

PILLERTON PRIORS PARISH COUNCIL

The 209th Meeting of the Pillerton Priors Parish Council was held on Wednesday 11th October 2023 at 7.30pm Pillerton Priors Village Hall.

All Parishioners were welcome to attend.

Present: Cllr Ian Greenall (Chair)
 Cllr Dave McWhirter (Vice Chair)
 Cllr Jo Wilkinson (Treasurer)
 Cllr Dominic Sant
 Sue Greenall (Clerk)

Cllr Izzi Seccombe OBE (WCC)
 Cllr Malcolm Littlewood (SDC)

Residents 10 Residents were present

Number	Item
1	Chairman's welcome –Ian Greenall welcomed everyone to the meeting especially our County and District Councillors.
2	Apologies Cllr Michael Nevill and 3 residents
3	Approval of the minutes of the 208th Parish Council Meeting The Minutes of the 208 th Parish Council Meeting held on 2 nd August 2023 were approved and signed by Ian Greenall.
4	Matters Arising from the Minutes
4.1	22/02935/FUL Construction of anaerobic digestion facility, comprising silage clamps, digester tanks, lagoons, administrative buildings, landscaping and access. Cllr Littlewood gave an update on the application. The applicant has submitted a revised transport plan so the District Council's consultant now has to reappraise the new document. The costs for the consultant are in the region of £8,000 which the applicant will have to pay for. The lightning strike at a similar facility near Yarnton in Oxfordshire has highlighted the risks associated with the process especially with the proposed location's proximity to Defence Munitions Kineton.
4.2	Village Hall Fields in Trust There was nothing to update since the last meeting.
4.3	Moving Pictures Rural Cinema The clerk completed the questionnaire from SDC's Cllr Lorraine Grocott stating that Pillerton Priors might be interested in running a rural cinema but no information has been received to date.
4.4	49 Club Unfortunately the 49 club has ended as no one had offered to take over the running of the scheme. Over the years this has raised a considerable amount of money to help fund the village hall so that income will be missed.
4.5	WCC Highways The Clerk has contacted highways to check they had received our previous report of the faded speed signs throughout the village. It was also asked if the white lines at the junction of Chapel Lane and Kineton Road could be renewed. They have now installed the marker posts as agreed on Kineton Road.

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4.6	<p>Dog Waste Bins SDC provide dual waste bins and are a better value for money than the smaller dog bin at the same price. Bins are £250 +VAT plus installation of £150 +VAT. Annual service charge is £136 +VAT for once a week emptying. It was agreed not to proceed.</p>
5	<p>Warwickshire County Council update. Cllr Izzi Seccombe reported that work was progressing with the District Council's within Warwickshire around devolution and levelling up. The most deprived areas are in the north of the County around Rugby and Leamington. However there is quite a lot of rural deprivation and isolation. The County Council have a Social Value Grant Fund of £2.5 million and also the County Councillor Grant Fund if any projects are identified.</p> <p>They are currently preparing their budget for 2024/25 but are also looking at a 5 year financial plan. The Council has adequate reserves for the next 2 to 3 years so there is no prospect of them having to issue a section 114 notice that some councils such as Birmingham City Council have issued meaning they are unable to finance their budgets. Birmingham's issues go back to 2013/14 when low paid, mostly female, workers were granted an equal pay award. They sold the NEC to meet those costs but then the bin strike in 2018 ended with a new pay deal for the bin staff which has created another equal pay dispute. Some other Councils are either issuing or threatening to issue section 114 notices in the hope to receive additional Government funding but this is not helpful for those Councils who are financially stable.</p> <p>A large proportion of the County Council budget is spent on Childrens Services and Special Education Needs including the home to school service. This is followed by Adult Social Care. The Council have access to some units which are available to part rent or rent which maximises the efficiency of Social Workers time, reduces travelling, and also decreases the spending on hotel rooms for vulnerable people.</p> <p>A question was asked if the UK Census data was used by the Government when allocating funding budgets. The data is not used for this purpose but it is useful when Councils submit fair funding applications to the Government.</p>
6	<p>Stratford-on-Avon District Council update. Cllr Malcolm Littlewood had supplied a report which he updated.</p> <p>The District Council's Cabinet has agreed to transfer the Shopmobility service to Active Mobility to safeguard its future provision at the current location in the Bridgeway Car Park. It has also backed an existing plan to support the long-term growth of the University of Warwick Innovation Campus at the old NVRS site in Wellesbourne.</p> <p>The Lench Meadows between the Stratford Leisure Centre and the fishermans car park on Warwick Road is to become a Local Nature Reserve and be managed for wildlife for the long-term future.</p> <p>The developing South Warwickshire Plan is in consultation phase. A concern is that it will take precedence over all NDP's and Parish Plans such as the one that Priors has had adopted. Plans should be reviewed every 5 years which as a minimum should include an up-dated Housing Needs Survey to revalidate the conclusions of a Made Plan.</p> <p>The District Council are also working on their budget for 2024/25 but as they have £10 million in reserves there is no prospect of them needing to issue a section 114 notice.</p> <p>A concerning growth area is anti social behaviour in both the rural and built up areas. Increased deprivation and social need has seen this issue rise by 250%. The tiers of local government are working with housing associations, the police and the NHS to become more efficient in dealing with the problem.</p>

7	<p>Treasurer’s Report Jo Wilkinson gave her report.</p> <p>We received the second half of our annual precept £1,999.00.</p> <p>2 payments had been made in the period plus bank charges. The current account balance is £23,003.67 although £15,219.76 of that sum is ring fenced Section 106 money. It was noted that the remainder of the Findons Field Section 106 which was earmarked for speeding and play equipment money needs to be spent before June 2025. An outdoor Table Tennis Table has been suggested for the Village Hall Grounds paid for out of the s106 funds. A suitable table has been identified for around £685.</p>
8	<p>Village Hall Report Dominic Sant gave his report as Chair of the Pillerton Priors Village Hall Management Committee.</p> <p>The hall is still recovering from the flooding incident. A decision has been agreed with the insurance company regarding the replacement flooring and any works required. An option to help prevent future occurrences was to tank the main hall but estimates around £50k make this impossible. Luckily the hall has a three year insurance policy so the incident will not effect the premiums in the short term.</p> <p>The 49 Club raised around £1200 per year for the hall and currently lettings are down against previous years. The scouts, cubs and beavers continue to make the most use of the hall and the scouts now have a fire pit in the corner of the hall grounds.</p> <p>Operating costs and electricity prices continue to rise so more fund raising events need to be arranged to make the hall financially viable. This will start with a quiz night on 25/11/23. From its allocation of Section 106 money the hall now has a new goal post and netball hoop along with the three benches. We are looking at purchasing an outdoor table tennis table.</p> <p>More residents would be welcome to join the hall management committee and also on the upcoming working parties to maintain the village hall, its grounds and the flower boxes at the approaches to the village. These working parties will be advertised in the usual networks.</p> <p>Discussion took place regarding the flooding incident and preventative measures that could be considered.</p> <p>One issue appears to be that the ditch culvert is blocked but this is the responsibility of the land owner to maintain. The County Council as the Flood Agency could ask for it to be cleared but cannot enforce it. A suggestion was to create a culvert in the edge of the hall grounds or create French drains to help disperse the water.</p> <p>After the flood it was identified that the drain was blocked and Severn Trent jetted it. This is supposed to happen every 6 months to they need to be informed if they do not meet their timescales.</p> <p>Other suggestions included the employment of a flooding consultant to advise on the best options available, raising the floors within the hall, and the installation of flood protection doors.</p>

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9	Planning Application updates on live applications at the last meeting
9.1	23/00420/FUL Change of use of annexe over garage to flexible use as either a holiday flat or as an ancillary annexe to the house, plus a car port extension and retrospective minor variations to the approved drawings at Stockleys Orchard for Mr and Mrs Stepney. Permission with conditions 20/09/23.
9.2	23/01185/VARY Variation of conditions 2, 3, 7 and 11 of planning permission 22/00476/FUL (date of decision: 28/10/2022) to allow for minor amendments including re-siting of garage to Unit 1 attaching outbuilding to dwelling, change in ground floor fenestration of Unit 2, provision of habitable accommodation in roof voids of Units 1 and 2 with the addition of rooflights and windows in gables. Original description of development: Demolition of farm and light industrial buildings and erection of three new dwellinghouses with associated parking, amenity space, and landscaping in replacement of three dwellinghouses permitted under 21/00982/COUQ and 21/03389/NDAZ at The Barn Fulready Lane for Hicks Leys Ltd. Permission granted 17/08/23.
10	Planning Applications received since the last meeting
10.1	<p>23/1312/FUL Change of use of land to provide 8 travelling showperson plots and associated works including hardstanding at Land Adjoining Coverwell Farm, Pillerton Hersey for Mr C Smith. Comments by 21/09/23 Pending Consideration</p> <p>Ian thanked all the people who attended the drop in event regarding this application and hoped they had found it informative. There have been over 300 comments submitted to SDC planning which includes a petition signed by 230 people.</p> <p>Cllr Littlewood updated the meeting that he had spoke to the Planning Officer who has stated that there is insufficient evidence in the application regarding sanitation, site layout and the provision of a covered maintenance building which are all part of the Planning Policy requirements. The Planning Officer has requested additional information and clarifications from the applicant. Additional documentation will appear on the District Council’s website but might not necessarily mean the Parish Council, or residents, are given additional time to submit amended responses.</p> <p>The Officer cannot approve the application as SDC’s rules state that if the Ward Member (Cllr Littlewood), the Parish Council and the Planning Officer do not all agree to either grant or reject then the application is heard at Planning Committee.</p> <p>It was noted that some of the published documents regarding the application contained inaccuracies such as the statement that Halford is the main rural settlement.</p> <p>The PC were congratulated on its response.</p> <p>While we await the Planning Officers decision the PC are making preparations in case the application is to be heard at Planning Committee or if rejected, to an appeal to the Planning Inspectorate. Evidence shows that out of the 180 appeals against SDC decisions on 1 in 3 have been overturned by the Inspectorate. However our case needs to be strong if that is where the application is decided. The PC might look for professional advice in preparing its case if required.</p>
10.2	23/02322/FUL The erection of a stable building at Nolands Farm, Oxhill for Mrs Fowler. Comments by 19/10/23

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11	Open Forum
11.1	Pillerton Hersey PC Catherine Hewson the Chair of Hersey PC informed the meeting of their concerns regarding the showpersons application because of the impact flooding has on the village. She confirmed that the field that is proposed for the site can be like a lake in wet weather conditions.
12	Date and Time of Next Meeting 210 th Parish Council Meeting at 7.30pm on Wednesday 17 th January 2024 in Pillerton Priors Village Hall.
13	The Meeting was closed at 8.50pm and Ian Greenall thanked everyone for their attendance.

Chair: Ian Greenall

Minutes: Sue Greenall

Date Signed: