

Pebworth Parish Council
Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held
At the Village Hall, Pebworth on Monday 7th February 2022

Present: Councillors: Richard Weller (Chairman), Simon Shiers, Denise Meynell, John Hyde & David Cranage

In attendance: County Councillor Adams, Mrs D Bowles (Clerk)

Also in attendance: 2 members of the public.

193.	Apologies accepted for absence: Cllr Pearson
194.	Co-Option: The Chairman explained that requests for an election had not been made and the Parish Council can now co-opt a replacement member. The appointment should be made as soon as is practicable. Members were advised that a significant amount of interest had already been received. It was resolved that this vacancy is advertised for co-option, applications to be in by 28 th February and an appointment made at the March meeting. All applicants will be invited to speak at the beginning of the meeting prior to a vote being taken.
195.	Disclosures of Interests: Members were reminded of the need to keep their register of interests updated. Members were asked to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary or other Interests in items considered in virtual meetings and their nature. None declared
196.	Open Forum: The Chairman suspended the formal meeting for the Ward Members and public participation. a) Two members of the public were in attendance: - Potholes were reported along Little Meadows. Clerk to report. Resident was reminded that Worcestershire County Council has a webpage designed for reporting this type of problem: https://www.fixmystreet.com/reports/Worcester?zoom=12&lat=52.19653&lon=-2.21026 - PIB requested the Parish Council purchase a memorial stone to the extent of £2,000 which they will pay back using donations from parishioners. It was pointed out that the stone would be an asset for the Parish Council. Clerk had sought advice from CALC who advised against this. Clerk has been asked to investigate further. - A query was raised regarding the bin by the bus stop. This is on the agenda for discussion. The Chairman closed the open forum and reconvened the meeting at 19:25
197.	Ward Member's Report: County Councillor Alastair Adams spoke through his report which will be appended to the minutes. Clerk queried a couple of items: - The steps on Front St – County Councillor Adams stated the blue stones have been inspected and the engineer has confirmed they are good to use so these works can be carried out. - The verge opposite the school – this will be looked into. District Councillor Havemann-Mart sent his apologies and will provide a report.
198.	Acceptance of Minutes: The Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 10 th January at the Village Hall, Pebworth were considered and approved by the Council to be a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.
199.	Planning Matters: Decisions: 21/02400/LB - Replacement of metal framed window to rear Location: The Old Post Office, Front Street, Pebworth, CV37 8XQ. Application Approved. To note: 21/01195/OUT - Outline planning application for a mixed-use development, comprising up to 380 dwellings, Land Adjacent To, Sims Metals Uk (South West) Limited, Long Marston, Pebworth – Application Withdrawn Enforcement Appeal: ENF/20/0501 Alleged Breach: Without planning permission, the carrying out of operational development comprising the partial construction of a brick building and the siting of two static caravans for residential use. Location: Sunnycroft, Pebworth Road, Ullington, Pebworth, Evesham, WR11 8QG. Following discussion, it was decided to make no representation.
200.	Finance: Council noted the Clerk's report on payments made since the last meeting as all were due before the

	meeting date. The Clerk reported on transferring £10,000.00 to pay the Candela invoices.			
	PAYMENT	PAYEE	DETAILS	TOTAL
	BACS	NPower	Final S/light energy	284.76
	BACS	Mike Hawkins	Gravedigger Fees	50.00
	BACS	Candela Lighting	Painting & replacement swan necks	4196.40
	BACS	Candela Lighting	Replacement columns	8167.32
	b) Council approved the schedule payments list as appended to the minutes . Cllr Weller to approve the payments on Lloyds. c) It was resolved to remove the damaged frog bin from The Close and see the effect before purchasing a new one. There are already a number of bins in the area. d) Four quotes for a new VAS were considered. It was resolved to place on order with Westcotec or Coeval depending on the battery size. Clerk to investigate prior to issuing the order. e) Members noted the precept request has been completed and receipt confirmed by Wychavon District Council.			
201.	Mowing & Amenity Contract: Members noted both Contractors have signed and returned the Mowing Contract & the Cemetery Maintenance Contract.			
202.	Council & Community Matters: a) Wychavon District Council had requested further information regarding the Asset of Community Value form. This was discussed and more detail was provided for Clerk to append to the form and forward to Wychavon District Council. b) Community Legacy Grant – Clerk advised the application would be looked upon more favourably if the Parish Council provide a contribution towards the application. It was resolved to add the £10,000 already in the budget for the zipwire replacement, requesting a total of £80,000. Clerk also advised that if the application is successful then a Working Group should be set up to complete the bid. Clerk to complete the Expressions of Interest. c) It was resolved for Clerk to contact Phil Childs regarding the placement of the bin by the bus stop.			
203.	Pebworth In Bloom: Discussed during Open Forum.			
204.	The Close & Recreation Field a) Cllr Hyde confirmed the replacement bolts for the rope tree have now been received. b) The annual inspection will take place in March. Cllr Hyde to accompany the inspector. c) On carrying out an inspection of the assets Clerk noticed the playing field sign has out of date contact information. It was resolved for Clerk to place an order to replace this with the Council's mobile number.			
205.	Cemetery: Fergus Wessel Stonemasons applied for a new memorial and paid the £165 fee; however, it has since been decided by the family to add the name to the original headstone. There is no fee for this, and they have requested the original £165 to be returned. Members resolved for this to be returned. Interment: An interment of ashes took place on 21 st January 2022.			
206.	Allotments: Nothing to report			
207.	Streetlighting: a) Clerk confirmed that all streetlights should be working under the new times, going off around 11pm and coming back on around 6am. This was agreed by Members. b) Streetlight numbers 5 & 35 have been reported as faulty; Candela have confirmed that this it is a supply issue for column 5. Clerk to contact Western Power. As quotes for replacing all remaining old lights will be considered at the March meeting it was decided not to repair column 35 as this is on the list for replacement.			
208.	Highway Matters: a) Members resolved to accept the proposed plan by County Highways with a minor change to the 30mph roundel positioning along Little Meadows to the main part of the village. Clerk to amend the map and place the order – works to be carried out in April. b) Highways update re steps on Front St and verge opposite the school covered under agenda item 197.			

209.	Lengthsman/Handyman Matters: No outstanding matters Future Tasks: Remove frog bin Install replacement bolts to the rope tree on The Close
210.	Public Rights of Way: Nothing to report
211.	Matters Raised by Members: The following matters were raised by Council Members for consideration for future agendas: a) Cllr Shiers – reminder about no plastic policy in the cemetery. b) Cllr Cranage – a resident had queried whether the Parish Council is doing anything for the Platinum Jubilee. Members asked that a member of The Collective be invited to the next meeting.
212.	Policies: a) The Publication Scheme was reviewed and agreed. b) It was resolved to adopt the Handling Requests for Information Policy. Clerk to place on the website.
213.	Staffing: Members noted the Clerk has completed the probationary period successfully and is now in permanent employment with Pebworth Parish Council.
214.	Date of Next Meeting: Council confirmed the date of the next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting on Monday 7 th March 2022 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall, Pebworth.
215.	Closure of Meeting: The Chairman closed the meeting at 20:45 hrs

Chairman: _____ Date: _____

FINANCE

Verified & Confirmed Account Balances as at 11th January 2022

Treasurers Account	9,278.08
Business Bank Instant	63,640.90
Total	72,918.98

APPENDIX A

PAYMENT	PAYEE	DETAILS	TOTAL
BACS	HMRC	Clerk's Tax	97.20
BACS	Mrs D Bowles	Clerk's Salary & Expenses	***
BACS	Chagos Consulting	Parish Online training	10.00
BACS	Fergus Wessel	Repayment of fee	165.00
BACS	Candela Lighting	Replacement part night timers	2045.52
DD	UK Debt Mgmt Office	PWLB	2096.28
DD	O2	Mobile Phone	13.20
DD	NEST	Clerk's Pension	36.03
DD	NEST	Clerk's Pension	37.93
DD	Yu Energy	Streetlight Energy	40.38
DD	Yu Energy	Streetlight Energy	241.08
DD	1&1 IONOS Ltd	Ionos Email	1.20

County Councillor Report – Pebworth PC
Month: February 2022
Prepared by Alastair Adams
Littletons Division, Worcestershire County Council

Dear All,

Spring is in the air and I can see the green shoots of snow drops and daffodils starting to poke through the earth in my flower beds. The days are starting to get longer, so more daylight to do the things you want to do. And most of the legal COVID restrictions have been abolished. So, lets look forward to a wonderful 2022.

The latest news is as follows;-

COVID-19 Update -ANNOUNCEMENT 19th January

Plan B in response to the risks of the Omicron variant has ceased. This means:

- The government is no longer asking people to work from home if they can. People should now talk to their employers to agree arrangements to return to the office.
- From 20 January: Face coverings will no longer be advised for staff and pupils in secondary school and college classrooms.
- From 27 January: Face coverings will no longer be advised for staff and pupils in communal areas of secondary schools, nor for staff in communal areas of primaries. Directors of Public Health will only be able to recommend pupils and staff wear masks in communal areas in places where there are outbreaks or where the local public health situation justifies it, and with sign-off from the Education Secretary.
- From 27 January: There is no longer a legal requirement to wear a face covering. The government suggests that you continue to wear a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces where you may come into contact with other people you do not normally meet.
- From 27 January: Venues and events will no longer be required by law to check visitors' NHS COVID Pass. The NHS COVID Pass can still be used on a voluntary basis.

COVID-19 will be a feature of our lives for the foreseeable future, so we need to learn to live with it and manage the risk to ourselves and others.

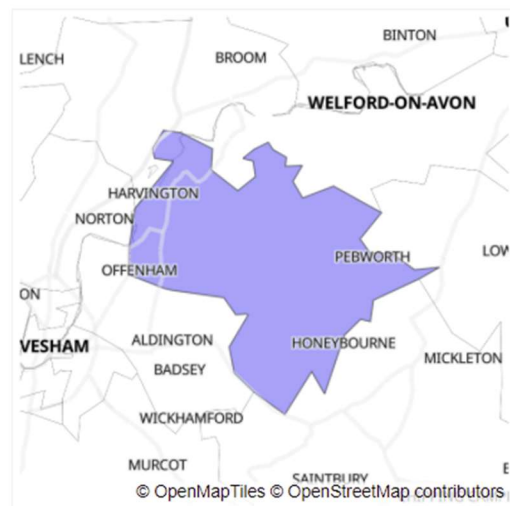
See link for full details of Government's advice <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-coronavirus-restrictions-what-you-can-and-cannot-do>

COVID statistics and information are available on the links below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-track-coronavirus-cases>

As part of the biggest and fastest vaccine programme in health service history, online bookings are available for all www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination

In Pebworth & Littletons and surrounding area see below



Cases in Honeybourne & Littleton

MSOA By date of specimen in the seven days to 3 February 2022

Last 7 days

52

↓ -7 (-11.9%)

Cases per 100,000 people

857.1

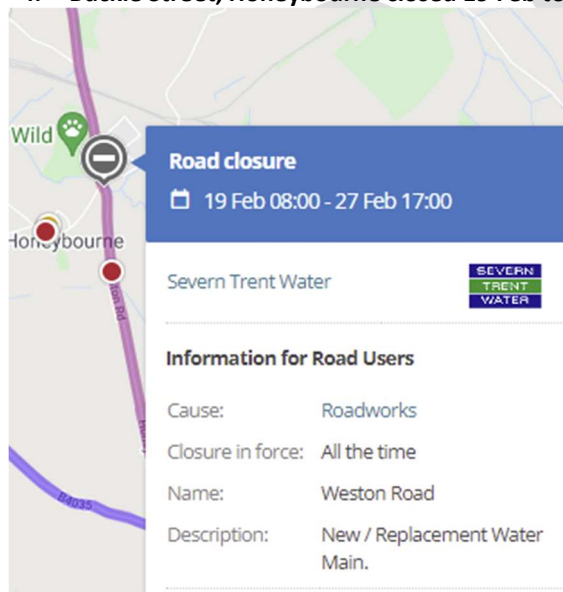
Comparison to case rates in other England areas



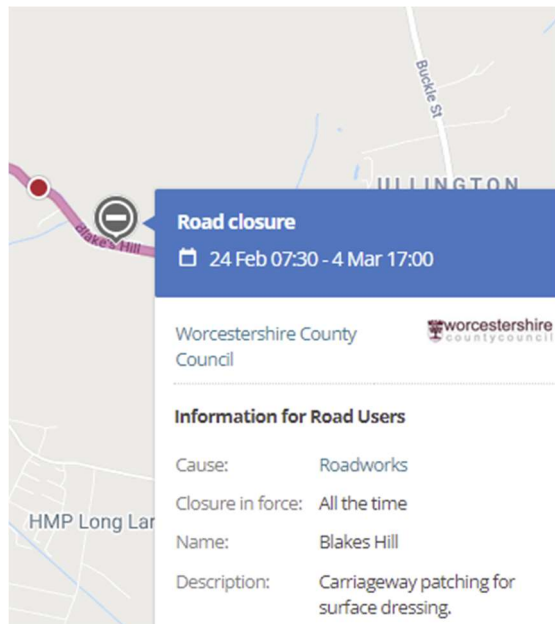
Highways:

It is the beginning of the season for road patching/ road preparation before the surface dressing in Spring, so please check <https://one.network/> to see all the temporary road closures on a regular basis.

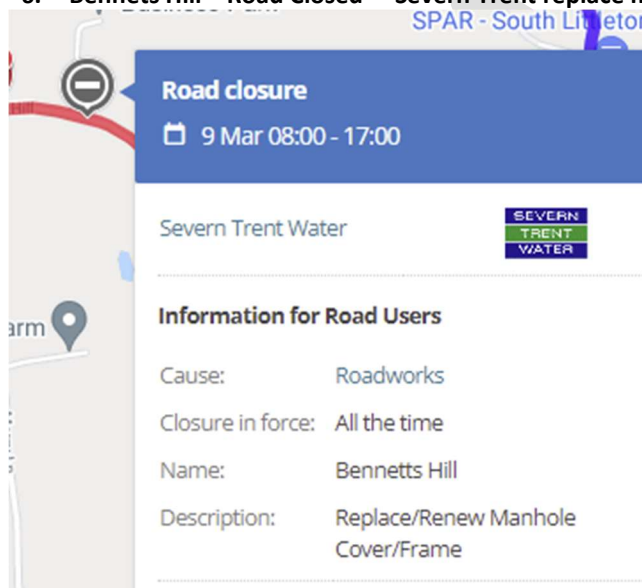
1. **Uneven pavement outside The Mount, Dorsington Rd – reported and will be patched**
2. **Full pavement resurfacing along Broad Marston Rd from the Mason Arms to the Old Fire Station – Good news, I have heard this section of pavement will be re-surfaced sometime this year.**
3. **Steps Front Street, Pebworth – these are to be re-built in next few months with Blue Lias stones**
4. **Buckle Street, Honeybourne closed 19 Feb to 27 Feb for Severn Trent Mains**



5. **Blakes Hill – Closed – Carriageways patching -1 day between 24th Feb – 4th March**



6. Bennets Hill – Road Closed – Severn Trent replace manhole – 9th March



As always, if you have any issues on any Highways matters, please report it on the WCC website

http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/homepage/98/report_it

Also remember a photo of the Highways problem is as good as “a thousand words” so always take a photo where possible.

Flooding under Honeybourne Bridges

The work carried before Christmas seems to have worked to a certain extent as no flooding under the bridges this month. However further work is still needed – the road drain on the corner is blocked and the drainage pipe is collapsed so this needs replacing. Secondly the culvert in the ditch nearest Grove farm needs a proper cover /grate to protect it getting blocked. Ideally a bund also needs to be built in the corner of the field by the bridges to stop water pouring off the field onto the road. WDC have issued a notice to land-owners for the brook that takes the water from these gullies and ditches to be cleared.

GIGA-VOUCHERS - BROADBAND- Stratford Rd/Honeybourne Rd (01386 exchange)

Agreement has been reached to finance this scheme using the Giga-voucher scheme provided by Central Government, and to use the top-up fund from Worcestershire County Council. These residents are now waiting for Openreach to confirm when works will begin, and are hoping they will have fibre to the premises fitted sometime in 2022. Then they will benefit from speeds of up to 1000Mbps; much better than the meagre 4 - 8Mbps they are currently getting.

County Council Budget Scrutiny

The County Council is proposing to have a 3.94% council tax increase next year; 3% for Adult Social Care levy, and just 0.94% for everything else.

As the new budget is being scrutinised, it is a good time to look at some of the key statistics of the County Council during 2021/22;

- The County Council spends over £1.1billion/year in the Worcestershire economy.
- £27m has been invested into our carriageways and footways
 - 250 footway schemes will have been completed = 75 kilometres of new and improved pavements
 - 350 road schemes completed this year = 200 kilometres of new and improved roads
- 650 flood alleviation & drainage improvements schemes
- The number of houses able to access Gigabit Broadband (1000Mbps= Ultrafast Broadband) has grown substantially. In December 2019 was just 3.8% of houses in Worcestershire, in December 2020 =36.4% and in December 2021 has risen to 42.3%.

The new budget is proposing £65.5m **additional** capital investment in Highways for 2022/23 and 2023/24. This includes the following additional capital programme allocations per year for the next 2 years on top of existing commitments:-

- £6 million extra for resurfacing roads
- £4 million more for improving the condition of pavements
- £3 million to accelerate the roll out of LED street lights
- £1 million for highway drainage & flood mitigation
- £500k for small scale cutting congestion projects and new pedestrian crossings
- £2m for Rail station upgrades \ parking

REMINDER- Neighbourhood Matters

Sign up now to hear about policing updates in your area. www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk

New battery Gigafactory in the Midlands

The planning committees at Warwick District Council and Coventry City Council approved outline plans for the West Midlands Gigafactory recently.

Based at Coventry Airport, the Gigafactory will be adjacent to the pioneering UK Battery Industrialisation Centre, the state-of-the-art national battery manufacturing development facility. The Advanced Propulsion Centre, headquartered at the University of Warwick, in Coventry, is managing the investment fund to research, develop and commercialise the transport technologies of the future.

The West Midlands Gigafactory will inject a £2.5bn investment into the region, making it one of the largest new industrial facilities of any kind in the UK. The Midlands is the automotive skills capital of the UK, and this new factory will directly create 6,000 well-paid, highly-skilled jobs and thousands more in the wider supply chain.

Covering more than 530,000sqm of space, the Gigafactory will be amongst the largest single industry facilities of any kind in the UK and could be open as early as 2025. It will be powered by a 100% renewable electricity supply, from a combination of solar power and grid-supplied renewables. For more information see <https://www.ukgigafactory.com/>

County Council Divisional Fund

Hurry up and send in your applications from local community organisations that are manned by volunteers and require a little help to buy equipment or services. To apply, please contact me. Fund closes by the end of February 2022.

I have received the following applications

1. Offenham Cricket Club – grant requested for playing and coaching equipment for 17 juniors
2. Honeybourne primary School – grant for use of village hall for dance, drama and PE
3. Littleton Scout Group – grant to help refurbishment of village hall
4. Pebworth Village Hall – grant for new blinds
5. Badsey Flower Show – grant to help buy a storage container
6. Honeybourne Harriers – grant requested for more flood lights
7. Honeybourne PROW & ditch clearing voluntary group – grant requested for some tools
8. Littletons Link – grant requested to restart printing the village magazine
9. Littleton village hall – grant requested for new cooker
10. Littleton Juniors football team – hire of hall
11. Pebworth Bowls Club – grant for new mat and storage stand
12. Honeybourne Village Hall – grant for a defibrillator
13. Grant requested to help the Evesham Abbey Trust Application for Funding for Arts Projects
14. Honeybourne Bowls Club – grant for new equipment
15. Cleeve Prior – grant for the hire of a marquee for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee
16. Sea Cadets – grant for new equipment for outdoor games
17. Pebworth in Bloom – grant towards a commemorative plaque for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee trees that have been planted

Your County Councillor, Alastair Adams can be contacted on adams.pebworth@gmail.com or mobile 07725 979 277 or www.alastairadams.org