing 2015 programme of works, confirmation is awaited. The Community Speed Watch Scheme was suggested but the clerk thought this was not allowed on unrestricted 60mph roads but she will check the rules. **RESOLVED**

Clerk

b) Parish Council community involvement suggestions

Cllr Thompson thought that the parish council should engage more with the community as a number of the parish residents are elderly or living in relatively isolated properties. Suggestions made were lunch clubs, welcome packs for new residents providing information and raising awareness of what is available, leaflet for existing residents and putting more information onto the website. Councillors were asked to give thought to this matter and bring their views back to the January meeting. The clerk is to invite a speaker from the Ledbury branch of Age UK to a future meeting to give us advice. **RESOLVED**

All Cllrs

Clerk

c) Pixley End Caravan Site

It had been noted that the site has recently been occupied and activity is taking place on the site. The owner and agent had been invited to attend a parish council meeting to let councillors and residents know what their intentions were and for the parish council to give any business support necessary. Ward Cllr Morgan advised that the planning department knew the applicant and that the planning enforcement officer had visited the site and was keeping an eye on the matter, she will forward any update to the clerk. Cllr Clothier to arrange a meeting with a consultant for advice. **RESOLVED**

Ward Cllr Morgan

Cllr Clothier

8/11/14 Highways and Footpaths

a) Road Conditions / Flooding / Traffic Management

No new issues were raised.

b) Lengthsman/ P3 schemes

The clerk is awaiting confirmation from Herefordshire Council of when the parish can join the schemes. See also minute 9a below.

c) To discuss temporary access onto Falcon Lane for power upgrading work

Fears were raised that this temporary access was being used on a more permanent basis by the landowner. It will be monitored but it is thought that once the power line work is completed the access would be reverted back to its former state by the electrical contractors.

Clerk

9/11/14 Finance

a) To receive report from Financial Working Group

The group had met to discuss the budget and 2015/16 precept requirement. They also discussed the possibility of match funding the enhanced lengthsman scheme. We would get a grant of £938 equal to £100 per km of "U" and "C" roads in the parishes. It was agreed to suggest allocating lengthsman match funding of £900 from the precept. Herefordshire Council would then give us another £900 making the total £2738 for the lengthsman to work on blocked drains, ditch clearing and possibly small pothole repairs on the "C" and "U" roads. The possibility of incurring election fees also has to be budgeted for. The bank statements, bank balances and reconciliation were checked.

b) New Financial Regulations

The clerk has drafted together the new regulations, these were discussed, agreed and adopted.

c) To decide precept requirement for 2015/16

It was suggested by the finance working group to raise the precept to £6050 for 2015/16. This increase was agreed. The clerk will send the request to Herefordshire Council. **RESOLVED**

d) To agree Finance Report – RESOLVED

e) To agree payment of outstanding accounts:-

Payments **RESOLVED**

000373: J Chester (clerk) – as agreed

000374: Aylton Church - £60.00

000375: Little Marcle Church - £60.00

000376: Munsley Church - £60.00

000377: Pixley Church - £60.00

Clerk

10/11/14 Planning

a) To Consider Planning Applications referred for comment:
none

b) To Confirm the Response to Considered Applications: as per planning record

c) To Note Details of Decision Notices Received from Hereford

Council: as per planning record and www.herefordshire.gov.uk
RESOLVED

11/11/14 Training / Meetings:

a) To note dates of upcoming meetings

- i. As HALC "Wise Owl" Information Sheet
- ii. HALC Eastern Area meeting Thurs 27th November at Bosbury Village Hall

b) To receive a report from meetings attended

- i. HALC AGM – 1st November – Cllr Hewitt attended. A number of speakers were at the conference including Jonathan Owen the new CEO of NALC spoke on easier access to the NALC website, the name "parish" council being perceived as to do with the church, is localism achieving anything? Super Intendant Sue Thomas of Policing Herefordshire promised to come back to Cllr Hewitt about the A4172. At the AGM it was agreed to increase the subscription because of the withdrawal of Herefordshire Councils grant funding.
- ii. Affordable Warmth Meeting – 12th November – Cllr Cox had attended. Statistics show that 1 in 10 properties is in "fuel poverty". It was recommended to change energy suppliers or join buying groups. Loft insulation and grants are also available. A free helpline is available, Keep Herefordshire Warm on 0800 6771432.

12/11/14 To note the Planning record: noted

13/11/14 To note Information and Outstanding Actions Sheet: noted and updated

14/11/14 Items for next meeting (No Discussion)

- Parish Council Community Involvement Ideas
- Representative from Age UK Ledbury branch

15/11/14 To note date of next scheduled meeting :

Future meeting dates and venues was discussed. It was agreed to continue holding meetings at Munsley WI Hall but to put the heating on earlier!! Also agreed that the meeting night is to change to the last Monday of every other month.

The next meeting will be on Monday 26th January 2015.

The chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.18pm

Signed:
Chairman.

Date: