

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF DRAKES BROUGHTON AND WADBOROUGH WITH PIRTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 6th MARCH 2025 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 and Cllr Williams.

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

PUBLIC: None

1) APOLOGIES:

County Councillor Robinson, District Councillor Turier, Cllr A Clarke, Cllr Abercrombie & Cllr Roberts

2) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

Public Participation: N/A

3) VACANCIES FOR MEMBERS

The Chair advised that there remained a vacancy for each ward. One vacancy for Drakes Broughton Ward and one vacancy for Wadborough Ward and one vacancy for Pirton Ward. She urged members to talk to residents, more members would spread the responsibilities.

4) MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting held on 6th February 2025 were proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Pell, agreed by all and signed by the Chair as a true record.

5) MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Booker advised the procurement slides needed circulation for review.

6) FINANCE

Deposit Account – The Chair advised that the finance sub-group had reviewed how much should be held in the current account and how much in the deposit account, following discussions at the February meeting. It was decided that circa £5000 would be held in the current account with the rest being held in the deposit account. At each meeting when the clerk produced the payments list she would transfer the payment total less any remittance into the current account prior to raising the payments. The transfer must be logged on the database immediately and a period report would be run and sent to Cllr Williams and Cllr Skeys to confirm this, the online banking procedure had been updated to incorporate this and V2 was issued.

The Clerk was asked to transfer £15000 from the current account to the deposit account this month, leaving approx. £5000 in the current account as agreed above.

S106 financial update – The Chair advised that at last she had found someone at WCC to discuss the S106 Bus Shelter allocation. There is £39756.44 allocated to bus shelter provision, the allocation should be utilised within the vicinity of the development site, the money had been allocated to WCC and they had up to 30 years to spend this money. Currently WCC had no project to allocate this

money too, but they are now aware that Drakes Broughton would like improved bus shelter provision.

The monthly bank reconciliation for February had been completed and confirmed by Cllr Skeys and Cllr Williams via email.

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

- a) Mrs. N Nicholson – Clerk Salary February– S/O £634.74
Note HMRC quarterly employee deductions Jan £73.00 & £73.00 Feb
- b) Mr. B Arrowsmith – Lengthsman Services – February £252.00
- c) Mr B Arrowsmith – notice board padlocks and remedial works £TBC it was thought to be circa £25, the clerk would confirm once the invoice was received.

E.on – upgrade col 10 Keepers Close, the clerk advised that during the month she had been advised that the Motability insurance payment for Col 9 Shrubbery Road had been sent directly to E.on, so the payment that the Parish Council had sent would be reallocated to pay for col 10. The database had been adjusted accordingly.

SSE – Streetlighting monthly electricity, still on hold due to the issue with the wrong billing title. The current approx. outstanding balance is circa £2500.00. It was noted that DBVHC had had their bills resolved by the Ombudsman and Cllr Butterworth agreed to use the same route to try and get DBWPPC bills resolved.

Remittance: N/A

7.) PLAYPARK and PLAYING FIELD

The ROSPA safety inspection would take place in March and actions /advisories would be reviewed when the reports were received.

The Chair advised that the VHC was having the car parking spaces marked up to more easily identify which ones were for the Village Hall users, the Chair asked if the Parish Council would like their spaces marked up at the same time or if a review of the drainage in the PC car parking spaces should take place first, as it was noted that the 4 spaces nearest to the Play Park regularly flood. Cllr Booker suggested a French drain could be installed using S106 money but investigation as to where it could drain into on Walcot Lane would be required. Cllr Bessant suggested that that could take some time and that if the price was reasonable the PC should mark up their spaces at the same time as the VHC.

It was thought that some signage would be needed to inform the public as it was currently seen as a general free public car park being used by parents and others attending the school, because of this they tend to use the VHC car parking spaces due to being unaware and that those spaces are nearer to the school. The Chair suggested that it was a good opportunity to review all the signage at the Play Park, Cllr Pell and Cllr Turner would do this and have some recommendations for the April meeting.

8.) OPEN SPACE PHASE 2 – Cllr Booker

Cllr Booker advised that the next Open Space group had met the week before and agreed to engage One Ltd to take the phase 2 forward, Cllr Booker was awaiting the final contract cost but was asking the members to approve up to £5000 for this, it would include updating the masterplan and getting costings and quotes for the installation – a detailed breakdown would be circulated when received from One Ltd, this was seconded by Cllr Bessant and agreed by all.

Cllr Booker advised that the choice of installations would be discussed by the working group with proposals presented to the Parish Council but final decisions on what was to be installed, and priority of items would be for the Parish Council to decide.

Cllr Booker suggested the new kissing gate required some hardcore laying to stop it getting muddy he had a price from the contractor who installed the gate for £190.00. Cllr Bessant proposed this was done, this was seconded by Cllr Pell and agreed by all.

9.) NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Cllr Gridsale advised that the NP review group had met on Tuesday and the first final draft would be circulated before the end of March, ready to go to WDC for review by June.

There was a communication plan in place to run alongside this timetable.

Cllr Gridsale had attended the NP information session at WDC earlier in the evening and had gathered some interesting information regarding housing allocations as well as PIP's. The advice was the Neighbourhood Plan would need reviewing every 2 years approximately to keep abreast with a rolling 5 year housing supply that was required.

There was lots of emerging legislation WDC was trying to keep abreast of with regard to management charges and the move to remove all new build leasehold properties, this could significantly affect developments in rural areas such as Drakes Broughton more than in urban areas.

With all this change it is important to assess the NP against the emerging legislation to ensure the plan is robust.

10.) ROAD SAFETY – Speed watch & VAS

Cllr Bessant advised that the Community Speed Watch had run a few sessions this month and a few drivers would be receiving speed advice letters, surprisingly one was processed on Walcot Lane, members expressed surprise they could get above 30 MPH with all the parked cars and Cllr Booker was glad the kissing gate had been installed now. Cllr Bessant advised that another volunteer had resigned and that those remaining all required vetting again.

The clerk advised that 2 VAS locations in Wadborough had been identified and agreed, WCC had ordered the pole installation.

11.) DEVOLUTION CHOICES

The Chair advised that there had been a proposal to split Worcestershire into 2 North and South Unitary authorities but this has now been dismissed by the Government due to the numbers of population needing to be over £500million for a Unitary Council.

12.) REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

County Councillor Robinson - Report circulated prior to meeting.

Cllr Booker asked that it was raised to WCC regarding the increasing number of accidents on the A44 from Spetchley roundabout to the Berkeley Arms turning.

District Councillor Reports

District Councillor Adams – Cllr Adams advised that he had been approached by the BBC regarding the VE celebrations, 80 years since the VE Day. It was noted that WDC was offering a grant for the celebrations and offering free road closures.

District Councillor Cllr Turier – had circulated some interesting information prior to the meeting.

Other reports as necessary:

Cllr Bessant asked for some clarification regarding the ford road closure signage and explained that the farm traffic was using a circular route and that she had asked the drivers to replace the signs as there had been a stranded vehicle the weekend before when the signs had been moved.

13.)DBWPPC WEBSITE

The Chair advised that Cllr Bessant and Cllr Clarke would work together to look at the various options and prices and make a recommendation to the full Council at a future meeting.

14.)ASSET REGISTER

The Clerk advised that following the last meeting she had separated the wards assets and sent to the custodians to review and update, she had received reviews from Pirton and Wadborough but nothing from Drakes Broughton. Drakes Broughton members didn't think they had seen this and the clerk was asked to resend and then the full update would be reported at April meeting and ready for the annual accounts.

15.)COMMUNITY SPACES FOR DRAKES BROUGHTON

The Chair advised she had requested an opportunity to discuss buying or leasing the WDC open spaces within Drakes Broughton. WDC would not sell the land to the Parish Council but subject to exec board approval would look at a long-term lease arrangement. There were 5 parcels of land belonging to WDC, some of which the PC already paid for maintenance on.

There was a discussion regarding approaching local landowners to gift the community land in exchange for housing allocations in the NP, this was thought not to be appropriate, the clerk would clarify with CALC.

16.)HIGHWAYS MATTERS & tasks for lengthsman

The clerk advised that correspondence had been received during the month questioning why the lengthsman was not litter picking the bottom of Stonebow Road, the clerk advised that litter picking was not included in the WCC list of lengthsman duties. There had also been mention of a culvert under the road, but essentially the ditch clearance to get to the culvert was the landowners responsibility, the lengthsman would review the culvert when the water level dropped.

17.)VILLAGER SUBMISSION

The Clerk and the Chair would prepare the submission for April edition.

18.)PLANNING

- Correspondence with STW – The Chair advised the Parish Council was now getting regular updates from STW and that surveys were being conducted this week, with the resident's experiencing sewerage in gardens and streets being approached directly.
- SWDPR – The Chair advised that the public hearings began on 4th March with the Parkway settlement being tabled for 12th March – the Chair encouraged attendance and would be attending herself that day.

- a) Planning applications made to Wychavon: W/25/00334/TDC5 Land at (Os 9310 4833) Brickyard Lane. Technical detail consent for the erection of 8no dwellings. Awaiting Comment. Members discussed lack of detail and time to make comments, it was agreed the clerk contact the planning team to

extend the consultation and District Councillor Adams advised that despite it being a technical details application, it can still be put before the Planning Committee

W/25/00122/FUL Teal Farm, Abbotswood Road to Mill Lane, Wadbourogh. Farmyard to be used for coach parking (retrospective) Objection submitted.

W/25/00436/FUL Land at (Os 9215 4883) Windmill Lane, Stoulton. Erection of 1 no dwelling following Permission in Principle, Cllr Williams was co-ordination the responses for the clerk to submit, it was noted there were two nearly identical application with nearly the same application numbers!

W/25/00439/FUL Land at (Os 9215 4883) Windmill Lane Stoulton. Erection of 1 no dwelling following Permission in Principle. Comments to be co-ordinated as above.

- b) Applications Approved: W/24/02438/HO Spindlewood, Wadborough. Enlargement of existing driveway and creation of ramped access to existing dwelling.
- c) Applications Refused: N/A
- d) Application withdrawn: W/24/02540/LB Chevington House, Chevington Lane, Drakes Broughton. Barn Conversion.

19.)CORRESPONDENCE

- Resident re sewerage
- Landowner re litter clearance as discussed under item 15.

INFORMATION AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Parish Council Monthly meeting **Thursday 3rd April 2025 at Drakes Broughton Village Hall**. The meeting will start at 7.30pm

Meeting closed: 9.30pm