

WOLVERLEY & COOKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

Held at Wolverley Church Hall, Wolverley on Tuesday 4th September 2018 at 7.00pm

Present:

Mr R Drew (Chairman)
Mr T Botterill
Mr D Cox
Mr M Hart
Mr D Jones
Mrs C Lewis
Mr C D Nicholls
Mr C Sherrey
Mr S Sherrey
Mr P Smith
Mr W Southam
Mr J Wood

County / District Councillor: Ian Hardiman - Apologies
West Mercia Police: Apologies

93. **Apologies.** Apologies received from Councillors Mrs L Jones (Holiday), Mr J Hart (Holiday), Mr I Hardiman (Holiday) and the Police.

94. **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 Disclosable Interests (Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary) in items on the agenda and their nature.

The meeting will now be adjourned for PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - please see notes after the minutes.

The meeting now reconvened to conduct the items of business listed below:

95. **To consider the adoption of the minutes of the Council meeting held on 7th August 2018 at 7.00pm. (minutes previously circulated).**

These having previously been circulated it was resolved unanimously to receive and adopt the minutes as a true record of the meeting and these were signed as such by the Chairman.

Matters for Discussion / Decision:

96. **To receive Councillors Reports**

County Councillor: Written Report provided,

Re surfacing works signage attached to Wolverley gateway as reported at the last meeting has been removed but the fixing screw still remains. I have shown this to Paul Green, our new Highways Engineer who is investigating this concern.

Bollards damaged (during resurfacing works) on corner of Mill Lane. I have notified Paul Green of the need to rectify this.

Church Bank Wolverley Drainage Repairs. I have shown this unfinished work to Paul Green who is presently checking as to when works will be recommenced and completed.

Wolverley Village Sunken Drains, Blakeshall Lane. This has been drawn to the attention of Paul Green who has confirmed that remedial work is necessary.

Cookley Westhead Road North pavements. Resurfacing work has been carried out as per my request.

District Councillor:

Councillor Marcus Hart reported;

Wyre Forest Issues

We are pleased to report that progress on Crown House is going well and we are exceptionally near to signing the legal agreements to commence demolition.

We are still committed to regenerating the Worcester Street area of Kidderminster and are applying to the GBSLEP for funding towards this project to open up Worcester Street to traffic.

We are pleased to report our first acquisition from our capital portfolio fund which are commercial premises at Worcester Street and High Street. We paid £1,000,000 for the buildings and they bring us in a positive revenue income and demonstrate our commitment to regenerate that area of town.

We are working closely with Cordwells to bring a multiplex cinema and leisure offer on the former Glades site and are also going to be securing market advice to look at what is best to redevelop the Bromsgrove Street car park and are considering all options including residential for this area and linked to this are considering ways to open up Worcester Street to Bromsgrove Street.

We are also determined to get the former Magistrates Court redeveloped.

Work on the £4,000,000 transformation and redevelopment of Kidderminster train station has commenced and there will be highway disruption around the Comberton Hill area whilst the highway parts of the scheme are done.

We are continuing to ensure that there is development on the Silverwoods site and have just seen a pub restaurant approved for that location and hope to see industrial units on the site soon too.

Our local plan consultation should commence in the Autumn. We will have to see considerable growth in the District over the next 15-20 years and inevitably this will mean releasing green belt land for development as we simply do not have sufficient brown field sites. The housing growth affects everybody to a lesser or greater extent and the key will be ensuring it is in sustainable locations where we can secure funding for road improvements, school places, parks and open spaces etc....

We still have £1.6,000,000 to find over the next 3 years in order to provide a sustainable and balanced budget without relying on reserves. This will inevitably lead to difficult budgetary choices moving forward but we have recently appointed a commercial manager as we have a relentless drive to grow our traded services and bring in income to the Council. It will mean driving the localism agenda more and working with Parish Council's whose ability to levy funding is still unhindered as there are no capping levels.

Wolverley and Cookley Issues

We have been dealing with the usual routine casework, reporting litter on the main A roads and having various street nameplates replaced and repaired and indeed the new street nameplate for Church Bank is in place.

We have been dealing with a number of planning queries from residents, including enforcement matters.

We have been continuing to press WFDC regarding the sewerage issue in Drakelow Lane in order for this matter to be permanently resolved.

We have a meeting regarding the Quarry on 21st September and will report back.

Councillor Cox reported on yet another accident on the A449, Cookley - will liaise with County Councillor Hardiman regarding safety concerns. He also raised the issue of difficulty in getting into Kidderminster, also extortionate car parking charges.

Councillor Nicholls requested that a full report be given to the Parish Council following the meeting on 21st September regarding the Quarry as this is a huge issue for the Parish.

Councillor D Jones sought clarification on whether the 5.55 bus service has been withdrawn, Councillor Hart will clarify this, and also re-iterated the need for the siding out work on the A449 to be completed.

97. To receive report from Local Representative West Mercia Police.

Apologies from Police - written report circulated.

PACT date is Saturday 15th September 10am - 11am in Cookley outside the shops

WOLVERLEY

Gypsy Lane - Burnt out car by Sladd Barns - too bad to read chassis number, possibly a Citroen C1

Shatterford Lane/ Sladd Lane - Cow running loose onto the housing estate

Kingsford Lane - car park by toilets - Between 17.45 - 18.30 Ford Kuga stolen without key

Wardle Way - Burglary - whilst occupants were on holiday, the house was entered through a back window and the house was ransacked both upstairs and downstairs. X box, PS4, Jewellery and 3 TVs were stolen.

COOKLEY

Staitte Drive - Theft of a Silver Astra from a car park in this location

Austcliffe Road and Castle Road - coping stones stolen and bricks from walls outside properties in these locations. Police arrested 2 people in relation to the offences

Over 18 calls to police about sheep being loose on Stourbridge Road, by the park gate

Island Pool - theft of deflated Bouncy Castle - 2 Black Males were seen doing this and driving away in a silver car

Axborough lane - Theft of Stable doors and Tackroom doors - also in the lane a Vodaphone Cabin situated in the wooded areas between Axborough and Lea Castle was broken into with an attempt to steal batteries

98. **Financial Matters:**

a) Accounts for Payment - unanimously resolved the following Accounts be paid:

37	Mrs B J Drew (Salary August 18)	904.83
38	T & A Dale (Lengthsman Fee August 18)	390.24
39	Marvin Cox Lubricants (Works to Pound)	72.00
40	Wyre Forest District Council (Poll Cards)	1514.11
41	Mrs B J Drew (Stamps 8.04, Ink 7.99, Paper 8.00)	24.03

b) Nothing to report

99. **Proposed Sand and Gravel Quarry and Restoration Scheme at land at Lea Castle Farm, Wolverley.**

Councillor Nicholls is glad this is currently a permanent item on the agenda and looks forward to a full report from the County and District Councillors following their meeting on 21st September.

100. **Cookley and Causall Neighbourhood Plan.**

The application to designate Cookley and Causall as a Neighbourhood area will be discussed at Wyre Forest District Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Thursday 6th September, the Council's Cabinet will make a final decision on Wednesday 19th September.

101. **To discuss Cookley Post Office.**

This can be taken off the agenda. Many pledges of financial support had been received but there is insufficient time for the action group to pursue buying the Post Office.

102. **Housing Needs Survey.**

This document is available on the Wyre Forest District Council website and has been looked at by the Cookley and Causall Action Group.

103. **Signage - Cookley**

Councillor Cox is looking into signage for the top of Castle Road, Cookley and will report back at the next meeting.

104. **Highways Maintenance Review Panel Questionnaire.**

Councillors T Botterill, D Cox and Clerk to complete.

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

PC No **WFDC No/Details**

3355 18/0498/Full: Erection of first floor rear extension at 2 Austcliffe Cottages, Austcliffe Road, Cookley.

Recommend Approval

3356 18/0501/Full: Proposed single storey extension and alterations to existing garage roof at 9 Westhead Road North, Cookley.

Recommend Approval

Parish Matters for Update Only - no decisions required

106. Clerks Report (Clerk). Bury Hall overgrown hedge - this has been reported to the managing agents.

107. Update on Metal Bridge, Causall. Awaiting concrete sandbagging and approval from Environment Agency - no start date yet.

108. Update on Lengthsman Scheme. Tim has been given extra work to complete.

109. New Issues / Items for Next Meeting. 30mph sign Drakelow Lane, Grass Cutting

110. Dates for Meetings:

CALC Executive Committee - Tuesday 11th September 2018,

Chairman's Meeting - Wednesday 12th September 2018.

Wyre Forest Area CALC Meeting - Monday 17th September 2018.

Volunteer Fair - Thursday 20th September 2018 10am - 2pm, Kidderminster Town Hall.

County Council Parish and Town Council Conference - Tuesday 9th October 2018.

111. Date of Next Meeting - to confirm the date of the next meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday 2nd October 2018, 7.00pm. Cookley School.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.55pm

Chairman - 2nd October 2018

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There was much discussion on the potential quarry following the scoping document. The Chairman of the Quarry Working Party, a sub group from the Cookley and Caunsall Action Group explained that he had been asked by the committee and CCAG chair to ask if there is any way to better co- ordinate efforts to oppose this potential quarry. A lot of research has been done by the working party, they have identified barristers, the best at dealing with these battles, also identified companies that can do surveys as need to get our own surveys done, air pollution and environmental issues are the key issues and these have been skimmed over in the scoping document. Fees for barristers could be up to 20k. They have looked at guidance on mineral dust impact for planning and still feel they don't comply with all the requirements. Councillor S Sherrey was asked to contact the group that dealt with this at Wall Heath and will pass on all the information obtained to the Quarry Working Group. Tim Williams led the action group and is happy to have contact. Councillor D Jones asked if funding came from any councils or was it individuals, Councillor S Sherrey confirmed no public funding was received.

All were in total agreement that everyone needs to pull together and Councillor Peter Smith volunteered to attend meetings of the Quarry Working Party. Councillor Botterill advised that the Parish Council cannot give funds as this would compromise their position if and when a Planning Application is submitted as they are a consultee. The Chairman explained the next steps and advised that this is a standing item on the agenda so will be discussed every month.

The ongoing concerns over unlawful developments at land at rear of Gaymore Road was raised, this needs enforcement.