



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 Tuesday 29th July 2014

Present:

Councillors D Hewitt, Mrs L Clothier, Mrs J Cowell, Mrs W Cox, K Davies, H Hodges, Mrs R Jones, A Mawby, E Thompson & P Whitfield

In attendance:

Janet Chester – Parish Clerk

Members of the Public: 0

Cllr Hewitt welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1/7/14 To Accept Any Apologies for Absence and Note the Reason

Cllrs M Skittery (work commitments), S Swaites (holiday) Mrs M Thwaites (holiday), Frome Ward Cllr Patricia Morgan

2/7/14 To receive declarations of interest and requests for dispensations - none

3/7/14 To approve minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 24th June 2014 (previously circulated)

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

4/7/14 Public Participation Session: no new issues raised

5/7/14 Brief report from Frome Ward Councillor Patricia Morgan

Cllr Morgan had sent through her apologies but had not sent through a report.

6/7/14 Guest Speaker: Sergeant Dan Pilkington, West Mercia Police

Sgt Pilkington stated that he is based in Ross-on-Wye but covers an area including Peterchurch through to Ledbury. He gave a summary on local policing, CSO Dave Alexander had gone through the call log since Jan 2014 and this area has had one domestic incident, three local concerns, one alarm, one fire, one road traffic accident, one highway incident and three criminal incidents in that time period. A Ledbury man linked to twelve burglaries in Ross had been arrested The question was raised "are urban or rural houses most at risk of being burgled?" Sgt

Action

Pilkington answered that offences tend to be clustered and that rural crime tends to be pre-planned and targeted. Smartwtaer is still available from police stations.

Sgt Pilkington has also looked into local road accidents. Bob Haynes who has been the Local Traffic Management Advisor advised that on the A4172 there have been two serious road traffic collisions and seven slight injuries of which two speed have been contributed to. Parish Council records show a much higher number of accidents on this stretch of road. Sgt Pilkington stated that 'damage only' incidents with no personal injury involved do not require police attendance and are not included in the figures. Hereford division is currently focusing on careless driving and phone use whilst driving. Speed enforcement funding received from government is based on accident statistics and is costly to carry out. Sgt Pilkington will liaise with Bob Haynes and ask why the A4172 speed limit is not being reduced to 50mph like neighbouring Gloucestershire and will also ask for the unmarked cars patrolling the area to make more passes along the A4172 to monitor speeding. He advised against individuals doing speed patrols due to the risk of personal injury involved.

A revised update on Community Speedwatch is due soon.

Sgt Pilkington closed by advising that Neighbourhood Watch is now thought to be almost out of date, police are using social media to interact with the public which is proving a success in locating suspect vehicles and apprehending offenders. The West Mercia Police bulletin can be copied into the parish council to advise what is happening in the local area.

**Sgt Pilkington/
clerk**

7/7/14 Correspondence / Discussion

a) A4172 questionnaire

The working group of Cllrs Hewitt, Clothier and Thwaites have met and put together the questionnaire and decided upon the area for the "leaflet drop", it covers around 80 houses and businesses. It was AGREED that councilors could pair up and drop off questionnaires at the beginning of September and pick up a week later to enable results to be available at the September meeting. **RESOLVED**

It was suggested to approach other parish councils at a later date.

All cllrs

8/7/14 Highways and Footpaths

a) Road Conditions / Flooding / Traffic Management

No new issues were reported. The clerk is to chase Alexander Park about cutting the roadside hedge. **RESOLVED**

clerk

b) Balfour Beatty Frome Ward Locality Steward

Cathy Berkeley has recently been appointed the new steward for Frome Ward.

c) Gates on Old Lilly Hall Lane

Cllr Clothier is to investigate his issue further and report back.

Cllr Clothier

d) Lengthsman/ P3 schemes

The clerk is to advise Herefordshire Council that the parish council wish to join these schemes and to upon confirmation from Herefordshire Council approach a possible candidate for his interest. **RESOLVED**

Clerk

9/7/14 Finance

a) New Financial regulations

The clerk is drafting together the new regulations, she will circulate ready for the September meeting.

clerk

b) To agree Finance Report – RESOLVED

c) To agree payment of outstanding accounts:-

Payments **RESOLVED**

00371: J Chester (clerk) – as agreed

10/7/14 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**

11/7/14 Training / Meetings:

a) To note dates of upcoming meetings

- i. As HALC Information Sheet
- ii. Putley Parish Council Neighbourhood Planning meeting on 3rd September - two cllrs to attend.

b) To receive a report from meetings attended

i. HALC Eastern Area AGM, Tues 15th July –
The clerk and Cllr Hewitt attended. The new locality stewards for Ledbury and Frome Ward attended and gave a brief talk. Nicky Carless (Colwall) was voted in as chairman, Keith Francis (Ledbury) was voted in as vice-chairman.

ii. Herefordshire Council 2015/16 Budget Consultation –
Cllr Hewitt attended this meeting which was well attended and led by council leader Tony Johnson and Peter Robinson finance manager. A further saving of £33m is needed by 2017. Government funding is being cut by £20m in 2016. Some areas of spending are protected, areas where savings could be made were given. Three areas of priority are:

- endeavour to maintain care of the elderly
- children
- enterprise and economic regeneration

Council tax reduction for low income households is currently up to 92%,

this will be reduced to 84%. There are 2300 miles of 'u' and 'c' roads in the county – it is estimated that £100m is required to bring them up to and retain as new standard and only £30m is available.

A consultation on the website is open to the public to attempt to balance Herefordshire Councils budget.

12/7/14 To note the Planning record: noted

13/7/14 To note Information and Outstanding Actions Sheet: noted and updated

14/7/14 Items for next meeting (No Discussion)

- Lengthsman / P3 scheme
- Financial Regulations
- A4172 questionnaire
- Neighbourhood Development Plan
- Membership of HALC
- Parish Council Community Involvement Ideas

15/7/14 To note date of next scheduled meeting : Tuesday 30th September 2014

The chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.18pm

Signed:
Chairman.

Date: