

Minutes of the Penton Grafton Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 11th March 2014 in the Parish Office, The Fairground, Weyhill at 7.30pm.

Present : Cllr Mr G Light - Chairman

Cllr Mrs J Osborne - Vice Chairman

Cllr Mr J Marsh

Richard Waterman - Parish Clerk

Mrs P Foster - Fairground CIC

Borough Councillor Mr P Lashbrook

Members of the Public - Mrs R Smith and Mr P Carter

Apologies : Cllr Mr D Dunham, Cllr Mrs H Carter, Mr P Evans - Fairground CIC, Mrs T

Crighton and County Councillor Mrs P West.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

Mrs Rhonda Smith from Clanville had expressed an interest in becoming a Parish Councillor and had come to the meeting to see what was involved.

The Chairman stated that Clanville has not been represented on the Parish Council for a number of years and he was mindful that this needed addressing. Penton Grafton is represented by Cllr Mr J Marsh, the remaining Councillors are Weyhill residents.

The Chairman stated that the other candidate for the vacancy is Mrs T Crighton who also lives in Weyhill. The Clerk reported that he has verbally informed Mrs T Crighton that the Parish Council would ideally like to fill the vacancy with a representative from Clanville but would look favourable on her application if no one put forward. Co-option to fill the vacancy will take place at the May meeting.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

Cllr Mrs J Osborne declared an interest in the Penton Grafton Cottage Charity, the Fairground Hall and the Weyhill Church.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record. Matters arising from those minutes :-

ALLOTMENTS - The recent bad weather has further delayed the preparation of the allotment field. The field is currently water logged.

WEB SITE - Cllr Mr J Marsh reported that he has not received any information for the web site despite several pleas and suggested that the parish Council set up a facebook page to get the ball rolling. Concerns were raised that Facebook could turn into a winging page as was the case in other villages. Cllr Mr J Marsh suggested that this could be done on a trial period and if it did not work it could be shut down. The Parish Council agreed to the trial period.

HIGHWAYS - The Clerk reported Highways are tied up with other urgent repairs in the County (email received and forwarded to the Parish Councillors prior to the meeting) and will attend to the outstanding issues when they can. The Clerk reported that County Councillor Mrs P West has walked around the village to view the list of works required and will liaise direct with Keith Thompson from Highways.

Cllr Mrs P West has noted the following issues :-

Blocked road drains especially on the B342

Empty grit bins

The 7.5 ton restriction signs are missing on Rectory Lane.

The trees/bushes need to be cut back from the footpath in the Bus lay-by by the garage.

The Lorry direction sign on the cross roads has still not been reinstated.

Some of the drainage ditches on the Penton road have been dug out, but there are still several that need doing.

Hedge cutting still needs to be undertaken as several road signs are now obscured.

It was reported that the left hand side 40mph sign on entering Weyhill from Andover was blown over in the winter storms. Cllr Mr P Lashbrook stated that he will get this reinstated as soon as practically possible.

FINANCIAL REPORT

FINANCIAL POSITION - 11th March 2014

Lloyds TSB Current Account £ 1,188.77

Standard life Instant Access £ 1,152.12

10 Day Account £ 794.98

Premium 10 day Account 1.5% £ 30,162.18 (£7,000 transfer to Projects 28/1/14)

£ 33,298.05

INCOME - Due in

Village Hall Insurance £1,200

PAYMENTS - February and March 2014

R.N. Waterman Wages - Standing Order - February £291.08

R.N. Waterman Wages - Standing Order - March £291.08

Aviva Insurance - February and March £1,122.98

£1,705.14

PLANNING

14/00422/FULLN - Erection of single storey extension to form garden room and provision of

new lead roof over existing kitchen - Weyhill House, Weyhill Road,

Weyhill.

The Chairman declared an interest and made no comment. Cllr Mrs J Osborne and Cllr Mr J Marsh had no objections. The Clerk will get the application to Cllr Mrs H Carter and Cllr Mr D Dunham for them to make comment before replying to TVBC.

AFTER NOTE : There were NO OBJECTIONS raised by the Parish Council.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MR P LASHBROOK'S REPORT

Cllr Mr P Lashbrook reported that Clanville Village Hall has applied to TVBC for a capital grant to refurbish the kitchen. One of the conditions on the application is that the Parish Council are prepared to make a financial contribution, Cllr Mr P Lashbrook asked for this to be confirmed. The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council supported the grant application and would make a financial contribution, but no figures have

been agreed. Cllr Mr P Lashbrook stated that he would enquire and liaise with the Chairman and the Clerk.

Cllr Mr P Lashbrook reported that once the water levels start to reseed a Flooding Seminar will be organised to which all the stakeholder services will be invited.

The problem of flooding will not go away and a programme of water management needs to be looked into and implemented to make sure the water flows freely through the villages that have been effected by flooding. The main aim to keep the dialog open between the agencies over the coming months.

Cllr Mr P Lashbrook reported that Highways are struggling to get on top of the damage caused to the Counties roads as a result of ground water flooding, but assured the Parish Council that they will get round to the repairs needed in the Parish.

Cllr Mr J Marsh reported that the Grafton Place name sign has broken and suggested that the replacement has "3 Grafton Place" added. Cllr Mr P Lashbrook noted this request and will pass it on to TVBC.

PARISH COUNCILLORS REPORTS.

CLLR MRS J OSBORNE - Reported that she has had no further correspondence from Mr Torosay at Hampshire County Council since she sent an email on the 6th January 2014. Cllr Mrs J Osborne stated that she will be contacting Mr Torosay again for an up-date.

CLLR MR J MARSH - Reported that a flyer has been delivered all residents concerning the Change of use for Penton Lodge.

"The application if unchallenged could allow for regular functions of several hundred visitors

(max 499) per event"

Penton Mewsey Parish Council have confirmed that they did not produce the flyer. This was briefly discussed and it was felt that the changes reported in the Andover Advertiser did not merit any comment from Penton Grafton Parish Council and would ensure the continued use of the building.

REPORT FROM THE CIC - Mrs Pauline Foster

The Produce Market

We started the produce market last Wednesday and although we only had three stalls they were all very impressed that we had suggested they set up at this end of the site.

They were a lot busier than normal taking advantage of the people using the village hall that perhaps did not visit them when they were down by the barn.

Next time however, we are going to position them by the end wall of the village hall to see if that suits them even better.

We need to contact all previous produce market stall holders and tell them about the changes and how positive these three were.

Country Fair

It is all beginning to come together. We have a fun fair for free. The Hampshire Grey Hound Rescue are organizing the fun dog show for us on the Sunday afternoon of the weekend. Phil is in the process of arranging for Stringbrokers Music Shop in Andover to organise the live music for us in the barn for both days of the fair in return for him being able to promote his business.

Edinburgh Wool store has agreed to hold a fashion show in the arena and I am hoping to speak to a couple of other stores to join us, maybe Scats.

We have various craft and demonstration stalls paid to attend and we are working to increase that number.

We have sent out Press releases to various social media sites, such as Andover UK, Andover & Villages who have thousands of followers between them. We will repeat the press releases when we announce other attractions as we get them to generate the interest for the event.

Gallery

We have given the gallery a spring clean and tidy. The hanging space for artists pictures have been rearranged to make the gallery look more spacious and usable.

It is intended to move Wendy in on her return after her holiday on the 12th March.

We could approach Lindsey Murray-Twinn to be our artistic advisor for the gallery. It may help to improve the calibre of exhibits and if Lindsey agrees to be involved it may take the pressure off Wendy.

Slippery Paths

Is it worth adding handrails along the brick planters by studios 10 to 14 as the path gets very slippery because it is in the shade? The Parish Council thought this a good idea and will look into it.

The Clerk reported that work on the refurbishment is due to start again in April. The roses and trees should also be planted in April.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Mrs Rhonda Smith asked if there was any news on the refurbishment of the one Street Light in Clanville? The Clerk reported that it was on the list to be replaced with a new white light, low emission, bulk head. No time scale has been given. It was noted that if residents requested that the light be taken away, Street Lighting would be contacted to submit the request for removal.

Mrs Rhonda Smith spoke about the speeding problem in Clanville. It was agreed that this will be taken forward and Ray Alborough at TVBC contacted to see if any measures could be implemented.

Mrs Rhoda Smith asked the Chairman if she could writ a piece for ARC on the items discussed at this meeting? The Chairman stated that the Parish Council had no objections and would welcome seeing a report in ARC.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Chairman reported that the Parish Council have been contacted about the proposals to place a meeting hall on the site of the Old Police House.

The Parish Council had no objections in principle and will make official comment once a Planning Application has been submitted. Cllr Mr P Lashbrook felt that developing the Old Police House site may help to reduce the speed of the traffic along this stretch of road.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

6th May 2014 in the Fairground Hall at 7.30pm followed by the AGM at 8pm.