

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF DRAKES BROUGHTON AND WADBOROUGH WITH PIRTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 5th SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 7.30 PM AT DRAKES BROUGHTON VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Cllr J Butterworth (Chair), Cllr Pell, Cllr Grisdale, Cllr Maureen Williams, Cllr Turner, Cllr Abercrombie, Cllr Bessant & Cllr A Clarke.

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor Robinson, District Councillor Liz Turier and Mrs N Nicholson (Clerk)

PUBLIC: None

1) APOLOGIES:

District Councillor Rob Adams, Cllr Mark Williams, Cllr Roberts, Cllr Masters and Cllr Booker.

2) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

***Public Participation:** One member of public in attendance, nothing specific to raise*

3) VACANCIES FOR MEMBERS TO REPRESENT DRAKES BROUGHTON WARD.

The Chair advised that there remained one vacancy for Drakes Broughton Ward.

4) MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting held on 1st August 2024 were proposed by Cllr Maureen Williams, seconded by Cllr Grisdale, agreed by all and signed by the Chair as a true record.

5) MATTERS ARISING

Football Club Landlord tenant form – The Chair advised that a Landlord Tenant form had been completed to enable DBRFC to apply for FA funding for the pitch maintenance.

Litter Bin – Walcot Lane – The Clerk advised she had not found the resident at home during her attempts to advise regarding the increased emptying agreed in the August meeting. She would continue to try and meet with the resident.

6) FINANCE

The Clerk advised that the external audit report had been received with no queries or advisories. The Conclusion of Audit notice would be displayed for 14 days before the end of September as required.

The Chair advised that all signatories had applied for online banking and that Cllr Maureen Williams was creating a payment flow chart for online banking procedure, once the bank had confirmed online set up a mandate for online authorisation can be completed with a view to implementation from October's meeting.

Review financial position against budget: The Chair talked members through the year to date spend against budget. Everything was on-track. It was noted that clerk would upgrade the Parish Council email storage costing £1.59pcm which would be reimbursed via her quarterly OPE.

The monthly bank reconciliation for August had been completed and confirmed by Cllr Skeys and Cllr Maureen Williams via email, and the reconciliation was signed.

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

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|----|--|----------|
| a) | Mrs. N Nicholson – Clerk Salary August – S/O | £628.06 |
| | Note HMRC employee deductions £69.60 July and £69.60 to be paid quarterly by 22 nd October (remaining credit £15.53) | |
| b) | Mr. B Arrowsmith – Lengthsman Services – August | £280.00 |
| c) | Kirkwells Ltd – Neighborhood Plan review | £1944.00 |
| d) | Playsafety Ltd – ROSPA annual play park inspection | £510.00 |
| e) | PKF Littlejohn – external audit fee | £252.00 |
| f) | Wychavon District Council – Cleanse and empty Sidings Road litter bins | £112.87 |
| g) | SSE – Streetlighting monthly electricity x 2 months | £821.87 |
| | It was noted that the Direct Debit set up seemed to of dropped off the account and that there is still an open complaint with SSE regarding the incorrect name on the account. | |
| h) | Smart Cut – grass cutting | £351.91 |
| i) | Savilles (UK) Ltd – Pirton recreation field annual rent | £166.80 |

Remittance: WCC Lengthsman reimburse July £280.00
HMRC VAT refund £871.92

7.) PLAYPARK and PLAYING FIELD – Play Park inspection

Cllr Clarke gave a summary and overview of the ROSPA safety report. Cllr Clarke had immediately addressed the worn links on the Cableway so it could remain open.

It was noted that there was a concern raised by the inspector regarding a pole near the slide that potentially posed a risk but had been installed that way by Sutcliffe Play – the clerk was asked to raise this with Sutcliffe's. the pole was not thought to be integral and could just be removed, thus removing the risk.

The cableway had raised the same queries as before and an additional need to dismantle and inspect travelator but also to check and tighten/replace all bolts in the structure – the clerk had asked Smart Cut for a revised quote, there was no increase to the quote. Members asked the clerk to instruct Smart Cut for this repair.

The inspector had suggested that further to the weekly checks a quarterly 'operational' check was required by either a trained member or a contractor.

Cllr Clarke thought a £3K rolling budget for repairs could be utilised to work through the advisories on a rolling basis, avoiding any risk becoming significant. Discussions on a maintenance package from Smart Cut to include rolling maintenance inline with the safety report to include the operational checks may be option.

8.) OPEN SPACE PHASE 2 UPDATE – Drainage on playing field.

The Chair advised that Cllr Booker had secured an access of Brickyard Lane for the CCTV survey, but Elan Homes would need to give permission.

Smart Cut had been engaged to cut the hedges at the Playing Field to include a deep cut of the easter boundary.

Following the hedge cut the Phase 2 open space group would meet. Cllr Maureen Williams asked regarding the safety of the pedestrian access. The Chair advised this was high priority on Phase 2.

It was noted that further contact regarding flooded gardens in Hollyblue had been received but were thought to be different area to the previous reports.

Cllr Grisdale reported that Elan Homes works to reinstate the drainage for gardens 41-48 had been completed.

9.) NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Cllr Grisdale advised that he had attended a further meeting with Kirkwell's and had now a full table of changes and requirements. There was a need to choose and define areas for open space and land to allocate for future building. There was still a lot of work to do, and he would set up a meeting with the Neighbourhood Plan working party to allocate working groups and discuss definitions.

10.) ROAD SAFETY – Speed watch & VAS

The locations suggested by the Highways Liaison Officer for the Wadborough VAS was discussed. Cllr Abercrombie thought the Mill Lane location maybe not close enough to the new speed limit to monitor results. County Councillor Robinson suggested she have wires put down for speed monitoring and advised that VAS locations were governed by significant policy and safety restrictions. Another location on the Stoulton approach to the cross-roads was suggested for review. There was a discussion regarding the original remit of the VAS being to slow drivers going towards the cross-roads and out of Wadborough towards Drakes Broughton.

Cllr Bessant reported one speedwatch session in August. She advised co-ordination of volunteers continues to be tricky.

11.) PIRTON PLAYING FIELD

The Chair advised no update had been received from the Priton village Committee.

12.) STREETLIGHTS on B4084

The Chair advised that the streetlights on the B4084 that used to be WCC owned lights, had been re-installed by the developer and had not as yet been re-adopted by WCC. Reporting and repairs were problematic due to this.

13.) REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

County Councillor Robinson - Report circulated prior to meeting.

Cllr Robinson advised that it was important Parish Councils reply directly to the Government NPPF consultation, it had a far-reaching impact on housing numbers. The response was due by 24th September. Cllr Grisdale as the Neighbourhood Plan lead, volunteered to complete this on behalf of the Parish Council.

Cllr Robinson advised that new build in the Windmill Lane cut through had been broken into twice with materials and tools targeted.

Cllr Robinson advised that her request for speed reducing 'shark teeth' for the B4084 had been granted.

District Councillor Reports

District Councillor Turier drew attention to the availability of affordable housing becoming available on the Holloway in Pershore.

The Chair drew attention to the report received and circulated from **District Councillor Adams** – especially thanking members and the community for the numbers that attended and the effort made at the ‘Josie Orchard’ appeal earlier that week.

Other reports as necessary:

Cllr Turner advised that the x50 bus times had all changed by 10 minutes with no notification.

Cllr Bessant advised that there had been some voluntary litter picking during the school holidays done by youngsters in the village – the clerk would include thanks in the Villager submission.

Cllr Bessant advised that following the busy summer holidays the edges at the Playing Fields had a build-up of litter and a discussion was had about a Community Litter Pick or engaging with the school. The Community Litter picking kit was available via Cllr Pell.

Cllr Maureen Williams advised of re-opening and new management at the Plough and Harrow Pub.

14.) HIGHWAYS MATTERS & tasks for lengthsman

None

15.)REPORTS OF FLOODING IN GARDENS IN HOLLYBLUE CLOSE

As discussed during agenda item 8, there were reports emerging of flooded gardens, from winter 23/24 from residents of Citizen Housing, a different area than the original reports addressed last year.

16.)VILLAGER SUBMISSION

The Clerk and the Chair had prepared the Parish Council submission.

17.)PLANNING

- Report back from Planning appeal hearing for 30 dwellings “Josies Orchard”
The Chair thanked all those involved in writing reports and speaking (approx. 13 people made comments spoke to the inspector) at the appeal hearing, it had been a brilliant turn out from the community and the inspector appeared knowledgeable and fair, we now await the outcome.
- Correspondence with Severn Trent/WDC about failing Infrastructure and planning decisions
The Chair advised she had attended a virtual meeting with Severn Trent representatives who acknowledge that the Darkes Broughton drainage system is inadequate but as they are under a statutory obligation they are not consulted regarding planning applications and cannot directly comment on a specific application. They did however agree to write to the WDC planning department to advise that further housing developments were not advised until the upgrade to the current system took place. Severn Trent are concerned regarding the use of tankers to take away sewerage but cannot stop developers using it as a method. Cllr Grisdale suggested requesting the 2019 capacity survey from them, but it was thought we already have details of this from meetings held at the time regarding the hydraulic modelling undertaken by Severn Trent to ascertain the need for the project to upgrade the system, that need was proven by the modelling, it has since been pushed back in time due to other projects in Severn Trent taking priority.
- Village Facilities Survey – Village categorisation, next steps?
No update at this stage.
- NPPF Consultation

The members agreed the WDC summary didn't look very favourable and suggested a change the housing supply calculations putting the SWDPR in a position of requiring a further 900+ houses a year and taking a looser approach to the green belt. As noted earlier, Cllr Gridale agreed to look at completing this as the Neighbourhood Planning lead. The consultation closes on 24th September.

- a) Comments made on planning applications to Wychavon: W/24/01396/FUL Owl Barn, Stonehall Farm, Stonebow Road, Drakes Broughton, Pershore, WR10 2AT. Change of use of land from agricultural to residential. Construction of new garaging. (Variation of condition 4) Objection submitted.
- b) Applications Approved: W/24/00636/TDC5 Lea Haven, Mill Lane, Drakes Broughton. Technical details content for 1 self-build dwelling following grant of permission in principle W/24/00254/PIP, to include re-orientation of existing outbuilding.
- c) Applications Refused: N/A
- d) Applications Awaiting comment: W/24/01584/HP 4 Magnolia Close, Drakes Broughton. Erection of single storey front extension, garage conversion and new pitched roof.
- e) Appeals:

APP/H1840/W/24/3340903 Land at (Os 9259 4864) Stonebow Road. Outline permission for the erection of up to 30 residential dwellings and associated infrastructure (all matters reserved for access) known locally as 'Josies Orchard' as reported above hearing held Tuesday.

APP/H1840/W/24/3345732 Freshfields 75 Stonebow Road, Drakes Broughton. Outline planning permission with all matters reserved except for access for the erection of up to 25 dwellings. To be decided by written representations, submissions of all that was present to the committee and a final Parish Council report would be submitted.

APP/H1840/W/24/3343350 Teal Farm, Wadborough. New access off road for purpose of agriculture. Appeal Dismissed, new access not permitted.

APP/H1840/W/24/3341735 Land at Stonebow Road, Drakes Broughton. Permission in Principle for up to 3 dwellings. Appeal granted.

18.)CORRESPONDENCE

- WCC Footpath closure - Footpaths DB-500 Drakes Broughton & Wadborough and SN-558 Stoulton
- Resident re litter picking
- Upton Town Council – re meeting Walcot Ford
- DBRFC Break in
- Hereford & Worcester fire survey
- WDC – Pavement licencing policy
- Resident re difficult to pass footpaths Wadborough – Cllr Abercrombie asked for details, the clerk explained a resident had complained re landowners not spraying crops so footpaths impassable, it had been passed to WCC. Cllr Abercrombie advised of a fallen fence at another Wadborough footpath. The clerk asked he send her details after the meeting or report directly onto the WCC hub.

INFORMATION AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Parish Council Monthly meeting **Thursday 3rd October 2024 at Drakes Broughton Village Hall.** The meeting will start at 7.30pm

Meeting closed 22.14