

GREAT WYRLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GREAT WYRLEY PARISH COUNCIL held at Great Wyrley Community Centre, Landywood Lane, Great Wyrley which commenced at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday 4th May, 2022.

Present:

**(Chairman)
Cllr. A. Newell**

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier	Cllr. A. Pearson
Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson	Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE
Cllr. J. C. Jones	Cllr. R. J. Perry
Cllr. M. McKenzie	Cllr. Mrs. C. Whiston-Taylor
Cllr. R. Myatt	Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood

138/2022 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr. M. Dabbs, Cllr. A. Kelsey, Cllr. A. D. Smith and Cllr. Mrs. S. Toddington.

139/2022 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6th April, 2022 be accepted, approved and signed by the Chairman.

140/2022 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Chairman took this opportunity to thank everyone who had been in attendance at the Dedication Service for the NHS and front line key workers. The event had been very well attended and there had been very many kind words spoken about the tribute itself and the Memorial Gardens. The weather had not been particularly kind but it did not seem to have spoiled the event in any way.

The Chairman also advised the meeting that he was very pleased to announce that the Planning Inspectorate had dismissed the appeal lodged against the refusal of planning permission for two dwellings on land at 434 Walsall Road, Great Wyrley. This was noted by Members.

The Chairman then took the opportunity to welcome Mrs. Christine Whiston-Taylor who had now been co-opted on to the Parish Council and had taken her place for her first meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry introduced Mr. Andy Williams and Mr. Daniel Beecher to the meeting. Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that she had been contacted by Mr. A. Seabridge of Seabridge Developments with a request to be allowed to attend the Parish Council meeting with a view to gaining the Parish Council's views on a proposal relating to a site allocation in Pool View.

Mr. D. Seabridge addressed the Parish Council on behalf of Seabridge Developments who owned the land at the present time and would shortly be going to market in terms of going forward with a developer.

Mr. Seabridge thanked the Parish Council for allocating a time slot to allow a presentation to take place and handed over to his Planning Consultant, Mr. A. Williams of Advance Planning.

Mr. Williams then gave the Parish Council a brief report on their intentions for the land and in particular a small stretch which it was felt may be better utilised as Public Open Space.

Mr. Williams explained that despite the fact that this site had been allocated for development in the Local Plan four years ago, it was only now that the project was to be launched. It was their intention to offer this land to potential developers in the near future, no planning permission had been applied for and no pre-app discussions had taken place with the Local Authority. Tonight's exercise was purely one of very early consultation to ensure that the Local Council had an opportunity to make its views known.

The main area of discussion surrounded a strip of land just outside the site which had potential to become public open space. Mr. Williams explained that by Public Open Space he meant that it could become a play area, an environmental area, or a trim trail to mention but of a few of the options. Either way it was felt that the land had the potential to provide an important perspective along with enhanced biodiversity.

Mr. Williams explained that in general there was a requirement to provide public open space within the site of new developments. However, South Staffordshire Council had recently agreed that a development in Featherstone could be served by Public Open Space to the south of its development site leading Advance Planning to assume that it would not represent a problem should Seabridge Developments choose to follow the same route. Rather than just going forward with this assumption, Seabridge Developments felt that it would be beneficial to gauge the Parish Council's views beforehand prior to committing this idea to the application itself.

Mr. Williams advised the Parish Council meeting that he was not expecting a definite reply to this question this evening; rather he was expecting that the Parish Council would prefer to discuss this matter more fully at another time and then come back to him via whichever means it chose. Mr. Williams then invited questions and observations from the Parish Council.

Cllr. J. C. Jones asked Mr. Williams if he had any idea how many dwellings it was proposed to build on the site. Mr. Williams explained that 35 dwellings was the minimum of dwellings which had been included in the site allocation description and these would comprise a mix of 2,3 and 4 bed dwellings but that there would be a number of single storey dwellings added into the mix too. The exact mix was unknown at the present time.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE asked Mr. Williams whether allocating the Public Open Space would allow for more houses to be built upon the allocated site. Cllr. Mrs. Perry also wished clarification on who would be responsible for its upkeep if the public open space was located outside the site allocation area.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry advised Mr. Williams that she did not feel that a children's play area would be appropriate in such close proximity to the Pool. This was noted.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry also felt that any project should be guided towards one which would create an environmental interest and a nature preservation site.

Mr. Williams explained that in general in situations of this nature the District Council would be approached regarding the upkeep of the public open space, however, in some cases a similar agreement had been struck with the local Parish Council.

Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson requested clarification as to how the builder would be able to work with the contours of the site. Mr. Williams explained that it would not be cost effective to attempt to flatten the site and the design and build would be centred on the existing contours of the site. Cllr. Mrs. Johnson also asked how the developer would deal with the flooding problems experienced in the area.

Mr. Williams explained that this situation would be dealt with by means of the inclusion of attenuation ponds within the site. Many people remained sceptical on the efficiency of attenuation ponds, however, Mr. Williams advised the meeting that this method of dealing with flood water was extremely efficient in that it captured all the waters and then rerouted to areas with the ability to cope. Research into the existing fluvial processes would be undertaken as part of the project. This was noted.

Cllr. R. Myatt requested clarification as to whether this proposal would go to a public consultation. Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry advised Cllr. Myatt that any public consultation would be carried out at the application stage. Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson advised the Parish Council that there was no decision to be made on this matter at the present time; this opportunity would come much later. Cllr. J. C. Jones advised Mr. Williams and Mr. Seabridge that it was refreshing to be approached for views beforehand and much appreciated. The Clerk would be providing feedback in due course.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Williams and Mr. Seabridge for their attendance at the meeting at which point they both left the meeting room.

The Chairman then invited questions from the remainder of the members of the public present in the gallery.

A resident of Great Wyrley enquired as to the number of residents who had attended the Christmas lunch. This information was not immediately available at which point the resident brought up the fact that the Parish Council had been promised a donation from Cornwells Chemists. The resident wished to know if this had ever been received. The response was that yes it had been received.

The donation received was £1000, the total cost from Olde Wyrley Hall was £1,160.00 so the Parish Council had taken the decision to gift each attendee present on the day the sum of £10 (which is the same amount they had paid for the ticket) as a Christmas Gift to compensate for the fact that no Friday or Christmas lunches had occurred in over two years. It needed to be recognised that this was not a refund of the ticket price it was a gift to the attendees.

The resident had incorrectly assumed that the Parish Council had paid out the sum of £1,160.00 to Olde Wyrley Hall twice. The resident was advised that this was not the case the original cheque drawn in February had been cancelled and a new one raised again in March. This was noted.

The Chairman then invited the remaining resident in the public gallery to address the meeting. The resident explained that his father had been interred in Great Wyrley Cemetery in January of this year. The resident explained that the family was happy with the location, however, were very concerned that the headstone was constantly in need of cleaning due to the amount of faecal matter from birds.

The Chairman advised the resident that they understood that this matter was one of concern and agreed that there was a need to hold a Cemetery Working Party so that a way forward could be sought. The resident requested to be in attendance at the Working Party meeting. The Parish Council agreed to contact the resident when a date and time had been confirmed.

The Chairman then closed the Public Participation Session.

141/2022 REPORT FROM STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE SERVICE

PCSO Matthew Tromans gave the Parish Council the crime report from the Police Service, a copy of which is attached to the minutes at **Appendix A**.

Cllr. J. C. Jones enquired of PCSO Tromans whether there he had any update on the theft of two motor bikes and a delivery vehicle. PCSO Tromans did not have an update but would garner the necessary information and contact Cllr. Jones directly.

Cllr. Jones had also been made aware via social media that there had been an incidence of three people stealing from the Spar and also of a car with false number plates. PCSO Tromans did not have any further information on this matter.

PCSO Tromans also advised the Parish Council that Staffordshire Police was committed to complying with its data protection obligations and meeting individuals' expectations of privacy when developing new ANPR infrastructure. Staffordshire Police was also committed to meeting individual's expectations of privacy with regard to existing ANPR infrastructure and therefore was undertaking the DPIA process for the existing ANPR sites.

Staffordshire Police was also committed to annually reviewing all ANPR infrastructure. Staffordshire Police currently has ANPR cameras in the area of the A34 Great Wyrley. Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology was used to help detect, deter and disrupt criminality. It can also be a powerful tool in helping the Police tackle travelling criminals and helps to protect communities from harm and allows law abiding drivers to continue with their daily lives unhindered, whilst simultaneously drawing police attention to those using the roads for criminal endeavours.

Further details about what ANPR can do, how camera locations are identified, and how Staffordshire Police access and use ANPR data can be found on the Staffordshire Police website within the ANPR section. Should Members have any views or comments they wish to make this can be done by emailing Jason.Dorrington@staffordshire.police.uk.

142/2022 CLERK'S REPORTS TO COUNCIL

(a) UPDATE ON JUBILEE EVENTS

The Clerk advised the meeting that the posters showing the diary for the Jubilee Events had now been posted all over the Parish and was currently showing that there is a significant uptake from the Community to most of the events planned.

The Parish Council had been successful in its bid for funding from South Staffordshire Council, however, because there had been a significant number of applications, Great Wyrley Parish Council had only received half the amount it applied for. However, this was still £500 more than the Parish Council would have had to put towards the event and it was still considered to be a good result.

The Clerk also advised the meeting that she was intending to raise awareness of the Platinum events and would be advertising in the local shops and Post Office.

To date the Parish Council had given out approximately 40 vouchers for the Afternoon Tea and 10 vouchers for the Children's Street Party. A number of enquiries had unearthed the fact that parents appeared to be looking for a venue where their children would be looked after and there would be no need for the parents to remain with them. It had been made clear that this was not the case.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE suggested that now was the time for smaller individual leaflets to be circulated which would give more detail. The Parish Council planned to accomplish this by producing separate A5 size leaflets for each event notifying those interested with additional detail and parking information. These would be circulated around the Parish in various locations. This was noted.

The Clerk advised the meeting that it did not appear that the Parish Council would be going ahead with purchasing any specifically dedicated Jubilee Lighting as to do so would incur a cost of about £800 per lamp post. However, there was a possibility of having bunting erected.

Members agreed that these were items which could be determined by the Platinum Jubilee Working Party and it was agreed that a meeting should take place on 17th May, 2022. The Clerk was to confirm a time with the Members of the Working Party.

(b) BOUNDARY FENCING AT THE CEMETERY

Members recalled that the Parish Council had decided to place this matter on the agenda for the next meeting of the Parish Council to enable full discussion. Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry advised the meeting that she felt that this would be another matter which would benefit from being researched by the Cemetery Working Party.

The Cemetery Working Party would also be able to look into the matter regarding the dislodged gravel board fencing. Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry gave the Parish Council a brief report on the circumstances which may have led to the present situation.

Cllr. J. C. Jones also advised the meeting that it may be a good suggestion to look at having the appropriate tree stumps in Great Wyrley Cemetery carved into attractive statues. This matter had also been included in the earmarked funds for this year and the Clerk was to approach Hilton Nature Reserve who may be able to provide this service.

(c) LETTER OF THANKS FROM GREAT WYRLEY METHODIST CHURCH

The Clerk advised the Parish Council that she had received a letter of thanks from Great Wyrley Methodist Church, a copy of which is attached **at Appendix B**.

The content of this letter was very gratefully received and its sentiments would be passed on to the Parish Council Ground Staff.

143/2022 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the Parish Council that she did not have a great deal to report on this occasion other than to say that Staffordshire County Council Highways had now carried out a large number of the repainting of white lining tasks which had been reported, however, there were still quite a lot of areas requiring attention. This was noted.

144/2022 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson advised the Parish Council that she did not have a great deal to report on this occasion, other than to say that the new hub at South Staffordshire Council was now working well and the restaurant on site had now reopened.

There had recently been a very successful Job Club event and there were a number of vacancies for employment at the local Leisure Centres.

In conclusion Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry advised the Parish Council that the Government Rebate had now been rolled out to all households who paid by direct debit and the remainder would receive theirs in due course. This was a really good result as they had met 98% of the people entitled to a rebate.

Cllr. J. C. Jones requested clarification of whether the District Council was shortly to roll out its new blue recycling bag for cardboard and papers.

Cllr. R. Perry advised the meeting that this action was being taken because the cost of recycling materials is now more involved than separating paper and card from other recycling. This is because mixing paper and card with other materials results in contamination.

Apparently, paper mills which recycle paper and card need higher quality material to recycle it into new things, as do the recyclers of glass, cans and plastic materials. Government has recognised the need to change the way we collect recycling, and whilst many Councils already collect paper and card in a separate bag, the District Council expects these changes to become the norm across England in the near future. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. Mrs. Johnson advised the meeting that the District Council could make arrangement for the bags to be collected from the doorstep should any resident be unable to move it due to its weight. However, this has to be requested at the Council Offices it will not just happen as a matter of course.

Cllr. J. C. Jones requested clarification of the authenticity of media cover which was stating that The Government had proposed banning Local Authorities from charging for the disposal of DIY waste from households.

Apparently, around a third of Local Authorities charge for the disposal of waste such as plasterboard, bricks and bath units. Under the new proposals, such charges would be banned. The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) is of the belief that this would help reduce the number of fly-tipping incidents.

This belief was fully supported by the Parish Council.

145/2022 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

REQUEST FROM ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Cllr. A. Newell advised the meeting that he had received a request from the Royal British legion to display poppies on the gates to the Memorial Garden during the period of the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. Members agreed that there was a requirement for additional information on this occasion and the Chairman agreed to approach The Royal British Legion in order to clarify the situation. In addition the Parish Council resolved to investigate the purchase of metal poppies to be attached to the Memorial Gates. This was noted.

CORRECTION TO GATE INSCRIPTIONS

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the Parish Council that he had been approached by an elder of the Royal British Legion who was extremely upset regarding one of the features of the Memorial Garden. The feature in question was the corrections to the inscriptions on the gates which had been placed in a position where, in his, view it obscured the view of the Cenotaph. The Legion Member felt that this was not the purpose of the Memorial Garden. Following discussion, the Parish Council **resolved** to invite the gentleman to a future Parish Council meeting in order to clarify the situation.

BEAUTIFUL MEMORIAL GARDENS

Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson advised the Parish Council that she would like it properly recorded that the Memorial Gardens looked absolutely beautiful on Sunday and that its appearance was a real credit to FROG. However, Cllr. Mrs. Johnson was concerned that this may not continue into the future as the volunteers were getting older and it was not as easy to carry out the gardening activities which had led to such an inspiring place.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that there was a need to hold a special meeting in the future to discuss this matter thoroughly and ensure that a way forward was properly planned for.

Cllr. R. Myatt advised the Parish Council that if anyone knew of anyone wishing to volunteer for duty at the Memorial Gardens they should contact him as soon as possible.

PARKING ON PAVEMENTS

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier advised the meeting that it had been advertised in the press that the problems surrounding parking of motor vehicles on pavements was to be addressed nationally in the coming weeks. Following discussion Members agreed that this matter should be monitored as it was clearly a problem. However, Members also understood how this problem had arisen all over the country particularly, when planning laws only required parking for 1.5 vehicles for each property. Members agreed to monitor the situation.

146/2022 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

LANDYWOOD VOLUNTARY HELP CENTRE

Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson advised the meeting that Rainbow was about to return to the Voluntary Help Centre. They now had a new driver for the bus and had all been thoroughly enjoying their luncheon outings to The Oak. This was noted by Members.

147/2022 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

22/00314/FUL – GARAGE CONVERSION TO ANNEX AT 517 WALSALL ROAD, GREAT WYRLEY. THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO THIS APPLICATION BUT RESERVED THE RIGHT TO SUPPORT NEIGHBOUR OBJECTIONS IF REQUIRED.

22/00421/ADV – 3 NO. FASCIA SIGNS 2 X 4.5M WIDE 1, 6M WIDE AND 1 PROJECTING SIGN AT THE DAVY LAMP, WARDLES LANE, GREAT WYRLEY – THE PARISH COUNCIL OBJECTED TO THIS PROPOSAL ON THE BASIS THAT THE SIGNS WERE FAR TOO LARGE AND WOULD HAVE A DETRIMENTAL IMPACT ON QUINTON COURT.

22/00281/LUP – GARAGE CONVERSION TO CREATE BEDROOM AND SHOWER ROOM AT 24 ANSON CLOSE, GREAT WYRLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE – THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS PROPOSAL BUT RESERVED THE RIGHT TO SUPPORT NEIGHBOUR OBJECTIONS IF REQUIRED.

22/00332/FUL – TWO STOREY REAR EXTENSION AT 142a WALSALL ROAD, GREAT WYRLEY – THE PARISH COUNCIL OBJECTED TO THIS APPLICATION ON THE BASIS THAT IT REPRESENTED OVERDEVELOPMENT AND THAT

THERE WERE VERY SERIOUS OBJECTIONS FROM THE NEIGHBOURING PROPERTY OWNERS.

22/00342/FUL – REPLACEMENT PORCH, SIDE EXTENSION ABOVE EXISTING SINGLE STOREY SIDE EXTENSION AND DOUBLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION FOR 3000MM FROM ORIGINAL EXTERNAL WALL AT 66 STREETS LANE, GREAT WYRLEY. THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO THIS APPLICATION BUT RESERVED THE RIGHT TO SUPPORT NEIGHBOUR OBJECTIONS IF REQUIRED.

22/00331/TTREE – TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 13/1975 CROWN REDUCTION BY UP TO 2 METRES AND CROWN THIN BY UP TO 10% TO A CEDAR AT DUNELM, HAZEL LANE, GREAT WYRLEY – THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO THIS WORK PROVIDED THE WORKS WERE BEING CARRIED OUT WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL’S ABORICULTURAL OFFICER.

22/00414/TTREE – TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 16/1975 CROWN REDUCTION BY UP TO 50% TO A CEDAR AT 105 WALSALL ROAD, GREAT WYRLEY – THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO THIS WORK PROVIDED THE WORKS WERE BEING CARRIED OUT WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL’S ABORICULTURAL OFFICER.

148/2022 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.

149/2022 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.

150/2022 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Following discussion the Parish Council unanimously **resolved to** support the recommendations included in the Clerk’s Confidential Report and agreed to hold an Extraordinary Confidential meeting of the Annual Governance and Audit Committee.

The meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.

Chairman