

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF DRAKES BROUGHTON AND WADBOROUGH WITH PIRTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 4th MARCH 2021 AT 7.30 PM. VIRTUAL MEETING DUE TO COVID 19.

PRESENT: Cllr J Butterworth (Chair), Cllr T Pell, Cllr R Bessant, Cllr A Tanfield, Cllr P Crouchman, Cllr R Roberts & Cllr R Small

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs N Nicholson (Clerk), County Councillor Rob Adams & District Councillor Mark Ward.

Apologies: Cllr J Yeo & County Councillor Adams (Joined the meeting at Agenda item 12)

PUBLIC: One Observer.

1) ATTENDANCE

The Chair advised that Cllr Turner remained on leave of absence.

2) VACANCIES

The Chair confirmed that there were now five vacancies following the resignation of Cllr Wynn and Cllr Proctor this month.

Cllr M Griffith & Cllr S Boniface were co-opted to represent Drakes Broughton Ward – the Co-option declaration was signed and would be returned to the Clerk via post. The new Members were welcomed to the meeting.

The Chair confirmed there were 3 vacancies remaining, 1x Drakes Broughton Ward, 1x Pirton Ward & 1x Wadborough Ward.

3) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Pell declared an interest in the following applications:

20/00076/FUL Wheatlands farm, Walcot Lane, Drakes Broughton. Erection of an agricultural building (For housings cows)

20/00183/FUL Wheatlands farm, Walcot Lane, Drakes Broughton. Erection of an agricultural building (For housings cows)

4) MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th February 2021 were proposed by Cllr Pell, seconded by Cllr Tanfield, agreed by all and signed by the Chair as a true record.

5) MATTERS ARISING

- Area outside the shops

The Chair advised that the area was still in a poor state of repair and that it had been raised again regarding DDA compliance & the potential for an accident. The Chair advised that although this was raised in the Neighbourhood Plan, it is private land, not covered by PC, WDC or Highways. Cllr Ward advised that he understood there to be 4 owners. The Clerk confirmed her previous investigation had shown joint responsibilities held by the tenants themselves. The Chairman gave an overview of the history and findings so far for the new Members. Cllr Roberts volunteered to take the lead and would report back in April's meeting.

- Rooftop

Cllr Ward advised there was a meeting arranged for 17th March – to review the clear up of the area and with a view to reviewing all issues regarding Rooftop properties in Drakes Broughton. Cllr Small & Cllr Roberts would be in attendance.

6) FINANCE

- a) The monthly reconciliation of cash and other monies was undertaken for February by Cllr Tanfield.

- b) The Chair advised that the Council's Financial Regulations have been reviewed by Cllr Tanfield and changes discussed and agreed by Chair & Clerk – the new regulations will be circulated with a view to adoption at April's meeting.
- c) The Chair advised that following Cllr Wild's resignation the Council need to remove him as cheque signatory and add Vice Chair Pell as agreed last month. The Chair confirmed the signatories would then be Cllr Butterworth, Cllr Tanfield, Cllr Bessant & Cllr Pell.

It was proposed by Cllr Small and seconded by Cllr Pell to authorise the following payments:

(a) Mr L Wild – reimburse for building regulation application For Village Hall from Legacy Grant	£562.80
(b) Mrs N Nicholson – Clerk Salary – February	£488.45
(c) Mr B Arrowsmith – Lengthsman Services – February	£220.00
(d) Mr B Arrowsmith – Play Park maintenance – February	£66.00
(e) OPUS Energy Ltd – Monthly street light electricity	£11.37
(f) OPUS Energy Ltd – Monthly Street light electricity	£260.17
(g) MWH Building & Property care – Expose ceiling & other at Village hall – Legacy Grant	£120.00
(h) Insideout Architecture + Interiors Ltd - Building regulations drawing for Village Hall – Legacy Grant	£1575.00
(i) M Harley – Removal of tree's at Village Hall	£300.00
(j) Smart Cut Ltd – Playing field hedge cut	£300.00
(k) Westcotech –x2 new batteries and fit voltage display to VAS	£248.00
Remittance:	
- WCC Lengthsman reimbursement October -	£220.00
-WCC Lengthsman reimbursement November	£220.00
-WCC Lengthsman reimbursement December	£220.00

Cllr Tanfield reminded Members that CIL money could be spent until the end of the year and then required an annual report submitting. The money can be carried over to next financial year spending.

For the benefit of the new members the Chair gave an overview of the main funding sources currently incoming to the PC, CIL (Community infrastructure levy) allocated for community infrastructure only and required an annual report, 106 Money available from WDC, reclaimed following approval of project. Legacy Grant funding for the Village Hall, claimed from WDC via milestone budget planning in addition to the precept.

7) OPEN SPACE REVIEW

a. Terms of Reference

Members agreed the circulated revised terms of reference. The Chair advised that following the resignation of Cllr Wild there would need to be a PC Member to represent the Council on the Open Space Committee. Cllr Griffiths volunteered to do this. The Chair advised that Mr Wild would continue to Chair the Committee and continue with the required safety checks at the Play Park.

b. Football Garages

The Chair advised that more paperwork had been found that shows that one of the garages is owned by preschool, but it is being used by the Football Club, Contact is being made with the preschool to discuss future plans and to talk about the requirement to remove it. The discussion regarding football club, storage, type and location is ongoing with the FC.

c. Progress update

The Chair advised that Mr Wild and the committee are continuing with the consultation on the next stages. The Committee are struggling with space, the MUGA and the cycle track are the priority.

Cllr Bessant raised concerns regarding the continued disintegration of the yellow access path – The Chair confirmed that Mr Wild is in contact with the contractors regarding this.

8) VILLAGE HALL REFURBISHMENT AND DEVELOPMENT – progress update

a. Removal of three trees

The Chair advised that the trees had been removed and feedback was that it was a very neat & tidy job. The Chair advised that prices were being sought for the tree replacements and planting. There would be a requirement for watering and monitoring to ensure the new trees establish themselves successfully.

b. Progress update Invitation to tender

The Chair advised that the Invitation to tender documentation was completed and has been sent to the builders, several queries have been received, but so far all are positive. The tender return date is 22 March 2021. Once interviews and evaluation have taken place the information will be presented at the Parish Council meeting on 7th May 2021 for a decision on the builder and a contract will be in place by no later than 17th May 2021. The Chair expressed her gratitude to the small working party who have worked together to get the ITT prepared and out to the builders, "It has been a labour of love and it is quite an achievement! Once again thanks are due to Les Wild and also to Sheila Boniface, Martin Boniface, Tina Pell, Maureen Williams and Ally Cornelius."

The Chair advised that the fund-raising arm of the Village Hall Committee are working to find money to bridge any funding gaps in this ambitious programme. Any support will be gratefully received.

c. Correspondence re new build

The Chair advised that the Parish Council and Village Hall Trustees and Management team received a communication suggesting that before building work is started, they should consider building a new hall rather than rejuvenation of the existing building. The PC has replied giving an overview regarding funding and lease constraints as to why the rejuvenation route has been chosen.

Cllr Small expressed thanks to Cllr Roberts for the fence repair at the Hall and asked if the tree roots were going to be ground out as part of the tree removal. The Chair confirmed this was a part of the later plan, so subsidence didn't occur.

The Chair promoted the new 100 Club as fundraising was proving difficult during the Covid-19 restrictions but that an amount was required as part of the Legacy Grant approval.

Cllr Roberts asked if a donation could be accepted and if it would go towards the additional funding requirement needed. The chair confirmed it would.

9) COMMUNITY LITTER PICKING

The Chair advised Members that x10 sets of litter picking kits had been received from WDC ready for the Drakes Broughton Community Litter picking. She advised there was a need for a Member from Drakes Broughton to lead on this. The area of concern was the hedge rows on the south side of the field.

10) PLAYING FIELD

a. Drainage on the playing field.

The Chair advised that the drainage requires further investigation, the PC is awaiting a time when the field is dry enough for the machinery to access without causing damage. The Parish Council are corresponding with the residents and as soon as it is safe to do so, a meeting will be arranged to talk with residents to discuss the situation. The Chair advised that the delay in PC action had been down to believing that Elan Homes would take the lead on the investigation, it is now clear it will be down to the PC. Correspondence has been received regarding 'clandestine' drainage blocking and hearsay, residents are upset as gardens are getting flooded. Mr Wild has agreed to continue being a part of the investigation but there was a need for a PC representative. Cllr Griffiths agreed to be PC representative.

b. Hedge Cut

The Clerk confirmed the first hedge cut of the year had taken place.

11) REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Wychavon District Councillor Mark Ward

Cllr Ward gave a brief on the Covid-19 recovery plan outlined by the Government and starting with schools re-opening 8th March, 29th March rule of 6 outdoors and outdoor sports to resume. Cllr Ward confirmed that the County plan was to have all over 50's vaccinated by 15th April and the second stage of recovery with the reopening of limited outdoor hospitality and non-essential retail.

Cllr Ward advised that the B4084 pedestrian crossing would be in place by October 2021. The Clerk confirmed that the condition that Bovis put this in place prior to occupation can not be fulfilled due to WCC Road-space

allocation. Cllr Griffiths commented on how many of the developments appeared to be built before the needed infrastructure was implemented.

Cllr Ward advised that the footpath on Bovis has official closure agreement until July 2022. It is in place whilst works are adjacent to it for safety. However, he will arrange a site visit as it may be safe to re-open as Bovis are now working on the other section of the site.

Cllr Ward advised that Sanctuary Homes have been required to submit an ecological survey regarding the removal of hedgerows for WPD cables – he confirmed the oak tree would be retained.

Cllr Ward advised he was investigating the number of open planning enforcement cases raised to him by Cllr Yeo this month.

Cllr Ward advised that ALL sites put forward as part of the SWDPR had to go to the suitability appraisal before any unsuitable sites would be removed.

County Councillor Rob Adams joined the meeting.

Worcestershire County Councillor Rob Adams

County Councillor Adams advised that whilst number of Covid cases were dropping across the county the cases in Wychavon remained high.

County Councillor Adams advised that postal votes would be available for all who wanted them for the elections in May.

County Councillor Adams advised that he had brought a motion to the full County Council meeting regarding his Armed Forces Campaign for Commonwealth Citizens who had fought for Britain to be allowed to remain in the UK.

County Councillor Adams advised that the new financial year would see more money available for public rights of way.

Members Reports

Cllr Crouchman advised Members there had been incidents of drone flying that had concerned residents in Wadborough – The local police had been informed.

Cllr Boniface – volunteered to lead the Community Litter Pick

Cllr Tanfield – suggested that the joint letter from the Parkway liaison group should be shared with the local MP. The Chair would check with the other Members if they were agreeable to this.

The Chair gave a brief overview explaining there was a liaison group with representatives of Norton, Stoulton and Drakes Broughton Parish Councils to monitor and liaise regarding the proposed new Parkway town.

Cllr Pell advised she had been contacted by a resident regarding the large numbers of people using the Play Park in good weather, many non-locals, making social distancing difficult.

Cllr Pell advised that the Pershore Community bus was still very popular, but the funding will shortly run out. Cllr Pell thanked the trustees of the Voluntary Bureau for allowing the bus to continue until alternative funds have been found. Cllr Tanfield accepted the thanks as she is a trustee. Cllr Pell explained that funding via the Space hive platform is going to be applied for this will be matched by WDC she will send round further information on this in the near future.

Cllr Bessant advised that she had, at last, been able to retrieve the data from the solar VAS. The average speed was within the speed limit and less than at the previous location. Max speed recorded 60MPH at 2:35am! Cllr Bessant would give a more detailed update at April's meeting. Cllr Bessant asked Cllr Adams if

he had an update on the road traffic orders for Drakes Broughton – Cllr Adams apologised he hadn't but would follow it up.

Cllr Bessant advised that motorised scooters were being used behind the Village Hall – Cllr Pell agreed to escalate this to the PCSO.

12) DOG FOULING SIGNAGE

The Chair advised that correspondence had been received requesting a dog waste bin to be placed between Lewis Close and Beech Avenue. The bins cost circa £500 and there is a service charge of circa £70 per annum to look after them. It has been suggested that maybe the PC should be adding a few more signs to encourage people to be more responsible rather than increasing the number of bins. The Chair advised that WDC don't provide signage anymore, but the PC could invest in some additional signage. Cllr Pell advised that she thought there was signage already in the location and x2 bins in fairly close proximity.

13) AGENDA ITEM PIRTON PARISH MEETING

The Chair advised that she wanted to formally record the request to discuss litter/dog waste bins for Pirton village, it would be an agenda item at the annual Parish meeting.

14) WARD MAINTENANCE FUNDS

The Chair advised that It had been suggested that each ward should be allocated a maintenance grant allowance which can be accessed by the ward Parish Councillors to pay for upkeep and smaller items of maintenance of areas within the ward. The Members agreed this was a good idea.

15) MEMBER ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chair advised that following the number of resignations there was a need to review who was responsible for what. She asked Members to review the roles & responsibilities document and let her know if they would volunteer to cover any vacancies. The Planning co-ordinator role for Drakes Broughton was important – Cllr Boniface volunteered to take on this responsibility and the Chair asked the Clerk to give Cllr Boniface a full briefing on the role.

Cllr Butterworth agreed to inspect the Pirton Playing field.

16) PERIODIC LOCAL HIGHWAYS REVIEW

The Chair thanked Cllr Roberts for his recent update & confirmed there were no additional tasks for the lengthsman.

17) VILLAGER SUBMISSION

The Chair advised the Villager was not being produced during the current lockdown, the Clerk was producing an update for the PC website & Village Facebook page.

18) VAS

The Chair advised that digital display had been fitted to the battery-operated VAS and it, along with new batteries had been returned and was currently operational in Pirton.

19) DATE OF MONTHLY MEETING IN JUNE

Members agreed to move the June meeting, from 3rd June to 10th June.

20) PLANNING

- a) Comments made on planning applications to Wychavon: 20/00076/FUL Wheatlands farm, Walcot Lane, Drakes Broughton. Erection of an agricultural building (For housings cows) No objection.
- b) Applications Approved: N/A
- c) Applications Refused: N/A
- a) Applications Awaiting comment: 20/00183/FUL Wheatlands farm, Walcot Lane, Drakes Broughton. Erection of an agricultural building (For housings cows)

The Chair advised that x2 residents had written to the PC urging the PC to object and drawing attention to the resident comments made on the planning portal. The Chair urged the Drakes Broughton Members to consider the application carefully and drew their attention to WDC planning comments guidelines recently circulated by WDC. Cllr Boniface would collate the responses and liaise with the Clerk for submission.

- d) Appeals: APP/H1840/W/20/3266091 The Timber Yard, Crabbe Lane, Wadborough. Erection of 1 No. live/work unit following demolition of existing buildings.
APP/H1840/D/21/3267338 Deerfold House, Mill Lane, Wadborough. Extend above existing garage to create home office & family accommodation.
- e) Planning Correspondence:
PC to Enforcement re The Old Smithy, Wadborough
PC to enforcement re Burgamot Plot, Wadborough
PC to District Councillor re outstanding enforcement cases.
Enforcement re B4084 pedestrian crossing

21) CORRESPONDENCE

- DB resident requesting a dog waste bin for cut through Lewis Close/Beech Ave (see item 12)
- Neighborhood Watch Scheme information.
- WCC invitation to natural networks event
- Resident regarding public transport & Pavement on Worcester Road
- E'on re column 37 repair - work scheduled for 19th March
- Resident re Motor Scooter in VHC car Park – The Chair thanked Cllr Pell for her liaison with the police on this matter.
- Police re Motor Scooter
- Resident re B4084 Deer signage – Deer warning signage now in place on B4084

22) INFORMATION AND DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Thursday 1st April 2021 at 7.30pm – Monthly Parish Council Meeting – Via Video Conference.

Meeting Closed 9.15pm.