

Wyre Piddle Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held on 19th July, 2012 In the Village Hall, Wyre Piddle

Meeting commenced: 7.30 pm. Meeting ended: 8.50 pm.

Present: Cllrs D Creedmiles Narraine, R Murray Peters, R Merchant, G Smout

In attendance: D M Taverner (Parish Clerk) and County Cllr Mrs L Tucker

1/7/12 Apologies for absence: Cllr J Parsons.

2/7/12 Members Disclosable Pecuniary interests and any changes to be notified to the Registers of Interests and Gifts & Hospitality: No changes to either register needed to be recorded.

3/7/12 Report of District and County Councillor.

Cllr Tucker reported that the South Worcestershire development plan targeted consultation on the South Worcestershire Development Plan was now taking place. The Parish Council's response to the original consultation would still stand but any additional comments need to be submitted by the end of the consultation period on 14th September.

Jon Fraser of the County Highways team was continuing to look at the possibility of fitting vehicle barriers to the Eastern Bridge and Cllr Tucker would be asking for further updates as to progress on the scheme.

4/7/12 Closure of the Meeting to allow Parishioners Present to Speak on any Matter on the Agenda. The maximum time allowed per individual and other parochial matters for discussion to be at the discretion of the chairman. Questions which required a particular response to be submitted in writing.

Councillors considered a request from a parishioner to construct a canoe launching platform at the waterside in Smiths Meadow. The platform would be constructed by volunteers at no costs to the Council. This was unanimously supported. The Clerk advised that a full risk assessment would need to be completed and the appropriate public liability insurance would need to be put in place before the platform could be brought into public use.

5/7/12 Minutes of the Annual General meeting 23rd May, 2012

The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd May, 2012 had been previously circulated for approval by Members. No amendments were necessary and after being put to the vote it was resolved that the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of that meeting.

6/7/12 Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the approved minutes

7/7/12 Planning matters

(a) Decision notices received from Wychavon District Council

[12/00931](#) The Park, Wyre Hill, Wyre Piddle, Pershore – application refused

[12/00885](#) 3 Meadows, Main Road, Wyre Piddle – application withdrawn

(b) Current applications

[12/00892](#) – Little Nook, Chapel Lane
Variation of condition 4 of planning permission
W/07/01652/CU to allow annexe to be let for holiday use

It was unanimously resolved that having considered the above mentioned Planning Application the Council was minded to recommend approval of the application, provided that both the planning permission dated 29th August, 2007, numbered W/07/01652/CU (the "Planning Permission") and the Planning Obligation Deed dated 25th September, 2008, made between Wychavon District Council (1), Geoffrey Enrico Bennett (2) and Bank of Scotland PLC (3) ("the Deed") be amended as set out below.

That clause 4 of the Planning Permission be amended by the addition of the following words

"Save that the said converted building, hereby permitted, may be used for the purpose of holiday lettings and that no such letting periods shall exceed 28days for any one letting period."

AND

That clause 10.3 of the Deed is amended by the addition of the following words:-

"Save that the Annexe may be used separately from the Main Residence solely for the purpose of holiday lettings - provided that no such lettings shall exceed 28 days for any one letting period".

8/7/12 New Members code of Conduct and Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

The Clerk advised that following the introduction of the **Localism Act 2011** ("the Act") the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) had developed a revised model Members Code of Conduct.

In order to achieve consistency across the County Area and to ensure that all Parish Councils complied with the legislation contained in the Act, a pan - Worcestershire Model Code had been drafted by Worcestershire District Council monitoring officers. This was due to be adopted by the Principal Authorities in the County.

The Act requires all local authorities to adopt a code of conduct which complies with its requirements, and it repeals the previous standards regime and code of conduct.

Parish Councils can choose to adopt their principal authority's code, or devise one of their own.

NALC's recommendation is that the Parish Council should adopt the Worcestershire Model Code.

There will then be consistency within the County, it will be easier for councillors to know what is expected of them, members of the public will be more easily able to find out what standards they should expect from councillors, councillors will be able to rely on consistent interpretation of the code by monitoring officers, and they will be able to benefit from the training provided by district councils

It would now also be necessary for Council Members to complete forms showing declaring Disclosable pecuniary interests (**DPIs**) as defined by the regulations contained within the Localism Act.

The list of DPIs would include Member's

- Employment, trade or profession
- Sponsorship of council members and contributions to election expenses
- Contracts between the councillor and the council
- Ownership of land in the council's area or a licence to occupy land in the area
- Tenancy of property owned by the council
- Ownership of more than 25,000 shares in organisations which have a place of business or own land in the council's area, or ownership of more than one hundredth of the total issued share capital of such a body.

Councillors must register interests which they have as well as those of their spouse or civil partner or a person with whom they are living as a spouse or civil partner.

Interests must be registered within 28 days of becoming a Council member, or of acquiring the interest.

Failure to register an interest, or to declare one when appropriate, or providing false or misleading information when registering or declaring an interest may result in a criminal offence, subject to a fine of up to £5,000 and disqualification from being a member of a council for up to five years.

Interests must not only be registered with the District Council, but the District Council must publish them on its web site, and the Parish Council must also publish them on its web site.

The requirement to adopt a new code of conduct which complies with the Localism Act, and to register and declare at meetings the new disclosable pecuniary interests, came into force on 1st July.

The **Council unanimously resolved**

- To adopt the Worcestershire model code of conduct with effect from 1st July, and to delegate to the clerk the ability to amend the document as needed when a final version is made available.
- To delegate to the Finance and General Purposes Committee the ability to make any changes needed to standing orders to allow the Council to comply with procedural changes resulting from adopting the new code
- That all Council members should register their disclosable interests with the Clerk as soon as possible

- That under Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011, a Member or co-opted Member who has a disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI) in a matter to be considered or being considered at a meeting of the Council at which that Member or co-opted Member is present and the disclosable pecuniary interest is one which the Member or co-opted Member is aware of, the Member or co-opted Member may not participate or participate further in any discussion or vote on the matter at the meeting unless he/she has first obtained a dispensation in accordance with the Council's dispensation procedure.
- The provisions on dispensations are significantly changed by the Localism Act 2011. There are 5 circumstances in respect of which a dispensation may be granted, namely:
 - 1.1 That so many members of the decision-making body have disclosable pecuniary interests in a matter that it would "impede the transaction of the business";
 - 1.2 That, without the dispensation, the representation of different political groups on the body transacting the business would be so upset as to alter the outcome of any vote on the matter.;
 - 1.3 That the Council considers that the dispensation is in the interests of persons living in the authority's area;
 - 1.4 That, without a dispensation, no member of the Council would be able to participate on this matter; or

- 1.5 That the Council considers that it is otherwise appropriate to grant a dispensation.
Any grant of a dispensation must specify the duration up to a maximum of 4 years.
- The Parish Council has determined that in respect of grounds 1.1 and 1.4 above it is considered appropriate to delegate dispensations on these grounds to the Clerk in consultation with the Monitoring Officer for determination.
- In respect of grounds 1.2, 1.3 and 1.5 above, assessment of these grounds involve a value judgment such that it is considered appropriate that the discretion to grant dispensations on these grounds is also delegated to the Clerk after consultation with the monitoring officer

9/7/12 Parish Notice board

Following discussion it was unanimously agreed that the Parish notice board should be retained for use for parish council or community notices only. Commercial advertisements were not to be allowed.

10/7/12 Community Events

Carrie Oakley updated the meeting on the progress being made in the Wychavon games competition. Wyre Piddle would be hosting the 2012 games presentation evening at the Wyre Piddle Rugby Club

The Village Fete on 30th June had been well attended and enjoyed by all who had attended.

11/7/12 Financial Matters

The under mentioned accounts were **Approved** for payment

Cheque			£
1026	HMRC	Tax and National insurance	186.40
1027	D M Taverner	Salary & Expenses June and July	527.44
1028	New Farm Grounds Mtce	Grass Cutting	702.00
1029	Wychavon District Council	Discretionary Rate Relief - Anchor Inn	359.79
1030	N Power	Street Lighting	139.13
1031	G Robinson	Lengthsman work July	216.25
1032	Uk Coasters	Jubilee Mug and Coaster sets	436.80
1033	ECO 2 Now	Maintenance Works Smiths Meadow	58.00
1034	Wychavon Sport	Village Games entry	69.00

12/7/12 Maintenance of open spaces

Lengthsman Scheme – further works had been undertaken by the Lengthsman in agreement with the Clerk and the County Council. The most recent invoice had been presented to the County Council for reimbursement.

Smiths Meadow- a general tidy up of inter debris in Smiths Meadow had now been undertaken by the Council's outdoor contractors. New hedging had also now been laid to help to bolster growth around the boundary to the Meadow.

Maintenance of roadways and pavements – the Clerk had been in contact with Roy Fuller Divisional Engineer at the County Council to ask when works to reported defects to blocked drains and the road and pavement surfaces throughout the Parish would be undertaken.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8 50pm

Approved
D Creedmiles- Narraine - Chairman - 27th September, 2012