

PEWSEY COMMUNITY AREA PARTNERSHIP (PCAP)

Thursday 20th January 2022
7pm at Rushall Village Hall, courtesy of Rushall Parish Council

MINUTES

Present

Cllr Dawn Wilson	WfCAP, PCAP Chair, PV Rail User Group Chair, PV Tourism Partnership Chair Wilcot, Huish & Oare Parish Council
Cllr Peter Deck BEM	PCAP Sub Group Lead - Planning
Cllr Colin Gale	Rushall Parish Council PCAP Sub Group Lead - Transport
Cllr Curly Haskell	Pewsey Parish Council PCAP Sub Group Lead - Crime & Community Safety
Cllr Mac Maclean	North Newton Parish Council
Cllr Margaret Holden	Easton Royal Parish Council Chair
Susie Brew	PCAP & PVTP Coordinator PCAP Sub Group Lead - Economy & Culture, Heritage & Leisure
Cllr Paul Oatway	Wiltshire Council Pewsey Area Board
Richard Rogers	Community Engagement Manager Wiltshire Council

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Rushall Parish Council for use of their hall.

2. Minutes

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

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:

Hew Helps	Easton Royal resident
Carolyn Whistler	PCAP Sub Group Lead - Environment
Cllr John Brewin	Woodborough Parish Council
Charlie Wildman	Avon Valley School Games Organiser

4. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were declared.

5. Pewsey Area Board & Wiltshire Council updates

Cllr Paul Oatway congratulated Cllr Peter Deck on the recognition of his work in the Pewsey area over the years and his award of a British Empire Medal in the 2022 New Year's Honours List which was supported by all attendees.

Cllr Oatway summarised the Wiltshire Council budget that was recently announced - <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/news/budget-proposals-2022-2023>. You can also access a recording of the announcement <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rCtiH30Ho1I>.

Cllr Oatway had concerns that the current restriction on the annual increase that Dorset & Wiltshire Fire Service are allowed to request. The limit is 1.99% which, if left at this level, will cause problems in 2 to 3 years' time. The Fire Chief does not want to close Fire Stations but the equipment available will be reviewed to reduce running costs. Cllr Oatway is pursuing this issue.

Another change is that Parish Councils will be charged for elections. Cllr Oatway advised Parish Councils to budget in the costs of elections in readiness for this.

Beechingstoke Parish want to form their own Parish Council, so in order to achieve this Cllr Oatway will take on the role of Chair for the Parish Council to provide experience and knowledge as they find their own Chair.

The new National Code of Conduct has been reviewed by a focus group but it is unlikely that Wiltshire Council will adopt it, preferring a lighter touch. Cllr Oatway will be pursuing this.

Cllr Oatway has visited all the hospitality and leisure businesses in his area to ensure they are aware of the grant now available from Wiltshire Council to help with the impact of the omicron variant of covid.

Cllr Gale asked how the 800k for footpaths will be accessed. Cllr Oatway will find out.

Cllr Holden asked whether the training for clerks and parish councillors is available and Cllr Oatway confirmed it is in the final stages and will be rolled out soon.

6. Community Area Plan

a. Economy

The Pewsey Vale Circular Way will be launched on 3rd March at the Royal Oak in Pewsey at a networking/launch event from 1pm to 3pm. There will be members of the Partnership as well as VisitWiltshire, Great West Way, North Wessex Downs AONB and Great Western Railways there. Parish Councils are welcome as well and an invitation will be distributed shortly.

Great Western Railways is now a Partner of the Partnership which means that they will get advertising on the website and we will get access to their marketing if we have a story, news or event. There are plans to create 'walk and train' routes in the Vale using Bedwyn and Pewsey stations as points of access. Susie will be attending their Partner Meeting on 2nd February in Reading.

Members of the Partnership have been notified about the Hospitality & Leisure Business Grant, both in a one-off notice and the regular monthly newsletter.

b. Transport - Colin Gale

Buses

The Wiltshire Council Bus Improvement Plan has been submitted as part of the Bus Back Better programme. It is now in the Enhanced Partner Plan phase where details of how the service will be updated are identified - currently with Jason Sadler.

Trains

The Pewsey Vale Rail User Group (PVRUG) attended the GWR conference on 10th November. The timetables are currently temporary, reduced because of Covid impact and staff shortages.

There have been no further discussions with the Devizes Gateway team whilst they await a response from Government.

Cllr Wilson will put up posters to encourage rail users at Pewsey Station to subscribe to the PVRUG - this has been delayed by the continued Government advice to work from home.

Roads

The impact of the works to construct the tunnel at Stonehenge on the A303 on our area have not yet been identified.

There is still no Freight Transport Management plan from Wiltshire Council.

The next CATG meeting is on 9th February.

c. Planning - Peter Deck

Peter Deck is currently working on a Public Planning Appeal. These differ greatly to the normal appeal process. Peter is happy to share his experiences with anyone who would like to know how the Public Appeal process works.

d. Crime & Community Safety - Curly Haskell

Cllr Haskell had noted that the PCC has an open evening on Thursday so will go along to discuss the unfunded police role issue.

The precept for the PCC has been increased from £5 to £10 - more information and a consultation on this increase can be found here - <https://www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk/my-office/opcc-news/2022/january-2022/pcc-wants-your-views-on-plans-to-increase-policing-precept-by-10/> - closing on 2nd February.

e. Environment - Carolyn Whistler

Richard Rogers said that in Tidworth Community Area they are asking people for their ideas for environmental projects. Once they are a bit further down the line, it would be good to do the same for the Pewsey Community Area, using the experience of Tidworth. PCAP will draw the ideas together.

Cllr Gale said that as a result of the budget review, there will be charging at Household Recycling Centres for certain things such as building waste.

Susie updated that the North Wessex Downs AONB Walking Festival is back on this year, from 11th to 26th June. Anyone who would like to organise a group guided walk should contact Jacky Akam - JackyAkam@northwessexdowns.org.uk. Peter suggested that Richard Giles may like to do a heritage walk of Pewsey - Susie will contact him.

f. Culture, Heritage & Leisure - Susie Brew

Mainly discussed under the Economy section.

Wilton Windmill will be celebrating a belated 200 year anniversary by holding a weekend of events from 29th to 31st July.

PVADS have changed the date for their annual pantomime to April due to the omicron restrictions (from January dates).

g. Pewsey Vale Health & Wellbeing Group - Dawn Wilson

The Christmas Lunch at Bouverie Hall was a great success with thanks to Nigel Lihou and the team.

An event for Upavon Camp is being organised by the Army Welfare Service as a result of discussions with Pewsey Area Board and PCAP. The event will show all the things available for youth and families in the area, as well as funding opportunities (Health & Wellbeing, Youth, etc).

Richard Rogers advised that Lt Col Nick Turner who liaises between Army and the civilian worlds will be leaving in March and they will not be replacing him. Army Welfare Services will then be the point of contact.

Peter wanted to record a message of thanks to Ann Hogg for all her work in marshalling and organising the covid jobs in Pewsey and her work on the PPG. Cllr Wilson confirmed that they recorded thanks at the PPG as well.

Cllr Wilson said that she has found an independent Chair for the PPG in Dee Nix who has a lot of experience in the health sector.

h. Children & Young People - Dawn Wilson

The Blue Bus at Burbage is going well with a core group of about 12 youngsters using the facility. Upavon has not been so successful.

Cllr Wilson would like to propose that the Blue Bus goes to Pewsey as there was feedback at the New Year event that it would be used. In addition, there are people in Pewsey who would like to support/set up a youth group but don't have the means to do so. The Blue Bus will help with the formulation of youth activities and services that is currently underway with a meeting on Monday.

The cost of the bus is between £300 and £400 per visit.

Cllr Wilson confirmed there had been no update from Pewsey Vale School or Pewsey Primary School on the triage system which the Health & Wellbeing Fund helped to implement. Cllr Wilson was due to visit the school to see the process but covid restrictions have prevented this.

i. Treasurer - Dawn Wilson

The PCAP bank account stands at approximately £10k currently, with approximately £8k in restricted funds (either for other groups or for a specific purpose).

Due to an application for PCAP still being active at Tesco Bags for Help, they were unable to accept the application for the ice rink so will have to be next year.

7. Parish Issues Report, including Fly Tipping Reports

No progress on the green bin lorry, Susie will chase.

Wilcot had raised the issue of the canal towpath being in very poor repair. Cllr Wilson to check her contact at the Canal & River Trust. If there is no progress made, then Wiltshire Council may be able to close the towpath until the work is done. Susie will check with other Parish Councils whether there are issues elsewhere.

Cllr Gale advised that a number of issues (road signage, etc) had been submitted to My Wilts and had immediately been closed with 'Defect not found' status. He then resubmitted with images.

8. Items for Next Agenda

None.

9. Any Other Business

There is a meeting with Danny Kruger MP tomorrow, with Cllr Wilson, Cllr Gale and Charmian Spickernell (CPRE) attending to discuss the issues raised by Wiltshire Council's lack of consultation and process in recent years (e.g. Everleigh closure).

Next PCAP meeting is Thursday 21st April 2022 at 7pm, 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

Thursday 21st April 2022

Thursday 21st July 2022 - Easton Royal

Thursday 20th October 2022

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