

# **POULSHOT PARISH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL TUESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> MARCH AT 7.30 PM**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Mike Davis  
Cllr Liz Bissett  
Cllr Chris Dyke  
Cllr Tim Hues  
Cllr Claire Church  
Cllr Reay (Wiltshire Council) (left 20.30)

**OFFICER:** Jeannette Young (Clerk)

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** 10 members of the public were in attendance.

Q. Is any money expected from the Solar Farm?

A. There are currently no known funds expected if it proceeds.

Q. For the Fete in June, we will apply for the same grant as last year for silent disco headphones. Plans were also discussed regarding VE Day on 8th May.

A. The grant application for the Fete in June must be submitted in time to be included in the agenda for the meeting on May 13th (10 days prior). If a grant is to be considered for VE Day, an extraordinary meeting will need to be scheduled.

Q. Great British Spring Clean is happening on 22<sup>nd</sup> March with equipment being delivered prior to the day.

A. Thank you for organising.

Q. Parking concerns on the Green.

A. We will address the Green later in the agenda.

Q. I have donations from fireworks event do I have to pay to you?

A. No you can pay into the Village Hall. All you need to pay back is any money left over from the initial grant of £750.

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Q. Access roads off the Green is in a bad state. Is there anything the Council can do?

A. We will have a look at what has happened before and see if a precedence has been set.

Q. Can we have a new football net on the Green please?

A. Members to consider

### **108/24/25 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Nina Jeffries and Cllr Dan Scott

### **109/24/25 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Hues made two declarations regarding the planning application for the installation of a solar farm at Townsend Farm. First, Cllr Hues is in a business relationship with the owner of the land and secondly, he owns the fields where the solar company wish to lay cables.

### **110/24/25 Minutes**

It was proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded by Cllr Church and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to confirm the Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025 as a true record. The Minutes were duly signed by the Chairman Cllr Davis

### **111/24/25 Chairmans Announcements**

The following announcements were made: -

- The Parish Meeting is due to be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May 2025, please could all updates be emailed to the Clerk before the end of April.
- The Council has today received notice of the Parish and Unitary Elections, which are due to take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2025.
- The Chairman highlighted the traffic issues being caused by the part closure of the High Street in Devizes. The temporary one-way system set up due to the fire in the listed building is causing a 10-minute journey into Devizes to take 40 minutes. Drivers are using Poulshot as an alternative route to avoid Devizes and businesses are suffering, meaning some shops have been forced close due to lack of footfall caused by the traffic problems.
- Concern was raised over the state of the road through the Village, which due to the extra traffic using it as an alternative route around Devizes seems to have increased the number of potholes and uneven road surface.
- Broadway Lane has been cleared by Wiltshire Council but there was frustration at the lack of communication from their officers regarding the resurfacing of the Byway.

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### 112/24/25 Police Report

No police report had been received, and no police were in attendance.

### 113/24/25 Update from Wiltshire Councillor Tamara Reay

Wiltshire Council set its budget for £527m with a large portion of this money going to social care. The Government has removed the rural area funding that Wiltshire Council historically received, however the rise in Council Tax has stayed below the allowed threshold and a balanced budget has been achieved. Elections in Wiltshire are going ahead; WC have put in a bid for Mayoral authority, with Dorset and Somerset, for the formation of a 'Wessex' strategic mayoral authority. This bid could take up to three years to be accepted/implemented.

### 114/24/25 Planning Applications:

#### 114/24/25.1

Application No:	PL/2024/11446
Application Link	<a href="https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000BS0J3">https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000BS0J3</a>
Application Type:	Full Planning Permission
Proposal:	Change of use of annexe to be used as ancillary accommodation to main house and holiday accommodation.
Site Address:	Cooks Orchard, The Green, Poulshot, Devizes, SN10 1RT
Case Officer	Brook Bishop
Respond by	11 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
Comments	It was proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded by Cllr Church and <b>UNANIMOUSLY</b> agreed to resubmit their support of this application stating that it would greatly benefit the village

#### 114/25/25.2

Application Ref:	PL/2024/11631
Application Link:	<a href="https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000BcJ89IAF/pl202411631?tabset-8903c=2">https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000BcJ89IAF/pl202411631?tabset-8903c=2</a>
Application type:	Full Planning Permission

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<b>Proposal:</b>	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
<b>Address:</b>	Townsend Farm, Townsend, Poulshot, Devizes, SN10 1SD
<b>Case Officer:</b>	Jonathan James
<b>Respond By:</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
<b>Comments</b>	<p>It was proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded by Cllr Church and <b>RESOLVED</b> to <b>OBJECT</b> to this proposal, PL/2024/11631 due to the following points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detrimental impact on the environment</li> <li>• Using valuable agriculture land</li> <li>• No benefit to the immediate local community</li> <li>• Increase of traffic through the village and its surrounding neighbours using small country lanes.</li> <li>• As well as the following;-</li> </ul> <p>1. Flood Risk and Drainage - the site selection process appears to be contrived including in respect of flood risk. It justifies this site selection on the basis of it being at lower flood risk (EG predominantly Flood Zone 1) at two other alternatives (see site selection report para 4.3.21 and Figure 6), yet this proposal has then chosen to encroach into areas of higher flood risk (Flood Zone 3) (see site selection report para 4.3.22) How can it justify this site selection on the basis of being at lower flood risk and then encroach into an area of flood risk? Given the extensive site area surely it should be possible to design the scheme not encroaching into the this area of higher flood risk. A more robust justification for this should be provided or better still, the scheme should be withdrawn and redesigned to avoid this. The Environment Agency objection appears to be recognising this issue. We also understand that the national flood risk mapping is going through a period of review - the submitted FRA does not seem to acknowledge this, additional information should be provided which clearly shows the latest information</p> <p>Additionally in regard to surface water drainage proposals no evidence (i.e. infiltration testing) has been provided to demonstrate the surface water drainage arising from all aspects of the scheme including various buildings can be properly managed. We cannot understand why Wiltshire Council drainage team have not identified this as a concern. There should be robust evidence to show how surface water will be stored and conveyed to a suitable outfall</p> <p>2. Construction traffic impacts - the calculations relating to proposed trip generation as presented in the Transport</p>

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	<p>Statement do not appear to add up correctly, additionally the proposed highway widening works at the Bell Hill junction in Seend are not clearly set out. The report implies that improvements are needed without providing appropriate detail including plans clearly showing what is highway land and what land is in 3rd party control, what highway improvement is proposed and that this has been fully assessed and supported by appropriate highway design and safety audits. Drawings 3676 -O1- DO1 and DO2 are inadequate and there is a lack of clear delivery commitment.</p> <p>3.The proposals imply consideration has been given to some sort of community planning gain without any substantive details about this would or how it would be delivered</p> <p>4.The consultation period should be extended due to the Landscape and Visual Impact assessment and extensive supporting information not being published initially, and people needing more time to review in full.</p>
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### 114/25/25.3

Application No:	PL/2025/01332
Application Link:	<a href="https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000ChFEb">https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000ChFEb</a>
Application Type:	Householder planning permission
Proposal:	Replacement conservatory windows and roof
Site Address:	51 The Green, Poulshot, Devizes, SN10 1RT
Case officer	Audrey Lo
Respond by	20 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
It was proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded by Cllr Dyke and <b>UNANIMOUSLY</b> agreed that there was <b>NO OBJECTION</b> to this proposal, <b>PL/2025/01332</b>	

### 114/25/25.4

Application No:	PL/2025/02297
Application Link:	<a href="https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000DD3On">https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000DD3On</a>
Application Type:	Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area
Proposal:	T1 = Willow Tree - Pollard back to main stem leaving approximately 2 meter monolith stem. T2 = Apple Tree

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	Prune old water shoots, no more than 1 meter over entire canopy.
Address	53 THE GREEN, POULSHOT, DEVIZES, SN10 1RT
Case Officer	Julie Kelly
Respond by	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
It was proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded by Cllr Dyke and <b>UNANIMOUSLY</b> agreed that there was <b>NO OBJECTION</b> to this proposal, <b>PL/2025/02297</b>	

### 114/25/25.5

Application No: Application Link:	PL/2025/02278 <a href="https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000DCvJB">https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000DCvJB</a>
Application Type:	Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area
Proposal:	T1- Robinia- Remove upper major lateral limb on North-west side of crown and reduce remaining major lateral limbs on North-west side of crown by up to 3m and shape to leave in good form. T2- Yew- Reduce height by approximately 2m and shape- To reduce shading of adjacent solar array to be installed.
Address	POULSHOT HOUSE, 73 POULSHOT ROAD, POULSHOT, DEVIZES, SN10 1RX
Case Officer	Julie Kelly
Respond by	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
It was proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded by Cllr Dyke and <b>UNANIMOUSLY</b> agreed that there was <b>NO OBJECTION</b> to this proposal, <b>PL/2025/02278</b>	

### 115/24/25

The following planning decision was noted

Application Ref:	PL/2025/00494
Proposed Works	To Trees in a Conservation Area
Address:	11 POULSHOT ROAD, POULSHOT, DEVIZES, SN10 1RJ

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Proposal	T1 Field Maple - Overall canopy reduction of 2 to 2.5 meters
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### **116/24/25 Working Group Notes and Recommendations**

The Notes from the meeting of Village Maintenance and Highways & Police working group held on the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025 were considered and noted.

### **117/24/25 Wessex Water – Pumping Station Kiosk S16 Request**

Further to the recommendation made at the working groups meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025, the S16 form and accompanying map was discussed and several points clarified. Members confirmed that the completion of the form S16 would releases a small area of Village Green land to enable the installation of an above ground kiosk to run the below ground pumping system.

It was therefore proposed by Cllr Dyke, seconded by Cllr Bissett and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED for the Chairman Cllr Davis to sign the Planning Inspectorate form S16 to deregister a small area of Village Green land of not more than 1.5m<sup>2</sup> for the installation of a pumping station kiosk on the condition that there is no cost whatsoever to Poulshot Parish Council.

There then followed a further discussion regarding a late request relating to the proposed underground pumping installation for permission to drill trial holes. to help establish the exact location of existing buried assets along with the borehole (maps will be attached to these minutes).

It was therefore proposed by Cllr Davis, seconded by Cllr Bissett and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED to grant permission for Wessex Water to drill trial holes on the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> April and the bore hole on the 17<sup>th</sup> April, as detailed on the provided maps.

### **118/24/25 Openreach – Wayleave requests**

Both requests, WL356825 (4 metres of underground duct and cables) and WL352066 (6 metres of underground duct and cables) were considered, with concerns raised regarding tree roots and events on the Village Green. It was thus proposed by Cllr Davis, seconded by Cllr Hues and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED for the Chairman Cllr Davis, to sign both Wayleaves, WL356825 and WL352066 and claim the one off payments of £9.44 and £14.16 respectively, on condition that Openreach agree not to interfere with the roots of the protected trees and avoid the Cricket match due to take place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2025.

### **119/24/25 Village Green and Amenity Field Maintenance**

It was explained that even after chasing the third supplier had not produced a quote therefore only 2 quotes had been received. After comparison and deliberation of the 2 provided quotes and what funds were in the budget for



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25-26, it was proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded by Cllr Hues and UNANIMOUSLY resolved to contract supplier A (Idverde) to cut the Village Green, - cut the large areas with the tractor and roller mowers (14 cuts), 1 cut in March, 2 cuts in April, 2 cuts in May, 2 cuts in June, 2 cuts in July, 2 cuts in August, 2 cuts in September, 1 cut in October and to cut smaller areas that the tractor can't get into, tractor and flail the hedges around the nature area once, cut the paths in the wild area once in October or November, leaving the areas around the pond at a cost of £2161.00 + VAT (*This will be 12 equal payments of £180.00 + VAT*) and to cut the amenity field once per month March to September using a ride on machine at a cost of £48.00 + VAT per cut.

### **120/24/25 Village Trust Update**

The update was received with an explanation about wildflower planting along Broadway and how the soil needed to be kept clear for two years before the wildflowers could be sown. Members had no objection to this proposal and were happy to hear the landowners had given permission. The received quotes for replacement trees were explained and how it may be more advisable to plant alternative species to the failed Lime trees. It was proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded by Cllr Church and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED to defer making a decision on tree replacements for the failed Limes at this point, this was due to the tree planting session coming to an end shortly and needing more information on alternative species.

### **121/24/25 Poulshot Footpath to A361**

Following an approval from the Area Board to develop a proposal for a substantive bid, to provide a footpath from the Village out to the A361 at a cost of £4,500.00, (funds to be provided by LHFIG £3,375 and Poulshot Parish Council £1,125). Members felt they needed more information on what the proposal entailed and if they were obligated to go ahead with it. It was requested that the Clerk contact Cllr Reay for more information.

### **122/24/25 Member updates**

**Bus Shelter** – Cllr Dyke reported he was still chasing for another two quotes.

**Speed Indicators (SIDs)** – Cllr Church stated she has not made any progress but hoped to pick it back up again soon.

**Broadway Lane** -LHFIG – Cllr Church to contact Cllr Reay to help with communication with Wiltshire Council.

**Tree Survey** – Cllr Davis reported the contractor will be completing the survey once the trees have budded up

**Tree Grant** – Cllr Bissett Confirmed grant application has been sent.

**Playground Cleaning** – All Members agreed the date of 22<sup>nd</sup> March to tie in with the Great British Spring Clean and the hire of a cleaning machine to remove the moss and to reposition the seat.



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### **123/24/25 Finance Report and Bank Balances**

Members received and **NOTED** the report, dated the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 2025 showing balances of.

Total Funds = £141,527.30

Parish Accounts = £19,930.80

Community Fund = £121,596.50

### **124/24/25 Financial Expenditure**

Members considered the financial expenditure report, and it was proposed by Cllr Bissett, seconded Cllr Davis and **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to approve the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025 expenditure report, showing payments of £2931.98

### **125/24/25 Completion of Accounts for FY 25/26**

This was discussed with members agreeing to wait until the new municipal year before deciding.

### **126/24/25 Confirmation of Next Meeting**

13<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Meeting ended at 21:07

Signed.....



Date.....

