

## PEWSEY COMMUNITY AREA PARTNERSHIP (PCAP)

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021

7pm at Easton Royal Village Hall, courtesy of Easton Royal Parish Council, and online via Zoom

### MINUTES

#### Present

Cllr Dawn Wilson	WfCAP, PCAP Chair Wilcot & Huish (And Oare) Parish Council
Cllr Peter Deck	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 Ann Hogg	Pewsey Parish Council
Cllr Caroline Dalrymple	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
Cllr Dean Cowley	Wootton Rivers Parish Council
Cllr Tom Ellen	North Newnton Parish Council
Richard Rogers	Wiltshire Council Pewsey CA Community Engagement Manager (Zoom)
Carolyn Whistler	PCAP Sub Group Lead - Environment (Zoom)

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### 2. Minutes

The Minutes of the PCAP Meeting of Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2021 were approved (proposed Cllr Colin Gale, seconded Cllr Curly Haskell) and signed off.

#### 3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:

Cllr John Brewin	Woodborough Parish Council
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#### 4. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were declared.

#### 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 Margaret Holden.

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

#### 6. Review of the Constitution

Dawn Wilson took the meeting through the proposed changes to bring the PCAP Constitution up to date. It was agreed by the meeting that the changes should be made as proposed, including the addition of the three new parishes to the area - All Cannings, Froxfield and Tidcombe & Fosbury parish meeting. Proposed by Curly Haskell and seconded by Colin Gale. Dawn Wilson said that there may be changes to the structure of the Community Area Plan at some point in line with the 4 themes from Wiltshire Council.

## 7. Community Area Plan

### a. Economy

Businesses have now opened up again. Problems with pubs having to reduce their hours or close due to staff being pinged by the NHS app. Pewsey Heritage Centre has now reopened. Two projects currently underway - Itineraries and Walkers are Welcome. Two of the three itineraries are completed in that they are online and documented, but are in the process of being tested. The new route - Pewsey Vale Circular Way - the waymarkers have been ordered and the route has been defined. It is about 82 miles and has been created by Ron Forbes (Crown & Anchor in Ham), Gerard Dinnage (Burbage resident) and Trevor Neal (West Grafton - helped with our filming project).

We have contacted landowners, farmers and parish councils - anyone we thought might have an interest in this route. We have had a response from Great Bedwyn Parish Council who suggested an alternative route which has been incorporated in full.

There are 2 issues in Savernake Forest. Strutt & Parker contacted PVTP in the last couple of days to say why hadn't they been contacted with regard to the owner (Lord Cardigan) of Savernake Forest as Stutt & Parker are his agent. A response saying that we had made every effort to contact landowners on the route and have asked them to let us know any issues they have.

The second issue is that Forestry England has to issue a licence for you to do a group walk. This was raised by Ashley Sandy at WALX Wessex as the cost means that it would cost her £90 per walk, plus all the administration in having to apply each time they want to walk there. PCAP has written to Forestry England on 25<sup>th</sup> June to find out why this has been implemented in Savernake and how they propose to mitigate the impact on local groups and businesses. No response has been received and this will be chased. The Mid-Wilts Ramblers are willing to help us on this issue as they are on the Walkers are Welcome Steering Group.

Walkers are Welcome is all fine but we don't have enough signatures - we need just over 700. The register was checked for validity, so duplicates and people too far away were removed and left us with 602 signatures. Dawn is taking leaflets to the Youth Day on Sunday, we will be putting a banner up on the bridge at Pewsey and also gathering physical signatures on paper. Sheets were provided to the meeting to take away and get filled in and will share with the minutes from this meeting. Due to the constraints of Covid, it has been difficult to get signatures and so Dawn has requested whether we could be given leeway and WaW will let us know.

### b. Transport - Colin Gale

Community Rail Partnership - Pewsey Vale Rail User Group was approached by TransWilts to set up a Community Rail Partnership. The advantage is that the group would get an administrator. Pewsey and Bedwyn groups are interested but would not be prepared to accept any downgrade of service in order to be a CRP. Waiting to hear back. Devizes Parkway also involved in this. The name for the Partnership would be Kennet & Avon (currently Berks & Hants).

Trains - Timetables currently up and down due to the pandemic. GWR notifying as best they can.

Buses - In March 2020 WC received some grant funding from Better Deal for Bus Users. They asked whether we had any new routes. WC wanted to review the current situation and asked for the bid to be resubmitted, which Colin did, with the changes from GWR who are now cannot rely on commuters so need to concentrate on leisure use. The route is a circular route from Bedwyn to Marlborough to Devizes to Pewsey to Bedwyn. WC has £650k.

More recently, Option 24/7 - a group based in Melksham - has contacted PCAP. WC has received a grant part of which is earmarked for Pewsey bus services. Option 24/7 has contacted PCAP to find out what service is wanted. PCAP responded to say that it depends on what is on offer. Colin has written to our Pewsey Area Board councillors to say it is an Area Board issue and needs consultation.

Option 24/7 asked for the information, surveys and review we did in 2014 with Alan James. Dawn explained the issues that were prevalent at the time and in particular the demand responsive service - it needs to be timetabled service. However a subsequent email has indicated that they are looking at a demand responsive service when in fact what is needed is a timetabled, scheduled service. Richard Rogers will see what he can find out - his understanding is that the grant is for public transport, not necessarily just buses.

The possibility of car clubs and car share/hire is being investigated. Richard Rogers said that he is gathering information on these to see whether it is a possibility for this area.

#### **c. Planning - Peter Deck**

Peter asked whether there had been any progress on the issues submitted with the new Wiltshire Council Planning Portal. Susie will chase this up.

Three significant applications in Pewsey are still outstanding with no decision.

There is a Zoom meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> August with the Malmesbury Group and Wiltshire Council Planning Department regarding the issues with NDP's.

Community Land Trust is in talks with organisations called Greensquare and Accord with a view to the purchase and development of the Police House in Pewsey. At very early stages and many hurdles to get over but ultimately the property would belong to the community. Peter Deck said that Pewsey Parish Council would have input on anything else that is proposed for the site.

#### **d. Crime & Community Safety - Dawn Wilson**

Dawn Wilson advised about scams and that people should be aware that anyone asking for money or threatening service cut off. If calls like this are received, don't panic and then call the organisation the call purports to come from on a separate phone to see whether it is genuine.

Curly Haskell said that a Police Constable was at the Pewsey Parish Council meeting. Paul Whiteside is now training to be a constable, Jonathon Mills is off sick so there are no PCSO's currently. They also learned that cover could not be provided to the area because a vehicle wasn't available.

The more people report crime, the more likely we are to get cover from the Police, so it is really important that people report crimes to 101. Any letters written to neighbours causing problems should be also sent to the Police so that they have it on file. Curly will include this information in the Messenger.

Curly Haskell will take over the responsibility for Crime & Community Safety for PCAP.

#### **e. Environment - Carolyn Whistler**

Carolyn Whistler updated the meeting on verges - Wootton Rivers supports the biodiversity effort but are concerned about the verges not being cut until September. Could there be a joint response from PCAP regarding the verges? The verges have grown very quickly and very high. Speaking as residents, the growth could be hiding posts, etc that could cause damage to a car. The same issues apply in North Newnton.

Do other parishes have the same issues and could a joint letter be sent to Wiltshire Council?

Colin Gale says that Jacksons the contractors were given a plan on how to cut the verges this year but there didn't seem to be any logic. Carolyn agreed and said they have had to rely on the Parish Steward to cut the sight lines at junctions. Dawn also confirmed it is an issue in

Wilcot, Huish & Oare - some junctions have not been cut, no main roads were cut until requested and some lanes are narrowed due to overhang; the tractors that cut are also too wide so that whilst cutting one side, it flattens the other side verge which then cannot be cut because it is flat.

Appreciate what they have done and why, but Climate Change and weather hasn't helped

Dean Cowley said no action until September is not acceptable as cyclists and walkers cannot be seen and it is dangerous. So do WC come to each of the parishes to find out what verges need to be cut before September or do they use their own judgement to do this. PCAP will submit a letter to Wiltshire Council and will offer for all or parishes to identify on a map and mark which verges are to be cut before September.

Carolyn raised the issue of floods (as there has been catastrophic flooding in Europe recently) - all parishes should have a flood plan in place and ensure that their plan is up to date.

Colin said that Wiltshire Council is running the PEAS (Parish Emergency Assistance Scheme) survey to identify what each parish needs (e.g. tabards, salt, gel sacs, etc).

Peter Deck reminded parishes to clear drains which are often full of mud and therefore contribute to flooding. Parish Stewards are unable to do main roads.

Wiltshire Climate Change Consultation is starting in September. Glasgow Climate Change conference in November.

#### **f. Culture, Heritage & Leisure - Susie Brew**

Nothing to add beyond the projects work (in Economy).

#### **g. Pewsey Vale Health & Wellbeing Group - Dawn Wilson**

This group met this week, combined with the list of people on the Covid Recovery Group. Arts Together are planning to go back to Meadow Court. Brian will be running the Christmas Lunch in the Bouverie Hall and will be funded by this group if required. Margaret Holden gave an update on Easton Royal's Village Hall, including the magnificent new playground and the Friday night Bar Night.

The Memory Café is back up and running at the Bouverie Hall and the canal boat trip took place on a very hot day, 19<sup>th</sup> July, but everyone enjoyed it.

Movement 2 Music Together classes still taking place now in the Bouverie Hall, with referrals from the GP Surgery. Numbers are increasing and will soon be sustainable again.

Alzheimer's Support will now run twice a month - on the first Monday of the month and on the third Monday of the month which clashes with the Pewsey Memory Café. People will be encouraged to go to Pewsey. CEO is now Sarah Merriot.

Judy Haynes at Bedwyn Walks now doing two walks a month but shorter as Walks for Life haven't yet restarted. The Food Bank in Bedwyn is closed but the Friendship & Mobility Club is still going.

Pauline Dark from the Churches Group are offering 50 children a summer holiday club for 5-11yr olds. Services have started again. Ideas for improving the attendance of the Carers Café were discussed. Difficult because the carer would need respite to attend. Perhaps allowing the person cared for to attend and be looked after might be efficacious. Pauline also reported they have decided to delay their Canal trip funded by PCAP from the Marlborough Lions Club funds.

Richard reported that he expected to be busy supporting business and the unemployed in the next 6 months. The Area Board priorities for funding were Transport and access, Mental Health, Youth and Climate Change and keen to set up a Men's Shed in Pewsey perhaps using the Rugby Club.

There was one application for funding from the PCCA for rental which has been passed to the Area Board.

Richard said that the CCG are going to do mental health checks and requires a venue with multiple rooms - it will be a one-off event rather than an on-going event. Bouverie Hall is probably the best venue having 5 or 6 rooms or separate areas.

#### **h. Children & Young People - Dawn Wilson**

Dawn has been publicising (radio, banner, posters, social media) two youth days for consultation with young people to find out what they would like to spend their funding on. In order to get young people to engage, there are two events - this Sunday it is a skate ramp at Bouverie Hall and a climbing wall on 22nd August.

Pewsey Parish Council is running a Pizza Night at the Little Lunchbox in September/October. Annie Whitcher at Grafton Youth Group is running an event on 27<sup>th</sup> July at Coronation Hall to find out what the young people would like to do.

Great Bedwyn Youth Group is being managed by the Parish Council but Dawn didn't have much information on it. The lady who previously ran it is no longer in the area.

Richard is trying to get new people involved in the Local Youth Network.

Pilot for Positive Activities (Youth Action Wiltshire and Community First) will be going to the events and will run a survey so that the groups are consistent to survey what is needed and design a programme of activities.

If any parish has people who would like to work with young people through the Youth Networks then they should contact Richard Rogers.

The important thing about the Positive Activities is that the people who work on it are professional youth workers.

Richard has spoken to Pewsey Library as there is a new manager there who is keen to get more involved in community events. They will open the library for the August Fun Day.

Wiltshire Council is now piloting with contextual safeguarding, which means that safeguarding will go beyond the immediate family situation (providing the legal backing to do so) to the location, their peer groups, etc.

#### **i. Treasurer - Dawn Wilson**

The account is at £14,374.85, most of which is ringfenced.

PCAP provides banking facilities for small community groups as they require grant funds for their work but banks won't let them have an account which is necessary in order to get grant funding and for insurance. By arrangement, if a small group gets a grant, then it goes into the PCAP account and is then managed through a spreadsheet ringfencing the different groups. We have an agreement with the groups so that we all understand what is expected. In addition, the PCAP insurance will cover small community groups. So for example Shalbourne Group and Bedwyn Footpaths Group both use our insurance.

All groups who wish to use this facility need to have a terms of reference or a constitution.

PCAP funds are at £4,800 with the remainder ringfenced for PCAP projects or other groups' projects.

The donations from Parish Councils are extremely important as these cover the PCAP running costs which cannot be funded by grants (whereas projects can). PCAP will send a reminder to Parish Councils regarding donations in October.

## **8. Pewsey Area Board & Wiltshire Council updates**

The next Area Board in September is currently being planned to be live rather than on Zoom.

**9. Parish Issues Report, including Fly Tipping Reports**

The issue from Wootton Rivers was dealt with in the Environment section of the meeting. Colin thought there was a flytipping issue from Rushall and will follow up.

**10. Items for Next Agenda**

None.

**11. Any Other Business**

Curly updated the meeting that Paul Oatway received a Lifetime Contribution Award for completing 50 years' service with Wiltshire Police. The event to mark this culminated with a guard of honour. Dawn will organise something to recognise this achievement.

Colin updated the meeting on the financial controls on major projects at Wiltshire Council. The contract at Rowdeford School was originally for £20m and suddenly jumped to £33m (and is now £38m) which raised concerns about the approval and control process. A letter was written to the Council Leader and the answer was unsatisfactory, so they wrote to Deloittes who are Wiltshire Council's auditors. They have responded and will look at the concerns raised. The working group could also raise an objection within 30 days of Wiltshire Council publishing accounts. The objection is not the project itself, but the controls around it.

Next meeting is Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021, location to be confirmed.  
The meeting ended at 9pm.

**Future Meeting Dates**

**If you are able to host a meeting, then please let Susie know – [pcap@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pcap@hotmail.co.uk)**

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021 - TBC

**Future dates and venues are also available on the website - [www.pewseycap.org.uk/events](http://www.pewseycap.org.uk/events)**

**Contact: Susie Brew - PCAP Coordinator [pcap@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pcap@hotmail.co.uk)**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Dawn Wilson, Chair PCAP