

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

PRESENT: Cllr J Butterworth (Chair), Cllr Pell, Cllr Grisdale, Cllr Turner, Cllr Booker, Cllr Bessant, Cllr Skeys, Cllr A Clarke & Cllr Abercrombie

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

PUBLIC: Two

1) APOLOGIES:

District Councillor Rob Adams, Cllr Maureen Williams & Cllr Roberts

2) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

***Public Participation:** 2 residents in attendance to hear the update on phase 2 open space. Both had concerns regarding any reduction in the football pitches. They were reassured that the pitches size as it was currently would not be affected at all by the Open Space phase 2 proposals. They were advised that the Chair of DBRFC was a member of the Open Space working party and is representing DBRFC.*

The Chair moved Open Space Phase 2 agenda item forward.

8.) OPEN SPACE PHASE 2 – Cllr Booker

Cllr Booker advised that three quotes had been requested for the installation of the Walcot Lane pedestrian entrance gate. WCC and WDC had confirmed no permission was required from them for the works.

Cllr Booker advised he was in initial consultation with some consultants to take the larger Phase 2 project works forwards, there would be a cost to this but can be reclaimed from the s106 money. Cllr Booker advised that in talks with WDC there had been feedback that some element of the Phase 2 had been installed in other areas but whilst they were 'nice to have, they were not being well used' Cllr Booker suggested members review the list of installations planned against this feedback with a cost vs maintenance view. The multi-use path needs consideration as it could be costly and needs to be 1.8m wide, plus thoughts on materials. Other items include, Pump track, MUGA, football wall. Members asked Cllr Booker to recirculate the Phase 2 master plan and members would give feedback.

Cllr Bessant thought it would be good to get a new item installed ASAP, the consultancy work on the project had been nearly 2 years ago and still no new items had been installed. She thought perhaps the football wall, as it would protect Village Hall building and football goals which are what is often used instead.

Cllr Booker and members of the public left the meeting.

3) VACANCIES FOR MEMBERS

The Chair advised that sadly during the month Cllr Masters had resigned and that was now a vacancy for each ward. One vacancy for Drakes Broughton Ward and one vacancy for Wadborough Ward and one vacancy for Pirton Ward.

4) MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting held on 7th November 2024 were proposed by Cllr Pell, seconded by Cllr Grisdale, agreed by all and signed by the Chair as a true record.

5) MATTERS ARISING

Wadborough VAS locations & Data – County Councillor Robinson advised that the Highways Liaison Officer was on leave, but he needed to site visit regarding the suggested pole locations.

Cllr Abercrombie described excessive speeding across the crossroads and wanted to explore the possibility of having a Community Speed Watch location in Wadborough. Cllr Bessant would link Cllr Abercrombie to the Community Speed Watch coordinator, but Wadborough would need to manage their own sessions and volunteers.

Cllr Clarke advised that he would collect the data from all three VAS's including Wadborough but required training on how to do this. Cllr Bessant would brief Cllr Clarke.

6) FINANCE

Online banking progress update – The new process was in place and was working well. The process had been circulated to all members and was in adherence with the Financial Regulations.

Budget items 2025-2026 - The Chair had circulated the draft budget and talked members through the details. Suggestions were made regarding including a PC Laptop for downloading VAS data. Unallocated funds for use in Pirton & Wadborough. The budget would be updated and circulated for final approval at January's meeting.

Grant for a picnic table for Pirton – The Chair advised that the picnic table for Pirton Recreation Field would cost £572.00 this included ground anchors. This was to be funded by a grant from County Councillor Robinson.

Additional Grass Cut Pirton- The Chair advised this was needed to make to field usable as the grass was very long The cost of the additional cut was £56.77 and had been agreed via email.

The monthly bank reconciliation for November 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 November– S/O | £618.28 |
| Note HMRC quarterly employee deductions £69.80 & £77.60 | |
| b) Mr. B Arrowsmith – Lengthsman Services – November | £280.00 |
| SSE – Streetlighting monthly electricity, still on hold due to the issue with the wrong billing title. Current approx. outstanding balance is £1500.00 | |
| c) Smart Cut – grass cutting Pirton recreation ground | £68.12 |
| d) Westcotec – Pirton VAS battery | £109.80 |
| e) Mr S Micham – clerk annual software & antivirus | £126.99 |
| f) WDC – Annual cleanse and emptying VH Litter bin | £94.06 |

Remittance: WCC Lengthsman reimburse Sept & Oct £560.00

7.) PLAYPARK and PLAYING FIELD

It was noted that the Zipline repair had been ordered from Smart Cut Ltd and should be completed this month.

Quotes were to be sought for changes to the pole near the embankment slide. Cllr Bessant would attend the site and review.

The Chair advised that DBRFC had engaged Smart Cut for a programme of pitch surface works, they had Sport England funding for this.

8.) OPEN SPACE PHASE 2 UPDATE – as discussed at beginning of the meeting.

9.) NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Cllr Grisdale advised that the working party had met 21st November with all policies now reviewed. He was compiling all the feedback into a single document and had a meeting with Kirkwells on Tuesday to review and agree next steps. The next NP meeting was planned for 18th December. Mrs F Eagle was joining as Wadborough representative. Cllr Grisdale was planning to create a subgroup to be responsible for communications, this would include representatives from each Village. The Chair asked regarding the timeline. Cllr Grisdale hoped to have something to take forward by April 2025. Many things rested upon delivery of the SWDPR.

10.) ROAD SAFETY – Speed watch & VAS

Cllr Bessant advised that the Community Speed Watch had received an official thankyou letter from the National Police Chief's Council.

Cllr Bessant advised there had been one Speed Watch session recently with 3 speeding drivers caught.

Cllr Bessant would train Cllr Clarke to download the data into a format to circulate and analyse, she advised that data must be downloaded and deleted regularly, or the file becomes too large to manage.

VAS moving was discussed, and it was agreed that the clerk request the lengthsman move both Drakes Broughton VAS's asap and notify of the date actioned, so Cllr Bessant and Cllr Clarke can evaluate the data recorded knowing what date the VAS was at which location.

11.) REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

County Councillor Robinson - Report circulated prior to meeting.

Cllr Robinson drew attention to the closing date of 15th January to apply for a school place for next September.

Cllr Robinson advised that there was additional funding allocated to WCC to improve bus services but at this stage it wasn't clear if this would be seen rurally.

Cllr Pell advise that the 'Dragon Teeth' on the B4084 had been installed and looked great, but from Pershore end the 40PMH speed sign was obscured by trees.

Cllr Pell advised that Polce representatives and Pershore Wellbeing were attending the 'Cake and Chat the following Friday (13th December)

District Councillor Reports

District Councillor Adams Cllr Adams had sent a brief report and wished members a Happy Christmas.

District Councillor Turier Cllr Turier drew attention to the Community Fair being held at Pershore Town Hall the next day, where representatives from Pershore Volunteer Centre and Pershore Well-being hub would be available.

Other reports as necessary:

Cllr Turner advised that the Stonebow Road school flashing light was still not flashing and that the Walcot Lane one had been hit by car/lorry and damaged.

Cllr Bessant advised that the hedge on Stonebow Road, raised previously, towards the railway bridge had received a good cut back and visibility was good in that area currently.

12.) HIGHWAYS MATTERS & tasks for lengthsman

None

13.) ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS

The Chair advised that historically the Drakes Broughton and Wadborough Parish meeting had not been well attended and in an attempt to gain more attendance the PC ran the meeting immediately after the 'Cake and Chat' at the Village Hall last year, there was a better attendance, it has since been noted that legally the meeting should not start prior to 6pm. This year the meeting is planned for 6pm Friday 9th May 2025.

Pirton Parish meeting is historically well attended and is scheduled for 7pm Tuesday 29th April 2025.

The Clerk advised that the Annual Parish meetings must be held between April and end of May each year, they are a residents' forum open to ALL residents and should drive the work and priorities of the Parish Council.

14.) VILLAGER SUBMISSION

The Clerk and the Chair would prepare the submission for January edition the following day.

15.) PLANNING

- **Grampian Condition** – The Chair advised that details regarding this had been circulated to all. *The Grampian Condition is a condition which allows no development to commence until the sewerage system has been upgraded by STW.*
STW has given this date as May 2026 and all applications now granted permissions would be subject to this condition including the Thornleigh development. Cllr Bessant asked why couldn't be applied to 'Joes Orchard' development. It was not able to be applied after determination, Josies, had been determined whilst Thornleigh had not formally been accepted. Members raised concerns as to what exactly had to be done by May 2026 to allow the developments to go ahead, concerns were regarding a large upgrade project being required and May 2026 seemed very ambitious of STW. Cllr Butterworth advised that the Parish Council had raised concerns about this with WDC and will also be contacting Severn Trent.
- **Worcestershire Parkway Community Liaison Meeting** – 11th November – The Chair advised that it looks as if only one member of the original team still working on the proposal for the town at Parkway. At the meeting the new consultants shared new plans for the B4084 that have arisen from the review that they have been undertaking. There is concern that people aren't necessarily aware of the issues that have been raised previously. However, there is now an acknowledgement there is a problem with the B4084, it's not wide enough and there is the railway bridge to navigate!
- **Joint Parishes Committee meeting** – 3rd December
The Chair advised that the Joint Parishes committee felt very strongly that they are not being heard or listened to and the Committee will be writing to WDC once again laying out the issues and pushing forward the concerns regarding the existing residents and the affects to their daily lives during any Parkway Town development

- Village categorisation – no update
 - W/24/01829/FUL Planning application for 12 dwellings Walcot Lane, 2 storey dwellings roadside. The Chair advised that Walcot Lane residents have requested d, the Parish Council submit a further comment to the consolation to ask for **NO** 2-storey dwellings be along the roadside of Walcot lane, which is predominantly bungalows, as it would be completely out of keeping with the current street scene. Members unanimously agreed to support this.
- a) Comments made on planning applications to Wychavon: W/24/01822/FUL Crabbe Tree farm, Besford Road, Wadborough. Installation of 5 metal storage containers; external lighting and CCTV camera (Part retrospective) Objection submitted.
 - b) Applications Approved: 45 Shrubbery Road, Drakes Broughton. Single storey rear extension.
 - c) Applications Refused: N/A
 - d) Applications withdrawn: W/24/01131/OUT Roselea, 42 Stonebow, Drakes Broughton. Outline application for 4no dwellings.
 - e) Appeals:
APP/H1840/W/24/3354870, HT Marshal and Son workshop, PIP for 1no dwelling.

Cllr Bessant noted the Thornleigh 53 had not been formally accepted on the WDC planning portal. It was also noted that a number of complaints regarding the process of determination were being made to the ombudsman, including a complaint from Cllr Bessant. The Chair noted that the EA had stated they had concerns about the use of storage tanks for periods in excess of 24 hours.

It was noted that a formal complaint had been made by solicitors representing Simply Fresh to the developers who are proposing development at Mill Lane Nursery including a shop – This application had not come forward for formal consultation, but members understood the concerns being raised by the existing shop in Darkes Broughton and were supportive.

16.)CORRESPONDENCE

- Resident request for a dog waste bin at Lewis Close – members reviewed the litter bin coverage and agreed that it would be beneficial to introduce a new bin to this area, Cllr Pell identified a pole that a litter bin could be mounted on away from any gardens. It is generally perceived to be better to have a multi-use litter bin rather than a dog waste bin and it was proposed by Cllr Pell and seconded by Cllr Butterworth, to purchase at £175.00 and include annual maintenance in next year's budget.
- WDC consultation regarding footpath reroute of path 629C due to planning permission granted – members agreed they had no comments to make.

INFORMATION AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Parish Council Monthly meeting **Thursday 2nd January 2025 at Drakes Broughton Village Hall.** The meeting will start at 7.30pm

Meeting closed: 20.55