

**Minutes of the Meeting of Peterstow Parish Council on  
Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7.00pm at St Peters Hall, Peterstow**

**Present:** Cllr's Brian Roe (Chairperson), Brian Lampert, Rachel Underwood

**In attendance:** Claire Hall (Peterstow Parish Clerk), Ward Councillor Elissa Swinglehurst, Mest Mercia Police Crime Commissioner John Campion, Head of Business Support for West Mercia Police, Bethany Willetts, Sgt Alice Bennett & PCSO Simon Hall.

**1. To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies received from Councillor Beggs

**2. To receive declarations of interest & written dispensation requests.**

None

**3. To consider the minutes of the previous meetings held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025 were APPROVED as accurate & signed by Cllr Roe.

**4. Open Session**

A period of 10 minutes to receive views of local residents on parish matters.

- Keith Barnett: The crossing point near the shops was overgrown and asked that this be cleared. He said that the speed camera van location had been used in the past, circa 2012.
- David Smith: What do the Police need to do to reduce the speed limit through the village: Cllr Roe advised this would be discussed later in the meeting.
- Clifford Offer: Would like to see a clear safe footpath from Peterstow to the Red Lion pub.
- Paul Steed: Whilst on Peterstow Parish Council the Council suggested 6 different ways to Highways England on how to make the roads safer through the village, each one was rejected by Highways. He asked if there is a way that the 40mph limit can be moved further back along the A49 as the cost will be minimal.
- Judith Twyman: Is there an option to have a pedestrian crossing outside the shop? Cllr Roe advised that a pedestrian crossing is under discussion with Highways and that there is a lengthy process of consultation with regards to this which, even if approved by Highways, may still not receive budget.
- Mike Foster & John Richards: A footpath is needed from Everstone Rise to Peterstow shop and the Red lion stretch reduced to 40 mph from existing 50mph. A road sign at Everstone has been knocked down and needs restoring.

**5. Finance**

**To consider payment of all outstanding invoices within budget, including but not limited to:**

**5.1 All the below payments (5.1.1 through to 5.1.11) have been acknowledged**

- 5.1.1 Clerks January wages, as determined by the payroll provider
- 5.1.2 Terry Griffiths Contracts – TGC2990 – £267.60 – Roads Account
- 5.1.3 Terry Griffiths Contracts – TGC3029 – £267.60 – Roads Account
- 5.1.4 Terry Griffiths Contracts – TGC3025 – £94.08 – Bins Account
- 5.1.5 Terry Griffiths Contracts – TGC3044 – £276 – Roads Account
- 5.1.6 St Peters Hall – PPC2024 - £120 – 2024 Hall Hire
- 5.1.7 St Peter's Church - £700 – Maintenance of Peterstow Churchyard
- 5.1.8 Clerks February wages, as determined by the payroll provider
- 5.1.9 HALC – H5071 - £635.89 – Subscription Fee
- 5.1.10 HMRC January - February - £108

5.1.11 HMRC February - March - £107.80

**5.2 Budget review for 2024-2025 to date.**

Councillors present reviewed and were happy with progress of spend vs budget.

**5.3 To note Precept increase percentage for 2025/2026 for Peterstow**

The Clerk advised that the increase for the 2025/2026 Precept would be an increase of £0.14 per household per week.

**6. Planning**

**6.1 To discuss Bridleway restrictions of SK14 – No objections**

**6.2 Update on letter received concerning planning deadlines from Cllr Lester – Cllr Roe to follow this up at a later date.**

**6.3 Pending planning decision on Battery Storage scheme at the Gas Pumping site**

Cllr Roe said that he would follow up with regard to the Planning Committee Meeting scheduled at Plough Lane, Hereford for Wed 19<sup>th</sup> March and ensure that the Parish Council view would be represented.

**7. Road Safety:**

**7.1 Discuss road safety within the village with West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner, John Campion.**

- Before the meeting Mr Campion and Ms Willets had spent 90 minutes with Cllrs Roe and Lampert walking through the village and being shown the concerns that the Council has with regards to road safety.  
At the meeting Mr Campion advised that his role was to reduce Crime and Harm within Herefordshire and that during his short time walking the village he must have witnessed at least 100 vehicles passing through the village. He agreed that at 40mph (allowing up to 46mph to be unprosecuted), that allowed speed seems too high. It feels unsafe to pedestrians with proximity of footpath to road and air-pressure with high-sided vehicles adds further danger.
- Mr Campion advised that the criteria to put in a reduced speed limit is based on accidents, deaths or serious injury but also that a community concern may also be a trigger to reduce the speed limit.
- Mr Campion had advised that there is a “small pot of money” that could possibly be used to help purchase things such as village gates, small lineage which gives the appearance of the road narrowing and 50% funding towards additional SID’s.
- Mr Campion advised that evidence for speed limit reduction would be data collected from police speed monitoring devices (placed when complaints are received ref speed limit observation). Police have access to mobile cameras. Undercover vehicles tend to be targeted at drivers using phones whilst driving or under the influence of drink or drugs.
- Sgt Alice Bennett has offered to help the Council through the Neighbourhood Matters scheme to conduct a village survey. This will give villagers the opportunity to raise their concerns about road safety within the village. Sgt Bennett also advised that she would liaise with Casualty Reduction Officer, Ian Connolly. PCSO Simon Hall was asked to encourage residents to enrol for Neighbourhood Matters to build evidence.

- Mr Campion advised that as the A49 is a trunk road it is managed by Highways England rather than Herefordshire Council.
- Mr Campion and Ward Cllr Swinglehurst will both act to make representations to Highways and the Rt Hon Jesse Norman MP for an official safety review to be conducted for Peterstow; with a view to a reduction in speed within the village. Such a safety review could take 18 months.

#### Questions asked to Mr Campion

- Catherine Offer: The A49 has several 30 mph reductions between Herefordshire and Cheshire, why should Peterstow not have the reduction?
- Judith Twyman: Can the SID's be replaced by speed cameras? Mr Campion advised that there needs to be evidence that speed limits are constantly being broken. The high cost generally prevents fixed camera installation.
- Cllr Roe asked, as in our letter to the Chief Constable in January 2023: is it not time to move with technology and accept that the best evidence of frequent speeding is collected from intelligent SIDs? These are not regarded as a sign of Police presence and drivers drive as though not observed. Cllr Underwood further pressed this point. Mr Campion repeated the Police official line that this data is disregarded as not taken on Police calibrated machines. Arrangements would be made for further official monitoring.

Sgt Bennett advised that she will help increase police presence within the village by providing more support to PCSO Simon Hall for police enforcement. Cllr Roe advised that this would help but only if sufficiently be maintained and at varying times and days to make people more cautious of a police presence in the village at any time or day. Weekends are often a problem. Sgt Bennett confirmed that checks can be scheduled at weekends.

#### 7.2 Update on tree felling following further developments with Highways UK.

Cllr Underwood explained the change of Highways' position and to book Adam Cordy to carry out the felling of the trees, as soon as practicable. Highways have agreed to allow more time without enforcement.

#### 8. Other

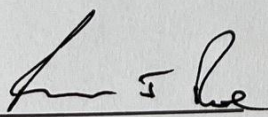
##### 8.1 Update on road bank being eroded at Glewstone following email to PPC.

Cllr Underwood to look further into this and draft a letter to the Man of Ross whose vehicle movements may be responsible.

Cllr Underwood advised that Peterstow Church would like to thank Peterstow Parish Council for the funding provided.

The Clerk to approach Terry Griffiths in regard to storing the flood defence equipment.

Meeting closed at 20.15

Signed: 

Dated: 14/05/2025