

PEWSEY COMMUNITY AREA PARTNERSHIP (PCAP)

Thursday 30th January 2020

7pm at Easton Royal Village Hall

With thanks to Easton Royal Parish Council & Village Hall Committee for the donation of the meeting room and excellent refreshments

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 Curly Haskell	Pewsey Parish Council
Carolyn Whistler	PCAP Sub Group Lead - Environment & North Newton Parish Council
Cllr Margaret Holden	Easton Royal Parish Council
Cllr Caroline Dalrymple	Pewsey Parish Council
Hew Helps	Easton Royal Resident
Richard Rogers	Pewsey Community Area Community Engagement Manager
Cllr John Brewin	Woodborough Parish Council
Susie Brew	PCAP & PVTP Coordinator

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Easton Royal Parish Council and Village Hall Committee for the donation of the hall.

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the PCAP Meeting of Thursday 17th October 2019 were approved (proposed Cllr Margaret Holden, seconded Cllr Caroline Dalrymple) and signed off.

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:

Cllr Colin Gale	Rushall Parish Council, CATG Chair PCAP Sub Group Lead - Transport
Cllr Crispin Herrod-Taylor	Grafton Parish Council
Cllr Paul Oatway	Wiltshire Council

4. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were declared.

5. Update on Wiltshire Council Overview & Scrutiny Report

Colin Gale had sent a report on progress as he was unable to attend the meeting, as follows:
At the last PCAP Meeting I advised the members of the Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee's Task Group investigation into how WC conducts consultations. The minutes of the PCAP meeting provided a link to the OSMC's minutes plus the Task Groups report.

Following on from the last PCAP Mtg I attended the WC Cabinet meeting on 19th November 2019. In advance of the cabinet meeting the PCAP/PPC/CPRE working group submitted a detailed statement to cabinet on the OSMC's final report and the process for the reports approval. As is normal practise the statement was published along with a response as a supplement to the agenda pack. The PCAP/PPC/CPRE working group were astounded to find that despite providing a detailed memorandum to the OSMC Task

Group Chairman (Cllr Stuart Wheeler) at the initiation of the Task Group the Chairman had not circulated the detailed information to the rest of the Task Group and none of the public information had been considered as part of the Task Group scrutiny activity. I provided a comprehensive pack of all the information to both cabinet and the OSMC officer in advance of the cabinet meeting. I made a short statement to cabinet advising the working groups disappointment plus a number of supplemental questions. The Cabinet Member advised that the PCAP/PPC/CPRE documentation had all been received and that it would now be discussed at the OSMC meeting on 3rd December 2019.

The PCAP/PPC/CPRE working group sent a further statement to the OSMC in advance of its meeting on 3rd December which was published as supplement 1 to the agenda pack. I attended the meeting and gave the following statement:

“Mr Chairman thank you for the opportunity to speak. I represent Pewsey Community Area Partnership, Pewsey Parish Council and the Campaign To Protect Rural England. The Groups complete statement and questions on the PCGT Final Report has been attached as Supplement 1 to the Agenda Pack along with the Groups statements and questions and responses to Cabinet. It is noted that the Groups original Memorandum and supporting documents have not been included in the Supplementary pack despite cabinet response statements that it would be. Time constraints prevent me from reading the Group's Statement in full so I shall therefore confine myself to reading the Summary only and requesting that the OSMC members give proper consideration to the rest of the full text of the Statement. The Summary reads as follows:

From the Group's comments above, it is unable to gain any confidence that the Council has addressed adequately the public's concerns over how Council public consultations are conducted and how the public's views are taken into account when making Key decisions – the latter being the invariable result of such consultations, and trusts that the Executive will provide a full response to all the questions and issues raised in this Statement.

The Group has had time to look only briefly at the Executive's responses to the PCTG Report's Recommendations, as approved by the OSMC, but has noted that the Executive has not attached time lines to any of those responses. The Executive's responses do not appear to have captured fully all of the individual Recommendations, and with regard to time lines, Recommendation 9 has been omitted from those responses. For the avoidance of doubt, the Group wishes to retain the right to provide further comment in due course on the Executive's responses, should it consider it necessary to do so.

The Group is concerned that the PCTG is being shut down, without formally addressing any of the material submitted by the Group, and as a consequence, any input from the public has been excluded, whether from the Group, or indeed, anybody else. The unfortunate, but clear impression has been given that the Council had no interest in any form of engagement with the public as to how consultations might be improved, and an opportunity that might have indicated some willingness on the part of the Council to start re-building some public confidence in the consultation process, has been lost. “

The OSMC went on to congratulate the Task Group on what a wonderful job it had done and how this was one of the best scrutiny activities ever performed. The cabinet members proposals were read out and accepted along with a further proposal number 9 in the final report.

The whole OSMC activity was a disgraceful sham and did not provide any confidence. Since the PCAP/PPC/CPRE questions to cabinet were not satisfied by the OSMC consideration is now being given as to the merit of referring the questions back to Cabinet?

Dawn Wilson confirmed that we continue to have a good relationship with those who have engaged in the process and the cabinet. Cllr Peter Deck proposed a vote of thanks to Colin for all the work he has done on this. Dawn Wilson acknowledged the work of others as well and stressed that the work that has been done on this has been for the benefit of everyone in the county.

6. Parish Issues Report, including Fly Tipping Reports

Susie Brew reported that there were no Parish Issues nor fly tipping reported.

7. Community Area Plan

a. Economy

Susie updated the meeting with the progress of the Pewsey Business Project where the close date for business surveys to be returned was 31st January and there was concern that the level of feedback may be quite low. Cllr Haskell suggested extending the date if the level was too low. Susie will review once the hard copies that have been handed in to Pewsey Parish Council have been counted. The first version of the report has been reviewed by the team and requires a few changes and the business survey output to be added.

Pewsey Vale Tourism Partnership - an Accommodation Partners' meeting was held on 16th January which provided some very useful network connections as well as feedback on priorities and two new members.

We are still waiting for the outcome of the grant application to print more walking brochures and create an app for the Vale - this is with the GWR Communities Fund.

b. Transport - Colin Gale

A written report was provided by Colin Gale as he was unable to attend the meeting:
Trains

The PVRUG met on 6th December 2019. The group reviewed the outcome of the presentation event provided by GWR on 31st October and identified the actions that need progressing with GWR. The new timetable is up and running and the GWR view is that although there has been a few hick-ups overall the revised timetable is going well.

The group also discussed other rail group meeting attended and advised any significant points. The next PVRUG meeting is currently being agreed but is expected to be late Feb/ early March.

Buses

At the WC Annual Finance brief on 16th January 2020 WC were asked various questions on buses in the context of climate change and the environment. WC have no finance provision to subsidise bus services over and above the statutory requirements and in terms of having eco friendly buses WC are looking to the private bus companies to do that when they update their fleet. WC do not directly operate any buses. Richard Rogers confirmed there are funds for innovative thinking.

Highways

No update.

c. Planning - Peter Deck

The Core Strategy (now called the Local Plan) is progressing for publication in 2021. This will have the number of houses that are required across the county and which will impact Neighbourhood Development Plans. The Local Site Allocation Plan was reviewed in January and taking into account the number of houses required in the Core Strategy to 2026, there are only another 6 houses to comply in the area.

d. Crime & Community Safety - Peter Deck

Cllr Peter Deck confirmed that the Police are selling the site of the Police Station now that it is closed. The local police team uses The Vale Campus. Pewsey Parish Council is monitoring how the loss of the Police Station affects residents.

e. Environment - Carolyn Whistler

The feedback from parishes is mixed regarding the take up of the Good Verges Guide, with some wanting control through asset transfer and others just wanting to control the cutting, others do not want to participate.

Susie to send Carolyn a list of the Parishes who have responded.

Susie to organise a meeting with interested parishes to nail down exactly what parishes want so that a conversation can start with Wiltshire Council.

Keep Britain Tidy is running The Great British Spring Clean 2020 from 20th March to 13th April. If equipment is needed, then Richard Rogers may be able to help, so parish councils should contact him if this is the case.

Carolyn reminded everyone to ensure they had done a risk assessment and that they had insurance for the volunteers.

There is an issue with training for Flood Wardens and Snow Wardens as the training takes place during the day, when the person / people are at work. Richard Rogers to feed this back.

f. Culture, Heritage & Leisure - Susie Brew

A Travel Trade Group Visits group has been set up to try and encourage coach trips to the area on weekdays. Led by Crofton Beam Engines, it includes The Merchant's House, The Rose of Hungerford, Marlborough Town Council and Pewsey Vale Tourism Partnership. This is a pilot and if successful, other organisations such as Crop Circle Exhibition & Information Centre and Pewsey Heritage Centre will have an opportunity to get involved.

Dawn Wilson confirmed that Devizes has lost its Coach-Friendly status. Susie has been looking into this for Pewsey, but has not been able to make any progress with VisitEngland.

g. Pewsey Vale Health & Wellbeing Group - Dawn Wilson

The chairs with arms project has been very popular with parishes with only 2 village halls not needing them. The other 17 halls are having 2 chairs in a material and colour of their choice. The chairs are being collected tomorrow, Friday 31st January, from Bouverie Hall by each of the parishes.

Movement to Music sessions are going very well and Dawn has secured some additional funding to continue the sessions.

Some of the grant funding has been ringfenced for VE Day celebrations.

Another Canal Trip is being organised by the Memory Café for April. There will also be trip organised by the Church.

h. Children & Young People - Dawn Wilson

Richard Rogers confirmed the Family Fun Day is being organised for Friday 17th April at The Vale Campus from 10am to 3pm. It will be for everyone with activities such as a climbing wall, skate ramp, etc. Awaiting for Jerry Kunkler to agree funding.

Cllr Peter Deck asked whether volunteers will be needed on the day and Dawn confirmed that there will be but they need to finalise the plan first.

Richard Rogers also confirmed that the youth bus had been to Burbage and Upavon, but on both days the weather had been terrible which had affected numbers. Dawn Wilson confirmed that they are looking at VE Day activities such as drama, dancing and artwork.

i. Treasurer - Dawn Wilson

Dawn Wilson confirmed that as at 28th January the balance in the bank was £8499.87. Much of this is ringfenced for projects but thanks to the generous donations from the Parish Councils, the available balance is healthy.

The WfCAP charity has been wound up and the balance in the bank account has been shared between the Malmesbury, Tidworth and Pewsey Community Area Partnerships for projects.

8. Area Board & Council News - Paul Oatway

Paul Oatway was unable to attend the meeting.

9. Items for Next Agenda

None.

10. Any Other Business

Susie Brew requested parishes to consider whether PCAP could use their halls for free for the remaining meetings in 2020. Woodborough and Pewsey were able to offer their halls/rooms subject to availability. Susie will organise this.

Susie Brew updated the meeting regarding the North Wessex Downs Walking Festival for 2020 which will take place between 13th and 28th June. If any parish would like to run a guided walk, then they should contact Jacky Akam - JackyAkam@northwessexdowns.org.uk.

There will be a VE Day event at Alton Barnes - SAFA.

The meeting ended at 8.55pm.

Future Meeting Dates

If you are able to host a meeting, then please let Susie know – pcap@hotmail.co.uk

Thursday 23rd April 2020 - TBC

Thursday 2nd July 2020 - TBC

Thursday 22nd October 2020 - TBC

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