

## **Minutes of the Penton Grafton Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> of November 2023 in the Fairground Hall at 7.30pm.**

Present: Cllr Mrs P Foster - Acting Chairman  
Cllr Mr G Light  
Cllr Mrs J Osborne  
Cllr Mrs P West  
Cllr Mr J Neal  
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk  
County Councillor Mr C Donnelley  
Borough Councillor Mrs L Lashbrook  
Member of the Public – Mr B Funnell

Apologies: Cllr Mr N Blackmore

### **WELCOME.**

Cllr Mrs P Foster reported that Cllr Mr G Light has stood down as Chairman and that she will be acting Chairman until May 2024. The Chairman then 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.

### **PLANNING.**

23/02467/TPON – Reduce crown of Sycamore and raise crown to 5M above ground level and remove epicormic growth – 6 Hardyfair Close, Weyhill.  
NO OBJECTION.

23/02490/LBWN – Conversion of an existing cart shed into 2 Studios and erection of additional unit for 4 studio spaces – The Fairground Craft Centre.  
PERMISSION.

23/02091/TREEN – Tree works – Treetops, Farm Lane, Penton Grafton.  
NO OBJECTION.

23/02593/FULLN – Partial demolition of rear extensions, erection of single storey rear extension and first floor extension and installation of sash windows at rear – The Coach House, Weyhill Road, Weyhill.  
NO OBJECTION.

### **FINANCE.**

PENTON GRAFTON PARISH COUNCIL

FINANCIAL POSITION – 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023

#### **EXPENDITURE.**

Administration      October and November      = £ 960.00

Lloyds Bank	Account Charge	= £ 24.00
Website	Hosting Fee	= £ 16.80
Barclay Phillips	Architect Fees to Planning	= £4,800.00
BDO LLP	Audit	= £ 378.00
		= <b><u>£6,178.80</u></b>

Bank Account Summary.

Lloyds TSB Current Account	£ 2,401.44
Barclays 10 day Account 1.5%	£ 4,599.05
	<b><u>£ 7,000.49</u></b>

## **HIGHWAYS.**

**Cllr Mr C Donnelley reported on the following:**

### **New Footpath and Bus Shelters on the A342.**

The new Footpath and proposed bus shelters are ongoing. Highways have a site meeting planned. Cllr Mr C Donnelly will up-date the Parish Council as he gets more information.

### **Weyhill Bottom Crossroads.**

Cllr Mr C Donnelly reported that he has made progress on the following points:

- Finding the Hampshire Highways data on the junction.
- Requesting a refresh of the road markings and ensuring that the signage was correctly in place.
- Requesting a traffic survey of the road to measure speed.
- Requesting permission for the Parish Council to install LED crossroad warning signs for 24hr operation.

Cllr Mr C Donnelly reported that he has opened dialogue with Highways for any other measures which may be affordable and practical to address the problems at that junction. I am pleased to let you know that I have now secured the first two of these commitments, which are confirmed below. I have now received the data for this crossroads from Hampshire Highways:

At the Weyhill Bottom Crossroads, we are aware of a recent increase in injury accidents. In the five-year period up to the end of April 2023, there were seven accidents, one serious collision, and six slight collisions. The predominant manoeuvre in these collisions was recorded by the police as drivers failing to look or failing to give way/stop at the side roads. Six of the collisions were vehicular in nature with one involving a pedal cyclist. We can also confirm that there were three compensation claims made between 2022-2023 stemming from incidents at the junction." I trust that this is more helpful than the official police accident statistics.

I am also pleased to be able to tell you that Highways have also agreed to refresh and refurbish the road markings and signage: "This junction is known to our Casualty Reduction Team, and they have confirmed that a scheme was implemented at the crossroads in April 2020 which included changing the give way signage to stop (as requested by the Parish Council and residents) alongside other improvements to road markings and signage. After an initial period where the measures had been working well, the recent spate of collisions is of concern for the team. As such this location has been added to their programme for further measures in this financial year and a site inspection has already been completed. It has been noted that some of the original works have fallen into disrepair, so it is planned to renew/refresh these alongside

some further signing upgrades." I think that it is very positive that this junction is being revisited and I will use the opportunity to make the case to them for the LED lights.

It may well be worth a meeting between parish council and Highways officer to co-ordinate what signage is being proposed.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Mr C Donnelly and felt that this was encouraging progress.

### **CLLR MRS L LASHBROOK**

Cllr Mrs L Lashbrook reported that there have been further complaints from residents regarding the Greyhound Racing in the field adjacent to the Weyfair Public House.

### **Footpaths and Infrastructure – Cllr Mr N Blackmore.**

#### **General**

Ascertaining responsibility and the best way to progress problems with undergrowth and overgrowth on footpaths.

#### **Rural Footpaths**

Hanging Bush Lane will be the subject of a joint cut back by Penton Mewsey and Penton Grafton Councils. Ancient Lane is being well maintained but the village end has some overgrowth which is the responsibility of the adjacent Landowners. County have cut back the undergrowth at the lower end and West side of Rectory Lane, and the Farmer was observed clearing the Eastern side.

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

Ownership of the trees and undergrowth adjacent to Hardy Fayre Close has been established. From information supplied by Councillor Donnelly it would seem that County are responsible. The undergrowth and overgrowth are severely impinging on the footpath/cycleway adjacent to the A342 and need cutting back. I will be taking this up with Councillor Donnelly. The Linksman continues carrying out the usual regular grass and undergrowth cutting in the areas that the Parish is responsible for or has taken on. Private Landowners are a problem with overgrowth and undergrowth, and ways to encourage them to meet their responsibilities are under consideration.

County undertook drain cleaning along the A342 from the Pink Olive to the Weyhill Fayre Pub recently. The flooding problems there seem to have improved.

### **COUNCILLORS REPORTS.**

CLLR MRS J OSBORNE – Reported that the Water levels in Weyhill Bottom Pond are very high and she is concerned that there might be flooding.

Cllr Mrs J Osborne reported that water used to escape down through the fields to Penton and on to Charlton Lakes through a ditch at the far end of the pond. Many years ago, Mr Rodney Bennett, who own the land, blocked up the ditch when he had horses in the fields leading to Penton, the ditch has remained blocked and has never been re-opened.

This was discussed and it was agreed that Cllr Mrs J Osborne will contact Mr Rodney Bennett to put forward the Parish Council's concerns. Cllr Mrs J Osborne will report back to the Parish Council.

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.**

There were no issues raised.

**CLOSE OF THE MEETING.**

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

**DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.**

9<sup>th</sup> January 2024.