

PEWSEY COMMUNITY AREA PARTNERSHIP (PCAP)

Thursday 18th October 2018

7pm at Stanton St Bernard Village Hall

With thanks to Stanton St Bernard Parish Council for the donation of the meeting room

MINUTES

Present

Cllr Dawn Wilson	WfCAP, PCAP Chair Wilcot & Huish (With Oare) Parish Council
Cllr Peter Deck	Pewsey Parish Council PCAP Sub Group Lead - Planning and Crime & Community Safety
Cllr Colin Gale	Rushall Parish Council, CATG Chair PCAP Sub Group Lead - Transport
Cllr Curly Haskell	Pewsey Parish Council
Cllr Paul Oatway	Pewsey Area Board, Wiltshire Council
Cllr Margaret Holden	Easton Royal PC
Cllr Gerry Ward	Upavon Parish Council
Cllr Crispin Herod-Taylor	Grafton Parish Council
Cllr Caroline Dalrymple	Pewsey Parish Council
Cllr John Brewin	Woodborough Parish Council
Jerry Herbert	Deputy Wiltshire Police & Crime Commissioner
Susie Brew	PCAP & PVTP Coordinator

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the PCAP Meeting of Thursday 19th July 2018 were approved (proposed Cllr Colin Gale, seconded Cllr Peter Deck) and signed off.

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:

Patrick Wilson	PCAP Sub Group Lead - Economy Chair Pewsey Vale Tourism Partnership
Cllr Carolyn Whistler	North Newnton Parish Council PCAP Sub Group Lead - Environment
Cllr Ben Owen	Alton Parish Council
Cllr Stephen Hepworth	Alton Parish Council
Hew Helps	Resident of Easton Royal
Cllr Dee Marrabel	Wilcot Parish Council
Cllr Caroline Dalrymple	Pewsey Parish Council

4. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Paul Oatway declared that he is an employee of Wiltshire Police and would therefore withdraw from that part of the agenda.

5. Election of Chair & Vice-Chair

Dawn Wilson stood down as Chair of PCAP in order for proposals for the role of chair and vice-chair to be made.

Dawn Wilson to be Chair of PCAP was proposed by Colin Gale and seconded by Peter Deck.

Colin Gale to be Vice-Chair of PCAP was proposed by Curly Haskell and seconded by Dawn Wilson.

6. Crime & Community Safety - Questions for Jerry Herbert, Deputy Police & Crime Commissioner

The Police & Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire, Angus Macpherson, had been invited to the meeting. The Deputy Police & Crime Commissioner, Jerry Herbert, attended the meeting, as Mr Macpherson was at a meeting elsewhere.

Peter Deck raised the first concern that for the last 3 years or more, Mr Macpherson has asked the parishes to increase their precept by 3% so that the additional funds could go to frontline services. How is the £18,000 per year for the new role of Deputy helping frontline services?

Mr Herbert stated that funding for the Police & Crime Plan budget is £109 million to deliver the plan between 2017 and 2021 and the plan is delivered directly or alongside partner services, such as Victim Support, Safe Places, and so on. 95% of the budget is spent on Wiltshire Police. Services are changing and there is significant focus on reducing demand for the services. Most Police & Crime Commissioners have always had a deputy - Mr Macpherson has saved funding in previous years by not having a deputy, but the workload is too great now for him to continue without assistance.

Mr Herbert explained about the reduction in headcount as well as pay being frozen for 5 years within the service, making recruitment more difficult. However, there have been no cuts this year. Wiltshire is split into 6 divisions - 2 in Swindon and 4 in the rest of the county. The Pewsey Community Area is in the Wiltshire East division. Colin Gale asked whether the areas are equal, and Mr Herbert replied that there is between 140 and 170 police officers for each area, dependent on geography and population. (To view information on Community Policing, go to <https://www.wiltshire.police.uk/article/1067/Community-Policing-Teams>.)

Mr Herbert said that the demands on Mr Macpherson's time - with 18 Area Boards and 36 councils within Swindon plus other commitments - means that he is unable to get to all the Area Boards.

Peter Deck pointed out that there are 26 parish councils in the Pewsey Community Area and that there used to be a representative from the Community Policing Team who would provide a report or attend the meetings, but neither has been done for the last year or more. Dawn Wilson thought that this may be down to the numerous staffing changes in the Community Police Team and so the ball has been dropped.

Action: Susie to contact Community Policing Team to invite to meetings.

Mr Herbert said that he is concentrating on the public and private resource allocation and strategy development so that they are ready for the next plan.

Peter Deck asked whether the police will be asking for 3% again this year. Mr Herbert said that it would equate to £12 for Band D house. Colin Gale said that Mr Macpherson had said he wasn't going to have a deputy, to which Mr Herbert clarified that this is because of the work load and that he is one of the few deputies who is part-time.

Susie Brew raised the crimes of hare coursing and theft of lead from Church roofs, both of which have hit the Pewsey Community Area hard in the last few weeks. Mr Herbert said it was not possible to be everywhere, so they are running targeted investigations and if they get intelligence then they will do something. Crispin Herod-Taylor said that they should share the information with Parish Councils so that they can help to prevent things happening.

Mr Herbert suggested that PCAP invites the Rural Crime Team to a meeting.

Action: Susie to contact the Rural Crime Team.

Peter Deck stated that the police wouldn't come out to the crime scene in Pewsey, even though there had been four churches in the area where lead had been stolen. Mr Herbert said that he was unable to

answer these operational queries but police attendance does not have to be immediate unless there is risk to life or the criminals are still there. For this type of crime, they would wait and send a local investigator.

Peter Deck asked what the future is for Pewsey Police Station. Mr Herbert said that the estate strategy is to close stations, so Pewsey will close, and provide a touch down point for staff instead. He did not know where the touch down point will be for Pewsey or when the closure will happen.

Caroline Dalrymple and Colin Gale expressed concern about the 101 service as there is often no answer or a very long wait.

Mr Herbert responded that they have prioritised improvement of the 101 service so that the average call wait time has dropped from 5.5 minutes and 25% abandoned calls, to 1 minute 40 seconds and less than 5% abandoned calls. He confirmed the call centre is in Devizes and is a dedicated service.

Dawn Wilson thanked Mr Herbert for coming to the meeting and confirmed the general view that the Police could do better in this part of Wiltshire.

7. Parish Issues Report, including Fly Tipping Reports

Susie Brew reported that there were two further incidents of fly tipping in the Pewsey Community Area and these have been added to the list (both in Wootton Rivers).

Issues from the Parishes include littering in North Newton and canal issues in Wilcot, as well as a lack of planning enforcement by Wiltshire Council in Wilcot. No assistance from PCAP is required on these issues.

a. Services at Everleigh Household Recycling Centre

Colin Gale provided an update on the Everleigh Household Recycling Centre. The cabinet meeting on 9th October was a foregone conclusion. The three Wiltshire Councillors from the Pewsey Community Area did a sterling job of representing the area's views. Although 94% of the consultation respondents were in favour of Everleigh remaining open, Wiltshire Council made the decision to close it.

There could be further HRC closures. Marlborough is the alternative cited by Wiltshire Council for Pewsey Community Area residents to use, but is in fact now at the bottom of the list which Wiltshire Council used as the basis for closing Everleigh. That puts Marlborough at risk.

There will be a review of the consultation process by the Overview and Management Scrutiny Committee.

A press release from Wiltshire Council confirms the closure, but no date had been set.

The papers that PCAP has from this work have been sent for legal advice for a possible challenge to the decision. Legal advice before the cabinet meeting was to wait to see what the decision from Wiltshire Council was before going down this route.

Curly Haskell said that Wiltshire Council was not looking for solutions, even though several were put forward.

Dawn Wilson thanked the people taking part in the working group which has spent over three years, a huge effort and a lot of time in trying to save Everleigh and in the end Wiltshire Council were just not prepared to find a solution. Also, thanks go for a splendid effort to our three Wiltshire Councillors who supported the community throughout.

b. Boundary Commission Review

Although it is unconfirmed, it looks as though the Pewsey Community Area will remain intact. Dawn thanked the Parish Councils who submitted their representations to Wiltshire Council and the Boundary Commission.

The changes are mooted to be:

Add All Cannings to Pewsey Vale
Add Tidcombe & Fosbury and Froxfield to Burbage & The Bedwyns
Pewsey would remain the same
There will probably also be name changes:
Pewsey Vale will become Pewsey Vale West
Pewsey will remain as Pewsey
Burbage & The Bedwyns will become Pewsey Vale East

8. Community Area Plan

a. Economy - Patrick Wilson

Susie updated the meeting in Patrick's absence. Having obtained grant funding for both the Film project and the Walking & Cycling Leaflets project (North Wessex Downs and Pewsey Area Board), both projects are now underway with the Pewsey Vale Tourism Partnership. The Historic Map Information Boards project is now online and most of the boards are installed - 49 in total across the Community Area.

b. Transport - Colin Gale

Trains

The Pewsey Rail Group is now well established and has two bids in the Access Improvement Scheme - one for lifts and one for car parking space.

The group attended a Great Western Railway and Network Rail meeting at Westminster on 6th October. Timetable changes that were due to be implemented in the spring of 2019 have now been pushed back to November/December 2019 due to the recent problems nationally when new timetables were brought in.

The Pewsey Group is working closely with the Great Bedwyn Train Group.

Cornwall and Devon County Councils put in a lot of effort to support their bids but there was a very poor representation from Wiltshire Council.

Peter Deck suggested writing to Wiltshire Council to point out how we are being let down and want equal representation at the next meeting in January.

Buses

No update.

Highways

Paul Oatway confirmed that the Area Board got funding for North Newnton and Woodborough.

Easton Royal have had issues with the parish steward. Paul Oatway said that Milton Lilbourne do not want the parish steward back in their parish again. It is a problem with the individual. Wiltshire Council is aware.

c. Planning - Peter Deck

Peter Deck informed the meeting that Wiltshire Council is reviewing the Local Plan.

d. Environment - Carolyn Whistler

Susie Brew provided the updated from Carolyn Whistler. Litter seems to have been escalating around the parishes. Carolyn is in contact with Wiltshire Council regarding litter picks.

A reminder to keep vigilant regarding fracking sites, although Wiltshire is not earmarked for this currently.

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust has a lot of events going on around the county - www.wiltshirewildlife.org/ has all the details.

e. Culture, Heritage & Leisure - Position Vacant

No update.

f. Vice-Chair Management Group - Position Vacant

No update.

g. Pewsey Vale Health & Wellbeing Group - Dawn Wilson

The next meeting is not yet confirmed.

When an elderly person falls, it can be difficult to get them back up without pain or further injury. There is a piece of technology called a Raiser Chair which enables a paramedic to lift the person off the ground without all the pushing and pulling. The chairs cost about £3000. The Health & Wellbeing Group is looking to fund one (if not two) of these chairs for the First Responders in the Pewsey Community Area and so will be approaching the Parish Councils to request funding from them, through the precept. Funds from the Health & Wellbeing Group will also be sought.

h. Children & Young People - Dawn Wilson

Dawn wanted to thank Karen Brown for standing in for the Cheer Team instructor which meant that the session could go ahead. The Family Fun Day was a great success and provided important feedback for the wheeled sports area at the campus. This feedback has been fed into the plans, which are now with Wiltshire Council.

The LYN had 3 grants submitted. The applications for the Signing Choir and Great Bedwyn were approved. The application for the set up of Marine Cadets was approved for partial funding.

i. Treasurer - Dawn Wilson

Dawn provided a summary report of the PCAP finances, which showed a balance of £9178.13, of which £3604.00 is ringfenced for specific uses. Dawn will be approaching Parish Councils for funding.

9. Area Board & Council News - Paul Oatway

Items were discussed in other parts of the meeting.

10. Items for Next Agenda

None.

11. Any Other Business

None.

The meeting ended at 9.10pm.

Future Meeting Dates

Thank you to all the Parish Councils who have offered their halls for our meetings

Thursday 24th January 2019 - Woodborough Parish Room

Thursday 18th April 2019 - Venue tbc

Thursday 18th July 2019 - Easton Royal Village Hall

Thursday 17th October 2019 - Shalbourne Village Hall

Future dates and venues are also available on the website - www.pewseycap.org.uk/events

Contact: Susie Brew - PCAP Coordinator pcap@hotmail.co.uk

Signed _____ Date _____
Dawn Wilson, Chair PCAP