

PEOPLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th July 2022 at 7.30pm in Peopleton Village Hall

1. **Members and Officers present:** Cllrs Mason (Chairman), Phillips, Bailey, Wall, Whittingham, Baxter, District and County Cllr Robinson. One member of the public attended.
2. **Apologies:** Cllrs Smith, Hennerley and Darby
3. **Declarations of Interest:**

Public Question Time

The time allocated is at the discretion of the council/chairman. Residents are invited to give their views and question the parish council on issues on this agenda or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the chairman. Members of the public may not take part in the parish council meeting itself. This period is not part of the formal meeting; brief notes will be appended to the minutes as an aide memoire.

4. **Minutes:** The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 11th May 2022 were approved as true and correct, as proposed by Cllr Mason and seconded by Cllr Phillips.
5. **County & District Councillors report:**

Last month was a welcome respite after the hectic month of May with all the Parish meetings & PC AGM's. Plus, annual meetings for County & District Councils.

The Jubilee celebrations were extremely well supported and enjoyed by residents. I managed to visit ten across my Division on the Sunday including your own and even a slight downward turn in the weather did not dampen the enthusiasm for enjoyment. It was great to see residents enjoying and appreciating your refurbished hall which even had live music playing.

There was a huge variety of events from street parties to morris dancing, beacon lighting, fun fairs and tea parties. The villages came up trumps with bunting, flags and decorated houses and village halls. It reminded me of how diverse our communities are and how good at organising Community events. I recognise though how much hard work goes on behind the events before and after and would like to thank all those involved in turning their visions into reality.

I personally planted several trees in some of our parishes as part of our Lord Lieutenant's green canopy initiative. I am pleased to tell you that so far over 16,000 trees have been planted in Worcestershire to celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee.

Happily, the good news continues for tree planting.

Successful funding bid for Heart of England Forest project

Heart of England Forest and 'Defra Heart of England: growing momentum, capacity, skills, and trees' has been awarded a £499,446 grant from the Trees Call to Action Fund, led by Defra, the Forestry Commission and The National Lottery Heritage Fund. In partnership with Heart of England Forest and Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick District Councils, we are running this three-year project to engage with landowners and local communities to increase tree cover across the landscape.

Working together to identify suitable areas for trees to be planted, facilitate tree planting, and support woodland maintenance, new woodlands will be created that benefit the environment, boost biodiversity, and provide havens for communities to enjoy. As we grow the level of tree cover then more skilled people are needed to plant and maintain the new woods. The project will create four full-time roles, in addition to four forestry apprenticeships, and will provide training for local volunteers, increasing the number of people with the required skills and ensuring the sustainability of these new woodlands. Evidently 150 acres have been brought by DEFRA in Naunton Beauchamp as part of this scheme which is very exciting.

Covid-19 update as of 12th July

April saw the end of free testing and this has affected the reliability of infection data. While official testing rates have fallen significantly, information from other sources presents a different picture, although data is still patchy.

Infection rates are on the rise again nationally. The English average is 246 rising to 253 per 100,000 in Wychavon with the highest prevalence being amongst people in their 50's. more people have been re infected and it is felt that

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the latest Omicron variant is more transmissible but with less significant symptoms. There are currently 117 people with Covid symptoms in our Acute hospitals in Worcestershire which shows a considerable increase since mid-June. Vulnerable people have now been offered a fifth vaccination booster. As it stands 83% of people in Wychavon have received at least the first dose. View the latest vaccination data on the Worcestershire County Council website.

Ukrainian situation.

More families have arrived into our towns and villages currently 1035 in 430 homes in our County. They are being supported by County & District agencies. 2,400 residents have expressed an interest in hosting ¾ of which were in the south of Worcestershire. 337 of these refugees have come into Wychavon to 136 hosts and 150 children are settling into our schools. Sadly, as the situation in Ukraine worsens so more refugees are expected to arrive as the conflict with Russia continues.

Cost of Living Crisis

This situation is also worsening together with increased energy costs. Current rail strikes are adding to the pressures felt by many. Food costs have also increased and we are aware of increased demand at our food banks. Wychavon and County are offering 'Here to help' schemes so please let me know if you know of any families that are struggling and we can signpost them in the right direction.

2021 CENSUS RESULTS

WYCHAVON has seen the second-largest population size increase in the West Midlands over the past ten years, according to the 2021 census. The population has increased by 13.3 per cent from around 116,900 in 2011 to 132,500 last year, while the overall population in England grew by 6.6 per cent. This has seen Wychavon rise from the 185th to the 175th most populated area in England. Despite this, Wychavon is the sixth least densely populated of the West Midlands' 30 local authority areas, with around one person living on each football pitch-sized area of land. Just 200 people were living in each square kilometre of land in 2021, a slight rise from the 176 people in the same area in 2011. This was below the 434 residents per square kilometre in England last year.

The past decade has seen an increase in the number of households, with the amount of properties rising from 49,466 in 2011 to 57,400 in 2021. There has been a 51 per cent increase in the amount of 70 to 74-year-olds since 2011 compared to a 37 per cent rise in England. There has also been a 46 per cent increase in the number of 75 to 79-year-olds, whereas the national average in this age group is 22 per cent. Wychavon has seen a significant rise in the number of young adults, with a 29 per cent increase in those aged between 25 and 29, while there are 39 per cent more 30- to 34-year-olds than ten years ago. The biggest decrease in population has come in people aged 40 to 44, which saw a decrease of 17 per cent. There was also a ten per cent drop in the number of people aged between 45 and 49.

Overall, there has been a 31.5 per cent increase in people aged 65 and over and a 7.9 per cent rise in those aged between 15 to 64 years. There was also a 9.5 per cent rise in the number of children aged 14 or below.

6. Planning: The following application was considered between meetings with no objections:

W/22/01333/HP	Kasidah Main Street Peopleton Pershore WR10 2EA	Raise garage roof to facilitate conversion and new ground floor front roof	Pending Decision
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7. Progress reports:

a) Chairman's- TM

Cllr Mason had received feedback from a parishioner that the roads had not been sept in the village for some time and the gutters required clearing- Clerk to chase highways as had already logged via the portal online. It was pleasing to see that the boundary commission had listened to the response from the residents of Peopleton in their plea to remain in Upton Snodsbury ward and not move in Drakes Broughton ward. It was agreed to respond as a Parsh Council expressing how pleased everyone is with the further changes and

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encourage others to do so also. The closing date for response to the further changes is 8th August 2022. A notice to also be placed in the noticeboard with where to respond if you are happy with the amended version. Cllr Mason thanked Cllr Wall for organising the Open meeting on Climate Change with Roger Britton in attendance and requested climate change be on the meeting agenda for September. The Parish Council has received a £280 fine for using an image without copyright on the website, all Councillors agreed that this should be paid and the total bill split between Village Trust, Shop and the Parish Council- clerk to action.

b) Village Trust- LB

The Jubilee Picnic in the Park was well received by parishioners and also the Pony and Dog Show which raised £2200 in profits and the Autumn Show is coming up on 3rd September. There are two new members joining the Village Trust and a bench has been purchased in memory of John Sargeant to be installed in the park. The Worcester Pear tree has now been planted and the two oak trees will be planted shortly. Concept boards will be installed in the play area explaining how it is a natural play area hence the long grass and wildflowers.

c) Village shop-TM

AGM postponed until 8th September as awaiting the end of year accounts to be checked.

d) PACT- PH Nothing to report

e) Lengthsman-LB Nothing to report

f) Rights of Way- LB Nothing to report

g) Flooding- DW

Nothing to report, Cllr Phillips thanked Cllr Wall for arranging the Climate Change meeting

8. Finance

a) Update on the budget/ Bank balance as of 7th July 2022

Treasurers Account £9,959.79
Business Instant Account £10,873.74

b) The following payments were approved for the Clerk to pay-

Worcester Wheels (April)	£145.00 (paid 1/6/22)
Pershore Volunteer Centre (April/ May)	£458.00
Clerk's salary	£519.20
Clerk's expenses	£51.50
Clerk tax (cheque to sign)	£52.60 (cheque 887)
Lengthsman May	£188.50
Lengthsman June	£149.50
Worcester Wheels (May)	£162.50
Limebridge May	£604.80
Limebridge June	£403.20
BHIB Insurance (paid 24/06/22)	£363.18
Les Bailey (Tree plaques paid)	£120.00
PVT (Printing welcome leaflets)	£6.00
Donation to Jubilee Summer Picnic (paid)	£250.00
Wychavon Parish Games	£69.00
Pershore Volunteer centre (June)	£156.00
Worcester Wheels (June)	£TBC
Copyright fee	£280.00 (2/3 claimed back so £94)

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c) **Online Banking**

Cllr Whittingham to be added to Lloyds online banking account as agreed by all Cllrs.

9. Throckmorton Development Update

Cllr Bailey attended a zoom meeting regarding the proposed development attended by other Parishes and Planning officers and found it interesting, the SWDP public consultation has been delayed now until November. It would be at least 8 years before the development would start and by 2041 there would be a town centre, traveller site, one secondary school and three primary schools as part of the plan. Eighteen local landowners have now promised their land as part of the development

10. Worcestershire 20 is Plenty scheme

All Councillors agreed to not undertake the scheme at present as it is not enforceable.

11. Code of Conduct

To be postponed until the September Meeting whilst Councillors check the changes

12. Correspondence for Information

The Clerk circulated correspondence from a parishioner regarding cutting the grass short on Caves corner. Correspondence was discussed from enforcement at Wychavon regarding outstanding issues at Stone Arrow Farm- Clerk to chase response.

13. Future agenda items and reports:

Climate Change
Code of Conduct

14. Date of next meeting: To confirm the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 21st September 2022 at 7:00pm

Signed

Dated.....

Future meetings

September	21/09/22
November	09/11/22
January	11/01/23
March	08/03/23
May	10/05/23
July	12/07/23
September	20/09/23
November	08/11/23