

Background Report for Parish Council meeting February 2013

18.13 Reports

b. Pitton Village Flood Action group – no specific report – see item 19.13 below.

f. Parish Clerk's report

- The next Area Board meeting will take place on Thursday 6th June, venue to be confirmed.
- Community First is running a Community & Social Enterprise event on Tuesday 26th March in Seagry, North Wilts.
- Problems with a bird scarer being placed too close to a public footpath in Farley have been resolved.
- Bollards are now being placed close to the school lane junction with White Way at Pitton School dropping off and collecting times to ensure sight lines are maintained. See also the item below on Neighbourhood Plans
- The Campaign for the Protection of Rural England has invited the parish to enter the annual Best Kept Village competition.
- Parish Council meeting dates have been sent to PC Clissold. Sgt Dave Lenane has replaced Sgt Garvey as the Alderbury Beat Manager.
- Tony Nye will return as the full time Youth Development Co-Ordinator in early April, and the Area Board is looking for each parish council to appoint a councillor to be a point of contact for him. This will be an agenda item in May.

19.13 Flooding

The flood waters have risen in Pitton, but so far the siphon is coping with the flow. The diesel pump is in situ, but not connected, as it is not yet required. The Parish Council has bought sand for sand bags, and volunteers have filled and distributed over 300 to potentially affected residents. The sewers are affected however, and Southern Water is providing a tanker to assist the pumping station in Slate Way to do its job. A car parked next to the pumping station has been moved. The Pitton/Winterslow road is regularly gritted during the present very cold weather.

20.13 Planning

a. S/2013/0196/FULL – all documents are now available to view on line, and hard copies have been dropped off at the Chairman's house.

c. and d. – taken together.

Go here:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planninganddevelopment/planningcommunityrighttobid.htm>

For more information about registering a community asset with Wiltshire Council, and giving the community a subsequent right to bid for that asset, should there be some notice that the asset is going to be sold. I am aware that the Hook & Glove pub may come to the market next year, and the Parish Council may want to investigate and start a discussion about the registration process, subject to Farley Village's support and approval.

At the same time, although the parish is not designated for development, it is possible that the Hook & Glove site may be considered as a potential development site in the future. The Parish Council may want to reconsider the need for a Neighbourhood Plan, notwithstanding the work and expense involved, as it will ensure the parish is closely involved in decisions

about what can be built, if anything on the site and ensure it obtains a larger percentage of the Community Infrastructure Levy that will be imposed. At the same time, the issue of Pitton school parking has been raised again, and the need for a more formal school parking area. The land at the end of Above Hedges, originally designated for a new school, and then possibly for affordable housing may be appropriate for this, and could be incorporated into any Plan

21.13 Finance

c. Two quotes have been received to undertake maintenance of The Close. The spec also includes strimming Aymers Pond:

Quote A: £1165.00

Quote B: £1100.00

It is recommended that Quote B be accepted, subject to sight of appropriate and adequate insurance.

22.13 Draft Police & Crime Policy

Please visit:

<http://www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk/Document-Library/Police-and-Crime-Plan/Draft-plan-executive-summary.pdf> for further information.

Councillors may wish to respond as individuals as well as formulating the Parish Council's response.

24.13 Forthcoming local government elections

The local government elections will take place on Thursday 2nd May, and nominations may be submitted between Monday March 18th and noon on Friday 5th April. A time table is enclosed with this agenda pack, and nomination papers will be available in mid-March.

25.13 Highway/Parish Steward/Footpath matters

a. I am chasing reports from the parish steward. Slate Way is in a terrible state, as a result of the recent bad winters, a very wet summer and winter and heavily laden lumber lorries using this as an exit route from Clarendon. There is mud all over the road, and in one part, a good third of the carriageway has broken away. The verges are also being eroded. I recommend this should be raised as an Area Board issue for repair.

b. Nothing to report.

26.13 Ongoing matters

a. Grass cutting in The Close – see above.

b. Pitton bus shelter – Chris Hewitt has undertaken the repairs to the bus shelter as far as he is able, as it has been discovered that bats are roosting in the roof. I am investigating to see what can be done, if anything, and how much it will cost.