

WOLVERLEY & COOKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 3rd October 2023, 7.00pm, Cookley School

Present:

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

West Mercia Police: PC2619 Jamie Guest
County Councillor: Apologies
District Councillors: Councillor R M Drew

90. **Apologies**

Cllr B Brookes and M Hart attending conference and County Councillor I Hardiman at another meeting.

91. **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. None declared.
- c) To declare any Other Registerable Interests or Non-Registerable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

Public Question Time

A resident from Caunsall spoke about the issue raised last month regarding dumping of black sacks along the A449 Wolverhampton Road from Cookley through Caunsall and into the Staffordshire border. The resident advised that he had spoken to the Council on 5th September, after picking up several bags, one was open and there were wrappers from a food firm in Redditch. He reported this and has not had a reply. He advised the culprit waits until there are no cars behind them and then throws the sacks out, the sacks contain dog excrement.

Councillor Drew advised that the District Councillors are aware of the matter, and it has been reported to the appropriate officers, there is some evidence of who is responsible and there is a lot of work going on between WFDC and South Staffs officers to build a case. Cllr Drew apologised for a lack of response, will investigate this and get an official statement from officers sent to the resident.

92. **To consider the adoption of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th September 2023 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;

93. **Police Report**

Police report had been circulated; PC Guest commented;

WOLVERLEY

Police ref 115_I_02092023 - We are investigating a theft of an animal transport trailer, sometime between Thursday 30th August and Saturday 2nd September which occurred on Sugar Loaf Lane, Iwerley. The trailer is 5m x 2.5m and had a silver top cover.

Police ref 232_I_16092023 - An Ifor Williams trailer was stolen from Blakeshall Lane on 16th September. This has since been located in Leicestershire.

Police Ref 00246_I_30092023 - Blakeshall Lane

A C4 Citroen Picasso which was parked unattended near to some woodland was broken into. Persons unknown smashed rear windscreen of the vehicle and a handbag taken from the boot.

COOKLEY

Police Ref 0247_I_04092023 - On Monday 4th September between 12:30 and 13:00hrs an Ifor Williams twin base trailer has been stolen from Kimberlee Avenue, Cookley. The trailer was left unattended for a short time before it was taken.

Police ref 00080_I_20092023 - Castle Road - Between 19/09/2023 and 20/09/2023 unknown offenders have gained access to rear insecure garden and gained entry to the garden shed by damaging padlock and removing it. Untidy search of shed but nothing taken.

Police Ref 178_I_21092023 - Lionfields Rd, Cookley - Sometime overnight on 21/09/23 persons unknown have gained access to the rear garden of a property and entered a shed taking a Honda Lawnmower and 5/5 chainsaws including other items.

Police ref 00079_I_26092023 - We are appealing for information after a car was broken into. The theft occurred sometime overnight between 25th - 26th September when loose change was stolen from the vehicle whilst it was parked on Albrighton Road, Kidderminster.

We have continued to carry out speed enforcement on Franche Road, Wolverley throughout September and no tickets have been issued.

Please remain vigilant and continue to report any suspicious activity to us.

Cllr Drew reported that the speed enforcement on Franche Road is showing positive results with the VAS data showing average speeding over 30mph reduced from 24% to around 12%.

E scooters and motorbikes speeding around the Parish are still an issue, Broadwaters have some young riders and PC Guest thinks they may be the same people.

PC Guest advised of the Lighting Up campaign for darker nights and urged all to sign up for Neighbourhood Matters.

Cllr Jones advised of 3 motorbikes along Lea Lane with pillion passengers not wearing helmets.

94. **To receive Councillors Reports;**
District Councillor Report; Report previously circulated.
Wyre Forest Issues:

At Wyre Forest District Council's Cabinet meeting of 12th September, the making of Public Space Protection Orders in respect of the control of dogs and alcohol consumption, following consultation, was agreed.

Also the Cabinet agreed to adopt the Environmental Enforcement Policy and to approve increases to fixed penalty charges for littering and environmental offences.

And Accepted the recommendations from the Chief Executive to adopt a revised Localism Strategy.

And Agreed to enter a procurement exercise to appoint an operator who will install, maintain and operate electric vehicle charge (EVC) points at a number of public car parks and other locations in the ownership of the Council.

Local Issues:

We are much aware of the ongoing disregard by some dog owners who are repeatedly depositing their dog's mess in black bags in a scattered manner along the A449 Wolverhampton Road. This has been reported to the Operational Services Team at the District.

Badlands Avenue Street Plate: This requires replacement but not yet happened, so we are chasing the District Council Depot on this.

The District Council's Team did a very good job of clearing Highlow Bank pavement to make safe for pupil usage on their way to school.

Cllr Drew reported on fly tipping by the Allotments in Fairfield Lane which blocked the road. This was reported and cleared by WFDC within one hour, evidence has been found that may lead to a prosecution.

Dog Walking facility, Shatterford Road - An appeal has been made.

County Councillor Report:

Written Report circulated;

Cookley, Woodlands Rd Sunken Roadway: I am pleased that Severn Trent Water have now attended to this issue.

Cookley Woodlands Rd Pavements: I am also pleased to see that County Highways have resurfaced the Pavements here, as I had requested.

Wolverley Village Cutting : At last the County Highways Team have completed the unfinished clearance of vegetation to allow free flow of rainwater into the gullies and Drains.

Kingsford Lane, County Signage: Highways have now installed a Worcestershire Sign which will soon have a Staffordshire sign attached for the opposite direction.

Wolverley School Pick Up Parking : Unfortunately Highways will not install Double Yellow Lines in Blakeshall Lane and may not even do so for the actual junction with Drakelow Lane. I have appealed against the latter, stating that inconsiderate /obstructive parking by parents is occurring and need resolving.

Austcliffe Road Overgrowth. The Highways Engineer inspected and says that some trimming has been effected and will not be done again till Spring Time.

Kinver Lane Pole for VAS: With Cllr Robin Drew's assistance, it is intended to utilise a lamp post in the lane for this.

Sunday Parking, Brown Westhead: I am still awaiting a meeting with the District Council Officers, the Police and Worcs F.A. on this.

Cllr Southam expressed disappointment regarding the double yellow lines by the High School and asked if Cllr Hardiman can pursue. Cllr Drew advised that the Police can be involved if parking is dangerous, Cllr Webber suggested taking pictures for evidence.

95. **Financial Matters:**

a) To agree the accounts to be paid.

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| 34 | B J Drew - Salary September 23 | £1,190.58 |
| 35 | HMRC - Tax & NI July - September 23 | £460.01 |
| 36 | Keith Basketfield - Extra Grass Cut September 23 | £756.80 |
| 37 | WFDC - Election Fees | £1220.28 |
| 38 | B J Drew - Ink/Paper | £10.00 |
| 39 | Mr Jason Hull - Lengthsman September 23 | £81.00 |
| 40 | Quarry Invoice | £1500.00 |
| 41 | PKF Littlejohn LLP | £504.00 |
| 42 | T & A Dale (September Bin Payment) | £633.98 |

Cllr C Sherrey advised payment 37 Election Expenses can now be paid as increased postage costs caused the increase, payment 36 is the extra grass cut which has been budgeted for and payment 40 is the Quarry Invoice which has been received and will be paid direct to the Barrister.

An additional payment of £633.98 to Tim Dale has been added (September bin emptying) as he was not paid from the new account, a new Standing Order needs to be set up. The accounts for payment and setting up a new Standing Order were proposed Cllr C Sherrey, seconded Cllr R Drew and unanimously approved. Cllr C Sherrey also advised that a deposit account has been set up with Lloyds paying 1.3% interest.

b) External Audit Report. - Cllr C Sherrey reported that after several email exchanges the External Auditor had signed off the accounts with one comment "The smaller authority has not restated the 2021/22 figure when revaluing assets in Section 2, Box 9. Please note that the Practitioners Guide allows smaller authorities to use any reasonable valuation method, provided that the prior year figure is restated for consistency and comparability." This was noted.

96. **Fly tipping / Black Sacks A449.**

The Chairman advised this was discussed in Public Question Time and covered in the District Councillors report.

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

PC No WFDC No/Details

3691 23/0657/FUL: Erection of a local affordable self-build house (resubmission of 23/0247/FUL) at Wyre Mill House, Mill Lane, Wolverley.

Recommend Refusal in line with comments from North Worcestershire Water Management - no appropriate flood risk assessment submitted.

3692 23/0665/HOU: Single storey rear end side extension, garage conversion, re roof first floor extension and detached garage at 55 Caunsall Road, Caunsall.

Recommend Approval.

- 3693 23/0700/CLP: For Information Only - Lawful development certificate for a proposed loft conversion with dormer window and roof light and construction of an outbuilding to create a home gym at 2 Rock Cottages, Caunsall Road, Caunsall.
- 3694 23/0701/HOU: Construction of a single storey side and rear extension and construction of an outbuilding to create a home gym at 2 Rock Cottages, Caunsall Road, Caunsall.
Recommend Approval.

Planning Decisions.

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|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 23/0469/HOU - Permit | 63 Caunsall Road, Caunsall |
| 23/0507/FUL - Permit | Wolverley Surgery |
| 22/0235/PIP - Refusal | Wolverley Lodge, Lea Lane, Cookley |

Notice of Appeal - 22/0912/S73 - Land at Os 381904 279513, Wardle Way, Wolverley

Notice of Appeal - 22/0958/FUL - Land at Os 381760 279630, Shatterford Lane, Wolverley

Appeal Decision - 22/0443/OUT - Cedar Wood, Lea Lane, Cookley - Appeal Dismissed

Parish Matters for Update Only - no decisions required.

98. Clerks Report. (Clerk) Review of Polling Districts & Places, Code of Conduct Review, Allotments, Water Leak, Road Closures.
99. Update on Lengthsman. (RD/WS) Cllr Southam reported the Lengthsman has been on holiday but will be doing the bins as next job.
100. Remembrance Day Parades. (RD) Cllr Drew advised that the Royal British Legion are not participating in any parades, but Wolverley uniformed organisations will parade from the church hall to the church and after the service down to the village.
101. New Issues / Items for Next Meeting. (All) Communication with residents / Meeting Times / Review of Polling Districts & Places / Defibrillators.
102. Date of Next Meeting - to confirm the date of the next meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday 7th November 2023.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.40pm

Signed by Chairman - 7th November 2023