

**WOLVERLEY & COOKLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025, 7.00pm,**  
**Wolverley Church Hall, Wolverley**

Present:

Mr R Drew (Chairman)  
Mrs V Bordewich  
Mr B Brookes  
Mr J Hart  
Mr M Hart  
Mr D Jones  
Mr C Sherrey  
Mr W Southam

West Mercia Police: PCSO Kate Easthope  
County Councillor: Cllr I Hardiman.  
District Councillors: Councillors R M Drew, I Hardiman and M J Hart.

176. **Apologies**

Cllr D Cox due to work, Cllr J Hicks due to holiday, Cllr M Huselbee due to work, Cllr C Nicholls due to health issues, Cllr A Webber due to holiday and Cllr J Wood due to work commitments.

177. **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.
- c) To declare any Other Registerable Interests or Non-Registerable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

Public Question Time:

The Chairman welcomed members of the public and asked for any speakers.

Mrs Bareford commented there was no police report in the January minutes, the Clerk advised there was nothing to report, Police reports are always included in the minutes. Litterbin on Lea Castle, it was confirmed it does not belong to the Parish Council. Update on Lea Lane will be covered in County Council report.

Mr McDonald advised that no appeal has been lodged for the Quarry.

178. **To consider the adoption of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7.00pm**

These having previously been circulated it was proposed Cllr C Sherrey, seconded Cllr B Brookes, and resolved to receive and adopt the minutes as a true record of the meeting and these were signed by the Chairman.

**Matters for Discussion / Decision:**

179. **Police Report.**

PCSO Easthope reported that there has been a lot of rural crime, farm and agricultural, theft of caravan, horse trailers and farm machinery.

The Trucam11 speeding device is now being widely used in various locations.

Cllr Jones reported ASB in Cookley Club carpark, cars riding pillion. Kate advised their hands are tied as it is private land but send pictures or registration numbers to the Kidderminster North team if you have them.

Cllr M Hart reported on Lea Castle resident's concerns on ASB around the park and play area and speeding around Lea Castle Village and asked if there is anything the police can do to tackle this.

PCSO Easthope responded that she has not been made aware of any ASB however there have been various issues and the policing team are spending a lot of time there. She encouraged residents to call in and report if they or their children are experiencing problems. The Quad bike causing issues has been seized. Citizen Housing have been quite robust and there are planned walkabouts in the next two weeks. Regarding speeding, it is difficult as the roads are not adopted yet.

180. **County / District Councillor Reports.**

**County Councillor Report:**

Cllr Hardiman reported.

**LOCAL ISSUES:**

**Lea Lane Landslip:** Further to my Report in February, regrettably I have to report that it has become necessary for the County Council to resort to Compulsory Purchase Powers to take this project forward.

**Bollards by Wolverley Secondary School:** The Highways Liaison Engineer has confirmed that he has raised a works order to supply robust replacement socket bollards which will be installed much deeper than those in at present.

**Lea Castle S278 /A449 Crossroads & A449 The Crescent Junction works:** Unfortunately, I still have no date as to when these works will commence.

**Cookley Village, Damaged Pavement by Kerb:** The Highways Liaison Engineer has raised a works order to repair the tarmac here.

**Caunsall, Damaged Lighting Column:** Necessary details have been passed to the Lighting Team for processing,

**Cookley, Park Gate Road pavement overgrown:** No date yet received for these works.

**Caunsall, Former Pub Car Park:** I have again requested accurate clarification as to who really owns the perimeter of this former car park plot.

**Caunsall Road Voids /Cracking:** Whilst Engineers have said that these areas of the highway are safe, there may be the need to engage specialist contractors to ensure ongoing stability.

Cllr Jones thanked Cllr Hardiman for the work done. The pavements have been sided out but are still dangerous, there is still not a full width, they have done half a job. Cllr Hardiman will follow up.

**District Councillors Report:**

Cllr Drew reported.

**Local Issues**

We have been dealing with the usual routine casework, reporting litter and fly tipping on the main roads, along the country lanes and continue to monitor all enforcement issues.

Following further complaints from residents we have requested WFDC enforcement officers patrol around Wolverley Sebright Primary School following several issues with cars parking over driveways and on double yellow lines.

**Wyre Forest Issues**

WFDC has set its Budget:

On 26th February, Wyre Forest Councillors approved a £15.6 million net budget requirement for 2025-2026. As well as everyday services residents rely on, the budget includes funding for several initiatives to support the Council's priorities and deliver on its corporate plan. It will be used to tackle littering, environmental offences and illegal parking. More inclusive play equipment will also be installed in parks across the district. Also, the District Council decided to raise its share of the Council Tax bill by just under 3% which means households will be paying on average 14p more each week for the district services in 2025-2026.

#### Millpond House Temporary Accommodation Building:

A new facility providing short-term accommodation for people whilst they find permanent homes is now open in Kidderminster on the corner of Castle Road and New Road. This new three-story build property includes 20 accommodation units and shared kitchen lounge areas plus an outside space for residents. WFDC engaged company Stepnells to construct this important provision which will have positive social impacts in the community.

#### Hurcott Woods:

Hurcott Woods had to be closed to public access because of the large number of trees that were sadly lost in Storm Darragh at the end of last year. The rangers have worked at a pace to appoint a specialist contractor to clear an estimated 500 fallen and damaged trees. The wood is now stacked and ready for extraction. It is hoped that the work, including restoration of pathways, will be completed by the end of this month. Appropriate replanting will be undertaken in the autumn.

#### 181. **Financial Matters.**

To agree accounts to be paid.

Cllr Sherrey proposed approval of all payments, this was seconded by Cllr J Hart and unanimously agreed.

Cllr Sherrey advised that payments up to the end of March 25 will need to be paid in March to be in the correct financial year. They will be approved using delegated powers, but all Councillors will be notified of them.

75	B J Drew - Salary February 2025	£1291.62
76	Mr Jason Hull - Lengthsman February 2025	£459.00
77	Amberol Matting	£48.00
78	Timpsons Cookley Clock Key	£10.00
79	Smith of Derby Clock Repair	£210.00
80	Mrs B J Drew Paper/Ink February 2025	£10.00
81	Mr Jason Hull Bench - Sebright Road, Wolverley	£40.00

#### 182. **Lea Castle Village - Concerns from residents**

Cllr Jones reported no further issues have been raised.

Cllr M Hart advised of issues - dog fouling, the environmental protection officers will look at this, woodland management and trees, he has written to Bovis regarding this and is liaising with the tree officer and the two police issues, ASB and speeding.

183. **Damaged Street Lighting Column - Caunsall**

The Clerk has informed Zurich Municipal who are setting up a claim.

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

**WFDC No/Details**

25/0080/TPO                      Various tree works at land at Solcum Lane, Blakeshall, Wolverley,

Recommend Approval subject to approval from Tree Officer, Proposed Cllr Bordewich, seconded Cllr J Hart and agreed.

25/0081/HOU                      A glass link from house to existing garage - use of garage as habitable accommodation at Sebright Cottage, Blakeshall, Wolverley,

Recommend Approval, Proposed Cllr J Hart, seconded Cllr V Bordewich and agreed.

25/0115/CLE                      Certificate of Lawfulness for the existing use of a building as an Independent Dwellinghouse in excess of 10 years at annex at The Willows, Mill Lane, Wolverley,

Recommend Approval, Proposed Cllr J Hart, seconded Cllr C Sherrey and agreed.

25/0121/AG                      FOR INFORMATION ONLY - Proposed development for one agricultural building at land at Os 385545 281186 Caunsall Road, Caunsall.

**Planning Decision Notices.**

24/0758/HOU                      50 Bridge Road, Cookley - Permit

24/0671/HOU                      Coach House, Wolverley Court - Permit

24/0776/LBC                      Coach House, Wolverley Court - Permit

24/0863/CLP                      Sladd Barn, Kinver Lane - Certificate of Lawfulness

25/0006/HOU                      12 The Crescent, Cookley - Permit

25/0024/TCA                      Queens Head, Wolverley - Permit

**Notice of Appeal**

24//0567/PNR                      Conversion of existing agricultural barn to five dwellings at land at Brown Westhead Park, Wolverley.

**Parish Matters for Update Only - no decisions required.**

185. Clerks Report. (Clerk) Flag Flying Ceremony, 18<sup>th</sup> March Area CALC Meeting.

186. Lengthsman. (RD/WS) Nothing to report.

187. New Issues / Items for Next Meeting. (All)

188. Date of Next Meeting - to confirm the date of the next meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.33 pm.