

PEWSEY COMMUNITY AREA PARTNERSHIP (PCAP)

Thursday 22nd April 2021
7.30pm online via Zoom

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 PCAP Sub Group Lead - Transport
Cllr Curly Haskell	Pewsey Parish Council
Cllr Margaret Holden	Easton Royal Parish Council
Hew Helps	Easton Royal Resident
Susie Brew	PCAP & PVTP Coordinator PCAP Sub Group Lead - Economy & Culture, Heritage & Leisure
Richard Rogers	Wiltshire Council Pewsey CA Community Engagement Manager
Cllr Paul Oatway	Wiltshire Councillor - Pewsey Area Board - Pewsey Vale

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the PCAP Meeting of Thursday 21st January 2021 were approved (proposed Cllr Colin Gale, seconded Cllr Margaret Holden) and signed off.

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:

Carolyn Whistler	PCAP Sub Group Lead
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4. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were declared.

5. Community Hub - Joint project with Wiltshire Council

Pewsey Library has someone nominated as manager, however Richard said that this person will be replaced.

Curly asked whether there is a date for the library to be reopened and Richard confirmed the date has not been announced.

6. Community Area Plan

a. Economy

Susie confirmed that places are reopening or are planning to reopen. There has been a lot of interest on the website and enquiries are at a higher level than in previous years. The PVTP is doing as much as possible to keep the area in people's minds. The newsletter is now monthly rather than quarterly and this has had a positive impact on subscribers with current numbers around 1600. This has also improved engagement with the members as well.

We are just over halfway to the 700 signatures required to support the Walkers Are Welcome accreditation. This is the only thing that is holding us up in gaining the accreditation.

The Pewsey Vale Circular Way is still being defined but is pretty much there. There is further testing to do, which is also the case for the Mid Wilts Way itinerary. Explore and Experience days have been submitted. Pewsey Heritage day is not yet complete and this is with Kerry Pycroft currently. Both WAW and Itineraries are progressing well.

Dawn suggested that we need to think of new ways to get people to register support. Susie wondered whether Pewsey Vale School could be contacted to see if we can get the young people involved. Dawn thought that an article in the parent newsletter might be possible. Curly to send Lisa's email to Susie and Susie will contact her.

b. Transport - Colin Gale

Trains - Colin updated that GWR are planning to get back to original timetable so that social distancing can be observed by commuters so capacity will increase and service frequency will increase. Devizes Gateway meeting is on tomorrow.

Buses - The Government has launched a scheme - Bus Back Better - for which Wiltshire Council has already been successful in getting funding. This scheme looks to provide a better and greener service. Colin did not attend the recent meeting but has looked through the slide pack and it seems to be a reincarnation of Option 247 from 2016. Dawn confirmed that the scheme is based on the Connect2 service which ran in the Pewsey Community Area, but county-wide. Colin requested whether funds of £150 could be made available to cover admin costs from what is required. Richard will investigate.

Richard confirmed that Wiltshire Council has been awarded £1.2 million from the Rural Mobility Grant Scheme from central Government, some of which will be for rural buses. Richard will be finding out more on this, as Pewsey Community Area is the most rural area in the county, so there should be some funding available. PCAP has all the information from the previous work done with the Passenger Transport Unit in 2015/2016. CPRE are also involved in a national bus service campaign. For more information - <http://option247.uk>.

c. Planning - Peter Deck

Pewsey PC is currently revising the NDP. Peter attended a meeting with 30 or so other people with Georgina Clampitt-Dix from Wiltshire Council and will send any slides of interest to Susie for onward transmission to Parish Councils in the area.

The planning application for 50 residences to the west of Wilcot Road on the edge of Pewsey is coming up for review and Peter urged Parish Councils to look at this application, which is for an area outside the permitted development in the Pewsey NDP, is not required as housing demands have already been fulfilled and also goes against the Wiltshire Council strategy - the planning reference 20/06775/OUT.

The new Wiltshire Council planning portal has issues. Anyone who has experienced problems should log these with Susie so that we can submit them as a group. Issues include being unable to print documents, all links in parish websites have to be updated manually, documents are missing, planning applications that were refused are now showing as if they had been passed and the decision notices from the planning officers are not there. Susie to draft a list of concerns for someone at WC to action - Richard said to use the general planning email on the website.

d. Crime & Community Safety - Peter Deck

Peter is still concerned at the frequency and level of reporting from the Police and has registered his concerns, however they will not change what they produce. The reports are produced quarterly for the Area Board, whereas Parish Councils prefer a monthly report.

Richard confirmed the link to local crime map and statistics <https://www.police.uk/pu/your-area/wiltshire-police/devizes/>.

Peter highlighted the lack of local engagement - police officers or PCSO's are rarely seen and the Police do not attend local meetings such as PCAP any more.

e. Environment - Carolyn Whistler

The following note had been provided by Carolyn Whistler and was read out in the meeting:

Electric Charging Points - There was a 50 page Government document (July 2019) Industrial Strategy which I have read through (kindly sent by Dawn), not sure if there has been an update but the gist of it was the focus on non-residential buildings and the size of their car parks.

As mentioned in update for the January meeting, more Electric Charging Points could possibly be installed in Pewsey, but for smaller rural parishes with "spread out" supplies of electricity eg at Village halls, Village shops, could present a problem and would need co-operation from the parishes. Grants are available for EV plug ins up to 2022/23. An article on "You and Yours" yesterday was looking at the problem of cabling on pavements and disruption to the highways of private plug ins.

On the Good Verges Guide, no further forward at the moment. The verges are growing apace and does anyone know when they will be cut this year by WC? Plantlife are sending out good updates and news on campaigns but we need some enthusiasm from local parishes not yet signed up. We hoped to involve Wiltshire Council of course but I understand they are busy with other more pressing concerns.

Keep Britain Tidy have a new campaign from 28 May - 15 June. Some parishes are arranging their litter picking earlier in May.

Curly updated the meeting that Adrian Hampton from Wiltshire Council is attending a meeting at Pewsey Parish Council to talk about how Electric Charging Points can be implemented and suggested that Adrian might be able to attend a PCAP meeting - he will get back to PCAP. Information on electric is on the DVLA website.

Richard confirmed that Wiltshire Council is collecting rubbish bags from community litter picks. Just email streetscene@wiltshire.gov.uk to organise collection. He also confirmed that bags can be taken to a Household Recycling Centre (subject to booking a slot and delivering in a non-commercial vehicle).

Richard updated that Wiltshire Council's Climate Strategy is focusing on being carbon neutral by 2030 and that he has sent out an invitation to a meeting on the strategy on 20th May and encouraged Parish Councils to get engaged on this.

f. Culture, Heritage & Leisure - Susie Brew

Nothing to add beyond the projects work (in Economy). Places are reopening but not necessarily with normal opening hours. Dawn said that a new market is coming to Pewsey at Bouverie Hall - Curly confirmed this but doesn't have a start date. A café to run alongside the market in the Bouverie Hall is also being put forward by Michelle Bond and if this does go ahead, then PCAP will work with them (as a social café as described in the Pewsey Health & Wellbeing Group). Curly confirmed that Bouverie Hall is working hard to get this up and running and the old craft market will no longer take place.

g. Pewsey Vale Health & Wellbeing Group - Dawn Wilson

The latest Health & Wellbeing meeting was in March. Transport issues are on-going, with Link being very busy. Buses are running but are not currently well-used, as are trains. Walking groups are working with PVT on the Walkers Are Welcome.

Shalbourne Connect received funding from Pewsey Area Board for the hearing loop in the village hall. Now raising funds for a projector so they can run cinema evenings. PCAP is managing the banking for them.

Memory Café restarted in April with 8 of the regulars who were extremely excited to get out and we already have 6 people signed up for the canal boat trip in July.

Movement 2 Music Together sessions are moving back to the Bouverie Hall - thanks to Sylvie Clayden and Hen MacKinnon on keeping this going throughout the pandemic.

Curly raised concerns about the Bouverie Hall as it has suffered by not being used which is causing issues with equipment.

Curly also raised his concerns with regard to the consultation on changes to the operations at Meadow Court. Vincent Edwards from Wiltshire Council who is running this is planning to do a Zoom meeting with the residents of Meadow Court rather than waiting until they can meet face to face. Curly has communicated his concerns to Vincent. PCAP will send an email of support of the concerns, based on their experience of trying to do this with the Memory Café.

Dawn commended the people from Pewsey Parish Council and those from Marlborough who have been working on the PPG. The communications and engagement have improved enormously. The councillors who assisted with the logistics and volunteers for vaccination sessions did an excellent job. Curly confirmed that this work is continuing.

PCAP with the PCCA has run a telephone befriending service during the first lockdown and the latest third lockdown. The numbers that were supported had been greatly inflated and the 8 who received the service were enormously grateful. Rev Jennifer Totney did sterling work. The service has now closed. Dawn has confirmed that until PCCA defines their role, PCAP will not be assisting in their services.

Devizes Food Bank - if any parish has residents who have insufficient money for food and are not getting support from a school, they can access this service. They just need a referral from an agency such as a health visitor, school, doctor, etc.

h. Children & Young People - Dawn Wilson

Dawn circulated information on the Music Project which has gone out to local schools.

Mental Health Support at Pewsey Vale School is now in place. Dawn contacted the Head Teacher to see if they wanted to get involved in the Fun Days that are planned.

Fun Days - Bouverie Hall is booked and Pewsey Parish Council are providing the car park. Sunday 25th July - King Ramps are providing a 6ft half-pipe, demo crew and workshops from 11am, café in the hall as well as crafting and possibly pavement painting.

Sunday 22nd August - climbing wall, plus other activities.

The Art Ambassadors at Pewsey School are doing the posters for these events.

These events will also enable consultation with the older teenagers about what they would like to do.

The Blue Bus will be back soon.

Richard confirmed that the youth project involving 5 or 6 community areas is likely to go ahead.

A youth café in a commercial café is also in the pipeline.

Pewsey Parish Council has 4 sites being reviewed by an acoustic engineer for the best location for the skate park. Curly confirmed this has taken place and they are waiting for the report.

i. Treasurer - Dawn Wilson

The end of year bank balance stands at £16727.42 of which approximately £4500 is unrestricted. PCAP is holding a lot of funds for other small community groups' projects. The accounts are almost complete for the year and will be signed off by an independent auditor.

Tescos are looking for more projects under the heading of Children & Families that need funding. Dawn will progress.

7. Pewsey Area Board & Wiltshire Council updates

Paul Oatway asked about the number of meals being delivered by the PCCA each week in Pewsey and is unable to understand why the need that didn't appear to be there before the pandemic is reportedly so high. Dawn confirmed the numbers are between 18 and 30 once a week on a Friday. The deliveries are for people who are petrified to leave their house - it doesn't indicate that they aren't cared for or without others. There is probably about 6 people who really don't have anyone else. Dawn suggested that he should contact PCCA directly.

Paul also asked about the bus that the PCCA is planning to buy because others are asking him for information. Dawn updated that it is planned to be used as a community venue and for the PCCA to operate from and it is a converted red and white bus from Scotland. PCCA was able to get funding of £5k from Wiltshire Council with restrictions for use for fuel and food poverty. PCCA is looking for a location to park the bus.

This year's election is one of the biggest in the country with the different levels of government being elected. Paul wished everyone who is standing for re-election the best of luck and thanked everyone for their hard work.

Paul was pleased to hear about the Fun Days and looks forward to more promotion of what is being done.

8. Parish Issues Report, including Fly Tipping Reports

There were no Parish Issues reported. Three accounts of flytipping (probably by the same person) were reported.

9. Items for Next Agenda

None.

10. Any Other Business

Curly thanked PCAP for the annual report which was seconded by Margaret.

Dawn wished everyone well in the elections. Colin expressed his concern about one parish where they only have 50% of the required councillors.

Next meeting is Thursday 22nd July 2021, currently to be online using Zoom.
The meeting ended at just after 9pm.

Future Meeting Dates

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

Thursday 22nd July 2021 - TBC

Thursday 21st October 2021 - 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