

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF DRAKES BROUGHTON AND WADBOROUGH WITH PIRTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 4th APRIL 2024 AT 7.30 PM AT DRAKES BROUGHTON VILLAGE HALL.

PRESENT: Cllr J Butterworth (Chair), Cllr Pell, Cllr Grisdale, Cllr D Skeys, Cllr Maureen Williams, Cllr R Booker, Cllr Turner, Cllr S Roberts & Cllr Mark Williams.

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor Robinson, District Councillor Rob Adams and Mrs N Nicholson (Clerk)

PUBLIC: None

1) APOLOGIES:

District Councillor Liz Turier, Cllr Small, Cllr R Bessant & Cllr L Abercrombie.

2) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

Public Participation: One member of public in attendance to observe the meeting.

3) MEMBER CO-OPTION

Mr Mark Grisdale was co-opted onto the Council to represent Drakes Broughton ward and to lead on the update of the Neighbourhood Plan, members introduced themselves and welcomed Cllr Grisdale to the meeting.

4) VACANCIES FOR MEMBERS TO REPRESENT WADBOROUGH WARD, PIRTON WARD AND DRAKES BROUGHTON WARD.

The Chair advised that there remained two vacancies, one for Drakes Broughton Ward and one for Pirton Ward.

5) MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting held on 7th March 2024 were proposed by Cllr Maureen Williams, seconded by Cllr Turner, agreed by all and signed by the Chair as a true record.

6) MATTERS ARISING

Walcot Lane Ford –Members noted another vehicle had been stranded in it just this week! Cllr Grisdale asked why it could not be closed just like any unpassable road e.g. at the top of Hatfield Bank. County Councillor Robinson advised that WCC Highways had repeatedly said they could not take liability for this, and she was now hoping that if the trial of the flashing lights and automatic gate in Herefordshire is successful, she will lobby for that.

School Flashing Light – County Councillor advised that there is a county wide issue with the supply of the parts.

Pirton Grouping Order – The order had not been found in the WDC archives. The Chair and Cllr Skeys would revisit the archive held at the Hive.

Dog Waste Bin – The clerk advised that she was still awaiting the works to be undertaken by WDC.

Parish Meetings – The Chair advised the agendas and adverts had been placed on the notice boards and website. An advert would go in the Villager. Pirton Ward was being held on 30th April 7pm and Drakes Broughton & Wadborough Friday 10th May at 5pm.

Veterans Charter – District Councillor Adams explained the charter, which was essentially, a Parish Council pledge to sign post any veterans in need of support, be it, transport, housing or health. Cllr Abercrombie would be the Parish Council contact as a veteran himself. It was proposed by Cllr Mark Williams to sign up to the charter, seconded by Cllr Pell and agreed by all.

7) FINANCE

The monthly bank reconciliation for March had been completed and the annual savings account reconciliation both were confirmed by Cllr Skeys and Cllr Maureen Williams, and the reconciliations were signed.

Cllr Mark Williams, Cllr Maureen Williams and Cllr Booker had met with the Chair as the Finance subgroup on 3rd April. The group recommended to stay with the Lloyds Bank saving account, but to categorise the reserves with amounts clearly identified for projects and a set amount as the reserve fund.

The subgroup had also looked at internet/online banking and recommended moving to online payments, within the current Lloyds Bank, to do this the financial regulations needed updating. Cllr Mark Williams would review the financial regulations and Cllr Maureen Williams would work with the RFO to create a robust set of processes for authorisation of payments.

It was proposed by Cllr Butterworth and seconded by Cllr Mark Williams and agreed by all to move forward with these recommendations.

The clerk advised that £500 government grant had been credited to the SSE account and that it was now in credit and therefore no payment was due this month.

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

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|---|---------|
| a) Mrs. N Nicholson – Clerk Salary March – S/O | £600.00 |
| b) Mrs N Nicholson – remainder of clerk salary March | £70.68 |
| c) HMRC employee deductions £31.80 last month and £25.20 this month | £57.00 |
| To be paid quarterly by 22 nd April. | |
| d) Mr. B Arrowsmith – Lengthsman Services – March | £260.00 |
| e) E.on Energy Solutions Ltd – Col 35 bulb replacement | £163.20 |
| f) Sutcliffe Play – Play Park parts | £11.30 |
| g) Mr B Arrowsmith – Annual weedkiller | £70.00 |

Remittance: WCC Lengthsman reimburse July & February including £126.47 admin £646.47
WCC lengthsman reimburse Jan 24, Nov 23 & Dec 23 £793.00

7.) PLAYPARK and PLAYING FIELD.

Cllr Turner advised he and Mick Pell had done an operational check on 3rd April. There was another bolt required and a fraying rope. The clerk requested pictures of these items to review if any action was required.

A broken plastic join on the bird's nest was discussed, it cannot be repaired without full replacement of the rope section. It was not sharp and not integral. The clerk was asked to ring the annual safety inspector and get advice from him. It was proposed by Cllr Roberts and seconded by Cllr Mark Williams that should he recommend replacement the clerk was to go-ahead and purchase and organise the replacement.

The Chair advised that the initial meeting of the phase 2 working party would be held on 11th April. Cllr Booker was leading this project, he advised there would be further updates at the May meeting.

The Chair advised that she had done extensive investigations into who installed the pipe and drain located on the Playing Field by the Worcester Road pedestrian entrance and it is thought the drain and inspection chamber had been installed prior to the Parish Council owning the land, potentially installed by Pershore rural District Council. Investigations into this are ongoing.

8.) COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP FUND

The Chair asked if there was anything the Parish Council could apply to the fund to purchase. Members suggested the land that was leased that the village Hall stood on and or 'Josies' Orchard. It was thought that until the current land supply issues were resolved neither landowner would be willing to sell to the Community.

9.) ROAD SAFETY – Speed Watch, VAS data and B4084 VAS.

The clerk read Cllr Bessant's update as follows:

X2 Speed Watch sessions held, caught someone doing 46MPH on Stonebow Road!

Another volunteer passed vetting and awaiting training.

New VAS is now up on the B4084 data will be collected next week.

Arranging speed watch session around volunteer availability and holidays tricky.

Cllr Turner advised that he thought the VAS did slow drivers down and they seem faster since the VAS moved from top of Stonebow Road.

10.) REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

County Councillor Robinson - Report circulated prior to meeting.

County Councillor asked if the County Council mobile library was used. A Pirton resident did use it, but members were unsure of other usage.

County Councillor advised that County Council had £1.4 million towards transport. Cllr Pell advised there had been no progress re the bus services and Julian Palfrey had written once again to the MP. The Community buses were well used and there was a concern that the WCC demand led bus service would have passengers get themselves to designated collection points, whereas the community buses are door to door.

County Councillor advised of an objection to the Wadborough crossroads extension to 30MPH, she advised that the police supported the adjustments and Wadborough members confirmed they are supportive of the proposed changes.

County Councillor advised that the junction lines had now been painted on Woodleigh.

Pirton storm drain had been located and a works order had been raised.

Cllr Turner advised that 30MPH sign by the bridge on Stonebow Road had been hit by a lorry and required replacement.

District Councillor Adams – Cllr Adams echoed Cllr Pell’s frustration regarding the bus services!

District Councillor Adams thanked the Chair for her eloquent speech to the planning committee and thanks the community for coming to support the Chair, the number of public attending do have an impact on members of the planning committee as it shows the weight of public feeling.

District Councillor Adams thought that the application for 53 dwellings at Thornleigh would be going to planning committee either 25th April or 22nd May.

Cllr Booker asked if applications refused by planning committee rather that delegated powers were looked at differently by the planning inspectorate. Cllr Adams advised that it had no difference, but all the documents and reports would all be available to the inspectorate.

Cllr Skeys asked the clerk to confirm that the lengthsman does not use the weedkiller in Pirton. She advised he did not.

Cllr Mark Williams advised that a resident had approached him regarding a planning application for a mobile home in a residential curtilage. The law states it must be ancillary to the main house. Wadborough members had compiled an objection which the clerk had submitted to WDC.

11.) PERIODIC HIGHWAYS REVIEW – tasks for lengthsman

Nothing to report this month.

Wadborough members asked for their road signs to be cleaned when the weather improved.

12.) VILLAGER SUBMISSION

The Chair and the Clerk would compile the Parish Council update for the May edition.

13.) PLANNING

Planning Committee re W/2300843/OUT, 75 Stonebow Road. Application for 25 dwelling houses – ‘Freshfields’. The Chair advised that the application had been refused by the Planning Committee. The Chair thanked all those involved in writing reports and representing the community in objecting to this development. She especially gave thanks to County Councillor Robinson and District Councilor Adams, Cllr Bessant, Ian Spencer and Ken Skilern. As noted by District Councilor Adams earlier, the Chair thanked the community for giving up their time to attend the committee hearing. District Councillor Kearsley having heard of the number of houses already built in Drakes Broughton is seeking to have the 50 allocated in the SWDPR removed.

Neighborhood Plan – The Chair advised that they had received a proposal from Kirkwells, the consultants who drew up the original Neighborhood Plan. Cllr Grisdale advised that it updates the current Plan, but he thought there would be scope to include highways and drainage updates, and this could potentially increase the cost. There are now 5 volunteers to join the steering group to be led by Cllr Grisdale and an initial meeting is being planned. Representative’s from Wadbrough and Pirton would be required.

The Chair advised that the petition request regarding the urgent action required in approving the land supply had been rejected by WDC.

Category 1 classification – The Chair advised that there was some confusion over the current category status of Drakes Broughton it was referred to as both Category 1 and category 2 in the planning officer 50 page report regarding ‘Freshfields’ District Councillor Adams had clarified that it was a Category 2 village currently but could be moved to category 1 in the SWDPR. Investigations on how the classification is decided are ongoing and the Chair would be looking to retain the category 2 status.

SWDPR Update – The Chair advised that she thought this was at least 12 months away now due to policies written using out of date data. The joint parishes committee were due to meeting with WDC re infrastructure surrounding the Parkway Garden Town proposal. The Joint Parishes have launched a petition calling for infrastructure and healthcare before house building.

- a.) Comments made on planning applications to Wychavon: W/24/00357/FUL Thorndon Grove, Windmill Lane, Stoulton. Erection of 3no new dwelling homes. Full application following the granting of Permission in Principle. Strong objection submitted.
W/24/00473/PIP Chevington Mead, Brickyard Lane, Drakes Broughton. Permission in principle for the construction of 1no dwelling. Strong objection submitted.
 - b.) Applications Approved: W/24/00218/HP Home Farm House, Worcester Road, Drakes Broughton. Single storey rear extension with terrace.
 - c.) Applications Refused: W/23/01738/FUL Teal Farm, Wadborough. New accessway off the road for purpose of agriculture. It was noted that there were a number of coaches parked at Teal Farm currently.
W/24/00247/TDC5 Alley Garen, Brickfield Lane, Drakes Broughton. Technical detail consent following PIP approval for construction of 2 no dwellings in curtilage of Ally Garden, variation of condition 9.
 - d.) Applications Awaiting comment: W/24/00517/FUL Pirton Gorse House, Worcester Road, Pirton. Agricultural building and yard area.
 - e.) Appeals: Appeals: AAP/H1840/W23/3322058 Land at (O/S 9311 4891) Beech Ave, PIP for 6 no. dwellings. Permission given by Inspectorate.
APP/H1840/W/23/3334104. Land at (Os 9215 4883) Windmill Lane, Stoulton. Permission in Principle for construction of up to 3 no dwellings.
APP/H1840/W/24/3336448 Land at (OS 9310 4833) Brickyard Lane, Drakes Broughton. Application for permission in principle for min of 6no dwellings and max of 8no dwellings.
 - f.) Awaiting determination: 53 Houses at Thornleigh.
- Resident correspondence re Application W/24/00408/CLPU. Corner Cottage, Wadborough.

14.)CORRESPONDENCE

- DLUHC letter on withholding details of councillors' sensitive interests and home addresses
- Enviro-sort visit.
- WCC - Notice of closure of Footpaths DB-510 and DB-514 Drakes Broughton and Wadborough

INFORMATION AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

PIRTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 7PM TUESDAY 30th APRIL AT PIRTON CHURCH

Parish Council Monthly meeting **Thursday 2nd May 2024** at St Barnabas First & Middle School Hall. The meeting will start at 7.30pm

**DRAKES BROUGHTON & WADBOROUGH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 5PM FRIDAY 10th MAY AT
DRAKES BROUGHTON VILLAGE HALL.**

Meeting closed 21.50.