

Pirton Parish Council



Minutes of Pirton Parish Council Meeting held on 12 March 2020 at Pirton Village Hall 7.45 pm

www.pirtonparishcouncil.org.uk

Present:

Cllr J Rogers (Chair), Cllr D Burleigh, Cllr T Gammell, Cllr S Maple, Cllr C-A McConnellogue, Cllr M Parkin, Cllr N Rowe

In attendance:

Mr Edward Roberts (Parish Clerk)

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**19-202 To receive and accept apologies for absence.**

There were no apologies for absence.

**19-203 Public Participation**

One member of the public was present. No items were raised from the floor.

**19-204 To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the Agenda and to consider any requests for dispensation.**

Nil.

**19-205 To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 13 February 2020 as a true and accurate record.**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13 February 2020, be approved as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and be duly signed

**19-206 To receive Bank Reconciliation and Financial Summary and to approve accounts for payment.**

- a. Bank account as at 29 February 2020: Unity Trust Account £58,641.20
- b. It was **RESOLVED** that payments totalling £900.47, as detailed on the monthly Finance Statement ([Appendix A](#)) be made.

**19-207 To receive the Clerk's report.**

The Clerk reported he had attended the initial training session for the Certificate in Local Council Administration – the base level qualification for Clerks.

VAT update letters had been sent to the Chairmen of the Bury Trust, PSSC, Lea Sports and the Cricket Club. A letter had been sent to Highways, confirming the wish of the Parish Council to proceed with a blanket 20mph speed limit in the village. Funding was being considered at County Council level.

Paperwork had been submitted to register as Assets of Community Value, the village shop, both public houses and the village hall. An application had also been submitted to register Middle Green (Coleman's Close) as a village green.

**19-208 To consider the renewal of the Contractor Services Agreements for the Recreation Ground grass cutting and Strimming within the village.**

Quotes had been received from the current contractors. For the groundsman's duties, the quote was kept at the same level as for the last 3 years, namely 150hrs @£17.50/hour, or £2625 per annum. Bullards quote for the grass cutting was £2278.25 (+VAT reclaimable) for a fixed term of 2 years. This represented an increase of 5.9%. It was **AGREED** by all present that these quotes should be accepted and the contracts renewed.

**19-209 To consider adopting the Scribe Accounts software package for the parish council accounts at an annual cost of £283 +VAT.**

The Clerk outlined the advantages of such a package and it was **AGREED** by all present that this software should be adopted.

**19-210 To consider a grant to Pirton Players to assist with the cost of replacement stage lighting.**

The Clerk reported that no grant application had been received. The item would be removed from the agenda, with the proviso that the Pirton Players could apply for a grant at any time.

**19-211 To consider a grant application from Lea Sports Football Club of £100 towards the renovation of the grass pitches at the Recreation Ground.**

It was **AGREED** by all to grant £100 to Lea Sports football Club as above.

**19-212 To approve the final draft of the revised Doc014, Terms of Reference and Delegation Scheme**

Final comments having been received, it was **AGREED** by all that the amendments be adopted. The Clerk pointed out that the document had been due for revision and update at the Annual Meeting in May and he would therefore present the fully revised document, along with the committee and working group membership at that meeting.

**19-213 To review a draft of a licence between Pirton Parish Council and Pirton Sports and Social Club.**

Cllr Maple had circulated a draft form of licence prior to the meeting. It was agreed that comments and amendments from councillors should be made by the end of March, after which the draft could be circulated again. The final version should be "vetted" by a legally qualified person. Cllr Maple stressed that the document had been drawn up in conjunction with the PSSC.

**19-214 Planning.**

- a. To consider Planning Applications (see [Appendix B](#)). Cllr Burleigh would draft comments on both applications. The parish council objected on a number of grounds, while also praising the concept of an additional 2-bedroom dwelling.
- b. To receive an update on the Local Plan. Cllr Gammell reported that the hearings for the Main Modifications were to start on Monday, with additional hearings in April. Cllr Burleigh was checking to see if there was anything that affected Pirton, but nothing was currently known.
- c. To receive an update on CALA Homes Ltd. Cllrs McConnellogue and Parkin were to provide a list of topics to the NHDC Transport Officer who was trying to facilitate a round table meeting of all parties. Cllr Gammell informed the council that the Condition 8 parking arrangements had been approved, but no notification had been received by the Parish Council. The additional 30mph speed limit signs were to be reinstated by Highways, following consultation. The Clerk was to write on behalf of the council stating that the reinstatement was in order, but that the council objected to the red 30mph marked on the road surface and that the second set of signs nearer the corner should be removed.

- d. To receive an update on Spitfire Homes. Cllr Maple reported that there was little to say, apart from the fact that the earlier road closure had gone ahead as planned.
- e. To consider the current situation with regard to Wright's Farm. Cllr Gammell was still waiting for a reply from HCC and Cllr Parkin was pressing for responses to her Freedom of Information request.

**19-215 To receive reports on the following:**

- a. Parish Paths Partnership (P3) – Cllr Rowe had finally been passed to the relevant contact, had sent photographs of the kissing gate and was waiting for a response. He had noted some wear and tear on other gates. Cllr Gammell offered to re-do the temporary repair to a workable standard.
- b. S106 Projects – It was agreed that more publicity should be given to the available S106 monies. To that end, the Clerk was to put Cllr Burleigh's report, previously circulated, onto the Parish Council website.
- c. Village Environment – Cllr Gammell reported that the outflow pipe from Blacksmith's Pond had been cleared, but had not in fact been blocked. Highways were of the opinion that all was fine with the outlet ditch. The level of the pond and the flooding of the High Street would be monitored and reported. An advice notice had been received from Anglian Water as a response to the problems with the Burge End Lane pumping station. This advice would be published in the next newsletter. It was agreed that the overall situation was not satisfactory. Also in the newsletter would be the reporting procedures for potholes and advice on parking.
- d. Bury Trust – Cllr Gammell reported that cattle would be back on The Bury in April. Purchase orders for work to clear scrub on Toot Hill had been issued and the work should be completed this month. Additional quotes for the work on Jack's Path were being sought.
- e. Village Hall – There had not been a meeting..
- f. RecDevWG – Cllr Maple circulated a detailed report with a draft timeline for consideration. He was formally thanked by the Chairman for his work on the RecDev Working Group.

**19-216 To consider a draft policy for Great Green.**

Much work had been done by Cllr Parkin but additions were still required to the draft document.

**19-217 To receive an update on progress regarding the imposition of a 20mph speed limit within the village.**

As mentioned in the Clerk's report, formal notification had been sent to Highways, who had acknowledged the letter. Funding for the 20/21 financial year was to be investigated by Cllr Barnard.

**19-218 To agree a date for the Annual Parish Meeting to be held in May 2020.**

It was **AGREED** that the Annual Parish Meeting should be held on Thursday 21 May 2020, starting at 7.30pm. Maximum publicity was to be given to this meeting.

**19-219 To consider contributing to the cost of the Parish Magazines to be distributed at the Welcome to Pirton event in May.**

It was **AGREED** that a contribution of £100 should be given by the council to help cover the overall costs of the event, but not specifically for the Parish Magazines.

**19-220 To discuss the production of the next parish council newsletter.**

Cllr Maple agreed to coordinate the production of the newsletter and suggested that potential articles should be allocated to individuals. The aim was to produce the newsletter prior to the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

**19-221 To consider granting easements to the residents of Great Green bordering the Green, at no cost to the Parish Council, to allow access to their residential properties.**

Cllr Burleigh had been seeking legal advice and the likely costs, but was still waiting for an estimate.

**19-222 To consider supporting the draft Local Electricity Bill.**

It was **AGREED** by a majority to support the Local Electricity Bill. Cllr Maple was against the wording of the Bill and did not vote in support. The wording of the resolution is as follows:

That Pirton Parish Council

- (i) notes that the Local Electricity Bill
  - aims to address the current situation, whereby the very large financial setup and running costs involved in selling locally generated renewable electricity to local customers result in it being impossible for local renewable electricity generators to do so,
  - if made law, would make these financial costs proportionate to the scale of a renewable electricity supplier’s operation which empower local businesses, local communities and councils to sell locally generated renewable electricity directly to local people, businesses and organisations, and
  - would result in revenues received by councils or community organisations that set up local renewable electricity companies could be used to help fund local greenhouse gas emissions reduction measures and to help improve local services and facilities;
- (ii) accordingly resolves to support the Local Electricity Bill, supported by a cross-party group of 115 MPs during the 2017-19 Parliamentary session; and
- (iii) further resolves to write to the organisers of the campaign for the Bill, Power for People, (at 8 Delancey Passage, Camden, London NW1 7NN or [info@powerforpeople.org.uk](mailto:info@powerforpeople.org.uk)) expressing its support.

**19-223 To suggest items for the next meeting of the Parish Council to be held on Thursday 9 April 2020 at Pirton Village Hall at 7.45 pm.**

The following item was suggested:

- a. To discuss communication of the Parish Council’s work for the village.

**Meeting Closed: 10.24pm.**

|                               |
|-------------------------------|
| Signed: _____<br>Dated: _____ |
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Appendices

Appendix A – Monthly Finance Statement

Appendix B – Planning Applications

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

## Appendix A – Monthly Finance Statement

**Pirton Parish Council**  
**Monthly Finance Statement**  
**12 March 2020**

**Balances as per Cash Book:**

|                         |                                |                   |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>29 February 2020</b> | <b>Unity Trust Current a/c</b> | <b>£58,641.20</b> |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|

**Transactions Included Above (made in Feb but after the monthly Meeting)**


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**£0.00**

**Plus Receipts Since Month-End**


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**£0.00**

**Less Accounts for Payment****Direct Debit Payments**


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**£0.00**

**Cheque Payments**


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**£0.00**

**BACS Payments**

|                |                                        |               |
|----------------|----------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>E19-114</b> | <b>Clerk's Salary &amp; Expenses</b>   | <b>577.17</b> |
| <b>E19-115</b> | <b>Clerk's Tax</b>                     | <b>116.80</b> |
| <b>E19-116</b> | <b>Tony Smart Street Cleaning</b>      | <b>170.00</b> |
| <b>E19-117</b> | <b>Village Hall Room Hire February</b> | <b>18.50</b>  |
| <b>E19-118</b> | <b>PSSC RecDevWG Room Hire Mar</b>     | <b>18.00</b>  |

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**£900.47**

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**Total for Payment: £900.47**

|                      |                                |                   |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>12 March 2020</b> | <b>Unity Trust Current a/c</b> | <b>£57,740.73</b> |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|

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PIRTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES: 12 March 2020

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**Pirton Parish Council**  
**Bank Reconciliation**  
**29 February 2020**

*Balance as per bank statement:*

|                  |                          |            |
|------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| 29 February 2020 | Unity Trust Current a/c: | £58,641.20 |
|------------------|--------------------------|------------|

*Less uncleared cheques:*

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£0.00

|                  |                           |            |
|------------------|---------------------------|------------|
| 29 February 2020 | Account as Per Cash Book: | £58,641.20 |
|------------------|---------------------------|------------|

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Appendix B – Planning Applications

| Reference             | Detail                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| i <b>20/00507/FP</b>  | <p><b>Oughtonhead Pumping Station, Hitchin Road, Pirton</b></p> <p><i>Upgrade of existing pumping station to provide nitrate removal plant and equipment including change of use of land for operational purposes and all associated works</i></p> <p>Comments to Ben Glover by 02 April 2020</p> <p><b>Council to object on archeological and aesthetic grounds.</b></p>                                                                                                                                                         |
| ii <b>20/00529/FP</b> | <p><b>12 Davis Crescent, Pirton</b></p> <p><i>Single storey rear extension, insertion of full length window in rear roof slope to facilitate loft conversion and detached office building within the front garden. Erection of one detached 2-bed dwelling in rear garden including two parking spaces and creation of vehicular access off Little Lane.</i></p> <p>Comments to Kate Poyser by 02 April 2020</p> <p><b>Council to object on archeological, aesthetic and car parking grounds, while praising the concept.</b></p> |

**Planning Decisions** (for information only)

| Reference    | Detail |
|--------------|--------|
| i <b>Nil</b> |        |

|                                          |
|------------------------------------------|
| <p>Signed: _____</p> <p>Dated: _____</p> |
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