

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF DRAKES BROUGHTON AND WADBOROUGH WITH PIRTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 4th SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 7.30 PM AT DRAKES BROUGHTON VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Cllr J Butterworth (Chair), Cllr Grisdale, Cllr Bessant, Cllr Turner, Cllr Vincent, Cllr Bretherton, Cllr Abercrombie, Cllr Skeys & Cllr Garside.

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

PUBLIC: One

1) APOLOGIES:

Cllr Pell, Cllr Clarke, Cllr Booker and Cllr Williams.

2) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

***Public Participation:** One resident in attendance for information only.*

3) VACANCIES FOR MEMBERS

There remains one vacancy for Pirton Ward.

4) MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting held on 31st July 2025 were proposed by Cllr Grisdale, seconded by Cllr Turner, agreed by all and signed by the Chair as a true record.

5) MATTERS ARISING

Signage at Pirton S bends – The Chair would follow up with County Councillor Robinson outside of the meeting.

Signage Kendrick Homes – The clerk was asked to email Kendrick Homes to ask them to remove the signs as they had not got permission from Highways.

SSE Compensation – SSE had got yet another complaints manager and were due to update the clerk after 15th September.

6) FINANCE

32 Day notice account – The Chair advised that the interest rate had reduced.

Finance - spend to date and forecast – The Chair moved this to October meeting as further figures were needed.

Finance Training - The Chair was running a finance training session 23rd September for new and interested members.

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

It was proposed by Cllr Butterworth and seconded by Cllr Garside to authorise the following payments:

a) Mrs. N Nicholson – Clerk Salary August – S/O	£632.54
Note HMRC quarterly deductions, July £75.40, August £75.40	
b) Smart Cut - grass cutting July	£182.96
c) WDC – Install and annual fee's Stonebow Litter Bin	£401.11
d) WDC – Annual emptying fee for Sidings Road litter bin	£116.84
e) SSE Monthly Street lighting electricity	£479.20
f) Savills (UK) Ltd – Pirton recreation field annual rent	£166.80
g) T Hughes – lengthsmen services Pirt/Wad August	£140.00
h) Smart Cut Ltd – grass cutting and play park surfaces	£273.94
i) PKF Littlejohn – external audit fee	£252.00
j) Lloyds Bank fee	£4.25

Remittance: Motability Shrubbery Road £1665.60

The clerk advised that this payment from Motability was for an insurance claim for the lamp post in Shrubbery Road, however E.on had advised the Parish Council that Motability had already paid E.on for the lamp post back in December. The clerk would contact Motability and try and ascertain if this was a duplication payment.

7.) PLAYPARK and PLAYING FIELD

The Chair advised that Cllr Clarke had ordered the new rope for the junior multi play and that he and Cllr Turner would fit it once it arrived.

Cllr Garside was joining Cllr Clarke and Cllr Turner in having responsibility for the Play Park.

Smart Cut had quoted £300 for the larger equipment visual check and servicing. It was proposed by Cllr Vincent and seconded by Cllr Bretherton to go ahead with the winter service. Cllr Vincent thought it should be put in the Villager so residents are aware of the Parish Councils work.

The Chair advised that the annual safety inspection, the weekly checks and this mechanical check and service was as per best practice guidance to keep the Play Park safe and ensure valid insurance.

8.) OPEN SPACE PHASE 2 – update

The Chair gave the following update from Cllr Booker:

The football garages were being removed 18th September should take one day but could take 2, the boundary fence work would be completed at the same time. For the work to take place the Village Hall container would need to be moved from 15th – 22nd and then moved back costing £240. It was suggested this cost be split 3 ways the same as the removal and not solely funded by the Parish Council. The Chair would talk to FC and VHC, she did advise that there was s106 funding still available for this.

The Chair advised that the Village Hall have requested the container be placed on the concrete slabs where the garages are being removed from, it is PC land, but it would free up the small side car park at the Village Hall for hirers.

The Chair also suggested the Parish Council consider purchasing a similar container to go on the other concrete base as a Parish Council store for the pump and other Parish equipment as a replacement for the old flooding shed.

The Chair advised that the document to send to WDC regarding draw down of further s106 funds was nearly complete they were just awaiting costings, the path was looking very expensive at £150K.

It was noted there was £5976 still available and would be used for the garage removal and boundary fence work.

9.) NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Cllr Grisdale advised final drafting of the plan continues, he had requested tree nominations for inclusion to be protected but had not received many. He was awaiting up to date photos for inclusion, he thanked Cllr Vincent for her help with the proof reading. Cllr Grisdale and Cllr Butterworth had met with A Ford and E Edwards from WDC and he needs to complete an expression of wish to them for funding of circa £10K. The WDC officers have indicated there are still grey areas over SWDPR and the land allocations Cllr Grisdale is hopeful that land with planning permission but not started can be included in the Neighbourhood Plan as future housing allocation. The development boundary that WDC has put around Drakes Broughton is very conservative with much of the developments that have been seen recently outside the development boundary and are only being allowed due to the lack of housing land supply and a ratified SWDRP

Once the draft is ready it will go to WDC they then review over 5 weeks and after that circa November it would go to public consultation.

The N Plan group are meeting again the following week.

10.)ROAD SAFETY – Update

It was noted that the requested turning of the VAS's had not been completed, the clerk would follow this up with the new lengthsman.

M Boniface has the volunteer list from Cllr Bessant to take over running the Community Speed Watch.

11.)WEBSITE

The Chair advised that Cllr Clarke, Cllr Bessant, Cllr Butterworth & the clerk would work together to draw up a timetable and plan for getting the new email and website in place and to ensure legal compliance.

12.)REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

County Councillor Robinson – Report had been circulated prior to meeting.

Cllr Robinson advised that the new 'on demand' bus had been free in August and was also running free in September and it did go into the Village so there was no requirement to walk to the B4084 bus stops.

District Councillor Adams – Cllr Adams asked if the Community Buses were being discontinued, as far as the last update from Cllr Pell they were running alongside the 'on demand' service.

Cllr Adams advised that the vote for a North and South Unitary authority had been unanimous, MHDC and Worcester City had also voted in favour of this.

District Councillor Turier – advised that the Communities Panel, which Cllr Adams Chairs, wanted more input from Parish Councillors.

Other reports as necessary:

Cllr Grisdale advised that 6 capped bore holes had been dug in the land on Walcot Lane where a planning in principle application for 8 houses has been agreed.

Cllr Vincent and Cllr Bretherton advised of the Masons Arms fundraising events and sponsored walk in aid of the Alzheimer's charity, they noted that the thriving Masons Arms was celebrating its 4th anniversary, and they advised how it was a real community centre for Wadborough.

13.) HIGHWAYS MATTERS

The clerk was asked to get the lengthsman to cut out all the signs on Walcot Lane and the approach to the bridge on Stonebow Road and the repeaters on the approach to Wadborough.

14.) LENGTHSMAN- recruitment

The Clerk advised that a Drakes Broughton resident had made contact to enquire regarding the role. The clerk had verbally appointed the two Tim's to the role, and it was thought this would be subject to review that at the end of the financial year (31st March). As part of the review that the Parish Council may interview people who are interested in the role(s). Members thought a local person covering the whole patch could be beneficial. County Councillor advised there was a vacancy for a lengthsman in Stoulton.

15.) VILLAGER SUBMISSION

Chair and Clerk would compile an update for the September edition.

16.) LANNING

- a) Planning applications made to Wychavon: W/25/01540/FUL and 00357 Thorndon Grove, Windmill Lane. Variation of conditions relating to drainage. Objection/comments submitted.
- b) Applications Approved: None
- c) Applications Refused: Via appeal, W/25/0120/PIP Allotments at (Os 9086 4705) Besford Road, Wadborough. Permission in principle for the construction of a single self-build dwelling.
- d) Updates of existing developments – The Chair advised that with the ST Water have indicated that the infrastructure project will be delayed. The Chair will speak with WDC to see if this will have any implications for the one application that has the Grampian condition as a planning condition

CORRESPONDENCE

- X2 residents have contacted Wychavon to request the new Lewis Close litter bin is converted to a dog waste bin because it smells, cost to change is £175, members discussed this and thought that a dog waste bin would also smell and that in an area of open space where multi use litter bin was preferred. It was hoped it would smell less in cooler months it had been a particularly hot summer.

INFORMATION AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

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

Meeting closed: 9.35pm