PENSAX PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Pensax Parish Council held on

Tuesday 14th July 2026 at 7 pm

Present

Cllr. A. Gillett; Cllr. Meese, Cllr. M. Pedersen; Cllr. P. Clarke co-opted at (Minute reference 6).

0 members of the public + 2 Vacancy; Clerk, Carole Hirst, Cllr. Bowen WCC Councillor,

1 Apologies for absence- Cllr. D. Abraham, Cllr. D Godwin MHDC Councillor;

Absent: none

2 Declarations of Interest. Cllr. Pedersen declared a Disclosable Interest in Minute 7 (M/26/00859/HP Myrron, Snead Common, Abberley) In that the property is next door to him.

Requests for Dispensation: None

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

3 Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday the 12th May 2026

Cllr. Gillett Proposed and Cllr. Marc Pedersen Seconded that the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council of the 12th May 2026 be approved. All in favour.

4 District and County Councillor Reports.

Worcestershire County Council Report- Cllr. Bowen

Local Government Reorganisation

The government is expected to make a decision on Worcestershire's Local Government Reorganisation on 16th July. However, this may be affected by a legal challenge from Norfolk County Council and Essex County Council, which are seeking Judicial Reviews of the government's decisions on their reorganisations. The Judicial Reviews centre on an assertion that the government's LGR decisions for were based not on the criteria set out originally, but on political calculations. If the legal challenge succeeds it may impact government decisions on LGR for Worcestershire.

Worcestershire County Council Library Strategy

On 2nd July, the Council Cabinet considered its Library Strategy for 2026-2028. The strategy builds on the previous administration's plan to protect libraries and outlines an intention to develop the use of libraries after Local Government Reorganisation in 2028. At the meeting, I made a case that Tenbury Wells Library could be developed before then as a pilot scheme for the county. I made the case that providing a range of County Council services at the library would expand its role as a community hub, and could

include being able to report potholes, overhanging trees etc, seeking well-being advice and support or accessing other Council services. The Leader of the Council welcomed the suggestion and has asked that I meet with the Cabinet Member for Environment & Communities to explore taking it forward.

Tenbury Division Matters

Flood Defences & PFR

I have spoken to the new Cabinet Member for Environment & Communities who has assured me he will be attending the next Regional Flood & Coastal Committee meeting, where he will be able to make Tenbury's case. I have asked for a meeting with him to set out in full the situation regarding Tenbury's flood protection.

Teme Bridge Cleaning

I have been in conversation with Burford Parish Council and Worcestershire County Council regarding having Teme Bridge cleaned before the summer holidays. The issue is being progressed on all sides and we are hoping to reach agreement for it to be done in the week commencing 13th July. Cleaning will take place overnight as it will require a road closure.

Parking in Tenbury Wells

Worcestershire County Council has now opened the extension to waiting times on Teme Street and Market Street to public consultation. Tenbury Traders group is in agreement with the proposal and I continue to work to achieving this ahead of the summer holidays.

I have still had no response from the Malvern Hills District Council leadership regarding free parking in Teme Street car park. The situation is likely to be exacerbated by the forthcoming loss of some free parking capacity on the swimming pool car park once work begins there. It would be helpful if Tenbury Town Council would support my proposal, which is also requested by the Tenbury Traders group. Tenbury District Councillor Duane Hubbard is also fully supportive of the measure and is exploring options with MHDC officers.

Divisional Community Funding

So far this financial year, funding has been allocated for a Vehicle Activated Sign in Abberley, a new wheelchair for Tenbury Transport Trust, the Regal Theatre, Great Witley Parish Church, Severn Rivers Trust and The Shelsleys Village Hall. If there are community projects or organisations that would benefit from funding please email me at jbowen4@worcestershire.gov.uk.

Cllr. Godwin- MHDC Councillor Report.

No report received.

5 Finance

a. To Note the Bank Reconciliation to 25th June 2026.

Councillors reviewed the accounts and confirmed that the Bank Reconciliation was accurate and reconciled and signed the bank reconciliation as true and accurate.

Noted and listed as APPENDIX 1

b. To Note the Budget Monitoring Report to 25th June 2026.
Councillors agreed the Budget Monitoring Report.
Noted. And listed as APPENDIX 2

c. To Consider list of due payments and receipts to 14th July 2026. Cllr. Gillett Proposed and Cllr. M Pedersen Seconded that all payments be approved. All in favour.

PAYMENTS at July 14th 2026		
G Lungley - Internal Audit	£	153.60
IN2OUT LENGTHSMAN May	£	182.75
C Hirst June Pay	£	552.52
HMRC June Tax and employer NIC deductions	£	179.26
C Hirst Clerk Expenses 2 months to July 14th	£	159.55
IN2OUT JUNE LENGTHSMAN	£	182.75
TOTAL	**£**	**1,410.43**
Receipts not previously recorded		
WCC - Lengthsman May	**£**	**182.75**
TOTAL	**£**	**182.75**

6 To consider co-option of Paul Clarke to Pensax Parish Council. Cllr. Gillett Proposed and Cllr. Marc Pedersen Seconded that Paul Clarke be co-opted onto Pensax Parish Council. All in favour.

7 Planning
M/26/00697/FUL- Rowley Farm, Pensax- Personal permission for use of land as a caravan site for the stationing of a twin-unit lodge for dependant relative accommodation- CONSULTATION to 25th June 26. **No objections on the current proposal.**

M/26/00859/HP Myrron, Snead Common, Abberley- Proposed conversion of existing garage for use as ancillary accommodation to the main dwelling- 9th July 26. **The Parish Council has no objection to this application.**

M/26/00905/HP White House, Pensax Common, Stockton- Above ground swimming pool- CONSULTATION to 20th July. Pensax PC supports this application

8 Village Gates– Cllr. Pedersen reported that the gates were installed on 13th July 2026 by WCC. Cllr. Gillett asked that a vote of thanks be recorded for Cllr. Pedersen's hard work in liaising with WCC and getting the gates installed.

9 **VAS update –** Cllr. Pedersen gave a verbal update on the VAS and agreed to continue to monitor the data produced from the VAS. He did report that there has been a decline in speeding at these points since the installation of the VAS signs.

10 Councillors' suggestions for reports for the next agenda.

Speed initiatives and whether further measures need to be explored.

To consider a new Parish Notice Board.

To consider interactive interpretation panel for the War Memorial.

11 Date of next meeting- The next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 8th September 2026 at 7pm at the Old Chapel, Menith Wood.

The meeting closed at 19.50 pm.

APPENDIX 1 BANK RECONCILIATION AT 25th June 2026

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PENSAX CASH BOOK 2026_27

PENSAX PARISH COUNCIL BANK RECONCILIATION at 25/6/26	£		£
		current account at 25/6/26	14,727.31
		Sale of village Hall lloyds deposit	37,154.05
Closing Cash balance at 31/3/26	221,567.33	Unity Bank	85,000.00
			85,000.00
		HMRC not left the account	-179.26
Add Receipts 2026/27	£ 5,096.55		
less Payments 2026/27	-4961.78	Bank Balance at 31/3/26	221,702.10
Closing Balance at 25/6/26	221,702.10		
		Reconciled	-

Restricted Reserves - from sale of Village Hall	£	205,617.02
Unallocated Reserves	£	16,085.08

Appendix 2 Budget update report 25th June 2026

2026_27 PENSAX P C Budget Year to Date
As at 25/6/26

		BUDGET	Spend/income to date	% to date
INCOME				
Precept		£ 9,360.00	4,680.00	50.00%
Bank interest		£ 5,000.00	£ 46.80	0.94%
Parish Lengthsman	Increased in April 2024	£ 2,450.00	369.75	15.09%
Grants VAS GRANT FROM WCC			0.00	-
Other, donation			0.00	-
VAT			0.00	-
TOTAL		**£ 16,810.00**	**5,096.55**	**30.32%**
EXPENDITURE, excluding VAT			**Expenditure to date**	-
Administration	Clerk salary Increased Apr 25	£ 8,491.00	2,195.34	25.85%
Insurance		£ 350.00	0.00	0.00%
WEBSITE AND COMP	added in April	£ 250.00	15.00	6.00%
Audit		£ 170.00	153.60	90.35%
Membership fees		£ 235.00	216.39	92.08%
Other and Office expenses (includes Cascade £510)		£ 750.00	162.61	21.68%
Training		£ 200.00	0.00	0.00%
Parish Lengthsman	Increased in April 2025	£ 2,450.00	369.75	15.09%
War Memorial - Mowing		£ 240.00	0.00	0.00%
Village Hall Hire		£ 200.00	0.00	0.00%
Donations/Grants/S137		£ 2,555.00	0.00	0.00%
Defibrillator		£ 300.00	0.00	0.00%
Election Costs	added in April		0.00	-
Noticeboards/L'Bins/Seat		£ 1,000.00	0.00	0.00%
Allocated reserves spend on items from sale of Village Hall	**carry forward to next year**	**£ 16,320.00**	1,506.00	9.23%
VAT		£ -	343.09	-
TOTAL		**£ 33,511.00**	**4,961.78**	**14.81%**

DETAIL OF LLOCATED AND UNALLOCATED RESERVES at 22/12/25

Balance Brought Forward from 31st March 2026	**£**	**221,567.33**
Add income 2026/27	**£**	**5,096.55**
Less Expenditure 2026/27	**£**	**4,961.78**
	£	**221,702.10**
Less income not yet received		
Less Restricted funding	**£**	**205,617.02**
Balance at 25/6/26 (unallocated Reserves)	**£**	**16,085.08**