PYONS GROUP PARISH COUNCIL (PGPC)

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF PYONS GROUP PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY 4th APRIL 2022 AT CANON PYON PARISH HALL

Present: Cllrs Barber, Bowen-Jones, Davies, Dickson, Perruzza (Chairman), Spooner, Thomas. Cllr Lee joined the meeting having signed his acceptance of office declaration.

Cllr Thomas left the meeting at 7.55pm for urgent personal reasons.

In attendance: Cllr Michael Jones (Ward Councillor).
Paul Hayden (Clerk).
13 members of the public.

2022/1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies accepted from Cllrs Murray, Pugh and Schubert.

2022/2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Cllr Perruzza declared an interest for item 2022/10.2.3.
No other interests were declared or requested.

2022/3 MINUTES OF MEETINGS

The minutes of the ordinary meeting of PGPC held on the 1st March 2022 were agreed to be a true record of the meeting.

2022/4 TO CO-OPT TO FILL THE CANON PYON COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Members heard a short presentation from Jon Lee about what he would bring to the parish council. **RESOLVED:** To co-opt Jon Lee to represent Canon Pyon parish. Cllr Lee signed his acceptance of office declaration and joined the meeting.

2022/5 COUNCILLOR VACANCY

The notice of vacancy for a parish councillor for Kings Pyon parish has been published on Herefordshire Council (HC) website and notices are on the parish noticeboards in Kings Pyon and on the PGPC website. The Chair outlined a proposal on how to fill the vacancy on PGPC should there be no response from Kings Pyon parish.
RESOLVED: To wait until the notice period expires on the 3rd May 2022 and consider at the next parish meeting.

2022/6 PUBLIC SESSION

2022/6.1 Cllr Jones' verbal report was considered. Key points included:

- The first wetland pond for stripping out Phosphates will be operational by June 2022. This one is situated in Luston with a further seven planned around the county to protect the River Lugg. Currently there are 137 planning applications held up affecting 1,538 new homes from the Phosphate issue.
- The council have just received a report on the effect of Covid 19 on the mental health of children. There has been an increase in issues through all ages with the early years most affected and with children in years 1 & 2 and year 7 most affected. Early years

from years 1 – 3 years most affected especially in communication and language. Their speech and accent have suffered from lack of socialising. This report will be updated in 6 month's time to monitor changes and help with the direction of support and resources to address this issue. Brookfield School is the only specialised school in the county to take children with special mental health needs. This has capacity for 100 pupils with a decision needed to either expand or build another new school to support the increase in demand.

- At the Bromyard West Ward Council election on the 10th March 2022 the True Independent Clare Davies won the seat with a 160 vote majority. This makes for a very interesting council make up with the current coalition now not having a majority with only 26 seats and the opposition could have 27 seats.
- Clare Ward The head solicitor of the Council has left the council employment after 6 year's service. She was very well respected and will be missed by all who sort her advice and direction right through all levels of the council legal services.
- The spatial consultation on the direction of planning going forward to 2042 is still getting feedback. Option 5 seems to be getting most support. This is looking at bigger developments such as ones put forward for Ross-on-Wye where blocks of 1500 houses are built and so protecting villages with small developments. This makes good sense with these large developments built close to good infrastructure access, something which Hereford does not have with no bypass or link roads to get through the city.
- The Children's directorate of the council have put forward a proposal to increase the number of childrens' social workers with up to five new teams to address a big increase in demand. The cabinet will decide whether to allocate £6 million out of the council's reserve which is on top of the £5 million that was already agreed in the budget. This is a big increase in resources which will need to be managed and monitored to make sure this is money well spent for the council children's service.

Local resident views were received under item 2022/9 planning application P213765/F.

2022/7 <u>PLANNING</u>

2022/7.1 Planning Consultation – 220561 – Playing field opposite Village Hall, Canon Pyon. HR4 8PE. Proposed additional play area (with surrounding fence) to Canon Pyon playing field. The parish council are very keen to support this facility as it provides a much need resource in Canon Pyon.
RESOLVED: To support the application.

2022/8 <u>PLANNING APPLICATION P212634/F</u>

Members received an update on this application. There is vigorous opposition to this application. The latest objection was submitted on the 8th March 2022. PGPC submitted an objection on the 5th August 2021 and the reasons for objecting are still valid today. The ward councillor has requested that this application goes to planning committee. This request should be heard in the next few weeks and he will attend to state the case for a hearing with the planning committee.
RESOLVED: Cllr Jones requested to keep PGPC updated on this request.

2022/9 <u>PLANNING APPLICATION P213765/F</u>

Members received an update on this application.
Applications to build on this plot have been refused twice previously.

Local residents affected by this application joined the meeting to express their frustration with Herefordshire Council Planning Department and are furious with the comments made by the agent in rejecting all objections made with what they believe to be no or little substantive evidence to support his case. Access issues over the narrow unadopted road need to be resolved before a planning decision can be made.
RESOLVED: Clerk requested to write to the case officer and ask for an additional consultation extension following the submission of amended drawings and additional correspondence to allow interested parties the opportunity to comment and also to reiterate resident and parish council concern about this application.

2022/10 FINANCE

2022/10.1 The finance reports from the Responsible Finance Officer were accepted.
2022/10.2 The following payments were considered and approved for payment:
- 2022/10.2.1 Richard Mills Inv. No. 3570 £361.55 plus VAT.
- 2022/10.2.2 C .A. Stallard Inv. No. 47 £330 plus VAT.
- 2022/10.2.3 Friends of Westhope path maintenance donation £200.
- 2022/10.2.4 Richard Mills Inv. No. 3575 £386.65 plus VAT
- 2022/10.2.5 Canon Pyon Parish Hall 2022 meetings £480.

Cllr Perruzza left the meeting whilst the Friends of Westhope donation was considered.

NS&I have written requesting a new mandate for signatories who can withdraw funds from the PGPC account. **RESOLVED:** Cllrs Dickson, Perruzza and Spooner will act as signatories on this account and they all signed the NS&I mandate form at the meeting.

2022/11 REQUEST TO SUPPORT NEW PLAY PARK AT CANON PYON

The Clerk met with Mr S. Dewar, chair of trustees of Canon Pyon Playing Field Association and completed an appraisal of the project. A business case is being prepared to present for members consideration and approval prior to applying for a loan for £8,000 from the Department for Communities and Local Government to support the project.
RESOLVED: The clerk requested to complete the business case and present to members for consideration.

2022/12 HIGHWAYS/ LENGTHSMAN/ FOOTPATHS

No Highways or Footpaths reports.
Lengthsman – a request to participate in the Lengthsman Scheme for the 2022/23 financial year has been submitted to Balfour Beatty Living Places (BBLP). An application for a drainage grant has been submitted to BBLP for a grant to enable the parish Lengthsman to carryout additional drainage ditch clearing work in all the group parishes and also to carryout flood alleviation work on the brook beside Brookside properties following advice from the BBLP Locality Steward. The ward councillor has been requested to apply whatever pressure he can at Herefordshire Council level to address the flooding issue at Brookside as the work required cannot be carried out by PGPC due to the scale of the remedial work required and cost.

The damaged grass verge by the village stores was considered by members. The BBLP locality steward has suggested that the verge has been damaged by delivery vehicles. The only solution BBLP can implement is to install plastic reflective posts to discourage drivers from parking on the verge.

RESOLVED: Clerk requested to progress with BBLP locality steward.

2022/13 POUND REPAIR

The project to refurbish the Canon Pyon Pound had been put on hold due to COVID19. The retained surveyor will restart the project and approach PGPC nominated contractors for quotations to complete the work.
RESOLVED: Clerk requested to progress this project.

2022/14 SANDBAG STORAGE AT CANON PYON

Cllr Schubert is following up on a potential container.
RESOLVED: Cllr Shubert to update members at the next meeting.

2022/15 GRIT SPREADER AND WINTER MAINTENANCE

Cllr Dickson has agreed to store the grit spreader and 25 x 25kg bags of rock salt at her home address and will act as point of contact.
RESOLVED: Item completed and removed from agenda.

Members considered Herefordshire Council road sweeping which has not happened. Cllr Dickson has repeatedly requested for this to happen.
RESOLVED: Cllr Dickson to progress.

2022/16 PGPC FLOOD GROUP

Members considered a report from Cllr Lee on the Flood Action Group.

- A drainage grant has been applied for from BBLP for the parish Lengthsman to address flood pinch points in all group parishes and also to address specifically the Brookside pinch point.
- Following discussions on establishing a volunteer flood action working group, liability and liability insurance is a key concern, not just for injuries sustained by volunteers carrying out a work task, but also to continuing liability for the work completed, and liability for work carried out on third party owned land, in particular where voluntary work conflicts with riparian responsibilities.

RESOLVED: The focus for PGPC should remain on reporting problems to BBLP and liaison with the BBLP Locality Steward and the parish Lengthsman.

2022/17 ASH TREE COMPLAINT

The ash tree is not a PGPC responsibility and the householder has been advised to contact Herefordshire Council to address.
RESOLVED: Item removed from agenda

2022/18 REPAIRS AT KILBULLOCK

Cllr Dickson has photographs of the problem area. The parish Lengthsman has assessed the likelihood of the bank collapsing as currently low.
RESOLVED: PGPC to continue to monitor.

2022/19 HM QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

Members considered activities and organisation who might be interested in supporting. There has been little response from the parishes.
RESOLVED: Cllr Dickson will complete her activities spreadsheet and Cllr Perruzza will arrange a further meeting to discuss plans.

2022/20 LEDGEMOOR TELEPHONE KIOSK

Members considered the moving of the PGPC adopted telephone kiosk to be placed outside the Ledgemoor Club Room (LCR) and a proposal to instal a heart defibrillator in the kiosk. This defibrillator does not require an external electricity connection. LCR are happy for this to happen. The permission of the landowner is needed before can progress this project.

RESOLVED: Cllr Thomas to obtain the landowner's permission.

2022/21 LEDGEMOOR APPERANCE OF 'PRIVATE ROAD' SIGNS

No more signs reported.

RESOLVED: Item removed from agenda.

2022/22 PARISH NOTICEBOARD MAINTENANCE

Members considered maintenance of the existing parish council noticeboards.

RESOLVED: Cllr Schubert requested to refurbish the noticeboard at Ledgemoor, Cllr Lee, Westhope and Cllr Spooner, Canon Pyon.

2022/23 NDP SITE D

Members considered a request from Black Box Planning Ltd to meet the NDP steering group to discuss Site D.

RESOLVED: Clerk requested to arrange a meeting.

RESOLVED: Clerk requested to speak to NDP consultants for an update on PGPC NDP.

2022/24 FUTURE MEETING DATES

Members considered the proposal to move the parish council meetings to a Monday.

RESOLVED: PGPC meetings will remain the first Tuesday of every month.

202/25 MATTERS RAISED FOR NEXT MEETING

Election of parish council officers.
Pound repairs.
Playpark at Canon Pyon.
Highways/ Lengthsman/ Footpaths.
Herefordshire Council road sweeping.
Sandbag storage at Canon Pyon.
Platinum Jubilee celebration.
Ledgemoor telephone kiosk.
NDP.
Open space contract.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 3rd May 2022, 7.30 pm at Canon Pyon Parish Hall. This will be the Annual Meeting of Pyons Group Parish Council and will follow the Annual Parish Meeting commencing 6.30pm in Canon Pyon Parish Hall

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.18 pm.

Signed: …….. **Date:** ……..

These minutes were approved at the meeting held on Tuesday 10th May 2022.