

GREAT WYRLEY PARISH

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD AT 7.00P.M. AT GREAT WYRLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 15th MAY, 2023 IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL.

Present:-

Cllr. J. C. Jones (Chairman)

Cllr. A. J. Kelsey Cllr. A. Newell Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE	Cllr. R. Perry Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood Cllr. Mrs. C. Whiston-Taylor
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There were three members of the public present on this occasion and an attendance list is attached to the minutes for information.

1.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. D. Norris (Jnr.) and Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood and Cllr. M. Jackson

2.0 MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting which had been held on 10th May, 2023 were accepted and approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman at the June, 2023 meeting of the Parish Council.

3.0 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Assembly and thanked them for their attendance. The Chairman then delivered the Parish Council's verbal report which included his thanks to all Councillors for their dedicated service to the Parish Council over the previous twelve months.

4.0 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

County Councillor Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE presented her report on behalf of Staffordshire County Council a copy of which is attached at **Appendix A**

5.0 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillor Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE gave a verbal report on the activities of South Staffordshire Council. A copy of the report is attached at **Appendix B**.

6.0 REPORTS FROM SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

The Clerk presented a report on behalf of St. Thomas More Catholic Primary School a copy of which is attached at **Appendix C**.

7.0 REPORTS FROM VARIOUS VOLUNTARY BODIES

The following reports (a mixture of written and verbal) were received:-

- 1st Great Wyrley Scouts
- Great Wyrley Guide District
- Great Wyrley Senior Citizens Welfare Centre
- Great Wyrley Carnival Committee
- Townswomen's Guild
- Great Wyrley Local History Society
- Harrisons Recreation Ground & Welfare Institute

Copies of the written reports received were attached for information at **Appendix D.**

This completed the business before the meeting.

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Chairman

COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT**15TH MAY, 2024**

Good evening, everyone, thank you so much for taking the time to attend the Annual Parish Assembly. I know that I give a County Councillors Report at every meeting and I also know that what I have had to report over the last twelve months has not always been good news, however, hopefully the County Council is now making good headway with trying to balance its delivery of services so that no one sector is left feeling overlooked.

As you all know one of the main problems we have in Great Wyrley relates firmly to highways, my favourite word being Potholes. However, I am very pleased to tell you all that an extra £50 million has been put into the budget towards the maintenance and investment into Staffordshire's highway network to be delivered over the next three years.

On a brighter note in the last twelve months I have been able to make donations to various organisations from my Community Fund and the majority of the donations made have been in line with the County Council's pledge to stick to its Climate Change Agenda as much as possible as this is such an important issue which affects so many different areas of our lives and needs to be acted upon now.

As you may all already know the County Council increased its budget requirement by 4.99% for the forthcoming financial year however, what most people may not know is the fact that 2.99% of that increase is ring fenced to be spent on social care and adult services which are growing year on year.

Finally, the County Council's three priority outcomes are that the people of Staffordshire will in the future:

- have access to more good jobs and share the benefit of economic growth
- live in thriving and sustainable communities and
- be healthier and independent for longer

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE
15TH May, 2024

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT**15TH MAY, 2024**

Again, as you all know I give everyone a report on my activities at the District Council at every meeting, but I have a couple of new items to report this evening which I think will be well received by everyone.

Firstly, I am very pleased to announce that South Staffordshire Council will be completing refurbishing and resurfacing the car park to the Landywood Train Halt. This work will be started on 10th June and finished by 15th June. The car park will be closed from 9th June and to make sure that no one is faced with the inconsiderate parking problems this would normally attract, leaflets are being circulated advising users of the car park that this is happening in good time to make other arrangements and to ensure that everyone know there are alternatives to use.

My second bit of good news is that I have now managed to secure twelve days service across the Parish from the new two man team which is being put together to attend to all the little things in the Parish that aren't big enough to be a major problem bit not so small that they have no impact at all. A list has already been sent to the District Council.

Rest assured I will continue to pursue the aims of the District Council to always achieve the best for residents.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE

15TH May 2024



St. Thomas More Catholic Primary School

Huthill Lane, Great Wyrley, Staffordshire WS6 6PG

Tel: 01922 666335

Headteacher: Mrs. S Hewitt E-mail: office@st-thomasmore.staffs.sch.uk

Report for Great Wyrley Parish Council meeting: 15th May 2024

This year has been a very busy one for the school community of St. Thomas More. It began in September (as it usually does) and in week 3 the school was notified of its Section 48 (RE) inspection. This is a report which focuses on the Catholic Life, Collective Worship and the Religious Education of the pupils in the school. We were particularly proud to receive Outstanding in our Catholic Life, as this is the part that deals with the formation of the young people we work with: and there was significant mention in the children's work within the community.

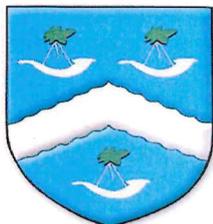
In March of this year, we then "welcomed" OFSTED into school...a visit long overdue and delayed by Covid. Again, the report demonstrated we remain a good school and also mentioned the significant role the pupils have in the community.

The school continues to flourish and is over-subscribed. In September 2024, we will be able to offer 30-hour places to our Nursery children for the first time and we know this will offer a lot of reassurance and security to our parents.

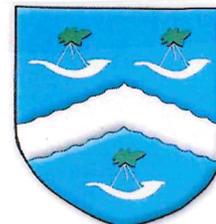
This year, we were shocked to hear how the Landywood Day centre minibus was stolen. Our Pupil Parliament were only too keen to get involved with the fund-raising to replace it, and the children raised £500 which was sent to the day centre last month.

We look forward to the summer months and hopefully more engagement with the community at our summer fair, and on carnival day.

Mrs. S. Hewitt (Headteacher)



GREAT WYRLEY CARNIVAL COMMITTEE



CHAIRMAN

Roy Vernals
Tel: 01922 415171
Email: vernals_r@btinternet.com

Find us on Facebook

Great Wyrley Parish Council

SECRETARY

Mrs Pauline Kelsey B.E.M.
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SECRETARY'S REPORT 2023/2024

The 45th Carnival 2023 was held on Saturday 24th June 2023 on the Star Land and highlights were "Savage Skills" BMX Display Team, Platinum Gym Club, Dance Fusion, St Gregory's Marching Band, Rock It School Steel Bands, Great Wyrley Community Band, Stormtroopers, 50 Stalls and entertainment by Fabalooney. Great Wyrley Bake Off Competition was held and the Fun Dog Show was very successful. The Carnival was opened by Sir Gavin Williamson C.B.E , M.P. and Mr John Jones Chairman of Great Wyrley Parish Council who also judged the Floats, Best Dressed Stall and Fancy Dress Competition. Sir Gavin Williamson also judged the entries in the Bake Off Competition

The Carnival Procession 2023 was very colourful with the Theme "Celebrating 100 years of Disney" and consisted of 5 Floats. 2 Bands, Landywood Voluntary Help Centre Ambulance led by Great Wyrley Carnival Royalty Float carrying Carnival Queen, Olivia Woodward 9yrs, Carnival King, Joshua Woodward 8yrs, Carnival Princess Emilyn Joyce-Leach 7 years, and Carnival Prince Freddie Whittaker 7 yrs. The Winners of the floats were 1st place Foundations Nursery with Peter Pan, 2nd place 1st and 2nd Great Wyrley Scout Groups with 101 Dalmations and 3rd place were Great Wyrley Guides with Steamboat Willie. Best Dressed Stall winners were Great Wyrley Townswomen Guild. Fancy Dress winners were Adult Winner s were Joe Parry-Clarke and Ryan Parry as Micky and Minnie Mouse, Runner Ups were Kris Jones and Dawn Boulton with Woody and Jessie from Toy Story, Child Winner Lacey Dolnall, Runner Up Lockie Whittaker. Bake Off Winners: Children's Cup Cakes 1st Ava Whitehouse, 2nd Emily Weaver, 3rd Ellie Jeffrey, Carrot Cake 1st Amy Hemingsley, 2nd Emily Weaver, 3rd Archie Evans,

Great Wyrley Committee's Santa's Sleigh rode around the Village in December 2023 and sweets donated by the Self Slimming Group were given out to the Children. This event again was enjoyed by the Community.

Great Wyrley Carnival and Harrison's Sports and Social Club held St George's Day Event on 20th April 2024 with St George a.k.a Daz Ashmore on his Horse leading the Procession

followed by St Gregory's Marching Band. Young St George Harry McMulkin his English Rose Darcey Ashmore on the Lorry Float, a Dragon and members of the public. The Fete was held on the gardens of Harrison's Sports and Social Club.

On Saturday/Sunday 18th/19th May 2024 the Scarecrow weekend will be held again in the village. The Community join in and put the Scarecrows outside their properties and a Competition will be held. On the Sunday there will be a Scarecrow Festival at Harrison's Sports and Social Club with stalls and a competition for the Best Scarecrows.

Craft Fairs and Skittles Nights have been held to raise funds to support the Carnival.

Another successful year and thanks to all the Committee and helpers for making Carnival Day run well.

The Committee wish to thank Great Wyrley Parish Council who allow us to hold the annual Carnival on the Star Field and to the Chairman for judging the Floats, Best Dressed Stall and Fancy Dress competitions.

Pauline Kelsey B.E.M.
Secretary
May 2024

GREAT WYRLEY SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTRE
BROADMEADOW LANE, GREAT WYRLEY,
WALSALL WS6 6EJ

CHAIRMAN

Mr Peter Lewis
19 Leacroft Lane
Churchbridge
WS11 8JX

SECRETARY

Mrs Pauline Kelsey B.E.M.
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Great Wyrley Parish Council

SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2023/4

The Great Wyrley Senior Citizens Centre is being used up to 7 days a week now by local groups.

The original group of Senior Citizens are still using the Centre on a Monday and now have new members which has kept the group continuing. Great Wyrley Tap Class use the Centre on a Monday morning. Wyrley Indoor Sports use the Centre on a Tuesday afternoon, Great Wyrley Townswomen use the Centre once a month on a Tuesday Evening. A Card Class use it on a Wednesday morning and afternoon. Thursdays is still the meeting day for Great Wyrley History Society and an Art Class on the afternoon. Tai Chi Classes are held on a Friday morning. A Church Group use the Centre fortnightly on a Saturday evening and Pop Up Play Village group once a fortnight on a Tuesday morning. The Centre is also available to hire for private parties, committee meetings etc and is used as a Polling Station.

Maintenance has been ongoing including annual Boiler service, Fire Extinguisher tests, Fire Inspection, and new LED Lighting throughout the building.

More Trustees are always required to help keep the Centre running. The Trustees wish to thank Great Wyrley Parish Council for their financial support to the Centre.

Pauline Kelsey
Hon Secretary
May 2024

Great Wyrley Townswomen's Guild AGM April 2024

Although we do not have a permanent Chairperson this year, we feel we have managed very well with those members of the committee who have kindly volunteered to chair meetings, both committee and members' meetings. Each individual chairs the committee meeting and then the members' meeting that follows the week after. Sometimes this is followed by a second time in the chair the following month. This ensures we always have a chairperson, but also provides variety and means that we have new ideas and different approaches which is refreshing. Barbara Holmes, Pam Ball, Pauline Kelsey, Bette Webb and Pat Jones have all taken turns in the chair.

Entertainment throughout the year has been much enjoyed and we have to thank Jan Jones and Bette Webb for planning the programme. They try to keep it as varied as possible with a mixture of informative talks, social comment and awareness, quizzes, games and music. In 2023 we have had *Call the Midwife* when June Brown and Bette Webb told us about their careers working with babies and children in hospitals and this included much reminiscing and nostalgia. We enjoyed *Flappers, Fashion and Fun* and tried to Charleston. To celebrate International Women's Day In April last year Kath Perry and Diana Gunn told us of their careers and interest in music, sang a duet for us and Diana composed a poem in praise of the TG choir and Pauline Benton, the previous conductor. We had more music in May when we were royally entertained by the *Lavender Girls* who celebrated the coronation of King Charles III by choosing songs from the decades of his life. At the June meeting we were given fascinating information on the *Life of an Ex Pat* who had experienced living in several different countries and continents. The following month we tried something different which proved to be fun and successful – *Treasured Possessions*. Nine TG members talked about their special possession and why it was treasured by them. In August we had a talk on Patrick Lichfield and Shugborough while in September we enjoyed *Sweet Memories*, again creating nostalgia for the sweets and chocolates of our childhood. In October we were all fascinated by the work and skill of Simon Griffiths the sculptor who created a most lifelike owl before our very eyes. Theresa Webb demonstrated beautiful Christmas table decorations and gave us instructions so we could make our own for Christmas and then at our Christmas meeting we celebrated with Helen Norgrove who sang some Christmas songs and carols beautifully. Peter Holmes provided a quiz for us all in January and we had more musical entertainment in February with George, a local pianist playing well known and popular songs for us. In March one of our members, Sally Cooper, described her journey with breast Cancer and her volunteering work at Walsall Manor Hospital and the local Community Police Support Office, Julie Wells, was most informative and re-assuring on the work in the community to keep us all safe.

Pat Jones is our Social Secretary and she organises and arranges the outings, finding out times of buses, booking tickets and transport and collecting all the money. This year Pat has organised trips to the Prince of Wales Theatre in Cannock to see: *Chorus Line* and CWAGMS *Coronation Celebrations, Oliver, 9 to 5* and *Art for Art's Sake*. She has organised a trip to the New Vic at Hanley to see *Ladies' Day* as well as a talk and tea at Bishton Hall and an outing to the Cotswolds. Pat has also arranged trips to the Garrick theatre, Lichfield, to see *West Side Story* and *Oklahoma* as well as the *Abba Experience* in London and *Pretty Woman* in Liverpool. Pat also organised the Bus pass challenge to see the Knife Angel at Lichfield and to Trentham Gardens and recently a trip to Port Sunlight and Chester.

Our links to the South Staffs Townswomen's Guild Federation enables us to maintain links with other local TGs and we participate (often very successfully!) in various quizzes, bowls competitions, Harvest suppers and Christmas teas, and we are often entertained by Lesley Smith appearing as one of her historical figures. We also try to attend the national AGM, last year in Llandudno and this year in Coventry.

One of Gt Wyrley TG's most valuable assets and one that we are rightly proud of is our donations to charity. This year we collected used spectacles to take to Oswestry Iron works to create a model of a dragonfly to encourage recycling and to emphasise the importance of insects to the environment. Money and gifts have been donated to Staffordshire Women's Aid, local charities such as Walsall Breast cancer and to local children suffering from cancer, - Jesse Small and Victoria Powers - as well as the local drama group, Wyrley Pretenders. We are also involved in Great Wyrley Carnival where we have a stall.

As you can see, we have had a busy year and a lot of people have been involved in keeping the Guild going and making it successful and bringing the local community together.