

## **Minutes of the Penton Grafton Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> of July 2023 in the Fairground Hall at 7.30pm.**

Present: Cllr Mr G Light – Chairman  
Cllr Mrs P Foster – Vice Chairman  
Cllr Mrs J Osborne  
Cllr Mr N Blackmore  
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk  
Member of the Public – 7

Apologies: Cllr Mrs P West, Cllr Mr J Neal, Mrs Pam Mutton, Borough Councillor Mrs L Lashbrook and County Councillor Mr C Donnelly.

### **WELCOME.**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST.**

Cllr Mrs J Osborne declared an interest in the Fairground Hall.

Cllr Mrs P Foster declared an interest in the Fairground Site and the Fairground Hall.

### **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**

The Chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record.

### **FINANCE.**

FINANCIAL POSITION – 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023

#### **INCOME.**

PC Refunds £575.00

#### **EXPENDITURE.**

Administration	June and July	= £ 960.00
Lloyds Bank	Account Charge	= £ 18.25
Website	Hosting Fee	= £ 16.80
P Reynolds	Audit (PC + Site)	= £ 850.00
MacAfee	Computer Protection	= £ 109.89
Fairground Café	Audit Refreshments	= £ 59.85
Petal Boutique	Flowers for Nanette	= £ 46.50
C Wilkins	Maintenance	= £ 644.75
TVBC	Election Expenses	= £ 24.00
		= <b><u>£2,730.04</u></b>

#### **Bank Account Summary.**

Lloyds TSB Current Account	£ 9,264.29
Barclays 10 day Account 1.5%	£ 4,599.05
	<b><u>£13,863.34</u></b>

### **HIGHWAYS.**

#### **WEYHILL BOTTOM CROSSROADS.**

There has been another accident at the Weyhill Bottom Crossroads since the May meeting.

The Chairman gave a brief history of the Parish Council's involvement over the past 5 years:

The Parish Council corresponded with Hampshire Highways and had several on site meetings following the large number of accidents that occur at these crossroads. Eventually Hampshire County Council agreed to improve the crossroads:

- The Give Way signs at the junction from Clanville direction were changed to STOP signs.
- Different coloured road surface and painted chevrons were also added.
- Additional 'Slow' warning was painted on the road on the approach to the crossroads.
- Additional signage and fluorescent bollards were installed.
- Hampshire County Council consulted with the Traffic Police, and it was agreed that the sight lines at the crossroads were good from all approaches.
- The Parish Council tried to get the speed limit reduced to 30mph but were unsuccessful. Hampshire did put new advisory 30MPH signs on the corner between the crossroads and the Ludgershall Road junction.

The Parish Council have been in further correspondence with our County Councillor Mr C Donnelly regarding the continued accidents at the Weyhill Bottom crossroads and feel that these needs looking at again. The speed vehicles drive along the Penton Road is of concern and it is felt that this is a major factor in the number of accidents that are occurring.

The Chairman invited the Members of the Public present to address the meeting. Points raised included:

- The number of accidents at these crossroads cannot continue and something needs to be done.
- The issue has been put on social media and people who have been involved in an accident at the Weyhill Bottom crossroads are being asked to post their experience so that a dossier can be collated.
- Data is needed to present to Highways to push for further safety measures to be put in place and to reduce the speed limit. Hampshire County Council have a duty of care to ensure the Safety of road users.
- The Penton Road is being used more and more as a 'Rat Run' and many vehicles are travelling at speed in both directions despite the existing warning signs and markings.
- A speed limit needs to be put in place on the approach to the crossroads.
- A 'Freedom of Information' on the accident statistics for the crossroads has been submitted to Hampshire County Council.

The Parish Council agreed with all the points raised and will continue to liaise with Hampshire County Council. The Chairman asked the Clerk to put the Weyhill Bottom Crossroads on the September Meeting agenda for further discussion when it is hoped that both the Borough and County Councillors will be present.

#### CAR BOOT SALE TRAFFIC.

The issue of the exit onto the Penton Road from the Sunday Car Boot Sale was discussed.

It was reported that cars are turning into Rectory Lane as a short cut to the Weyhill Road.

The Parish Council have received correspondence from a Parishioner on this subject and it has been forwarded to our Borough Councillor Mrs L Lashbrook.

It was also reported that at a recent Car Boot Sale it was noted that at least 43 vehicles turned right out of the exit towards Penton Mewsey rather than turning left up to the Ludgershall Road. The Chairman will speak to Mr G North to see if there could be some marshalling at the exit onto the Penton Road.

### **PLANNING.**

There were no new planning applications to discuss.

### **COUNCILLORS REPORTS.**

CLLR MR N BLACKMORE – **Footpaths and Infrastructure Report 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

#### **General**

Held handover meeting with Councillor J Osbourne following the Council meeting of the 9<sup>th</sup> of May where I took on the responsibility for footpaths. A further meeting will be taking place to pass on further information and in particular details of farmers responsible for various footpaths. I have tried to establish contact with HCC Countryside Services but received no response as yet.

#### **Rural Footpaths –**

Councillor Osbourne received a complaint of crops overgrowing the footpath from the A372 to Appleshaw, and spoke to the farmer who had it in hand. She also received a complaint of overgrowth/undergrowth on Hanging Bush Lane which was handed to me. I subsequently walked the path which I considered passable and impractical to carry out any cutting back on at this time of year. I checked out the footpath from Ancient Lane past the rear of Rectory Place and found the Lengthsman had carried out undergrowth cut back to a very good standard. Unfortunately, some residents of Rectory place have taken to dumping garden waste on the path adjacent to their access gates.

#### **Infrastructure and Paved Paths –**

The Lengthsman has been carrying out regular grass and undergrowth cutting in the areas that the Parish is responsible for or has taken on. This included cutting back a large area of undergrowth that Scottish and Southern left following replacement of a Power Pole near the bus stop between Red Post Lane and Weyhill Service Station. The Lengthsman has been recently tasked with clearing the following footpaths – Weyhill Crossroads to Weyhill Bottom, Casterbridge Lane to the Cemetery, and improving visibility for drivers at Weyhill crossroads.

TVBC have been contacted regarding the missing road name sign on the Western side of Red Post Lane and replacement is in hand. They were most helpful.

County Highways have the extension of the footpath/cycleway and replacement bus shelter at the Western end of the Parish adjacent to the A372 in their works schedule for this financial year. Also, a new bus shelter on the Southern side of the A372 is in that schedule of work.

I had a meeting with Councillor Chris Donnelly of HCC on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June to discuss how we can work more effectively with County Highways to mutual benefit in these difficult financial times. This proved to be a very useful meeting. As a result of the meeting Councillor Donnelly agreed to approach County Highways regarding the poor drainage on the A372 adjacent to Hardy Fayre Close.

On Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup> of June in the evening, I attended a Community Energy meeting in Stockbridge supported by TVBC. Whilst the meeting was interesting and was promoting an interesting initiative, at this time I could not see it being of benefit to us. If anyone wishes to know more, I will be happy to discuss.

There are a number of areas of undergrowth and overgrowth on paths and roads in the Weyhill area that require attention by the Landowners concerned. I will be compiling a list of work for County Highways to attend to later this year when cutting back is permitted. I will compile a further list that requires attention by the Private Landowners concerned. I hope with the Parish Clerks assistance to approach these Private Landowners asking them to attend to the areas they are responsible for.

**CLOSE OF THE MEETING.**

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

**DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.**

12<sup>th</sup> of September 2023.