

POULSHOT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL TUESDAY 29th JULY at 7.30 pm

PRESENT: Cllr Mike Davis (Chair)
Cllr Liz Bissett (Vice Chair)
Cllr Chris Dyke
Cllr Tim Hues
Cllr Claire Church
Cllr Reay (Wiltshire Council) (left 20.29)

OFFICER: Jeannette Young (Clerk)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: 10 members of the public were in attendance

Q. Can you provide clarification on agenda item 9.2 is the triangle being tarmacked

A. Vice-Chair- No as we understand the triangle is only having what is already there resurfaced and a footpath across the middle.

Q. Why is Agenda Item 24. in confidential?

A. Due to the sensitive nature and the possible use of legal advice resulting from discussions.

Q. Bonfire Night – It's a real pain having to sort out insurance and risk assessments, can you help?

A. A suggestion was made that Peggies become a proper committee with their own bank account, and they then help run it. Or if the Parish Council run it as their event, it could be included in their insurance. It was suggested that the matter be placed on the next agenda for formal discussion.

32/25/26 Apologies

There were no apologies received, all members were present.

33/25/26 Declarations of Interest

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There were declarations of interest from Cllrs Church and Bissett regarding Townsends Farmyard development and a declaration of interest from Cllr Hues regarding the Solar Farm application.

34/25/26 Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Church, seconded by Cllr Bissett and **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to confirm the Minutes of the Annual meeting of the Parish Council held on 13th May 2025 as a true record. The Minutes were duly signed by the Chairman Cllr Davis.

35/25/26 Chairmans Announcements

The following announcements were made: -

- The Vintage Car event was again huge success and has become a very popular event. There was concern if it was to be the last one with the Chair asking for it to be placed on the next agenda for September.
- The Church Fete was well attended and an excellent day.
- It was announced that work had started on the Townsend Farm development and that apologies had been received from the developer regarding HGV's using the Village Road due to Seend Road being closed.

35.1/25/26 Co-Option Applications

It was noted that no applications had been received

36/25/26 Police Report

The two received police reports from 29th May and 8th July were duly noted.

37/25/26/ Update from Wiltshire Councillor Tamara Reay

Cllr Reay, spoke about the Solar planning application and explained that the planning officers are still waiting for more information from statutory consultees. The application will most probably go to the strategic planning meeting due to be held on 23rd September, however there is a small chance it could go to a meeting on the 2nd of September, either way the Parish Council would be notified.

The need for a Speed Survey to support the planned Speed Indicator Devices was discussed, with Cllr Church stating all the information had been supplied previously. There was frustration that no response had been received from Officers, with Cllr Church proposing to send through all the relevant documentation to Cllr Reay for her to follow up.

The proposed footpath leading to the dual carriageway remains on the LHFIFG agenda, with consensus required to invest in the project survey. Further discussion addressed the feasibility of constructing a new footpath, associated costs, and the possibility of utilizing alternative surface materials instead of tarmac.

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37.1/25/26 Planning Applications:

Application No:	PL/2024/11631 <u>AMENDED PLANS/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</u> https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000BcJ89	It was proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded by Cllr Davise and AGREED TO STRONGLY OPPOSE and OBJECT to the amended application PL/2024/11631_on the following points: -
Application Type:	Full planning permission	• Risk in the drainage from the site. The map sent to the Parish Council does not address the issue of surface water on the site during the winter; there is also concern that the pond at the bottom will be covered by Solar panels. • The compound area still relies on infiltration. There is no sign of any planned infiltration of the site, why has this not been demanded? New local housing have had to do infiltration tests and have subsequently had to build an attenuation pond.
Proposal:	Installation of a solar farm comprising ground mounted solar PV panels with a generating capacity of up to 13.5 MW and associated infrastructure, including solar panel mounts, substation, inverters, storage containers, underground cabling, fencing, CCTV, internal roads and tracks, landscape and ecological enhancements for a period of 40 years.	• The Solar panels have been changed to a higher height to respond to environmental flooding concerns. Has the landscape approved appraisal been taken into consideration with these new height allowances, residents at Seend will look straight down onto the Solar panels because they are obviously higher. • The applicant in the original application stated their willingness to help and give to the village, 'meaningful benefit in local community'. There is no written documentation of what the meaningful benefits would be. There has been no contact with the Parish Council whatsoever.
Site Address:	Townsend Farm, Townsend, Poulshot, Devizes, SN10 1SD	• The brook badly flooded this winter and there are another planned 14 dwellings in that part of the village. This Solar plan could make the flooding worse for residents. • Building a solar farm on a known flood plain does not seem appropriate.
Applicant:	Mr Michael Breslaw	

37.2/25/26

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Application No:	PL/2025/05916 https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000FPxsH	It was proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded by Cllr Dyke and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED that there were NO OBJECTIONS to the application PL/2025/05916.
Application Type:	Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area	
Proposal:	TG1 3 Crack Willows - Pollard to 2.5m above ground level. Previously pollarded trees with lapsed pollard cycles.	
Site Address:	60 THE GREEN, POULSHOT, DEVIZES, SN10 1RT	

38.1/25/26 Townsend Farmyard Development – Naming Form

Following a discussion on the word Farmyard it was agreed that the name Townsend Yard was more in keeping with the Village and the naming of a previous development, called Aubreys Yard. It was therefore proposed by Cllr Davis, seconded by Cllr Dyke and RESOLVED to complete the Wiltshire Council Naming Form to show the approved name of Townsend Yard for the new development at Townsend Farmyard, before returning it to the developer, Gaiger.

38.2/25/26 Update from Gaiger with Bus Shelter Design

Members noted the update and requested that Cllr Dyke liase with Gaigers over the bus stop design to see if it could be changed to be more in keeping with the other planned bus stop in the village.

39/25/26 Village Green Permission Form

After consideration of the revised Village Green Permission form and the associated new Risk Assessment template, It was proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded by Cllr Church and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to approved and adopt the Village Green Permission Form along with the associated Risk Assessment template.

40/25/26 Tree Survey

Members discussed the attached Tree Survey and decided that it was too big a document to go through on the evening, there was also acknowledgement that funds were limited within the budget for any works to be carried out so a plan of priority would be needed, it was therefore proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded by Cllr Davis to hold a Village Maintenance Working Group meeting on the 14th August at 6.30pm on the Green to make recommendations on priority planned works before requesting quotes for the works to be carried out.

41/25/26 Clearing of Ditches

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Members considered the requested to clear the ditches on the Village Green and Green Gardens, but it was believed that this had already been done, however it was suggested that any further work could be carried out at the same time as the hedge cutting is done by Mr Stewart.

42/25/26 Village Trust Update

Members received the update from the Village Trust and after clarification on skip hire, it was proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded by Cllr Davis and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED to arrange hire of a skip (ASAP) to enable disposal of invasive plant material from the village pond and to undertake maintenance of pond margins and moving fallen branches in Green Gardens into the dead hedges at a time and date suitable to the trust .

43/25/26 Local Highways and Footways Improvement Group

Support was voiced over the request for information on site possibility for White Gates and Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs). It was confirmed that the Parish Council were happy to fund the cost of purchase and installation of the items/devices, it was then proposed by Cllr Church, seconded by Cllr Dyke and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to fully support the request on where the SID's and White Gates could be placed.

44/25/26 Report of The Independent Remuneration Panel

Following an explanation of the report and consideration of the points below,

- The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 state that each parish or town council may:
- Choose to pay their members an allowance, known as 'parish basic allowance', to recognise the time and effort they put into their parish duties.
- Make an allowance available to its Chair only, or to each of its members
- Pay the chair a different amount than to other members, where all members receive an allowance, but otherwise the amount paid to each member must be the same.

It was proposed by Cllr Davis, seconded by Cllr Church and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that Poulshot Councillors would not claim any applicable Members Allowances as specified in The Local Authorities Regulations 2003.

45/25/26 Updates from Members on Delegated Actions

- Bus Shelter – Cllr Dyke shared a photo of a bus shelter with a slate roof that he had received a quote for and explained he was still in the process of obtaining two other quotes, of similar design. he also confirmed he would liaise with Gaigers on their proposed bus shelter outside of the development at Townsend Farmyard.
- Broadway Lane– Cllr Church was happy to announce that the work had finally been completed.

46/25/26 Section 106 Fund

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Members considered both options before it was proposed by Cllr Davis, seconded by Cllr Dyke and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to choose the Side Agreement over the Scheme Method for the transfer of S106 monies in total of £41,332.64. on the understanding that the funds could only be used on improving existing open space or existing play areas or sports facilities and must be used within 10 years from November 2024.

47/25/26 Finance Report and Bank Balances

Member received and noted the report showing, balances of.

Parish Accounts = £23,164.75

Community Fund = £121,425.05

Total Funds = £144,589.80

48/25/26 Financial Expenditure

Members considered and discussed the expenditure report.

It was noted that the playground invoice was more than expected, this being due to a requested additional visit.

It was therefore proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded by Cllr Church and unanimously resolved to approve the expenditure report, showing payments of £3,583.46 and credits of £302.00 (C.F. Transfer for Grant £300. & Telegraph pole £2.00). and due to confusion by the contractor on a previous agreed quote for tiding the Amenity Field over at six-month period, it was agreed to contact the contractor to cut the Amenity Field at a one off cut of not more than £580.00 plus VAT.

49/25/26 Jubilee Donations

Members noted that the balance of £190.43 has not been requested by Tranquil Moments, Townsend Barn Nursery and Lodge Farm, therefore the £190.43 will be transferred to the General Contingency Savings.

50/25/26 Annual Governance and Accountability Return

Members noted the Exemption Certificate was submitted to the external auditors on the 18th May and automated email of acceptance received on the same day. It was also noted that after publishing of the Notice of Public Rights there were no request received to inspect the accounting records or to make copies of the AGAR.

51/25/26 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the date of the next meeting would be 9th September 2025

52/25/26 Confidential Session

It was proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded by Cllr Dyke and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to go into a Confidential Session. Cllr Davis requested members of the public to leave the meeting

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53/25/26 Amenity Field

Copies of emails requesting purchase of the Amenity Field were shared with Members. Concerns were raised that the Amenity Field was provided to replace an area of the Village Green that had been deregistered and subsequently sold for access. The Field had never been intended for private ownership and documents clearly state that it was to provide open space for informal recreation. Change of use was registered in 2016. There followed intense debate about the Field being the community's asset and concern that if sold it would deprive the whole Village of open space and the planned orchard. It was felt that the field could be used as a wellbeing area and somewhere for all to enjoy being in nature.

Eventually it was proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded by Cllr Dyke and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to **Not sell** the Amenity Field, but to retain it for its intended use as an informal recreation space and to approve the planned Orchard, for works to be started in late October or November.

54/25/26 Extension of Meeting

As the meeting approached the two-hour limit outlined in the Standing Orders, Councillor Bissett proposed, seconded by Councillor Dyke, and it was UNANIMOUSLY AGREED, to continue the meeting until all agenda items were discussed and agreed upon, or for an additional thirty minutes, whichever occurred first.

55/25/26 RFO Position

The matter was discussed and a resolution agreed.

Meeting ended at 21:45

Signed.....



Date.....

14/8/25