
PENCOMBE GROUP PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Pencombe Group Council held on
Tuesday 23rd July 2019
Pencombe & Little Cowarne Parish Hall, 7.30pm

Councillors Present;

Cllr. W.A. Brazier (Chairman)
Cllr. J. Barrett
Cllr. P. Hope
Cllr. C. Hadley

In Attendance: Allan Drew (Parish Clerk), Cllr. John Harrington (Ward Councillor)

Members of the Public: Andrew Mottram (Chairman of Trustees, Parish Hall)
Susan Drew (Treasurer, Parish Hall)
Rosemary Brown, Tim & Alison Maynard, Bob Wilson

263/19 Apologies for absence

Apologies of absence had been received from Cllrs. Hayes & Legge

264/19 Declarations of interest and written requests for dispensation

No declarations of interest and written requests for dispensation were received.

265/19 Draft minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 21st May 2019

The draft minutes of both the Annual Meeting on 21st May 2019 and the previous Ordinary Meeting on 25th June 2019 were considered and agreed as accurate records of the meetings. The Chairman signed both sets of minutes

266/19 Action Tracker.

The action tracker is now up to date. A number of actions from previous meetings have been closed. For the current position on closed and outstanding actions refer to the tracker.

267/19 Open session:

267.1/19 Cllr. Harrington was welcomed by the Chairman and gave his verbal update to the council-

- The new Herefordshire Council has instituted a 100 day review of current and possible Council initiatives, especially the proposed Hereford by-pass.
- The Council Core Strategy is being reviewed including the option to extend the strategy from (currently) 2031 to 2041.
- Gigaclear has been appointed as the Council partner for the Rural Broadband Initiative in both Herefordshire and Gloucestershire.
- Following a number of complaints from residents and other interested bodies, the performance of Complete Utilities as the Gigaclear contractor is being reviewed by Herefordshire Council.
- Cllr. Harrington had noted the complaint from Mr. & Mrs. Maynard regarding the breach of planning consent by Two Hoots farm. Although the complaint is still under

investigation the initial judgement is that Two Hoots farm is not in breach. Further discussion is recorded under the following item.

267.2/19 To receive queries or concerns by local residents on parish matters.

257.2.1/19 A number of residents attending the meeting raised their concerns about the large number of transport movements through the village by vehicles delivering material to the Two Hoots farm digester. In particular the recent movements of silage had appeared significantly above the conditions of the planning consent granted for the digester in 2013 and which should be within the limits contained within the Design and Access statement (18th January 2013). Mr. & Mrs. Maynard had recorded silage transporters passing through the village on some days every 8 minutes whereas the D&A statement was for 23 movements during the month of June (none in July). On the basis of this apparent excess Mr. & Mrs. Maynard had submitted a complaint to planning enforcement (referred to above). In particular the size, speed and frequency of the transports were of concern to residents especially with children at risk during the school holidays. Residents also made it clear that the planning consent, as granted, was satisfactory to them. The complaint is being examined by the Minerals & Waste officers and a decision is awaited. The manager of the digester at Two Hoots however, wishes to ensure good relations with the village and has stated that he is happy to receive visits from residents and hear any concerns they wish to raise.

Cllr. Harrington left the meeting at this point

268/19 Parish Hall update.

Andrew Mottram, Chairman of the Parish Hall Trustees gave an update on the Parish Hall. The kitchen project has started with the floor replacement scheduled for 5th August and the new stove expected on 22nd August. Most of the existing kitchen had already been removed and the target date for all work to be completed is 1st September. Following discussion Cllr. Hope volunteered his services with his forklift to assist with any heavy deliveries.

269/19 Finance – to receive an update.

269.1/19 HSBC bank balances

Members were informed that the bank balances on 22/06/2019 were as follows:-

- Community Account: £4,444.59
- Business Money Manager Account: £18,067.50

269.2/19 To note income received/due.

No.	Name	Amount £	Details
1.	N. C. Pegler, Monumental Mason	£200	For erection of headstone to the late Mr. Michael Simcox
2.	Western Power Distribution	£13.17	Wayleave payment

269.3/19 To consider and authorise payments due and note payments made since last meeting;

Payments due

No.	Name	Amount £	Details
1	A C Garden Services	£360	For grasscutting £310 and tidying the causeway £50
2	Western Power Distribution	£1097.40	For increasing the electrical supply capacity to the Parish Hall

RESOLVED: members approved the above payments due.

Payments made since last meeting

None

269.4/19 Year end accounts and AGAR return. The clerk updated the Council on progress with year end account completion which was still outstanding pending access by the clerk to the HSBC bank account. It was agreed that the clerk would publish a holding notice for resident information explaining the position
Action: Clerk

270/19 Planning applications/decisions

270.2/19 Council noted the permissions granted by Herefordshire Council (191910 Cherry Orchard and 191048 conversion of stable block at Brooklands, Little Cowarne)

270.3/19 Council noted permission refused by Herefordshire Council (191214 Proposed farm dwelling etc. at Sparrington Farm).

271/19 Lengthsman scheme

Councillors raised a number of issues which would benefit from attention by appropriate authorities, funding permitting-

- Water on the road to Lower Hope. A mains water leak in the vicinity of Marsh Court is suspected.
- The permanent water on the road close to Stewards Hyde has returned after a brief improvement during 2018. Councillors believe the duct under the road leading water to the drain has been blocked. The clerk undertook to raise the matter with Highways.
- Deteriorated road surfaces requiring attention were noted outside Pencombe Hall and also at Bitterley Hyde. The clerk undertook to raise these matters with Highways

Action: Clerk

272/19 Neighbourhood Plan

Following the Localism Act 2011 many Parish Councils have developed Neighbourhood Plans primarily (but not exclusively) to help manage development plans and proposals. So far although Pencombe has had some discussions on producing a Neighbourhood Plan, Councillors are doubtful about the benefits of undertaking what is a lengthy and potentially expensive exercise. There was general agreement that the issue of affordable housing remained important to the village although it appeared currently not to be as important as a few years previously. The Chairman was of the view that typically Pencombe's housing needs were satisfied by building, on average, 1.5 houses a year. Development on a larger scale was considered highly unlikely due to Pencombe's limited infrastructure (roads, sewage etc.) so the need for a Neighbourhood Plan was in question. The clerk undertook to speak to those who

had been involved in previous meetings to establish the current position and report back to Council.

273/19 The date of next meeting is Tuesday 27th August 2019, at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Signed..... Chairman of the Parish Council

Dated