

WYRE PIDDLER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council duly convened and held in the Village Hall, Wyre Piddle on **Thursday 29th January, 2015** commencing at 7.30pm

Present Councillors: - D Naraine (Chairman)
M Oakley, N Wood
G Smout, R Merchant, J Parsons

In attendance: - County Councillor Liz Tucker
D Taverner – Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer

Apologies recorded: - None

1/1/15 Declarations of Interest

a) Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests: There were none

b) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature: There were none

c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature:

Cllr M Oakley declared a non pecuniary interest in Agenda item 8b ***-planning application 15/00029 Part of Land at May Cottage and Part of, Former Canning Factory Waste Tip, Wyre Hill -*** Erection of 1No Detached House & 2No Semi Detached Houses, Garages and New Access.

Cllr Oakley advised that he was a friend of the applicants and he would take no part in the debate on the application.

2/1/15 To Consider Written Requests from Councillors for the Council to Grant a Dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011)

No such requests had been received

3/1/15 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20th November, 2014

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20th November, 2014 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record of that meeting and were signed as approved by the Chairman.

4/1/15 Matters arising from the minutes.

There were none

5/1/15 Closure of the meeting to allow questions from Members of the Public

E mail from Mr Gary Robinson regarding various issues within the Parish.

- (a) ***Why had recent e mails sent by him to the Chairman been ignored?*** *The chairman replied that the tone of recent the e mails sent in by Mr Robinson had become increasingly insulting to both Council Members and the Clerk. The e-mails in question were bombastic and derogatory. They were also being received at very unsocial hours. The Chairman advised that he would not be replying to future such e mails, unless they were more politely composed, constructive, and sent during normal business hours.*

- (b) ***Why had the Parish Council apparently done nothing about not Rural Isolation initiative which had recently been highlighted in the local press?*** *The Clerk replied that this was a District council function and was being facilitated by them on a priority ranking basis. The neediest Parishes, based on an analysis of social deprivation throughout Wychavon, were being targeted initially but Wyre Piddle was not included on that list. The contact officer at Wychavon who could give further advice on the matter was David Manning.*

6/1/15 County Councillors Report County Council Budget Setting

Increased spending on children's care, highways and footways has been approved as part of a £327 million budget for the county council in 2015/16.

The package agreed includes a 1.94 per cent increase in council tax to raise £4 million which will be spent directly on supporting children under local authority care. This is to cope with increasing demand on services over the past year.

The council tax increase will put up the bill for an average Band D household rise by about £20 to £1,079 per year – although this is still amongst the lowest council tax rates in the country.

The budget includes £23.8 million of savings as the council continues to address a significant reduction in funding from Central Government. Councillors also agreed to freeze their allowances for the seventh year running.

Key investment was confirmed around the County Council's four corporate focus areas: Open For Business, Children and Families, Health and Wellbeing, and the Environment.

This includes:

- An extra £500,000 for improving county highways
- A further £2 million for a local members highways fund to enable all County Councillors to fund improvements in their areas – equivalent to £35,000 per division.
- £400,000 invested in county footways, a 50 per cent increase on current spending.
- A £2 million boost for Adult Social Care provision.
- £900,000 for the Welfare Assistance Scheme from central government, allowing the districts to work with agencies to help the most disadvantaged.

Measures backing the council's Open for Business priority include putting £6 million into a 'match funding' bid to the Government for highways cash which could result in double that figure being spent on roads improvements.

The County Council is also pressing on with schemes such as the £33 million upgrade of the A440 Southern Relief Link Road as it seeks to improve infrastructure and boost the local economy.

Eastern Bridge

Further repairs to the Eastern Bridge barrier system were again required and it was now reaching the stage where the county council might not be willing to continue to fund the ongoing costs of the damages. The police had promised to step up efforts into the investigation of the deliberate damage of the barriers. This had also been raised with the police at a recent PACT meeting.

Pinvin filling station planning application

Pinvin PC had voiced strong concerns over potential impact of filling station application on the Wyre Hill roundabout. Cllr Tucker will be airing those concerns when the application is next presented to WDC planning committee for consideration

7/1/15 Planning Applications for consideration

14/02694 - Mr Attwood's Land – Chapel Lane, Wyre Piddle

Outline Application for 2 Detached Houses/Garaging and Access With All Other Matters Reserved.

This application had subsequently been withdrawn.

15/00029 -Part of Land at May Cottage and Part of, Former Canning Factory Waste Tip, Wyre Hill, Wyre Piddle

Erection of 1No Detached House & 2No Semi Detached Houses, Garages and New Access.

Having declared a non pecuniary interest in this application Cllr Oakley left the room during the ensuing discussion on the item.

The Parish Council agreed to object to this application on the basis that the suggested development fails current planning policy in several areas.

The application site is not a Preferred Options site and is not included in the SWDP for development. The site is in open countryside on a green field site which has the designation of Gap Land. The location is outside of the defined development boundary of Wyre Piddle which is a Category4b village.

The proposed buildings are family homes, the residents of which would have to rely solely upon car travel to access the services and amenities only available in larger settlements. Given that it is recognised that there are no safe pedestrian or cycling routes in or out of the village, the location of the site has been shown to be unsustainable. The local road and services infrastructure is insufficient to adequately support such a development

The recent refusals of applications for residential development on Wyre Hill by Bovis Homes (13/001255 and 14/02399) and on land at Orchardene (14/00661) are evidence of this. Furthermore the appeal against the decision on Orchardene has been upheld by the Planning Inspectorate on the grounds of the unsustainability and unsuitability of this location for residential development.

The Parish Council's detailed letter of objection to this application can be viewed on the District Council's website

15/00028 -Agricultural Land, Abbey View Road, Pinvin

Reserved matters application for the layout and landscaping of a new petrol filling station following outline approval granted on 15/02/12 ref W/11/01867/ET

The Parish Council agreed to object to this application on the grounds that the site is outside of the developed boundary of both Pinvin and Wyre Piddle, and thus the application, if allowed, would contribute to the creep of development into open countryside. The Council believes the scale and design of the detailed development is significantly greater than it had been led to expect from the outline plans. The shop is significantly larger and rather dominant within the site. Given the elevated position of the site the proposed structures will be over intrusive and visible from a wide area.

8/1/15 Community events update

Christmas Carols on Christmas Eve on the Village Green – Carrie Oakley reported that this ever popular event was very much enjoyed by all who had attended with Pershore Brass Band keeping everyone in tune and mulled Wine keeping everyone warm. Money was raised for the County Air Ambulance

Carrie also advised that she would need to cut back on her Community activities for personal reasons. She was warmly thanked for all of the work she had undertaken in recent years coordinating various village events and as well as leading on the Village's Wychavon games entries.

Joined up entertainments would be co coordinating some Easter events which would be detailed in the next Edition of the piddle post.

The Village Fête was scheduled to take place on the last Saturday in June

9 /1/15 Finance

a) To approve payment of Accounts

The following accounts were approved for payment:-

cheque	Payee	For	£
901114	N power	Street lighting - Dec qtr	211.05
901115	HMRC	PAYE & NAT insurance Dec qtr	191.40
901116	D M Taverner	Salary&Admin expenses Dec	272.50

(b) Bank Reconciliation at 31st December, 2014

The Clerk presented a paper setting out the Council's Cash holdings and bank reconciliation as at 31st December, 2014

Cash holdings at 31st December comprised:-

	£
Bank Current Account	7,285.36
Bank Deposit Account	29,686.33
National savings Account.	13,738.74
Total Cash held	50,710.43
Represented by section 106	
Earmarked reserve	40,838.88
General reserve	9,871.55

10/1/15 Assets of Community value

This right gives eligible groups the opportunity to identify and nominate assets that are of value to the local community and gives them a fair chance to make a bid to buy them on the open market if the owner decides to sell.

A community can use this right to buy a local asset like a village shop, community centre, library, children's centre, allotment or pub. The right covers private as well as public assets.

It had been agreed to request the District Council to establish the Anchor Inn on their list of assets which are deemed to be valuable to the local community. The request WAS due to be considered by Wychavon DC on 20th February

If the request was granted then this would effectively give the Parish Council or a community group a six month time frame on being notified of the sale of the property to formulate a bid to purchase it.

11/1/15 Date of next meeting: Thursday 26th March, 2015

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm.

Chairman
26th March, 2015