

POULSHOT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL TUESDAY 10th SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Cllr Mike Davis (Chairman)
Cllr Liz Bissett (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Claire Church
Cllr Tim Hues

OFFICER: Jeannette Young (Clerk)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: 3 members of the public were in attendance.

Items raised were as follows; -

- On behalf of the Village Trust, thanks were extended to Wiltshire Councillor Tamara Reay and Cllr Claire Church for attending plaques being placed on the trees, there are 2 more plaques to be installed at a later date.
- Confirmation was given that the dead tree will be replaced.
- 16th November is the date set aside for pond clearance.
- Bat Walk with an ecologist on 28th September at 18:30 to start at the Village Hall.
- A kind offer of help regarding the allotment fencing was extended to Cllr Dyke,

49/24/25 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Scott and Cllr Jeffries. Cllr Dyke was also absent

50/24/25 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hues declared an interest in item 9 and stated he would not be voting.

51/24/25 Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded by Cllr Church and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to confirm the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 13th August 2024 as a true record. The Minutes were duly signed by the Chairman - Cllr Davis.

52/24/25 Dispensation Request.

After much consideration and positive comments on the work Cllr Scott does for village, the costs he saves everyone by undertaking the RFO role, and

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how the Parish Council has received another clean audit this year. An agreement was reached, followed by a proposal from Cllr Davis, seconded by Cllr Hues and a **UNANIMOUS RESOLUTION** to grant Cllr Scott a six-month dispensation from attending meetings due to his personal work commitments.

53/24/25 Chairmans Announcements

- **Openreach –**
Installation of Fibre across the Green is due to take place on the 17th September. Cllr Church agreed to monitor the installation.
- **Townsend Farmyard Development –**
The published draft minutes read as follows ; -
Resolved
To GRANT permission for the redevelopment of redundant farmyard to provide 14 'net zero' dwellings and associated works, subject to conditions [as amended by the Committee] and the completion of a S106 agreement covering the matters set out in the report.
- **The Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan-**
Document consultation is open until 5pm on Friday 4 October.
Engagement events are being held at different locations around the county, with the last of these events – in Royal Wootton Bassett (11th) and Trowbridge (12th) of this month. The Chairman also confirmed there was an online consultation portal that could be found on Wiltshire Councils website at; / planning-gypsy-travellers
- **Cricket Match**
The Cricket match for young people was cancelled at the end of August, so the donation will be refunded at the end of this week.
- **The ROSPA on the Play Area –**
ROSPA has been completed and the main advice was -
 - Rocking horse - The item is not compliant with the requirements of the relevant standards. If it remains the bench must be removed.
 - Toddler Swings - replacement of seat that has corrosion.
 - Removal of Moss on all surfaces within the play area.The Chairman asked that a working group meet to discuss the whole document and its findings, before making recommendations to the next Council meeting.
- **Remembrance of respected residents**
- The Chairman expressly requested that condolences be extended to the family following the bereavement of the late Mr and Mrs Hues. Their passing was a sad loss to the village. Gratitude and thanks were voiced over the 35 year service Mike Hues had generously given to the village.

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- The passing of another well respected resident of the village Mr Ivor Butler was announced, and condolences were extended to his family also.
- **Aubreys Yard**
Numbers 7, 8 and 9 have not yet sold

54/24/25 Police Report

The attached Policing Report from August 2024 was noted.

55/24/25 Update from Wiltshire Councillor Tamara Reay

Cllr Reay had previously sent apologies but had kindly submitted the following report that was read out by the Chairman. The report was duly noted.

Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan Document consultation - open until Friday 4 October.

The draft Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan Document sets out how we propose to plan growth for the housing needs of Gypsies, Travellers and travelling showpeople in Wiltshire up to 2038. To enable people to find out more about the Development Plan Document and ask questions, the council is holding five engagement events at different locations around the county in September where people can drop-in to find out more, and one online engagement event. Locally, sites are proposed at Rowde (10 pitches) and Whistley Road, Potterne (2 pitches).

People can read the Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan Document and supporting consultation documents on the council's website and at the main council offices at County Hall, Trowbridge, Monkton Park, Chippenham, and Bourne Hill, Salisbury. The plan will also be available in many Wiltshire Council libraries. A drop in consultation event took place in Devizes library last Thursday. Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan Document consultation begins today, with engagement events to start next month - Wiltshire Council

Devizes Public Spaces Protection Order consultation - closed on 25 August

A PSPO will give WC powers to tackle anti-social behaviour in the town. In this instance, it is related to increased reports of street-drinking in the town. If a PSPO is introduced in Devizes following the consultation, anyone found to be in breach of the Order could be issued with an on-the-spot Fixed Penalty Notice. Devizes Public Spaces Protection Order - Wiltshire Council

Wiltshire Council held a webinar for people to find out more about the Government's proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework.

If the changes progress in the form that they are proposed, it would mean a significant increase in the number of homes that have to be built, with an 81% increase in housing targets in Wiltshire. The changes also propose the abolition of the four-year Housing Land Supply introduced by the previous Government, reverting to a five-year Housing Land Supply, which may affect

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our ability to refuse inappropriate speculative housing applications. The proposed changes will introduce a new standard method for assessing housing needs and will make this figure mandatory to ensure Local Plans are ambitious enough to support the Government's plan to deliver 1.5 million new homes this parliament. The Government's consultation will close at 11.45pm on Tuesday 24 September 2024.

Solar Together - extended to Friday 13 September 2024.

This will allow more time for people to register their interest and take advantage of considerable savings on solar panel, battery and EV charger installations from qualified installers.

The lower cost of the product and installation is made possible by iChoosr holding a reverse auction with vetted installers who compete to offer the group of residents who have signed up the best price. Across the country, iChoosr have helped facilitate over 33,000 installations with 10-25% average savings against the market average. The auction for qualified installers to compete to offer the best prices for carrying out all installations across Wiltshire and Swindon has now taken place and EE Renewables and Infinity Renewables have been selected. The price achieved for the average 14-panel system is 39% lower than the typical market price for an equivalent system in the last six months.

Caen Hill

I am aware that there was a traffic collision on Caen Hill yesterday. I hope that there were no serious injuries. This location (together with Black Dog) has been identified as a collision black spot by Wiltshire Council and additional funding allocated for interventions. Highways Officers have been asked to provide an update on progress with these projects for the next meeting of the Devizes Area Board, which is next Monday at 6:30pm.

Townsend Farm flooding

The Area Highways Engineer has told me that there is a jetting machine programmed to clear and jet the system next week. If the crew find any issues with the system these will be addressed. The area was inspected recently and there was no risk to properties, the only area that was under water was the apron outside of the farm. the gullies on the farm side were holding water however, the gullies on the stables side were all working.

The system outside 188 Poulshot Road is also scheduled to be jetted and cleaned. This system is not directly linked to the system outside of the farm as it discharges into the ditch at the junction to the church. There was no flood at this location at the time of the inspection.

56/24/25 Planning Applications and Decisions

The following application was considered along with the comments and recommendation from the Planning Working Group. It was therefore: -

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<p>Application No: PL/2024/07227 – Higher Green Farm Application Type: Removal/variation of conditions Proposal: Variation of condition 24(b) (approved plans list) relating to application K/59951/F Site Address: Higher Green Farm, Poulshot Road, Poulshot, Devizes, SN10 1RW</p>	<p>Proposed by Cllr Church, seconded by Cllr Davis and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED that there was an element of surprise at not being informed of the changes during the building of the houses and a disappointment that permission had not been requested earlier instead of the retrospective application.</p>
<p>Application Ref PL/2024/07755 – Proposed Works to Trees in a Conservation Area Address: 59 THE GREEN, POULSHOT, DEVIZES, SN10 1RT Proposal: T1 - White Beam tree - Crown raise required to allow general garden work and also reduce the weight on the main trunk. T2 - Conifer - Removal of damaged limbs/branches, approximately 7 in total. will not effect the amenity value of T2.</p>	<p>Members agreed there were no Objections.</p>

57/24/25 Wiltshire Council Highways Improvement Request Form.

The received request to provide comments on the application form for the provision of a rural cycle path from Poulshot to Devizes, received mixed comments. Whilst it was thought in theory it would be a good route to Devizes, there were concerns about landowners not being approached prior to the form being submitted and the tarmacking of footpaths across privately owned fields and the change of use. After further discussion about alternative routes it was proposed by Cllr Davis, seconded by Cllr Bissett and **AGREED** that although Members would use the suggested route if it was implemented, their preferred option was for a specific safe crossing of the dual carriageway,

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allowing walkers and cyclist to safely cross and use the route along the canal into Devizes.

This agreement will be submitted to the meeting of Wiltshire Councils, Local Highways and Footpaths Improvement Group (LHFIG) for consideration at their meeting of 22nd October 2024.

Cllr Hues abstained from the vote.

58/24/25. Higher Green Farm Development– Advertising Board.

Following contact with Ashford homes regarding a permission request for the temporary advertising sign on Village Green Land. Members considered giving temporary permission with some conditions attached. It was therefore proposed by Cllr Davis, seconded by Cllr Church and **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** to give temporary permission for the advertising sign positioned on Village Green, outside of the development at Aubreys Yard until the end of the year, this being 31st December 2024 on condition that a meeting be arranged with Ashford Homes and Cllrs Davis and Church, to further discuss outstanding issues, conditions and support for the village.

59/24/25 Updates from Members on Delegated Actions

59/24/25.1 Tree Survey - Cllr Davis

Cllr Davis stated a third quote was still being chased and having received no response to the initial email, requested Cllr Bissett to make further contact with Idverde .

59/24/25.2 Tree Grant – Cllr Bissett

Cllr Bissett, explained she had recently received a quote for submission with the grant application. There was no guarantee that the grant application to Great Western Community Forest would be successful, however if it was the Grant would cover all the items on the quote and further maintenance of the trees and hedges for 15 years.

59/24/25.3 Bus Shelter – Cllr Dyke

Cllr Dyke was absent

59/24/25.4 Allotment Fencing – Cllr Dyke

Cllr Dyke was absent

59/24/25.5 Speed Indicators (SIDs) – Cllr Church

Cllr Church explained that the speed indicators needed to go to Wiltshire Councils Local Highways and Footpaths Improvement Group. It was confirmed that if she sent through the details of the planned SIDs the Clerk would send a request that it go on to the next LHFIG meeting on the 22 October 24.

59/24/25.6 Broadway Lane -LHFIG – Cllr Church

Because of an area change for the local Wiltshire Council Rural Officer, Cllr Church had been directed to another Rural Officer, whom she had emailed but was still waiting for a response. Cllr Church stated that she would chase.

59/24/25.7 Jubilee Creditors – Cllr Jeffries

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Cllr Jeffries had sent apologies. Clerk to ask Cllr Jefferies if emails had been sent to all Creditors. At this point Cllr Hues confirmed that as one of the creditors he did not want his donation returned.

60/24/25 Allotments

It was noted that two allotment plots will become vacant at the end of September, and that these two plots be initially offered to the person on the waiting list on confirmation that they live in the Parish.

61/24/25 Finance Report and Bank Balances

Members received and **NOTED** the 10th of September 2024 spreadsheet showing Bank balances of the Parish Account £19,175.86 and Community Fund £122,163.13 collectively standing at £141,338.99.

62/24/25 Financial Expenditure.

Members considered the expenditure report, of the 10th September 2024 with payments totalling £1,646.34 and credits of £132.24 listed, it was therefore proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded by Cllr Hues and **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** to approve the expenditure report of September 2024.

Members also noted the following

- The request approved at the 16th July meeting (m.n. **44/24/25**) to transfer the excess funds from Cambridge and Counties is working the 31 day notice period. The funds will be credited to the Community Funds Lloyds Savings account, when received.
- The authorised moneys for tree work has not been spent.
- The invoice for election fees has not been received.
- The Village Hall has still not issued invoices for use of the Hall (last invoice was for March). Invoices for May x2, July and now September are outstanding.

Members also consider transferring the unclaimed Jubilee donations so they can be removed as creditors (GBP190.43). These funds have remained on the creditors account since FY 2022. Although creditors have been contacted previously no correspondence has been received. It was therefore proposed by Cllr Davis, seconded by Cllr Bissett and **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** to contact the creditors with a chasing email, if no response is received within 30 days of the email being sent the remaining moneys would be removed from the creditors account into general funds.

Further to the above agreement Cllr Hues verbally stated again that Lodge Farm did not want a refund of their provided donation.


63/24/25 Date of Next Meeting

Due to concerns over attendance on the next planned meeting of the 12th November 2024, it was proposed by Cllr Davis, seconded by Cllr Bissett and

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UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to hold the next meeting on Thursday 14th November.

Meeting ended at 20:50

Signed  Date 25/10/24