



## PIXLEY & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Janet Chester  
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### Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 30th March 2015

#### Present:

Councillors D Hewitt, Mrs L Clothier, Mrs J Cowell, Mrs W Cox, K Davies, H Hodges, Mrs R Jones, A Mawby, 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: 4

Cllr Hewitt welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### 1/3/15 To Accept Any Apologies for Absence and Note the Reason

There were no apologies for absence.

#### 2/3/15 To receive declarations of interest and requests for dispensations

Cllr Name	Agenda Item	Interest Declared
Cllr E Thompson	6i planning app 150350	Neighbour
Cllr S Swaithes	“	Neighbour
Cllr K Davies	“	related business
Cllr J Cowell	6ii planning app 150537	Neighbour
Cllr M Thwaites	6iv planning app 150765	Neighbour
Cllr J Cowell	“	“
Cllr H Hodges	“	“
Cllr A Mawby	“	“
Cllr S Swaithes	“	“
Cllr E Thompson	“	Neighbour & relative
Cllr E Thompson	6iii planning app 150682	Neighbour

#### 3/3/15 To approve minutes of the meeting held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2015 (previously circulated)

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

**4/3/15 Public Participation Session:** Jonathan Lester and Giles Blackmore who are both standing in the election for the Three Crosses ward attended the meeting, the chairman welcomed them to the meeting but advised that they would be unable to address the meeting because of purdah.

#### Action

### 5/3/15 Brief report from Frome Ward Councillor Patricia Morgan

The Chairman welcomed Patricia for the last time as she will not be standing for Frome Ward in the election and thanked her for her past help. The Core Strategy is under inspection in February and should be adopted in the Spring subject to the election and possible change of administration. She handed round a copy of the leader of Herefordshire Councils final report to show where the council is currently at.

### 6/3/15 Planning

#### a) To Consider Planning Applications referred for comment:

##### i) 150350 – Land south west of the Trumpet Inn, Ledbury, Hfds

Proposed workshop building and full time residential mobile home

**PC Comment:** The parish council object to this application. Contrary to the application form work has already started on site installing a new septic tank. The large building proposed is in clear sight of a listed building and is therefore contrary to planning policy HBA4. The applicant cannot demonstrate a need for this building on this site and the size of the building is out of scale with activities on site. This application would be detrimental to the adjacent ancient woodland, the application is incorrect stating that the site is not adjacent. The parish council are surprised that a new septic tank has been allowed to be installed as a sewerage treatment plant would be more suitable. The current septic tank has proven to be inefficient allowing foul water onto neighbouring land and flowing into nearby watercourses.

##### ii) 150537 – Highway Care Ltd, Callow Hills Business Park, Hereford Road, HR8 2PZ

Proposed new workshop, external storage, additional parking, improvement and alteration of vehicular access arrangements

**PC Comment:** The parish council support this application but have concerns over the number and size of vehicles leaving and entering the unrestricted A438 at this point as it is on a dangerous brow close to a public service bus stop and the junction with Falcon Lane.

##### iii) P150682/PA1 – Pixley Gate, Pixley, HR8 2RB (Prior Approval – info only)

Proposed single storey extension which extend beyond the rear wall of the dwelling house by 6 metres. The maximum height of the enlarged part of the dwellinghouse is 3.8 metres and the height of the eaves of the enlarged part of the dwellinghouse is 2.3 metres

**PC Comment:** Information only, no comments made

Cllr Thompson left the meeting at this point

##### iv) 150765 – Trumpet Fields adjacent A438, Trumpet, Ledbury, HR8 2RA

Erection of polytunnels on fields at Trumpet for covered commercial growing of soft fruit and new pond area.

**PC Comment:** The parish council make the following comments on this application as councillors have some reservations on the drainage and access on this site.

- The impact of run-off water on flooding is a concern, particularly onto the 438 and down to the inadequate drains at Trumpet Crossroads.
- Clarification on the access to be used is required, as the access onto the A438 is on a bend with limited visibility splays, particularly for slower moving tractors and trailers. The parish council would like to suggest that the current access is closed off and replaced with a new access onto the A438 at the North East corner point of field 1, this

would be a safer access having much better visibility splays and would also enable the space at the existing access to be used for an extra retention pond for run-off water to alleviate the concern i. above.

- The polytunnels would have a visual impact from both the A438 and the A4172 and the Herefordshire Trail and Marcle Ridge. Pixley parish is already one fifth “covered in plastic”.
- The parish council would like to request that the polytunnels are skinned for six months of the year and that some planting for screening is carried out by the landowner to reduce the visual impact.
- The new pond area is scheduled for phase two we would like this to be brought forward as neighbouring properties have concerns over flooding affecting their properties and land.

**b) To Note Details of Decision Notices Received from Hereford**

**Council:** as planning record (circulated) and [www.herefordshire.gov.uk](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk)  
**RESOLVED**

**7/3/15 Correspondence / Discussion**

**a) A4172 update**

Cllr Morgan was thanked for her help in applying pressure the road has been put into Balfour Beatty’s programme of works and some roadworks will shortly commence. The chairman had received correspondence to advise that the Safer Road Partnership had been contacted about undertaking some speed enforcement long the road once the roadworks had been completed.

**b) Parish Council community involvement suggestions**

The chairman has invited a speaker from the Ledbury branch of Age UK to the annual parish meeting on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May to give us advice.

**RESOLVED**

Cllr Hewitt  
Clerk

**c) Election Day – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015 and completion of nomination papers**

Election day is Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May. Councillors wishing to stand again completed their nomination papers. Cllrs Hodges and Jones both advised that they would not be standing and were thanked for their time and hardwork.

**RESOLVED**

**8/3/15 Highways and Footpaths**

**a) To receive report from Locality Steward Cathy Berkeley**

The weekly reports circulated were noted but more detailed information was to be requested by the clerk. **RESOLVED**

Clerk

**b) Road Conditions / Flooding / Traffic Management**

A culvert in Aylton is blocked and a fence has fallen into it.

Clerk

**c) Lengthsman/ P3 schemes**

The clerk will contact Putley parish councils lengthsman to ask if he would consider becoming Pixley & District lengthsman. Cllrs Clothier and Thwaites are willing to become footpath officers and have been in contact with the Locality Steward. The clerk has returned the “Expression of Interest Form”. The lengthsman budget will be £3756 and the P3 footpaths budget £740. An

Clerk

annual plan of lengthsmen work needs to be forwarded to Balfour Beatty. Cllrs were asked to advise the clerk of any required works.

All Cllrs

### 9/3/15 Finance

a) To agree Finance Report – RESOLVED

b) To agree payment of outstanding accounts:-

Payments RESOLVED

000379: Herefordshire Council – paper planning applications - £4.00

000380: J Chester Clerks salary Feb/March and expenses (as agreed)

000381: HALC Annual Subscription - £359.86

000382: HALC Training “In the Hot Seat” – Cllr Clothier - £30.00

### 10/3/15 Training / Meetings:

a) To note dates of upcoming meetings – none

b) To receive a report from meetings attended:

Cllr Hewitt had attended Balfour Beatty’s Annual Plan briefing on 17th March. Balfour Beatty advised what had been achieved in the last year and their plans for the coming year. Organizational changes are improving their performance. Severe weather early in 2014 proved to be challenging. £15 million has been spent so far but an estimated £100 million is needed to bring the county’s roads back to the expected standard. Three grass verge cuttings are to be done this year, together with more street cleansing and litter picks. Upgrading of gullies and drains will be carried out where required. The hope is that footpath work will be mainly carried out by volunteers.

Cllr Clothier had attended HALC “In the Hot Seat” training event which she found very useful

Cllr Cox had attended a Health & Wellbeing meeting in January but felt this could have been much more useful than it proved to be.

Cllr Hewitt and the clerk attended the HALC eastern Area meeting on 10th February. The guest speaker spoke about Neighbourhood Planning in the county. Herefordshire has 88 Neighbourhood Plans in the pipeline which is 66% of the county and 10% of all plans nationwide. Eleven of these are at regulation 14 consultation stage and two are approaching regulation 16 stage which is the final consultation before independent examination. There will be a new funding grant of £8k available for specific pieces of work undertaken in a six month timeframe, he was unsure of the eligibility criteria at present but training sessions would be taking place. Members were also advised of the requirement for parish councils to have their own website.

**11/3/15 To note Information and Outstanding Actions Sheet:** noted and updated

### 12/3/15 Items for next meeting (No Discussion)

- Parish Council website to be more interactive

### 13/3/15 To note date of next scheduled meeting:

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2015 – Annual Parish Meeting 7pm followed by the Annual Parish Council meeting.

*The chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.39pm*

Signed:  
Chairman.

Date:

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