

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 6TH July, 2022.

Present:

**(Chairman)
Cllr. J. C. Jones**

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| Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson Cllr. M. McKenzie Cllr. A. Newell Cllr. A. Pearson | Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE Cllr. R. J. Perry Cllr. Mrs. S. Toddington Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood |
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24/2022

APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr. M. Dabbs, Cllr. A. Kelsey, Cllr. R. Myatt and Cllr. Mrs. C. Whiston-Taylor.

25/2022

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson and seconded by Cllr. M. McKenzie that following correction of the minutes to include Cllr. Mrs. S. Toddington in Members present that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15th June, 2022 be accepted, approved and signed by the Chairman.

26/2022

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

In the absence of Cllr. Alan Kelsey, The Chairman took this opportunity to thank everyone who had been part of the Great Wyrley Carnival event which had taken place the previous weekend. The Chairman's thanks went, not only to all the Members of the Carnival Committee, but also to Cllr. Mrs. K. M Perry MBE, and Sir Gavin Williamson who had also been present. The event had been incredibly successful and enjoyed by all, Cllr. Jones paid special tribute to all the people who are part of this amazing event for the tremendous amount of effort which goes into making such an enjoyable event for everyone and they deserve both our thanks and recognition. This statement was fully supported by all Members present.

REQUEST TO USE STAR LAND BY 2ND GREAT WYRLEY SCOUT GROUP

The Chairman advised the meeting that the Parish Council had received a request from 2nd Great Wyrley Scout Group for permission to use The Star Land to hold a Family Fun Afternoon on Sunday 18th September, 2022.

Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood that permission be granted for the 2nd Great Wyrley Scout Group to use the field for this purpose. It was carried.

ADDRESS BY MR. ANDREW BRETT – PRINCIPAL FLOOD RISK ENGINEER – STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Cllr. J. C. Jones suspended Standing Orders to allow Mr. Brett to address the Parish Council Meeting in relation to the Great Wyrley Flood Alleviation Programme.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE introduced Mr. Brett and explained that arrangements had been made for his attendance at this meeting in order to provide the Parish Council with an insight into the progress being made with the Draft Flood Risk Management Plans for England. The Plan was to cover the period from 2021 to 2027. This was noted by Members.

Mr. Brett then introduced himself to all present and explained the purpose and aims of the Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMPS). In short the FRMPS are strategic plans which have put in place measures for the flood risk area identified in 2017 for surface water flooding and in 2018 for main river and sea flooding.

Several agencies have worked together with Lead Local Flood Authorities, of which Staffordshire County Council is one, to produce the plan which has also taken into account a full public consultation.

Mr. Brett explained that, at present, there were 5.2 million homes and businesses in England at risk of flooding and coastal erosion and; with the rapidly changing climate, the need to plan together to improve the overall resilience of our local areas is more important than ever before. This was noted by Members.

Mr. Brett explained that Staffordshire County Council had been writing a Flood Risk Management Plan in conjunction with the Environment Agency for some time now and at this point would like to invite the Parish Council to be a named stakeholder in the potential scheme.

The potential scheme involves a plan to cover the period between 2021 and 2023 with Staffordshire County Council, Severn Trent and Great Wyrley Parish Council installing Community Protection Measures to reduce flood risk to residential and commercial properties in the Trent Valley Staffordshire Management Catchment which includes Great Wyrley.

Also between 2021 and 2027, Staffordshire County Council, Severn Trent, Great Wyrley Parish and the Environment Agency investigating and, if viable, delivering Great Wyrley Joint Flood Resilience Scheme in Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay to reduce flood risk to residential and commercial properties in the Trent Valley Staffordshire Management Catchment.

Mr. Brett explained that this did not involve any financial commitment from the Parish Council. In short the scheme needed more stakeholders and Mr. Brett was also to approach Cheslyn Hay Parish Council with a similar request.

Councillor Mrs. J. A. Johnson and Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE were very pleased that this was now coming to fruition. Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry also suggested that an approach should be made to Network Rail. This was noted by Mr. Brett.

This question was being asked in advance of a private meeting between the Stakeholders, which included the Environment Agency and Severn Trent Water which was scheduled to be held at Great Wyrley Parish Council on 22nd July, 2022.

Mr. Brett was asked the question regarding whether the Sutherland Road works formed part of this project. Mr. Brett explained that the works being carried out in Sutherland Road had been programmed much earlier than the Wyrley Brook Project, which was why it was taking place now. Mr. Brett gave Councillors a full explanation of the work being undertaken in this area which was fully understood.

Following discussion the Parish Council unanimously agreed to become a Stakeholder in the potential scheme. It was carried.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Brett for his attendance on this occasion and immediately prior to Mr. Brett leaving the meeting he advised the Parish Council that a full explanation of the information he had shared with Members this evening could be found on an internet link which the Clerk would be happy to provide to all present or as there were a number of hard copies available at the meeting, Members were able to take a copy with them. This was noted by Members.

27/2022 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman invited the members of the public in the gallery to address the Parish Council. There were no questions.

The Chairman reinstated Standing Orders.

28/2022 CLERK'S REPORTS TO COUNCIL

(a) Request to Purchase Land in the Parish Council's Ownership

The Clerk advised the meeting that the Parish Council had received a request from the owners of a property in Walsall Road to consider allowing them to purchase a small parcel of land which came under the Parish Council's jurisdiction.

Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** that as it was merely the custodian/caretaker of the land it was not in its gift to dispose of the land in any way to a private individual. The Clerk was to advise the enquirer that this was the case.

(b) Condition of Parish Council Play Areas

The Clerk advised the meeting that the Parish Council had received an email from a resident of the Parish with a selection of photographs of damaged play equipment in a number of the Parish Council's play areas.

The Chairman advised the meeting that this matter had been brought to the attention of the Parish Council Grounds Staff who had now visited the sites in the photographs and effected a number of repairs and graffiti cleaning operations. This information had now been passed on to the person who had made the complaint.

Following discussion the Clerk was instructed to review a number of options which may help deter this type of behaviour in the future. However, in the meantime a number of strongly worded signs were to be procured and displayed at all Play Areas in the Parish Council's ownership. Wording on all signage was to include risk of prosecution. This was noted.

(c) Request to Hire Star Land for Business Venture

The Clerk advised the meeting that the Parish Council had received a request to hire out part of the Star Land for a Rock and Wrestling Entertainment Event which would include between four and five live bands, along with live professional wrestling events on the day. At the present time the organisation was also exploring the possibility of inviting both British and American wrestling stars to appear to hold a live question and answer session following meeting and greeting duties. This was noted.

The organisation had no idea how many people would attend an event of this nature as it was the first time that any such event had been staged.

The proposed event was not being planned for the coming summer; the organisation was actually looking at the Summer of 2023.

The Parish Council discussed this matter fully in an attempt to be able to accommodate this request, however, following full consideration, the Parish Council **resolved** that to allow The Star Land to be used for this purpose would be very detrimental to the amenity of the surrounding residents. In addition as the organisation was clearly a profit making concern, this request should be refused. The Clerk was to advise the enquirer accordingly.

(d) Request from Great Wyrley Community Band to hold Bandstand Sessions on the Millennium Green

The Clerk advised the Parish Council that she had received a request from Great Wyrley Community Band to use the Millennium Green for Great Wyrley Community Band performances, possibly on selected Sunday afternoons during the summer.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that this was a lovely idea, however, if it had been sparked from the Lighting of the Beacon Ceremony then it needed to be remembered that a lot of other agencies were involved in the Platinum Jubilee performance. Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** to grant permission for this use on the proviso that it took responsibility for contacting all the other agencies which would be affected by such an activity.

(e) Community Partnership Noticeboard on Millennium Green

This item had been placed on the agenda for discussion by Cllr. J. C. Jones. Since the last meeting of the Parish Council, Cllr Mrs. S. M. Wood (original member of the Community Partnership) had contacted the Parish Council in this regard and Cllr. Mrs. Wood reported to the Parish Council that the original group had not been dissolved.

Cllr. Mrs. Wood agreed that the seasons had taken their toll on the notice board itself but felt that the board could still be usable with the doors removed. Cllr. Mrs. Wood felt that the board could now be used as a platform which could explain how the Millennium Project had come about and also be used to display "Before and After Photographs" which may be of interest to the public. This was noted.

(f) Dilapidated Condition of Cemetery Noticeboard

This item was placed on the agenda for discussion by Cllr. J. C. Jones with a view to its replacement as a matter of urgency. Cllr. Jones advised the meeting that there were a number of very faded information signs in the existing notice board which needed to be replaced.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE and Cllr. J. A. Johnson both felt that the Notice Board in the Cemetery should be in-keeping with its surroundings and not something which would be incongruous in such a sensitive setting. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson was of the view that the existing notice board should be sanded down and varnished and then it would be fit for purpose. This was noted.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE felt that the notice board, if it was not possible to refurbish it, should be replaced with an appropriate wooden notice board. This was noted.

Cllr. J. C. Jones suggested that the notice board was in fact rotten and needed to be replaced as any refurbishment would only prolong its life by a couple of years.

Cllr. A. Newell suggested that the Notice Board may be better in a different location. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. Jones advised the meeting that he had been advised by a member of the public that the Parish Council still had two of its old notice boards in its possession. Cllr. Jones suggested that perhaps one good one could be produced from the two defunct ones. The meeting was advised that two notice boards which were being referred to were no longer in existence. The notice boards were in need of replacement to begin with and certainly would not be appropriate to be used in this instance. The Clerk was to investigate whether those notice boards were still in existence.

Members discussed the content of the notices which would be displayed in the Notice Board and agreed to review the nature of any future publications.

Cllr. R. Perry advised the meeting that in his view the existing notice board was beyond repair and needed to be replaced. This was noted by Members.

Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** to research the costs involved in replacing the Notice Board in the Cemetery.

(g) Public Space Protection Order Landywood Lane Playing Field

The Parish Council had received notification from Mrs. M. Quinn of South Staffordshire Council to the effect that the District Council was proposing to include Landywood Playing Field and Skate Park in a Public Spaces Protection Order.

At the present time, the Clerk was unaware of exactly what the ramifications of having a Public Space Protection Order on Landywood Lane would actually mean. The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 provided a broad legal framework within which PSPOs could be implemented. Orders could be introduced in a specific public area where the local authority was satisfied on reasonable grounds that certain conditions had been met. The first test concerned the nature of the anti-social behaviour, requiring that activities that had taken place had had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or it was likely that activities would take place and that they would have a detrimental effect or was likely to be, persistent or continuing in nature or was likely to be, unreasonable.

From what the Clerk could gather Councils could use PSPOs to prohibit specified activities, and/or require certain things to be done by people engaged in particular activities, within a defined public area. PSPOs differed from other tools introduced under the Act as they were council-led, and rather than targeting specific individuals or properties, they focused on the identified problem behaviour in a specific location. The legislation provided for restrictions to be placed on behaviour that applies to everyone in that locality (with the possible use of exemptions). Breach of a PSPO without a reasonable excuse is an offence.

Apparently, there was a vast range of tools and powers to respond to concerns about anti-social behaviour in their locality, from measures aimed at tackling the causes of ASB, awareness-raising, through to enforcement. Used proportionately and in the right circumstances, PSPOs allowed local areas to counter unreasonable and persistent behaviour that affects the quality of life of its residents. They can send a clear message that certain behaviours would not be tolerated, and would help reassure residents that unreasonable conduct was being addressed. However, PSPOs would not be suitable or effective in all circumstances, and it was important to consider carefully the right approach for identifying and addressing the problem behaviour. This was especially important when the activities may also have positive benefits.

The Clerk advised the meeting that in the event that the District Council goes forward with this proposal it would not be served until September/October of this year.

The Clerk explained that she had made every attempt to secure clarification of exactly how such an Order would be policed, however, up to now she had been unable to exact a response. With this in mind the Clerk was to ascertain whether a member of South Staffordshire Council would be prepared to attend the September meeting of the Parish Council and outline the procedures.

For Member's information it would appear that the situation with regard to Public Space Protection orders had come about because the Police had highlighted a need under the Community Trigger mechanism. This was noted by Members.

(h) Hedge Cutting Works to Boundary Hedge of Landywood Playing Field

Cllr. J. C. Jones had requested that this matter be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Parish Council and gave Members a brief report on the fact that the existing hedge was now encroaching onto the Landywood Lane Playing Field. This encroachment was making it difficult to maintain the playing field properly.

Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** to accept the quotation from the Parish Council's contracted tree surgeon R S Arb and Forestry in the sum of £2000.00 which would include cutting back and removing any detritus arising from the works. It was carried.

29/2022 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that she had already explained the situation with regard to the plans to protect the Parish against flooding which had been expanded upon Mr Andrew Brett earlier in the meeting.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry now advised the meeting that she now received a weekly report from the Cabinet Member for Highways which she would like to share with the Parish Council this evening.

In the period referred to for the purposes of this report there had been 607 queries raised with regard to highways and 681 existing enquiries dealt with. Of the 1027 gullies report blocked 25% were cleared on the first visit and the remainder revisited. Potholes patched were 526, emergency jobs completed 4.

There had been repairs effected to 246 Category 3 potholes, 69 Category 2 and 3 category 1s. There had been several repairs effected at Landywood and at The Avenue in recent weeks.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry also advised the meeting on a number of situations taking place in the surrounding parishes and that she was pleased that £700,000 was now to be allocated to improvements for the unacceptable situation due to vibration problems in Broad Lane, Essington.

Cllr. Jones thanked Cllr. Mrs. Perry for her thorough report. Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised Members to email her directly should they have any issues they wished to raise.

30/2022 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson advised Members of her disappointment that Great Wyrley Parish Council had not been very well represented at the recent Parish Summit. Cllr. Mrs. Johnson advised the meeting that Mr. R. Taylor had suggested that the Parish Council may benefit from him attending a meeting and giving a mini

presentation on how to campaign against dog fouling in the Parish. Mr. Taylor would also like to visit the Parish to discuss a way forward with the Locality Meetings. The Clerk was to invite Mr. R. Taylor to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

Cllr. Mrs. Jonson advised the meeting that the new Community Hub at Codsall would be opening soon on the Commonwealth Games day and a memorial to Cllr. Brian Edwards. Cllr. Mrs. Johnson suggested that Members needed to contact the Clerk if they wished to attend.

Cllr. R. Perry advised the meeting that he wished to raise the issue of blue bags which were blowing away in the Parish. The District Council was currently looking into finding a location to store spare bags for residents. This was noted by Members.

31/2022 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

ALLEGED ORGANISED FOOTBALL MATCHES AT YEMSCROFT

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier advised the meeting that she had noticed that what appeared to be organised football games were again taking place at Yemscroft. This was happening on a regular basis and the associated car parking was causing a severe problem for residents who live close by.

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the meeting that he was also intending to report this matter as it had been brought to his attention that games were being played on Wednesday and Thursday and that players were being charged to play and this was being used to pay the referee. Following discussion the Parish Council **Resolved** to place a notice stating that "No organised games were to be played on this pitch." In the meantime should any member of the Council be in that area when this activity was taking place could they please observe what team was playing so that the matter could be dealt with properly. A similar sign was to be placed on Jones Lane. This was noted.

QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE TREE CANOPY

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the meeting that he had now had an opportunity to revisit this matter and had discussed the situation with Mr. T. Poulton of the Royal British Legion. The result of the meeting was that, having measured the relevant distances involved between the tree itself and the surrounding properties the decision had been put forward that the new tree could be planted 10ft away from the closest property. However, following discussion they had come up with another location which may well be better suited for this purpose which was on the far side of the Gardens by the old gate to Jones Lane. It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood that the tree be planted in the Jones Lane side of the gardens.

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the meeting that there was another matter which he wished to issue which related to the condition of the railings to the side of the gates to the Memorial Garden. Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** to instruct the Clerk to research the cost involved in refurbishment of the railings.

DISCONTINUED BUS SERVICE

Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood advised the meeting that she was receiving complaints about the fact that the bus service had been taken off. Cllr. Mrs. K. M Perry advised Mrs. Wood that Staffordshire County Council does not have any responsibility for any bus services in the County. Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson advised the meeting that she had already reported this matter to the route operator. This was noted.

32/2022 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

REPORT FROM STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE SERVICE

A copy of the latest report from Staffordshire Police Service had been circulated to all Members.

LANDYWOOD VOLUNTARY HELP CENTRE

Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson advised the meeting that she had arranged and funded a Lunch Party at the Landywood Voluntary Help Centre for the Platinum Jubilee. Cllr. Mrs. Johnson had received assistance from various directions including from her own family and it had been a very enjoyable event. Cllr. Mrs. Johnson also advised the meeting that she would be hosting a stall at the Carnival. This was noted by Members.

GREAT WYRLEY CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson advised the meeting that the Great Wyrley Carnival had been a fantastic event. No one had been put off by the weather and there was one particularly nice incident that she wished to report in that a local family had brought their next generation family to the Carnival so that they could share the experiences of their own childhood. This was noted by Members.

33/2022 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Members had made the decision to review its consideration of the following application on the basis that the description of the proposal had not been as clear as it could have been and the implications of it receiving consent would have a very negative impact on the nearby residents.

22/00544/FUL – DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BUILDING AND ERECTION OF NEW BUILDING FOR FLEXIBLE USE IN ACCORDANCE WITH CLASS V OF PART 3 OF SCHEDULE 2 OF THE GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT (ENGLAND) ORDER (2015) AMENDED WITH ASSOCIATED PARKING AND LOADING AREAS AT LANDYWOOD ENTERPRISE PARK - THE PARISH COUNCIL STRONGLY OBJECTED TO THIS APPLICATION ON THE BASIS THAT THE POLLUTION, NOISE LEVELS AND VEHICLE MOVEMENTS- WOULD BE EXTREMELY DETRIMENTAL SO CLOSE TO THE SCHOOL AND THE AMENITY OF NEARBY RESIDENTS.

22/00274/FUL - THE ERECTION OF 8.NO WOODEN OUTBUILDINGS WITHIN THE CURTILAGE OF 238 WALSALL ROAD GREAT WYRLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE WS6 6DL FOR THE PURPOSES OF RUNNING A SMALL ANIMAL BOARDING BUSINESS FROM HOME FOR RABBITS AND GUINEA PIGS ONLY. THE PARISH COUNCIL OBJECTED TO THIS APPLICATION ON THE BASIS THAT IT WOULD HAVE A NEGATIVE EFFECT ON THE AMENITY OF NEARBY RESIDENTS.

22/00610/FUL - REAR EXTENSION AT GROUND FLOOR AND REAR DECKING AT 323 WALSALL ROAD GREAT WYRLEY STAFFORDSHIRE WS6 6DR- THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS PROPOSAL

With regard to the development which was considered as follows:-

22/00004/FUL – DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BUILNGS AND REDEVELOPMENT OF SITE TO DELIVER A 90 BEDROOM RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME AT FORMEW GREAT WYRLEY COMMUNITY SUPPORT UNIT AT 156 WALSALL ROAD, GREAT WYRLEY – MEMBERS OBJECTED TO THIS

APPLICATION ON THE BASIS THAT IT WAS OVER DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITE.

The meeting was advised that further consultation was to take place by MACC Developments at Great Wyrley Library. The meeting was also advised that the overgrown hedges had been cut back. This was noted.

34/2022 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.

35/2022 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.

36/2022 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Following discussion the Parish Council unanimously **resolved to** support the recommendations included in the Clerk's Confidential Report. The Parish Council also agreed that a policy needed to be developed to deal with requests of this nature going forward.

The meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.

Chairman