

**WOLVERLEY & COOKLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council**  
**Held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2022, 7.00pm at Wolverley Church Hall**

Present:

Mr D Jones (Chairman)  
Mrs V Bordewich  
Mr A Carloss  
Mr D Cox  
Mr R Drew  
Mr J Hart  
Mrs L Jones  
Mr B McFarland  
Mr C Nicholls  
Mr C Sherrey  
Mr S Sherrey  
Mr W Southam  
Mr J Wood

County Councillor: Ian Hardiman  
District Councillors: Ian Hardiman, Lisa Jones  
West Mercia Police: PC Matt Ling, PC Jordan

213. **Apologies.**  
Cllr M Hart due to family commitments.

214. **Declarations of Councillors Interests**

- a) Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded to complete and need to regularly update their register of interests.
- b) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. Cllrs D Jones, A Carloss, D Cox, L Jones, C Nicholls, W Southam and J Wood in Quarry Planning Application. Cllr B McFarland can remain in room but not speak or vote.
- c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests (Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary) in items on the agenda and their nature. Cllr C Nicholls, PC 3609 as Neighbour, Cllr C Sherrey, PC 3614 as Professional Interest, Cllr R Drew 7b) as married to Clerk.

The meeting will now be adjourned for PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

No Public Questions

215. **To consider the adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 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.

**Matters for Discussion / Decision.**

216. **To discuss submission of further information in respect of the Environmental Statement relating to planning application 19/000053/CM – Proposed sand and gravel quarry.**

Cllr R Drew advised that the further submission is some 350 pages. He has circulated comments from the Quarry Action Group which were very comprehensive and relevant. After discussion it was unanimously agreed Cllr R Drew and S Sherrey be given delegated authority to meet and formulate a response maintaining the Parish Council objection to the application and commenting on the additional information.

217. **Police Report.**

Matt Ling went through the Police Report.

Attempt Theft of vehicle - Castle Road, Cookley- Police Ref 00028\_I\_08032022

At approx. 0300hrs on 8th March, 4 unknown persons have attempted to steal a Yamaha motorbike from the driveway of a property on Castle Road, Cookley. The suspects arrived on 2 motorbikes and left the location when disturbed by the occupants.

Theft of Motor Vehicle - Beeston Road, Cookley

Sometime between 20:30hrs 26/03/2022 and 08:30hrs 27/03/2022 a Silver Land Rover Discovery has been stolen from Beeston Road. Registration Similar to BO\*\*D\*\*. (another has been stolen from Bewdley hill area, so these vehicles are in high demand)

Theft of catalytic convertor - Wolverley police Ref 00163\_I\_28032022 Sometime between Friday evening and Saturday night a Mazda Mx has had the catalytic convertor stolen.

## ASB Wolverley Village

We have received reports of some of the school children causing issues within the village notably when finishing school. A parasol from the Queens Head PH has been damaged and they have been verbally abusive to residents, including kicking someone's door. The school have been notified and asked to provide a presence and for letters to be sent to all parents. We are also looking into any CCTV that may have captured the incidents.

## Lea Caste Site

We are starting to get increased reports of break in's and thefts from the building site at lea castle - at this time its equipment belonging to the various building contractors on site not residential properties

The issue of excess noise and dangerous driving by motorbikes driving around Cookley, riders not wearing helmets was discussed. PC Ling advised to report via 999 or 101 as appropriate and residents can make a statement using evidence by CCTV or from a phone. Dash Cam footage can be reported via Operation SNAP.

Cllr C Sherrey advised woods at back of Queens Head owned by Wolverley Woodland Trust. He also reported ongoing problems with cars parked on the corner of Fairfield Lane and Hayes Road.

218

### County / District Councillor Reports.

County Councillor Ian Hardiman reported,

Lea Lane Landslip: Frustratingly, the County Council's Legal Office have not yet found a way forward to allow commencement of the long awaited restoration works.

Lea Lane, Property Wall Collapse: In response to concerns by local residents regarding the bricks and debris on the road, I contacted the owner who swiftly responded and arranged for this to be cleared; the wall is due to be rebuilt but to a lower height, as agreed by the District Planning officers.

Lea Castle Farm, Quarry Application: Owing to further necessary consultation, it seems likely that the application will not be considered by the County Planning Committee until July.

Cookley, Zebra-Crossing Faded Lines: I have again chased County Highways to have these lines repainted.

Blakeshall, Snake Lane poor road condition: Local residents have reported that pleasingly the road where major potholes had formed has now been resurfaced satisfactorily; hopefully this will mean that drivers can drive along here without fear of serious damage to their vehicles. Still to be resolved however are the drainage issues which I am assured will be attended quite soon.

Cookley, Austcliffe Lane, Overgrown Bush hazard:

In response to a report that pedestrians were experiencing visual difficulties when exiting the Lane pathway, I liaised with the Highways Engineer and subsequently the Parish Clerk who arranged for the offending bush to be trimmed back suitably by the Lengthsman.

Cookley, Blocked Gullies, Castle Road & Bridge Road: I have again chased attention to the drainage here which needs clearing.

Caunsall, HGV Signage missing: I have referred to the Highways Engineer the fact that the 7.5 tonnes limit signage has strangely been removed; new signage will be installed as soon as possible.

Caunsall, Railings Damage: Noticing that the railings by the River Bridge had again been damaged, I reported this to the Highways Engineer and was told to expect repairs shortly.

Cllr D Cox confirmed Castle Road drains have still not been done. IH will chase with Paul Green.

Cllr C Sherrey reported the 30mph sign just past Wolverley allotments needs securing.

District Councillor Lisa Jones reported;

### **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. We have reported a number of Fly Tipping items which have now been collected including 30 plus car tyres in Axborough Lane.

We have scheduled the Road Name Plates for The Shortyard and Brown Westhead Park to be refurbished and restored, the operatives may be able to carry this out insitu but they may need to be removed, there will not be replacement signs put in its place whilst they are being restored.

We have also scheduled the Drakelow Lane Name Plate to be refurbished, restored and re-sited into a better position as its currently in a bush. This has been programmed into Green Street's schedule of works.

The new Defibrillator in Caunsall has been delivered to The Anchor Public House, the unit has been marked by smart water and permanent marker by the police team, there will be free training available for residents of Caunsall, a poster stating the date and time will be put up in the pub and notice board.

There was a complaint regarding parking at the corner of New Road, Caunsall outside the Public House, there are now larger No Parking signs that have been erected to alleviate the issue.

Regarding the Red Lion Planning Application, we are continuing to liaise with the Planning Officer and Conservation Officer. No decision has been made as yet.

#### **Enforcement Issues**

The Old Post Office, Cookley - This is continuing to be in Planning Enforcement until June, we are continuing to work closely with officers to restore the shopfront to its original design.

The Retreat, Lowe Lane, Wolverley - The Enforcement Officer is still in talks with the owners in relation to conditions and breaches in conditions.

Six Acres, Castle Hill Lane, Wolverley - Officers are aware of the issue and are investigating this at the moment. We will update you in due course.

Land off Drakelow Lane K9 Pawfection - This application will be going back to the Planning Committee Meeting for a revised Enforcement Notice due to additional items that have been observed on the site.

Moto X, Wolverley - There has been a complaint raised regarding the number of occasions this has taken place, the enforcement officer is to contact the leaseholder to obtain an updated list of dates for events/official practice sessions for this year so far.

#### **Wyre Forest District Issues**

Wyre Forest House is still closed to the public as is the Green Street Hub save for dealing with housing and homelessness applications.

The District Council owned units that were being constructed in Unity Park, off Silverwoods Way in Kidderminster are now complete, there are nine units in total and four are under offer, the remaining five are being viewed by perspective companies. The District Council will benefit from the rental income from the units.

Visa applications from Ukrainians who will be living with sponsors in Wyre Forest have been approved by the District Council, this number is increasing daily as further sponsor applications are being approved.

Wyre Forest District Council has received the final local plan with all the minor and main modifications made, a special cabinet has been arranged for 26 th April for them to make recommendations onto Full Council. A special Full Council meeting will take place at Wyre Forest House at 6pm on 26 th April. WFDC will have to vote on whether or not to approve the Plan and effectively to agree that it is 'sound' or not. All 33 councillors have to vote on the Plan, save for any that have an interest that precludes them from doing so.

The Gainsborough House Hotel has been commissioned by the Home Office for Syrian refugees.

The local police team are holding a free Bike security marking event on Wednesday 13 April from 11-2pm outside Halfords on Crossley Retail Park Kidderminster.

There is a local Health Walk Group for residents which starts from The Lock Public House, Wolverley every Thursday evening at 6pm in the summer months. If you are interested the email address is:- info@bff-wyreforest.co.uk

Cllr D Cox requested a road sweeper in Austcliffe Lane - Cllr Mrs Jones will arrange. He also raised a building appeared in a garden off Castle Road, Lisa will investigate.

Cllr D Jones referred to nothing happening at the former Post Office and Red Lion, Cookley and the enforcement expires in June. Councillor Mrs Jones advised WFDC are pushing this.

#### 219. **Financial Matters:**

a) External Audit 2021/2022.

Councillor C Sherrey reported that the Clerk had received an e mail regarding being selected again for an intermediate review, this was sent in error from PKF Littlejohn. The deadline for all forms is 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022.

b) Clerks Pay Review.

The Clerk and Councillor Drew left the Room.

Cllrs Hart and Nicholls met to review the clerks annual salary and scale.

The proposal was that there should be no change to the current pay scale LC 2 SCP 24 as there had been no changes in duties since the clerks scale was substantially reviewed in October 2020. The current rate is £14.86 and with the 2% back dated to 1st April 2021 this would increase the rate to £15.16 an hour.

Chris Nicholls thanked Cllr Marcus Hart for his assistance in undertaking this review. All councillors in agreement.

c) To agree the schedule of cheques to be signed.

84 Mrs B J Drew 1067.71  
(Salary March 2022)

85 Inland Revenue 415.80  
(Tax and NI - Jan - March 2022)

86 Mrs B J Drew 20.19  
(Ink/Stamps)  
(Seeds/Sand) 28.72 plus £135.50 Boston Seeds)

	(Clerks Expenses to 31st March)	141.00
87	Lorraine Neal (Lengthsman March 22)	570.00
1	Marston's (Bus Shelter Rental)	1.20
2	Stan Wall & Son (Timber) Ltd (Circular Bench)	1020.00
220.	<b><u>Localism Proposal from Wyre Forest District Council regarding Cookley Allotments.</u></b> Councillor C Sherrey reported that after discussion with WFDC the Parish Council will take over the Cookley part of the allotments with the existing lease as it stands at moment and thereafter will negotiate with Cookley allotment holders a new lease. Unanimously agreed.	
221.	<b><u>To appoint representative to Sebright Educational Foundation.</u></b> Wolverley Parish Council Representative to Sebright is required, Proposed Cllr Mrs V Bordewich, by Cllr C Sherrey, seconded S Sherrey and agreed. Clerk to advise Sebright.	
222.	<b><u>To report following meeting held regarding action on Street Lighting Columns.</u></b> Councillor C Sherrey reported on a meeting held recently with James Douglas, WCC Street Lighting. He advised of an alternative company that would undertake testing if the Parish Council required a second opinion.  The Clerk is now in receipt of a Quote from Altitude Services of £7,074 to inspect all lights, this would obviously reduce if looking only at concrete lights. Councillor C Sherrey does not think this necessary but advised that this should be referred back to the Risk Committee to consider and advise. Cllr S Sherrey agreed this was the sensible course of action. This was unanimously agreed. Clerk to arrange Risk Meeting prior to next Council meeting.	
223.	<b><u>To discuss bin review in the Parish.</u></b> Cllrs C Sherrey, S Sherrey and R Drew undertook a review of bins in Wolverley and Cllr W Southam in Cookley. Only a few actions are required, Lengthsman will be asked to undertake. It was unanimously agreed to get rid of the spare old bins that are being kept at Stan Walls.	
224.	<b><u>New Homes Welcome Card.</u></b> Clerk had circulated sample Welcome Card. It was unanimously agreed to proceed with these and delegate layout to Clerk.	
225.	<b><u>Queen's Platinum Jubilee - Events.</u></b> All plans in both villages are in hand.	
226.	<b><u>Planning Applications for Consideration: -</u></b>	
	PC No	WFDC No/Details
	3607	Re-Consultation: 22/0066/FUL: Continuation of the use of the site as a commercial equestrian facility at Spring Paddock, Horseley Hill Farm, Horseley Hills Lane, Wolverley. Recommend Approval subject to the conditions you discussed regarding times of operation, no. of children and lighting.
	3609	22/0161/HOU: Single storey rear extension with garage conversion at 5 Woodlands Road, Cookley, Recommend Approval
	3610	22/0169/FUL: Replacement of temporary agricultural workers dwelling with a permanent agricultural workers dwelling at Orchard Cottage, Blakeshall Lane, Wolverley, Recommended Refusal due to inappropriate development in the Green Belt.
	3611	22/0179/HOU: Existing flat roof to be replaced with a pitched, hopped roof at 30 Westhead Road North, Cookley, Rec Approval
	3612	22/0188/CLP: Single storey side extension at Sebright House, Gipsy Lane, Blakeshall, Noted
	3613	22/0190/PNH: Single storey rear extension at Sebright House, Gipsy Lane, Blakeshall, Noted
	3614	22/0192/HOU: Construction of single storey rear extension at Horsbrook Cottage, Church Bank, Wolverley, Recommend Refusal. The Parish Council support the comments from the Conservation Officer and North West Water Management.

- 3615 22/0194/PNH: First floor extension at Sebright House, Gipsy Lane, Blakeshall,  
Noted
- 3616 22/0235/PIP: Erection of 4 residential dwellings (resubmission of 18/0748/PIP) at Wolverley Lodge, Lea Lane,  
Wolverley,  
The Parish Council has noted the re submission and all the conditions as detailed in the Decision Notice dated 27th  
February 2019 be carried forward, this includes a list of 19 reports as a Technical Details Consent Application is still  
required.  
Additionally it is noted that Highways were unhappy with the original proposal, which may still be the case, although  
Highways have yet to comment on this re-submission.
- 3617 22/0260/HOU: Single storey rear extension with balcony above at The Coach House, 124A Castle Road, Cookley.  
Recommend Approval

**Parish Matters for Update Only - no decisions required.**

227. Clerks Report. (Clerk) Local Plan, Road Closure, Decision Notices.
228. Update on Lengthsman. (RD/WS) Cllr Drew reported all Cookley work completed, used up balance of hours at Wolverley.
229. Village Projects. (RD/DJ) Telephone Box refurb has been started, Gateways 3 in Wolverley, 2 in Cookley been erected.
230. Austcliffe Footbridge. (DJ/RD) soft opening 1.00pm Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April, IH trying to do food for main event
231. Lea Castle Village Wider Site Update. (DJ/RD/VB) Noted.
232. New Issues / Items for Next Meeting. (All)
233. Date of Next Meeting - to confirm the date of the next meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday 3rd May 2022.

Meeting closed 8.15pm

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Chairman - 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022