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Pillerton Hersey Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

7.30pm Tuesday 7th August 2018 at St Mary's Church

Present:

Sara Cichocka (SMC)	Chair
Sian Case (SC)	
Clive Fidler (CF)	Vice Chair
Nigel Walker (NW)	Treasurer
Alec Hitchman (AH)	

Sarah Brooke-Taylor(SBT) Warwickshire Rural Community Centre (WRCC)

Public Terry Hitchman

Minute taker AH

Public Session

No comments from the public.

1. Welcome, apologies and declarations of interest

SMC welcomed everyone to the meeting.
No apologies had been received.
No new declarations of interest.

2. Approval of the previous minutes

AH could not agree the previous minutes due to the following;

- SC was minute taker and this was not noted.
- Item 2. AH clarified that he was perfectly clear about his interest in item 4, this was an interest with the plot owner, which had been declared, in that he rented land from Ms Fraser. He had no interest in the plot and definitely no Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI).
- The issue was not a planning application but information on the new owners.
- There had been a prolonged discussion at the previous meeting regarding interests of other councillors and AH had referred to his e-mails regarding this for detail.
- AH had not abstained but did not accept the previous minutes.
- Item 4. Insert the words 'when they previously didn't' after Ian Crockett, in the first line.

3. Matters arising

Letter from Mr TP Hitchman dated 16th May 2018 to the Parish Council

In reply to this letter SMC apologised on behalf of the Parish Council (PC) for any hurt caused to Mr Hitchman and his family by comments at the meeting of 24th January 2018. SMC

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reiterated the national guidance to Parish Councillors that personal opinions should not be made by Councillors representing the council.

Response from CF regarding Ian Crockett

CF provided to the Parish Council a sketch drawing of the works to the track across the village green proposed by Mr Crockett. SMC retained the sketch on behalf of the PC. Western Power had installed a duct in Mr Crockett's property. Discussion regarding works by Western Power around this area and the village generally took place and slow progress was noted. Discussion regarding recent tree pruning for safety by Western Power took place noting comments received from villagers.

4. Declarations of Interest

No new interests notified.

5. Housing Needs Survey

SMC introduced Sarah Brooke-Taylor from WRCC who explained the purpose of the WRCC. The charity began in 1937 and was in its 80th year. It ran various programmes to help communities, including building village halls, pubs, heating oil syndicates and previously pig clubs. There were also transport projects such as transporting special needs children to schools etc and these 14 mini buses were then available during daytime for cost only travel for others. For housing, a survey was co-ordinated to assess if a need existed in a community. Need had been identified currently in Pillerton Hersey. If the need was small, communities could join together. Need was not confined to social housing but could be for rent or sale, large, small, bungalow or house. Respondents need not currently live in the village but needed a local connection. Following any survey, the Parish would decide any further action. Previous schemes had taken from two and a half years up to twelve years to complete. Discussion from Parish Councillors referred to recent parish responses to a Village Plan, which most councilors felt had been negative. AH proposed that a survey should be made to assess if any need was present and SC seconded this proposal which was carried 4 to 1. SC proposed that the long survey was used and SMC seconded this which was passed 4 to 1. No action was proposed until 2019 at the earliest.

6. District Councillor

No report.

7. County Councillor

No report.

8. Finance Report

NW reported that the current balance in the bank was £ 5,647.28. An annual fee of £88.00 was due to WALC. A payment back was due to the National Lottery of £2,600

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which had arrived following an application for supporting the Parish plan. As this was not now required the money would be returned forthwith.

NW proposed a vote of thanks to Elizabeth Fillmore for her help and continuing to audit the accounts. This was agreed and a bunch of flowers was proposed by SC and seconded by SMC in consideration for the free assistance given.

9. Planning Applications

SMC reported that a notice from BT had arrived informing that a Green Broadband cabinet would be installed near the old telephone box. Following discussion it was decided to accept this notice.

10. Standing Orders

SMC asked SC to explain her findings regarding the definition of Standing Orders suitable for this Parish council to adopt. These had been forwarded to councilors by email from SC prior to the meeting. A discussion took place regarding various elements of the proposed standing orders and some clarification and amendment was made. SC undertook to amend as necessary and finalise. SMC proposed that SC's work on these orders was agreed and accepted and CF seconded this.

11. Clerk Job description

SMC asked SC to explain her findings regarding a job description for a proposed clerk to the Parish Council. SC explained that she had researched this widely and found a suitable definition for the clerk's role. It had been agreed that a clerk was required despite a cost consequence, as the amount of information and legal responsibility now involved in council work necessitated a professional clerk. The final cost would depend on the exact duties and time required to perform these but would only bring us in line with other parishes. SC agreed to amend the job description as discussed and line it up with the standing orders. SMC proposed and NW seconded that SC should proceed with advertising the job with a view to an appointment as soon as practicable. SMC proposed a vote of thanks to SC for her work on the Standing Orders and Clerks job description and NW seconded this. All agreed.

12. Correspondence

Roll of Honour

Stratford District Council had written to the Parish council requesting information on those who left the village for the Great War of 1914-18 and had died in the war. It was proposed to commission a leather bound Roll of Honour to commemorate these people. Terry Hitchman had kindly provided the information from the Roll of Honour in St Mary's church.

Salvation Army

The Salvation Army had written asking for permission to site a clothing recycling bank on village green land. SMC had replied that this was not suitable to our situation.

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WPH Charitable Trust

WPH had written to advertise that they are seeking applications for funding to residents in Warwickshire living with ill health or injury. Example of such help was to fund for a stair lift for a pensioner. SMC had asked for a press release to advertise the trust.

Toad crossing

Mrs H Hopkinson from Pillerton Priors had written to SMC regarding Toads crossing the main road in the village. This had now been recorded as a crossing point by Froglife. She asked if anyone was interested in helping the crossing next Spring and could the Parish council support this? A discussion followed where road safety aspects were discussed and it was acknowledged that currently some villagers do assist toads crossing, however it was felt that it was not wise for the Parish Council to encourage people, especially youngsters, to cross the road at this dangerous point.

13. Date of next meeting

7.30pm Tuesday 23rd October 2018 in Pillerton Priors village hall, small room.