

## Knightwick and Doddenham Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at 19:00hrs on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 7:00pm at the Village Hall Broadwas.

### Present;

Chair, Cllr B Munt

Cllrs: Ms M Horton, Ms K L Parkinson, M J C Bellamy, D Steel, G M Brewin (Clerk)

C. Cllr Ms K Hanks, D Cllrs Ms S Rouse, P Whatley

Apologies: Cllrs, Ms G Evans, P Edwards, F Budden

Visitors: None

Prior to the meeting the Chair of Broadwas Village Hall committee Mr G Winkworth showed councillors the new and expanded facilities of the Hall and thanked the council for its contribution towards the costs of the project.

### Reports; County Councillor, District Councillors

County Cllr Ms K Hanks reported on the activities of the Worcestershire County Council, individual items relating to the parish, - and answered questions on WCC activities. Formal report see appendix-a  
District Cllrs Ms S Rouse and P Whatley reported on the activities of the MHDC, actions during the epidemic emergency and policy matters to promote new financial activity in the district..

The formal meeting commenced at 19:23.

Formal Agenda

1.

#### **Apologies for absence and members' declarations of interest.**

The apologies from Clls. Ms G Evans, P Edwards and F Budden were accepted.

There were no declarations of interest in agenda items.

2.

#### **Confirm the minutes of the Meeting of the Council on 19/7/21 (circulated in advance)**

These were agreed and signed by the Chair.

3.

#### **Financial Matters**

a) Note the council's bank balance is £18040.47 at 31/08/21 (Inc £13.575 Village Hall Charity).

4.

#### **Planning Matters;**

None

5.

#### **Knightwick Surgery Patient Participation Group - improvements to the roadway and parking on the old A44.** (Cllr K Parkinson to report.)

Cllr Parkinson had circulated a draft letter from the Surgery Partners (Drs Bywater, Hinton, Moore and Ward). For full deals see appendix -b. The letter proposed:

*The entrance from the A44 to the lane should be widened.*

*The area under the trees should be developed into a hard surface parking area and the trees pruned back.*

*The lane should be widened by reducing the width of the grass verge on the opposite side to the surgery and hard surfaced.*

There was a wide-ranging discussion on these proposals but clear agreement could not be reached. The clerk was asked to reply with the following;

The Parish Council could not approach the County Council on behalf of only one residence on the road. It would be a matter for the Surgery Partners to do this directly. The opinions of the other residents must be considered.

Members generally thought that the Surgery Partners could improve existing parking facilities by extending, and reshaping the entrances to, the surgery car parks.

Removing trees from the area behind the Bus Shelter would be detrimental to the general ambience of the area.

Re-shaping the junction with the A44 might be useful but again the opinions of the other residents must be considered.

Could the Surgery Partners consider acquiring some land opposite the surgery for additional parking?

6.

**Formal complaint to WCC over the failure of the Highways Department to resolve the limited waiting status of the A44 Lay-by**

The Clerk reported that despite a formal letter followed by an email enquiry he had not received a response from the Chief Executive of Worcestershire County Council to the council's formal complaint. He was continuing to press for a resolution. For details see appendix -c

7.

**Clerk to report.**

Water quality of the river Teme at Knightwick.

Members asked the clerk to obtain independent evidence – if available – on the quality of the River Teme at Knightsford Bridge.

8.

**Items for the next meeting**

The Queen's Jubilee – letter from the Lord-Lieutenant of Worcestershire to be circulated.

Items 6 & 7 above to be continued.

9.

**Confirm the date of the next meeting: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021 – agreed.**

The location to be confirmed later.

In closing the meeting the Chair asked the Clerk to convey the council's thanks and appreciation to Broadwas Village Hall Committee for the use of the hall.

The meeting closed at 20:15

Minutes confirmed ..... 15/11/2021

**County Councillor Karen Hanks report to  
Knightwick and Doddenham County Council Meeting 27 September 2021**

**Highways Updates:**

The drainage team have repaired the collapsed Gully at Doddenham Barns. This has been repaired and was completed on the 6<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

There is also the installation of a Trash Screen which will be installed in February 2022.

**Other items to report to the Parish:**

In September, I made a visit to the EnviroSort plant in Norton, Worcester, where waste from Worcestershire is sorted and taken away for reuse.

Visits are available for Parish Council Groups and Educational Visits to schools, and I recommend, and I am very happy to arrange Councillor and or School Visits if desired.

Please do feel free to email me if you would like me to set this up.

**Broadband:**

On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September I attended the Economy and Environment overview and scrutiny panel at County Hall. BT were in attendance and I raised the issue of very poor broadband speeds in some areas of my division. I received a response directly from BT regarding the various voucher schemes which are currently being processed in my division. There is a mixed picture, with some premises receiving superfast broadband, some with upgrades being processed via the voucher scheme. Please bring any localised or single dwelling issues to my attention. I am in touch with a senior project manager at BT who understands the local picture.

I hope the scrutiny process will assist with the progress of these additional superfast broadband installations. We will be calling BT to County Hall again in another 6 months.

**Economic recovery framework:**

The Council will be continuing with its existing initiatives, but also offering sector specific support to industries like agriculture, Tourism. It was confirmed at this meeting that Worcestershire County Council is open minded to offering support to sectors and sub-sectors which are specifically damaged by the pandemic.

**Councillor Karen Hanks**

appendix -b

**Drs Bywater, Hinton, Moore & Ward  
Bromyard Road  
Knightwick  
Worcestershire  
WR6 5PH**

**Tel: 01886 821279  
01886 821697**

24.09.2021

Dear Parish Council,

Due to a number of new houses that have been built in our area, Knightwick Surgery has seen an increase in footfall at the practice and this is putting pressure on vehicle access, parking and patient safety in the cul-de-sac lane off the A44.

Historically this cul-de-sac used to be the A44 before the building of a new bridge over the River Teme.

In addition to the visitors to Knightwick surgery the access off the A44 is shared by residents of Woodford House plus the houses on the site of the old Flying Horse Pub, and also customers of the very successful Knightwick Butcher's shop.

#### Current Situation

- Customers and staff of the Butcher's shop tend to park in an unsurfaced area under the lime trees opposite Woodford House.
- Patients of Knightwick Surgery have two custom built carparks for 16 cars. Staff and any overflow traffic park along the lane on the verge.
- Twice daily deliveries of medication and any additional vehicles can cause the thoroughfare to be blocked, due to the narrowness of the lane.

#### Land Ownership

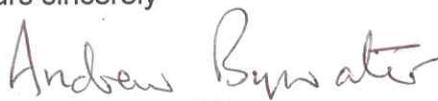
The Land Registry title plan shows that all verges, the triangle of land at the top of the lane and access points are council owned. Bearing this in mind, we would ask the council to consider some improvements to the current situation.

#### Proposals

- Text
1. The entrance from the A44 to the lane should be widened.
  2. The area under the trees should be developed into a hard surface/tarmac parking area and the trees pruned back.
  3. The lane should be widened by reducing the width of the grass verge on the right-hand side and subsequently tarmacked.

We would appreciate a site visit and your engineers' thoughts on these matters.

Yours sincerely



Dr Andrew Bywater

On behalf of the Partners of Knightwick Surgery

appendix -c

## **The Parish of Knightwick and Doddenham**

Clerk to the Council;  
Geoffrey M Brewin, Whistlewood House, Lulsley, Knightwick, Worcester. WR6 5QT  
Tel - 01886 821 386 Email: geoffreybrewin@waitrose.com

Mr Paul Robinson, Chief Executive  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall Spetchley Road  
Worcester WR5 2NP

27/7/21

Dear Mr Robinson

At its meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021 this council expressed its serious concern that the matter of the A44 lay-by close to the River Teme at Knightwick has not been resolved despite briefings to WCC Highways, our County Councillor and the County Councillor holding the Highways Portfolio.

A brief history of this site is:

In the latter part of the 20<sup>th</sup> cent. after this council pressed for a number of years to have 'waiting limited status' for this lay-by it was finally agreed, a TRO made and up to mid 2007 was in place.

As a result of a landslip on the A44 following heavy rains WCC Highways dumped a large volume of spoil in this lay-by in an effort to clear the A44 quickly and the lay-by was closed temporarily.

This was not unreasonable given the circumstances but repeated efforts by the Parish Council to have the lay-by cleared were met by obfuscation and delay and it was not until 2012 that the lay-by was back in use.

By this time the Waiting Limited signs had disappeared along with the spoil that temporarily buried them.

Repeated requests to WCC Highways for action to reinstate the Waiting Limited signs have again been met with obfuscation. I quote viz:

*The lay-by at Knightwick on the A44 has been monitored at various times and significant parking problems have not been recorded. As you state, historically there was a limited waiting TRO, which was missed by the consultants when the district took on the CPE powers from the Police in 2012. The lay-by does not meet the criteria to establish a new TRO and would prevent drivers from being able to rest etc.*

The Highways Dept. stance appears to be that a new TRO would have to be instigated and they would currently not support one.

This council understands that a Traffic Regulation Order has a legal standing and remains in place until it is either superseded or revoked. Due process must be followed in order that a TRO be revoked and no such action has taken place. The fact that a consultant "missed it off their list" is hardly proper process for such revocation and as such is irrelevant to the current standing of the TRO. It would seem that the TRO is therefore still in place and hence the signage in the lay-by, lost some years ago, should be replaced.

Will you please exert some executive sense into this impasse, accept that a mistake has been made, confirm that the old TRO is still extant, correct the record and ask WCC Highways to reinstate the missing signs.

Yours sincerely

Geoffrey M Brewin