

GREAT WYRLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GREAT WYRLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY 6TH NOVEMBER, 2019 AT GREAT WYRLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE, LANDYWOOD LANE, GREAT WYRLEY.

PRESENT:

Cllr. Ms. H. R. Snape (Chairman)

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier Cllr. M. Dabbs Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson Cllr. J. C. Jones Cllr. A. J. K elsey Cllr. M. McKenzie Cllr. R. Myatt	Cllr. A. Newell Cllr. A. Pearson Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry Cllr. R. J. Perry Cllr. Mrs. S. Toddington Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood
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60/2019 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr. A. Smith.

61/2019 MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Following the correction of Minute No. 52(c) to clarify that the pump was to be placed on highways land immediately outside or as close as possible to 15 Wharwell Lane it was **Resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2nd October, 2019 be accepted, approved and signed by the Chairman.

62/2019 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Chairman's announcements to be made on this occasion. Any matters to be raised would be covered in Parish Councillors Reports.

63/2019 STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE SERVICE REPORT

PCSO Mrs. K. Terry gave members a brief report on the situation with regard to crime in the Parish of Great Wyrley. A copy of the crime report is attached at **Appendix A**.

Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson advised PCSO Mrs. Terry that in her view Smart Alert was providing an excellent service and that she had recently heard that there were bogus collectors in the area purporting to be collecting on behalf of the Catherine Care Organisation. This was noted.

64/2019 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

122 STREETS LANE

A resident of Streets Lane asked whether the Parish Council or the District Council was aware of any Planning Application in the system relating to land at 122 Streets Lane, Great Wyrley. The resident was concerned that it appeared that an electricity supply was being installed on the site which was felt may be a precursor to further unauthorised use of the land.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry advised the meeting that she was unaware of any Planning Application on this site at the present time and reminded all present that the owners of the property were in the process of being

prosecuted for non-compliance with Enforcement Notices which had been reinstated following an unsuccessful enforcement appeal lodged by the owner of the land.

LANDYWOOD FARM – CHURNED UP FOOTWAYS

Another resident of Streets Lane advised the Parish Council that she was extremely concerned that concrete lorries were churning up the footpath to Landywood Farm. Following discussion Cllr. A. Newell advised the meeting that the owners of Landywood Farm operated a business from the premises and the vehicles may be using the access in relation to that use. The resident was advised that the situation would be reported to Staffordshire Highways and research carried out to clarify the status of the business and the access serving it.

LOVE LANE – FIREWORKS DEBRIS

A resident of Love Lane advised the Parish Council that he had attended the Parish Council during the previous year when he had suggested that the Parish Council change the firing position of the Jubilee Fireworks display at the Annual Bonfire Event. The resident was not pleased that the Parish Council had not taken his views into account and had staged the firework display in a position where it still had a negative impact on properties in Love Lane. A number of residents were complaining that lit debris was still being allowed to fall onto their properties, cars etc. The resident was also extremely concerned regarding the damage which had been caused to the surface of the Star Land itself.

The Chairman advised the resident that the feedback he had given to the Parish Council the previous year had been given to the Fireworks Provider and they had assessed the situation on the day and chosen the most suitable location to stage the fireworks.

The Chairman also advised the resident that the Parish Council was fully aware of the condition of the field and that this issue was being dealt with as a matter of urgency.

The Chairman apologised that the residents of Love Lane had again been inconvenienced by the event and that the matter would be reviewed again before next year's event took place.

The Chairman closed the Public Participation session of the meeting.

65/2019

CLERK'S REPORTS

(a) Great Wyrley Annual Bonfire Event

As Members were aware, a meeting was held immediately prior to full Council on 2nd October, 2019 between the Parish Council, PRP Security, Staffordshire Police and Dobson's Funfairs of Featherstone.

Following a full debate at the meeting a decision was made to allow a limited number of fairground attractions (of a family orientated nature only) to be part of the event for this year only on a trial basis.

The Parish Council again employed security for the event and Dobson's Funfairs had agreed to employ its own additional security to control the Fairground element of the event.

In order to reflect the changes which had been made to the arrangements for the current year the Clerk had carried out a review of the risk assessment governing the event. This was noted by Members.

The Chairman advised the meeting that the event had been very successful and had passed without incident. The feedback on the event had been excellent. The bag search had proved very successful and had immediately identified people trying to access the field and bring in prohibited goods. Those who had refused the bag search were subsequently approached by Members of the Police Service asking why they were not prepared to submit to the bag search.

There were no negative issues to report other than that raised by a resident of Love lane earlier in the meeting.

The Chairman advised the meeting that due to circumstances beyond the Parish Council's control the event had been mainly organised on the day by the Head Groundsman and it was agreed by all Members that he should be suitably recompensed for all his hard work. A special thank you was to be given to the Head Groundsman with a token of the Parish Council's appreciation.

Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood advised the meeting that she had received feedback to the effect that there was a general feeling that all the families who had attended had felt very safe and secure. This was noted.

(b) Wharwell Lane Pump and Discovery of Historical Cannonball

Members had already discussed and clarified the issue of the relocation of the Pump in Wharwell Lane in the Public Participation Session of the meeting.

Cllr. R. Myatt advised the meeting that the suggestion which had been made by Harrisons Club was merely a gesture in the event that the Highways location could not be achieved. This was noted.

However, in addition Councillor Mrs. K. M. Perry had been notified that an ancient cannonball had been discovered in the grounds of another property in Wharwell Lane, Great Wyrley. The authenticity of the find had been verified by the appropriate agency and would appear to substantiate the view that Oliver Cromwell's troops had dug a well in Great Wyrley(hence the name Wharwell Lane) in order to supply water to the encampment of troops based nearby during the English Civil War in 1642.

The resident who had made the discovery was expected to be present at the Parish Council meeting whereupon he may have been able to give Members additional background information regarding the find and be party to discussions as to a way forward, however, it had not been possible to make contact with him.

Cllr. A. Newell advised the meeting that the History Society already had a cannon ball and it was for the finder of the cannonball to choose its future it may be that it could be exhibited in primary schools as an aid to history lessons. Members agreed to defer this matter until the next meeting of the Parish Council when additional information may be available.

(c) Car Parking Situation in Great Wyrley

As Members were already aware, the operators of the Quinton Centre had recently installed a car parking control system which allowed a

period of only 90 minutes free parking. This system operated over a 24 hour period and worked on the following system.

- Free parking for anyone for a 90 minute period whether or not they are using the businesses operating from the Quinton Centre.
- The businesses on the Quinton Centre had the facility to log into the parking system and input the registration details of any person who was likely to need longer than 90 minutes at their premises at no additional charge.
- Any person parked on the Quinton Centre Car Park for purposes other than visiting one of the businesses operating from the site would be liable for a fine should they chose to overstay the 90 minute free period.

The Parish Council had been assured that this measure had been put in place with the full support of the tenants of the Quinton Centre as it resolved the problem associated with motorists leaving their cars on the Quinton Car Park all day long having left the area by train.

Following the action taken by the Quinton Centre Operators the Co-op in Wardles Lane had now designated approximately 40 spaces to be long stay usage for a fee of £2.00.

The Parish Council was of the view that when looked at, as a whole, this action represented a resolution which was being fair to all parties. However, the backlash being suffered by the staff at the Parish Council from users of the Community Centre is not only completely unfair but totally unjustified. There had been no decrease in the amount of parking available to people wishing to use the Community Centre, the problem appeared to stem from the fact that there would be a charge involved to park on either of the car parks which serve other facilities.

The impact that the car parking situation was having on Parish Council staff had now become two fold, firstly, the amount of time lost by staff having to put notices on vehicles using the Community Centre Car Park and not using the Community Centre itself was growing on a daily basis, secondly, the treatment being meted out to the staff by members of the public had become quite unacceptable.

The Parish Council is not in a position to take ownership of this problem as it is not in the Parish Council's jurisdiction to take any measures to resolve this matter. However, in view of the fact that the Parish Council wished to market the Centre as a venue for social occasions, it may well be that measures will need to be taken to provide additional car parking spaces to serve the Community Centre itself.

Following discussion Members **resolved** that at the present time it may be beneficial to write a letter to the NHS Estates advising it that there was a need to increase the car parking facility for the Health Centre.

(d) Millennium Green Footpath

The Clerk advised the meeting that she was expecting to be in possession of a quotation for the required works to be carried out to the Millennium Green Footpath. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood reminded the Clerk that the Beacon on the Millennium Green was also to be refurbished as the Great Wyrley Parish Council Shield was no longer part of the structure and needed to be replaced.

(e) Shank's Bridge Footbridge and Traffic Controls

The Parish Council had been advised by Staffordshire County Council that the works to the footbridge element of Shanks Bridge was successfully carried out on the night closure, 19th & 20th of October. Apparently this now only left the tying in works to the existing footpaths and some minor fencing installation yet to be carried out.

Although Staffordshire County Council was unable to commit to an exact date when the footbridge would be opened to the public and the temporary signals removed, it was anticipated that all works would be completed by the end of November.

(f) Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch Ticket Price

As Members were already aware the ticket price for the Friday lunches was increased by Plyvine Caterers from November of this year; it now followed that the ticket price for the Christmas Lunch event also needed to be increased.

Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** to increase the price per ticket for the Senior Citizens Christmas Lunches by £1.00. It was carried.

(g) South Staffordshire Council Three Tier Working

The Parish Council had received correspondence from South Staffordshire Council to the effect that following on from the recent Parish Summit where a presentation was given along with a workshop on the public realm the District Council promised to follow the workshop up and identify if it could take a more collaborative approach to working with the Parish Council. In order to further this issue the District Council was organising meetings with Parish Councils. Cllr. Mrs. K. M Perry advised the Parish Council that there was to be a meeting with representatives of South Staffordshire Council on Wednesday 20th November, 2019 here at the Community Centre at 6.00p.m. where Councillors would be able to put questions to the team. This meeting was expected to cover the Parishes of Great Wyrley, Cheslyn Hay and Essington. There would be a further meeting at Featherstone Community Centre on 25th November. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson advised the meeting that she was very disappointed not to see more Parish Councillors at The Parish Summit as it was a very valuable exercise which would have been of benefit especially to the newer members of the Parish Council. This was noted.

(h) Love Lane – Modifications to Highway

Members recalled that during the recent past there had been a number of complaints received regarding the modifications which had been made by a resident of Love Lane to the highway immediately approaching a public footpath.

Unfortunately, the Parish Council had received correspondence to the effect that it was unable to take any action relating to this matter. However, following discussion it was **resolved** by the Parish Council that it would challenge the County Council's legal view and if appropriate explore the possibility of making a claim on the land itself.

Cllr. Ms. H. Snape advised the Parish Council that she had been very surprised at the response received from Staffordshire County Council particularly, in view of past history relating to this site.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry advised the meeting that in her view allowing this situation to go unchallenged would set a very bad precedent.

(i) Notification of Road Traffic Diversion – Norton Lane

The Parish Council had received notification of a road traffic diversion order that from 12th November, any vehicle would be prohibited from proceeding in that length of Norton Lane in Great Wyrley in so much as passes by and is in the direct vicinity of its junction with Kingswood Drive unless the vehicle is being used in connection with the works. An alternative route for traffic was available and would be signed on site. This was noted by Members.

(j) New Bus Shelter in Gorsey Lane

The Clerk advised the Parish Council that the new bus shelter would be installed in Gorsey Lane during the week beginning Monday 2nd December, 2019. Commutaports Ltd. had very kindly kept their word and held their price for the shelter to the original quotation of June 2018. This was noted.

66/2019 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry advised the meeting that she did not have a great deal to report on behalf of Staffordshire County Council other than the fact that there was a consultation presently underway as part of the selection process for the route of the M6/M54 Link Road. Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that even though the road itself would not necessarily impact on Great Wyrley Parish the construction of the road would indeed affect the surrounding areas. This was noted.

67/2019 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

CONNECT LOCAL BOOKABLE BUS SERVICE

Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson advised the meeting that South Staffordshire Council had now relaunched the Connect Local Bookable Bus Service which would operate between 10.00a.m. and 3.00p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays. The Bus Service collects passengers from their homes and delivers them to their destination for a £5.00 return fee within a particular local zone. The service needed to be booked up to a week in advance. This was noted by Members.

68/2019 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

CAROL CONCERT

Cllr. Ms. H. Snape advised the Parish Council that unfortunately there had been a very low response from the schools and the other village

organisations to taking part in the Annual Carol Concert. Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** that it would not hold the Carol Concert this year and look to attempt to garner more interest for the following year. It was carried.

SAFE PARKING SCHEME – ROBIN HOOD AREA

Cllr. H. R. Snape advised the meeting that she had been approached by residents in the area referred to above requesting the Parish Council's support with the launch of a safer parking scheme. The Safer Parking Scheme is an initiative of the Association of Chief Police Officers aimed at reducing crime and the fear of crime in parking facilities.

Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** to give this issue its full support.

DOG FOULING

Cllr. Ms. H. R. Snape advised the Parish Council that she was aware that there was a great deal of concern regarding the amount of dog fouling which was still taking place within the Parish. The Clerk was to research the possibility of additional movable signage. This was noted by Members.

FLOODING ISSUE – JACOBS HALL LANE

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier advised the meeting that she had been approached by a resident of Jacobs Hall Lane regarding a flooding issue which was being experienced by the owners of the newly built properties in Jacobs Hall Lane. Cllr. Mrs. Brazier was advised that this matter would be one of a civil nature and that it may be more beneficial should she be approached by residents on matters of this nature if she was to refer them directly to the Clerk to the Parish Council.

INCONSIDERATE PARKING IN HOLLY LANE

Cllr. Mrs. Brazier advised the meeting that she had been approached with a request for assistance with the habitual practice of parking on both sides of Holly Lane. Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry advised the meeting that unfortunately, this was the practice of inconsiderate parents collecting their children from school and that unfortunately it was a national problem and not just specific to Great Wyrley. This was noted.

69/2019

REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

Cllr. A. J. Kelsey advised the meeting that the Bonfire had been a great event and that the bag searches had proved to be very successful. Unfortunately, the takings had been down on last year's event. The Police had been checking the parking at the event and suggested that for next year's event it would be beneficial to create a no parking area from Hazel Lane up to The Star Public House.

Cllr. J. C. Jones asked Cllr. Kelsey whether the reduction in takings this year at

The Bonfire would be likely to affect the Carnival in 2020. Cllr. Kelsey advised Cllr. Jones that it was hoped that it would not affect the Carnival and advised Members that there was to be a Craft Fair to support the Carnival on 30th November and various other events during the year. This was noted.

70/2019 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

19/00785/FUL – RETROSPECTIVE APPLICATION TO ERECT A NEW 1.8M HIGH CLOSE BOARDED TIMBER AND CONCRETE POST FENCE AT 41 WARDLES LANE, GREAT WYRLEY.

THE MEETING WAS ADVISED THAT THIS APPLICATION FOLLOWED THE INVESTIGATION OF THE SITUATION BY THE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL WHICH HAD REVEALED THAT THE ERECTION OF A FENCE OVER 1 METRE IN HEIGHT WITHIN TWO METRES OF THE HIGHWAY CONTRAVENES PLANNING REGULATIONS AS DOES THE CHANGE OF USE OF PRIVATE OPEN LAND TO CLOSED PRIVATE LAND.

THE CLERK WAS TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS ALONG THESE LINES TO THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY.

71/2019 **REPORT OF OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS**

A report on the outstanding accounts for authorisation for payment was presented to Council and it was **resolved** that the report be accepted, approved and signed by the Chairman.

72/2019 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted that the public and press be excluded and that they are instructed to withdraw in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Section 12.

73/2019 **LETTER OF CLAIM**

The Parish Council having considered the Clerk's Report on this matter **resolved** to instruct the Clerk to progress the recommendations contained within it.

The meeting closed at 8.55p.m.

Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr. John Marshall', written over a horizontal line.



PARISH COUNCIL MEETING CRIME REPORT.

Public bodies can only disclose information if they have the power to do so. Section 115 of the Crime and Disorder Act provides a power to exchange information where disclosure is necessary to support the local Crime Reduction Strategy and Partnership in achieving the aims of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy and objectives outlined within it.

The degree of disclosure that takes place must be proportionate and relevant to the level of social ill or criminality it is intended to counter or prevent.

The information is only to be processed in relation to crime and disorder purposes. Information will be handled in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, the Human Rights Act 1998 and any other relevant legislation governing disclosures and will ultimately be disposed of in a secure manner.

Main headlines since the last meeting:

- Burglary residential ...Weston Drive. Bogus official incident. Elderly male has let a male reporting to be from water board into his property. A small amount of cash stolen.
- Vehicle crime... Motorbike stolen from the rear garden of flats on Sunbeam Drive. Vauxhall Corsa taken from Brook Lane, owner was going to scrap the vehicle. 2 vehicles broken into, one on Walsall Road, wallet taken after it was left on the seat, tools taken from a works van parked on Hazel Lane
- Criminal damage...Window broken in Collinwood Close, resident unsure of the date as they were away at the time. Cromwell Court, front window smashed by offender known to the resident, Weston Drive, damage to fence owned by SSHA
- ASB...3 youth related issues, youths causing a nuisance behind a property in Weston Drive, PCSO's found them with strong advice not to return (possibly the ones responsible for the damage to the fence at the same location). Co-op having issues with youths from GWHS being abusive to staff and customers. 3 offenders identified by CCTV and dealt with by school. Group of youths causing a nuisance outside the bakery. Youths setting off fireworks, aiming them at vehicles on the field at Jones Lane. Report of males fighting but when spoken too were play fighting.
Neighbour issues in Brook Lane, Hall Lane x 2, Collinwood Close (PC's dealing with the issues. Report in Weston Drive of an 8 year old on a mini moto.

Drugs

Police officers have arrested a male on Walsall Road for drug driving.
2 males found in possession of 2oz's cannabis after report of suspicious
vehicle on Jones Lane

Incidents are being put out on smart alert and surgeries are advertised on Twitter
and now Facebook



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

PCSO 8852 Terry
PCSO 26358 Timmins