Background:

Covid has demonstrated to us that the community demand that the parish council take a very proactive, leadership role to protect the local community in times of crisis. It has demanded more of a community capacity building role than previously, and to work in partnership with other local support organisations

Covid has meant we are in touch with more people within our community and their needs and we wish to build on that consultative possibility and work in a more cohesive, representative way

A lot of councillors do not appear to see this as their role and take a more reactive stance to community demands and events. The work of the council falls heavily on a small number of councillors and needs to be spread more widely

Now with elections in 2021 and devolution on the horizon, seems a pertinent time to review the role of Pontesbury parish council, what our vision is and what skills/roles are needed to meet the current and future challenges

Questions we feel need to be asked by the parish council as a team

What does it mean to be a parish council currently – demands/expectations from the community, potential demands in future

What role does the parish council want in Pontesbury – what is our vision for the parish

What skills/role then required by parish councillors to be a successful team to enable that vision to become a reality. What skills do we have currently, what gaps are there, what succession needs to be built into the team and seeing this as a group responsibility

What other elements are included in the ‘Be a better councillor’ training