

WOLVERLEY & COOKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 5th July 2022, 7.00pm, Cookley School, Cookley.

Present:

Mr R Drew (Chairman)
Mr A Carloss
Mr D Cox
Mr D Jones
Mr M Hart (7.45pm)
Mrs L Jones
Mr B McFarland
Mr C Nicholls
Mr W Southam
Mr J Wood

West Mercia Police: PCSO Owen-Jones
County Councillor: Councillor I Hardiman
District Councillors: Councillor M Hart, I Hardiman and Mrs L Jones

47. Apologies

Cllrs J Hart, C Sherrey, S Sherrey due to holiday and Cllr V Bordewich due to Covid.

48. Declarations of Councillors Interests

- a) Register of Interests: The Clerk reminded Councillors that it is their responsibility to update their register of interests forms as required. On looking at the website it appears some do need updating. If you require a new form, please contact the Clerk.
- b) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. None declared.
- c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests (Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary) in items on the agenda and their nature. Cllr R Drew, 22/0468/LBC as Neighbour, Clerks Laptop as Clerk is wife, Road Closures for Remembrance Day as President of the Royal British Legion. Cllr D Cox PC3629 as neighbour to Eagle & Spur pub.

The meeting will now be adjourned for PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.

One parishioner addressed the meeting regarding advice on converting a garage to a treatment room. Cllrs recommended getting pre - application advice from Wyre Forest District Council Planning.

The meeting now reconvened to conduct the items of business listed below.

49. To consider the adoption of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th June 2022 at 7.00pm

These having previously been circulated it was resolved unanimously to receive and adopt the minutes as a true record of the meeting and these were signed by the Chairman.

Matters for Discussion / Decision;

50. Police Report.

CAUNSALL

Burglary - New Road - Police Ref 00453_I_09062022 - Sometime between 9.15am and 17.30pm yesterday 9/6/22 a residential property in this location has been burgled. Offenders have entered at the rear of the property and have removed the beading from the windows to gain entry. An untidy search was made.

WOLVERLEY

Vehicle Crime - Sladd Lane, Wolverley - Police ref 00122_I_28062022 - Between 07:50hrs and 08:50hrs on Tuesday 28th June, person/s unknown have broken the passenger window of a black Hyundai and taken the bag that was on the passenger seat.

Thanks were expressed to police for recent attendance at Wolverley Carnival.

51. County / District Councillor Reports. Reports circulated prior to the meeting.

County Cllr Ian Hardiman's Report;

Lea Lane Landslip:

Unfortunately, I have still not received a commencement date for the works; however, I am now aware that the County Council are pursuing the possibility of acquiring the land between the lane and the canal which should reduce the complications experienced in trying to gain all-parties' agreement to facilitate progress with this issue.

The Crescent, Island Removal/Safety Improvements:

Further to my Report last month, I have been informed that this project should be actioned during September.

Caunsall, Kinver Lane Vehicle Speed Concerns:

I have again been contacted by Kinver Lane residents who despite the recent installation of a White Gateway, are upset by what they claim are drivers exceeding the 30 mph limit in front of their properties. I therefore invited Highways Engineer,

Paul Green to investigate whether he could agree engineering solutions but his conclusion is that no further action can be taken for this location. I, however explained to the residents that the Parish Council has purchased a new High-Tech VAS Sign which is capable of recording vehicle speeds at a given location and that the Parish Council may report any concentrations of speeding to the Police / Safer Roads Partnership and request enforcement if justifiable.

Lea Castle Farm Quarry Application:

For the June Parish Council Meeting, I provided my Report on the County Council's 24th May Planning Committee from my perspective as a member and Chairman of that committee. My Report was comprehensive and self-explanatory and I have nothing to add on the subject; accordingly, I shall not be engaging in any further debate on this at tonight's meeting or any future meeting, nor any public question time.

Cllrs advised regarding drains in Cookley, the drain cleaner came out and did Lea Lane, Austcliffe Lane and some of Castle Road but some are still outstanding. Also regarding overgrown vegetation Cllr Hardiman advised WCC will do weed spraying. Cllrs asked if works could be done prior to Cookley In Bloom judging. WS will provide route. Cllrs asked about the junction improvements linked to the new Lea Castle development. Cllr Hardiman is pursuing this.

District Councillors Report;

Local Issues

We have been dealing with the usual routine casework, fly tipping and litter picking on the main A roads and along the country lanes. Regarding the Red Lion Planning Application, we are continuing to liaise with the Planning Officer and Conservation Officer. The case officer is finalising the consultee reports before she determines the application.

Enforcement Issues

The Old Post Office, Cookley - This is continuing to be in Planning Enforcement, we are continuing to work closely with officers to restore the shopfront to its original Victorian design from photographs in the Archives. There is an additional Planning Application for the Parish Council to comment on at the meeting.

Six Acres Castle Hill Lane Cookley- The Enforcement Officer has a deadline for the 01/12/2022, this will now be dealt with by the relevant agencies.

Moto X- The Enforcement Officer has spoken to the owner, he is in the process of trying to secure the site so that joy riders cannot get onto the field. Officers have been in contact with WCC Public Rights of Way Team team regarding new kissing gates to be installed to try and deter people accessing the land from the Public Rights of Way.

There are no other updates for enforcement issues at the moment, should we have any additional updates we of course forward them to the Clerk.

Wyre Forest District Issues

Wyre Forest House is open to the public through the reception facility only, Green Street Hub is not open as a walk in Hub, appointments must be pre-booked save for dealing with housing and homelessness applications and 'urgent' issues.

The District Council are still proposing that Parish Councils take on litter picking and bin emptying but with no grant from WFDC. We totally oppose this.

Following the adoption of the Local Plan, planning applications on sites now removed from the Greenbelt are flooding in, land at Blakedown, Wribbenhall, Low Habberley, Consiton Crescent, Lea Castle and Woven Oaks to name but a few!

There was a District Council by-election held on 16th June, following the resignation of a Health Concern Councillor. This seat was won by the Conservatives, which means the Progressive Alliance are a minority administration with 16 members and 17 others.

52. **Lea Castle Quarry Application**

Cllr B McFarland expressed disappointment that County Councillor Ian Hardiman will not enter into debate regarding his actions at the recent WCC Planning Meeting and feels that he should have supported his electorate.

53. **Financial Matters:**

a) Parish Council Laptop

The Clerk advised the CPU on the Parish Council laptop recently blew up and is not repairable. It was proposed Cllr McFarland, seconded Cllr Nicholls and unanimously agreed Clerk purchase a suitable new laptop as soon as possible.

b) Agreed the schedule of cheques to be signed.

20	Worcestershire County Council (Energy Costs - Parish Lighting Initiative 21/22)	3132.44
21	Mrs B J Drew (Salary June 2022)	1081.36
22	Keith Basketfield (Third Grass Cut)	688.00
23	Cookley In Bloom (Flowers / Compost Gateway Planters) (Cookley In Bloom Entrance Fee)	90.00 55.00
24	Bonterre (Plants for Village Baskets)	144.00

	(Compost)	24.00
25	Mrs B J Drew (Ink/Stamps/Marstons/Charger)	45.58
26	Lorraine Neal (Lengthsman June 22)	300.30

54. **To discuss Road Closures for Remembrance Day Parades.**

Councillors unanimously agreed to apply for road closures on behalf of the Royal British Legion. There is no cost to the Parish Council. Chairman to complete forms.

55. **To discuss Vehicular Activated Sign.**

Due to the success of the new sign which is making motorists slow down when they see the speed they are doing, Cllr W Southam asked if the Parish Council could purchase another so there was one in each ward. This was unanimously agreed, Clerk to ascertain if Police Crime Commissioner will provide any funding.

56. **To discuss junction improvements on A449.**

County Councillor Ian Hardiman has met with Paul Green, WCC Highways engineer to discuss these works the developers have to undertake under the section 278 agreement and also the siding out of the footpath. Meetings are taking place regularly between all parties regarding this. Works will take approximately 52 weeks to complete.

57. **To discuss progress with Cookley Millennium Clock replacement key and quotes for re-painting.**

Cllr D Cox advised replacement key is in hand.

Cllr D Jones advised of quotes received for painting. It was unanimously agreed to ask RXM Exterior Maintenance to undertake the job at a cost of £250.00.

58. **To discuss progress with quotes for Cookley Christmas Tree and Lights and agree action to be taken.**

Suppliers of trees to Kidderminster Town Council and Bewdley Town Council have been contacted and are not able to quote and supply. Nathan Turvey will supply and erect a tree for £500.00. It was proposed Cllr D Jones, seconded CN and agreed to proceed with Nathan Turvey.

59. **To discuss renovations to Caunsall Telephone Box.**

Cllr D Jones asked for letter of thanks to be sent to Mr & Mrs Atkins who renovated the box. All agreed.

60. **Planning Applications for Consideration: -**

PC No WFDC No/Details

3575 (Rev)	21/0845/FUL: Demolition of the existing building and erection of 4 dwelling houses with private parking and amenity space at former Red Lion, 70 Castle Road, Cookley. Recommend Refusal. Re-iterate original comments.
3624	22/0451/TCA: Tree works in a Conservation area - Group One: Reduce by approximately 20%, or reduce height by about 6 feet, Group Two: Reduce down to ground level (between 6-8 feet) at Yew Tree Cottage, Wolverley, Recommend Approval subject to Arboricultural Officer comments.
3625	22/0458/HOU: Erection of single storey extension to form porch/store and living room for foster children at 17 Westhead Road North, Cookley, Recommend Approval.
3626	22/0468/LBC: Main roof to be re-tiled at Rose Cottage, 3 Mill Lane, Wolverley, Recommend Approval subject to Conservation Officer comments.
3627	22/0469/S73: Variation of condition 15 attached to planning approval 18/0004/Full to include mortgagee exclusion provisions at former garage site, Elan Close, Cookley, Defer for clarification.
3628	22/0470/S73: Variation of condition 12 attached to planning approval 19/0498/Out to include mortgagee exclusion provisions at 29 Kimberlee Avenue, Cookley, Defer for clarification.
3629	22/0492/FUL: Replacement of existing bay window and entrance door and alterations to the front elevation at Cookley Post Office, 2 Bridge Road, Cookley. Recommend Refusal. Cllr L Jones to provide comments to Clerk for Planning Portal.

Parish Matters for Update Only - no decisions required.

61. Clerks Report. (Clerk) Notice of Appeal 21/00106/ENF, Decision Notices. Noted.
62. Update on Lengthsman. (RD/WS) WS advised works this month completed in Cookley.
63. Grass Cutting. (RD/WS) CS/SS/RD/WS met with Keith Basketfield to agree locations to be marked on grass cutting maps provided by WCC.
64. Street Lighting Inventory. (RD) WCC have now provided an up to date inventory of lights.

65. On-Line Banking. (RD) RD advised that the Parish Council should consider moving to on line banking as many payments can now only be made by Bank Transfer. Information has been given to Cllr C Sherrey who will discuss this at the next meeting.
66. Cookley & Caunsall Neighbourhood Plan. (DJ/JW) No Update.
67. New Issues / Items for Next Meeting. (All) Austcliffe Bridge Iron.
68. Date of Next Meeting - to confirm the date of the next meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday 2nd August 2022.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.00pm

Chairman - Cllr R Drew