



Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

7:00 pm, Tuesday, 15 November 2022

Pillerton Priors Village Hall, Pillerton Priors, CV35 0PJ.

Present:

Cllr. Catherine Hewson (Chairman)
Cllr. Alec Hitchman
Cllr. Ian Brooks
Cllr. Glan Thomas (from item 7)

Apologies:

Cllr. William Forsyth
District Councillor, Penny-Anne O'Donnell

In attendance:

Alana Collis, Clerk to the Council

Public:

Two members (one joined at 19:31, during item 7a)

The meeting commenced at 19:05

1. Apologies

It was RESOLVED to accept the apologies for Cllr. Forsyth on grounds of military service.

Councillors also noted the apologies from Stratford District Councillor, Penny-Anne O'Donnell.

2. Declarations of Interest

Although there was no discussion to be had, Cllr. Hitchman reminded councillors of his non-pecuniary interest in the planning application at Bright Hill Holding. In the past, Cllr. Hitchman had purchased straw from the applicant.

3. Dispensations

None

4. Minutes

- i. It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the ordinary parish council held on 27 September 2022.
- ii. It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the extraordinary parish council meeting held on 7 October 2022.

5. Public Forum

There was only one member of the public present at this time and no statement was made.

6. Co-option of a new councillor

It was RESOLVED to co-opt Glanffrwd Thomas (Glan) as a councillor for Pillerton Hersey Parish Council.

7. Planning Matters

a. Planning applications

- i. [22/02935/FUL](#) – Tubbs End, Tysoe Road, Kineton. Construction of an anaerobic digestion facility, comprising silage clamps, digester tanks, lagoons, administrative buildings, landscaping and access.

At the start of the discussion, Cllr. Hewson noted that the planning application is outside of the Pillerton Hersey parish. However, it is near the parish boundary and the parish council



has been approached by residents and other parish councils on the matter. It was noted that it was a sizable development with five large digester tanks.

A key concern of councillors is traffic. It was noted that the primary route has been indicated as Sun Rising Hill. However, traffic (HGVs) is also likely to travel into Ettington and along the Fosse Way. Councillors noted elements of the core strategy relevant to the application – CS.3 and CS.26. Although the development produces clean, sustainable energy, this is only achieved through significant transport of feedstock to the site and road transport of the gas away from the site to Banbury.

With reference to CS.26 (Transport), Councillors noted that the level of numerous large vehicles is both a safety concern and deterrent to people using cycles as well as those walking and riding horses. CS.26 references the importance of site access and protection of vulnerable users (e.g. cyclists, pedestrians and horses). The application acknowledges that a traffic management plan is needed for construction and operation, but no detail of a proposal has yet been produced.

In terms of the specific impact on Pillerton Hersey includes any additional large tractors and trailers that will go to and from the facility. This creates additional noise and safety on the narrow, bendy road through the village.

Councillors noted that proposed development is on a greenfield site, not brownfield. This was something that the councillors thought SDC should consider. The site is close to the Edge Hill Battle Ground, noise, smell and light could have a negative impact on people and wildlife. There was disappointment that the developers had not approached the people involved in the area of outstanding natural beauty and also a local councillor.

Tysoe has a Neighbourhood Development Plan which outlines that development should be within the current housing boundary. This site is a green field, away from the village.

Councillors expressed concerns that the land was also going to be used to specifically grow crops for the digester rather than for food. The Chairman invited a resident to share some comments about the application. The resident expressed concerns over loss of arable land and the negative impact on the soil of maize as a crop. It was noted that some local farmers have also expressed concern that the feedstock to run the plant is not as available as thought.

Other concerns and impact noted are that the developer, in a public meeting, contradicted the planning applicant. One document states that the development will not have adverse noise and light pollution. However, the developer said that there would be 24/7 security on site. This contradicted the planning documents which stated there would be no light pollution.

Councillors noted that although the gas is not fossil derived, it will generate CO₂ during the digestion process. Although this will be captured, carbon dioxide will be generated when the biogas is then burnt to generate electricity. Similarly, in the production of the methane, there is a risk of explosion and due to proximity to the MoD site at Temple Herdwycke, there was concern about safety.

It was **RESOLVED** to object to the planning for the following reasons:

- Highway safety – volume of traffic. The transport plan has not gone into specific detail in terms of wider impact – it has only considered the traffic ‘at the gate’
- Lack of consultation with local councils
- Lack of exploration of brownfield sites in the local area



- The planning application does not provide sufficient detail in terms of the number of journeys and routes that are likely to be taken in the wider area. This would include the catchment area for feedstock – how big an area is this?
- There is concern about the sustainability of the proposal in that process will use energy and the burning of the biogas will generate carbon dioxide which does not support the move to a carbon neutral future.

b. Planning decisions

- i. [22/02743/COUQ](#) – Bright Hill Holding, Oxhill Bridle Road, Pillerton Hersey.
Conversion of the existing agricultural barn to form a single four-bedroom dwelling
To note the decision once determined by the planning authority.

Although this application was due to be determined in early November, it was noted that this planning decision is still pending.

8. County, District and Parish Liaison

Councillors noted that Cllr O'Donnell had sent a written report to the Clerk, however they were unable to open the file. The Clerk had requested an alternative document format and Cllr. O'Donnell had also offered to provide an update to Councillors in a Zoom meeting.

9. Finance

- a. To receive the finance report
A councillor asked a question about the salary increase and the impact on the budget. Based on the contracted hours, it was noted that the salary increases (annual increase agreed between the LGA and Unions) would only amount to an additional gross cost of £96 per annum.
It was RESOLVED to accept the finance report
- b. To receive the bank reconciliation report
It was RESOLVED to accept the finance report.
- c. To approve accounts for payment
All the items on the accounts payable were reviewed and it was RESOLVED to pay each item.

10. Village Green working group

The Chairman has shared photos of the village green which demonstrate activity to maintain and use the area. The clerk is awaiting a response from Street scene re mowing schedule. The application to Land Registry will be collated and submitted as soon as possible.

11. Reports and Questions

1 Bunkers Hill is currently being sold. VG83 is a parcel of land between the house and the road. The resident used to park next to the war memorial which is obstructive to traffic. Previously the parish council provided an agreement with the resident of the property for an access and parking on the land. With the sale of the property, the agreement needs to be revisited.

The councillors noted that the gypsy encampment on the road to the Fosse Way. There have been no issues reported to the council.

It was noted that the Clerk had shared the pictures regarding the Oxhill Bridle Road ditch.

Pillerton Hersey Parish Council

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The main part of the business concluded and the member of the public left at 20:26

12. Exclusion of Public & Press

Confidential matters, including those identified during the meeting, to be discussed here following a resolution to exclude the public under Sec 100A of the Local Government Act 1972.

a. To note report of Clerk appraisal

The Chairman noted that the Clerks annual appraisal was conducted in October. This reviewed the objectives from the previous 12 months.

The Chairman would review the current business plan and work with the Clerk to finesse. There were some training courses identified for training.

There will be a budget meeting in late November / early December to prepare for the next financial year.

Other key objectives include the work for land registration. It was noted that documents are prepared in advance of the meeting and the Clerk looks after internal governance. It was acknowledged that meetings can have difficulties with different views and emotive issues. The councillors agreed to work towards a constructive, supportive environment that builds on civility and respect for all.

Councillors agreed with the Chairman's report and thanked the Chairman for conducting the appraisal and the Clerk for her time.

b. To consider any proposed amendments to Clerk's contract

It was RESOLVED to accept the amendments to the Clerks contract. This included that the Clerk would be paid monthly, and overtime agreed retrospectively at each meeting. The salary was updated to pay point 18.

Cllr. Brooks left the meeting at 21:02.

13. Date of the next meeting

The Clerk had circulated a list of proposed dates for meetings in 2023. Once confirmed, these would be published on the website.

The meeting closed at 21:12.

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APPENDIX A: Finance report

PILLERTON HERSEY PARISH COUNCIL					
Financial Budget comparison					
Comparison between 01/04/2022 and 11/11/2022 inclusive					
Excludes transactions with an invoice/due date before 01/04/2022					
		Budget 2022/23	Actual net	Actual (pending)	Balance (actual)
INCOME					
Pillerton Hersey Parish Council					
Precept		£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00		£ 2,500.00
Total income		£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00		£ 2,500.00
EXPENDITURE					
Pillerton Hersey Parish Council					
Salary		£ 1,554.00	£ 316.32	365.04	£ 1,237.68
WALC Subscription		£ 105.00	£ 105.00		£ -
Stationery		£ 25.00	£ 9.60		£ 15.40
Other administration		£ 50.00			£ 50.00
Insurance		£ 257.60			£ 257.60
Room hire		£ 40.00	£ 10.00	£ 9.00	£ 30.00
Training		£ 240.00	£ 33.00		£ 207.00
Audit		£ 158.00	£ 120.00		£ 38.00
Website/IT		£ 70.00			£ 70.00
Flood prevention		£ 250.00			£ 250.00
Charitable grants and donations		£ 150.00			£ 150.00
Village green project		£ 100.00			£ 100.00
Other		£ 100.00	£ 15.00		£ 85.00
Total Expenditure		£ 3,099.60	£ 608.92	£ 374.04	£ 2,490.68
Total income		£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00		£ 2,500.00
Total expenditure		£ 3,099.60	£ 608.92		£ 2,490.68
Total net balance		-£ 599.60	£ 1,891.08		£ 9.32
Note salary only includes salary for 2022/23 tax year					

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APPENDIX B: Bank Reconciliation

PILLERTON HERSEY PARISH COUNCIL				
Bank Reconciliation report				
Financial year ending 31 March 2023				
BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD 1 APRIL 2022			£	5,227.50
RECEIPTS				
28/04/2022	Stratford District Council precept	£	1,250.00	
15/09/2022	Stratford District Council precept	£	1,250.00	
			£	2,500.00
			£	2,500.00
PAYMENTS				
04/04/2022	Alana Collis salary	-£	352.30	
04/04/2022	HMRC (of Clerk salary)	-£	88.00	
13/06/2022	WALC subscription	-£	105.00	
13/06/2022	Alana Collis (expenses)	-£	18.00	
13/06/2022	WALC training course	-£	30.00	
13/06/2022	WALC training course	-£	15.00	
13/06/2022	Alana Collis (expenses)	-£	15.00	
13/06/2022	Alana Collis (expenses)	-£	9.60	
20/06/2022	Alana Collis salary	-£	248.60	
20/06/2022	HMRC (of Clerk salary)	-£	62.20	
06/09/2022	WALC (training course)	-£	18.00	
06/09/2022	Alana Collis (expenses)	-£	10.00	
28/09/2022	Alana Collis (salary)	-£	253.12	
28/09/2022	HMRC (of Clerk salary)	-£	63.20	
28/09/2022	Trevor Gill (internal auditor)	-£	120.00	
			-£	1,408.02
			-£	1,408.02
BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD 11 November 2022			£	6,319.48
BANK STATEMENT 11 November 2022			£	6,319.48
NOTE PAYMENTS STILL PENDING				
	William Forsyth, for flood prevention work	-£	300.00	
Signed				

