

WOLVERLEY & COOKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 4th July 2023, 7.00pm, Wolverley Church Hall.

Present:

Mr D Cox (Chairman)
Mr B Brookes
Mr R Drew
Mr J Hart
Mr B McFarland
Mr C Sherrey
Mr W Southam
Mr A Webber
Mr J Wood

West Mercia Police: PC Kate Easthope / Ryan Bridgewood
County Councillor: Councillor I Hardiman
District Councillors: Councillor R M Drew and I Hardiman

48. **Apologies**

Cllr Mrs V Bordewich, D Jones, S Sherrey on holiday, Cllr M Hart at a conference and Cllr C Nicholls has family commitments.

49. **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. None declared.
- c) To declare any Other Registerable Interests or Non-Registerable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. None declared.

Public Question Time

Mr Carloss addressed the Parish Council on behalf of the Stop Lea Castle Quarry Campaign to ask for financial assistance with regard to fighting the next phase of the battle against NRS Aggregates Ltd. Cllr R Drew suggested Mr Carloss email the Clerk with details of the next stages and potential costs, and this will be put on the next agenda for the Parish Council to discuss. All agreed.

There were many residents present from Caunsall and the Chair invited those who wished to speak.

Many concerns were expressed over the planning application for 4 dwellings and garages at land at Caunsall Road with regard to failure to display notices, concern over additional traffic, ribbon development not infill, concerns over parking for The Anchor Pub and over wildlife.

Also, concerns were expressed over the application at the Rock Tavern carpark. A resident provided photographic evidence that an area of this land was owned by the Council and was used for Millennium celebrations and the planting of a time capsule, it is not all privately owned and this needs to be investigated. Several Councillors confirmed the grass area used to be on the cutting list many years ago.

50. **To consider the adoption of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6th June 2023 at 7.00pm**

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 by the Chairman.

Matters for Discussion / Decision;

51. Police Report

Police report had been circulated;

COOKLEY

Changing rooms at Cookley Sports & Social Club have been broken into and a locker forced open. Offenders have then stolen footballs, bibs and rebound board worth a substantial amount

WOLVERLEY

Vehicle Crime - Hi lo bank area - police ref 00512_I_09062023 - Between 14.00hrs and 16.15hrs on Friday 9th June a Red Mitsubishi L200 was entered and an untidy search made inside. Some loose change was stolen and an attempt to steal the vehicle was made but was unsuccessful.

AOB

We attended a Learning and Disability event held at Cookley Social Club last weekend with our police cadets.

We attended Wolverley Carnival on Saturday and were pleased so many people in attendance.

We held a bike marking event at the lock, Wolverley with a great attendance as always.

Thank you for your quarterly priorities We have conducted speed checks along Franche Road, Wolverley, and Kinver Lane, Caunsall, and our community concern speed enforcement officer has been out in Cookley. With regards to Anti-Social Behaviour we are dealing with an incident at Wolverley Church which is ongoing. We are aware of ASB in relation to the damage to the community garden, but with this being reported in July this will be reported next month. With regards to parking being one of your issues, we have had a sergeants/ inspector review and cannot have this as a priority as parking is not an offence covered by police, this is a council issue for them to address.

Cllr Cox expressed concern over children on e-bikes getting hurt. Kate advised they are aware of issues and are dealing with this.

Cllr Drew thanked the Police for the speed enforcement on Franche Road. He expressed confusion over the comments that parking is not an offence covered by the Police as the District Council only have limited powers, when it is obstruction, it is a police matter. Cllr Webber suggested re-wording the priority to dangerous parking and obstruction. All agreed.

Cllr C Sherrey enquired of any information following a child being struck by a car at the cutting, Wolverley Village. Kate responded that children were messing about and a child got pushed into the road.

Cllr Wood reported an incident at the MUGA where a fence has been cut open. Kate advised this needs to be formally reported.

Cllr Southam queried if photographs can be taken of youths causing trouble, Ryan confirmed they can for the purposes of backing up a crime, but be mindful of what you do with the images.

52. To receive Councillors Reports;

District Councillor Report; Report previously circulated.

Cllr R Drew reported that the appeal at Pawfection, Drakelow Lane has been turned down and they have had notice to clear the site.

Cookley Post Office enforcement - a court date is still awaited.

County Councillor Report:

Written Report circulated;

Local Issues:

- . **A449 & Park Gate Section 278 Improvement Works:** Further to my report last month, I have been challenging the refusal by County Highways to install a temporary 30mph speed limit in the interests of safety. Yesterday, I was informed that officers are actually re-considering this and will inform me quite soon on their decision.
- . **Lea Lane Landslip:** It will be no surprise, I'm sure, that residents are continuing to request a date for the restoration of the fallen road which occurred 4 years ago. I assure the Parish Council that I am constantly prompting the County Council's Management and Legal Department to proceed with a Compulsory Purchase Order for the canal bank land which is privately owned. I understand that the owner of this land is also the owner of the land for which a judicial review is in progress concerning a planning application decision for a Quarry; but I believe the two subjects should not be conflated and have said so to Officers.
- . **Caunsall,** I am awaiting Highway Officers' decision on installing new signage below the Titan Wheels site for warning HGV drivers not to attempt journeys through Caunsall village and over the two bridges there.
- . **Cookley Bridge:** I have thanked Highways Department for swiftly installing an additional Gully actually on the bridge to prevent flooding of the road occurring here.
- . **Cookley, Woodlands Road Sunken Roadway:** The Highways engineer is chasing Severn Trent Water to attend to this issue which is long standing unfortunately.
- . **Brown Westhead Sunday Parking Congestion:** I have chased the Highways Engineer, asking her to challenge the initial Highways Design Team's refusal to install a single yellow line along one side of the road.
- . **Wolverley, Kerb & Flooding by Cost Cutter:** I have been assured that remedial works have been drawn up and will be processed as soon as possible.
- . **Wolverley, Vegetation overgrowth by the traffic lights cutting:** I have again chased the necessary completion of these works.
- . **Wolverley, No Waiting Sign by Bus Stop:** I have been chasing the District Council Officers to submit the appropriate paperwork to the County Council for this to be ordered.
- . **Wolverley, Drains by Hardwicks:** I have been informed that delays have been experienced as necessary agreement has to be obtained from the land owner on the opposite side of the road where essential reconfiguration works must be carried out.
- . **Wolverley Inconsiderate Parking by High School:** I have asked County Highways to consider installing Double Yellow Lines here to prevent persistent obstructive parking here. I am awaiting an assessment report.
- . **Wolverley B4189 Overgrowth:** The Highways Engineer is seeking the swiftest way to cut back the overgrowth from private land which is impeding pedestrians and is a safety issue.
- . **WOLVERLEY / COOKLEY, Requests for 20mph Zones:**
I have forwarded the Parish Council's requests to Highways where they are being considered by the appropriate officers; I have not received feedback so far.

53. **Financial Matters:**

a) To discuss progress with online banking.

Cllr C Sherrey advised that all payments were made last month online however the Clerk's access still needs to be amended to view only. Closure of the HSBC bank was discussed and it was proposed Cllr C Sherrey, seconded Cllr Drew and unanimously agreed this be closed and funds transferred as soon as possible. Cllr C Sherrey requested the new banking arrangements be discussed at the next Risk Committee meeting.

b) Unanimously agreed the schedule of cheques to be signed.

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| 12 | B J Drew - Salary June 23 | £1,190.60 |
| 13 | HMRC - Tax and NI April - June 23 | £459.83 |

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| 14 | Keith Basketfield - 3rd Grass Cut June 23 | £756.80 |
| 15 | B J Drew - Ink/Paper/Stamps | £18.80 |
| 16 | Cookley in Bloom - Cookley -4 Planters | £120.00 |
| 17 | Mr R Drew Wolverley / Blakeshall / Sion Hill / Stourbridge Rd - 19 Planters | £276.74 |
| 18 | Norton Antivirus (1/5th share of cost) | £20.00 |
| 19 | WCC - Parish Initiative Q1 | £3609.34 |

54. **Adoption of Standing Orders.**

Proposed Cllr Drew, seconded Cllr McFarland and unanimously agreed to adopt Standing Orders.

55. **Purchase of new Litterbins.**

Cllr Drew advised that the contractor for bin emptying has reported 2 damaged bins, one in Caunsall by the towpath, the other Church Bank Wolverley. In addition residents at The Crescent, Cookley have requested a bin. Cllr Drew proposed purchase of a new bin for Church Bank and for The Crescent and not replace the Caunsall bin as there is already another bin on the opposite side of the road at this location. The contractor will therefore not have any additional bins to empty so the contract will not have to be reviewed. This was seconded by Cllr J Hart and unanimously agreed.

56. **Letter received from St. Peter's Church, Cookley.**

Withdrawn at the request of Rev. S Armstrong.

57. **Planning Training.**

Cllr Drew reported that WFDC Planning Department are now offering bespoke sessions for Parish and Town Councils to explain changes in Planning Law and cover key points on topics such as Green Belt Policy, Permitted Development, Previously Developed Land and Material Planning Considerations. All agreed this would prove very useful. In addition on complicated applications officers will provide comments to the Parish Council to assist them with deciding on applications.

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

RE-CONSULTATIONS FROM WFDC PLANNING

21/1002/PIP: Construction of new dwelling, Cattery, 2 Webbs Cottages, Caunsall

There was some confusion over this application but it was Recommended Approval by Councillor Southam, seconded Councillor Brookes and approved with 4 in favour, 2 against and 3 abstentions.

22/0899/OUT: Outline application for erection of 4 dwellings and garages and formation of vehicular access and associated operational development, with all matters reserved at Land at Os 385100 280950, Caunsall Road, Caunsall.

Cllr Southam re-iterated original concerns and those of the residents and Recommended Refusal. This was seconded by Cllr McFarland and approved with 4 in favour and 5 abstentions.

23/0191/OUT: Erection of 3 new dwellings and provision of 6 spaces for the adjacent development and Rock Tavern Cottage at Car Park adjacent Rose Cottage, Caunsall.

Cllr Cox supported the comments of the residents that part of this site formed a village green which was owned by the Council. Cllr Southam proposed Refusal, seconded by Cllr McFarland and approved with 4 in favour and 5 abstentions.

PC No WFDC No/Detail

Café at River Bank House, Cookley - Email received from Planning Enforcement Officer

Cllrs discussed the email received from Planning Enforcement regarding the possibility of offering the opportunity to the owner to apply for a two-year temporary consent and agreed they would be minded to support this new business.

3681 23/0386/HOU: Installation of driveway and dropped kerb at 10 Causall Road, Causall.

Recommend deferral awaiting further Highways comments.

3682 23/0464/FUL: Proposed conversion of piggery to a single dwelling (Use Class C3) at land at Os 381984 282020, Castle Hill, Wolverley.

Recommend Approval.

3683 23/0469/HOU: Double storey side extension, new porch and replacement single garage at 63 Causall Road, Causall.

Recommend Approval.

Planning Decisions;

23/0103/Ful Permit Proposed conversion and extension works to existing building to create 2, four bedroomed dwelling houses and the erection of 2 dwelling houses with private parking and amenity space to rear at Red Lion, 70 Castle Road, Cookley.
(27 Conditions)

23/0248/S73 Permit Variation of Condition 1 (Design and Layout) of Planning Approval
22/0576/RES

23/0247/FUL Refusal Erection of a self-build dwelling and formation of a vehicular access and drainage at Wyre Mill House, Mill Lane, Wolverley

Notice of Appeal: WF: 22/0443/OUT - Outline application for the proposed development of one dwelling on land at Lea Lane, Cookley.

Parish Matters for Update Only - no decisions required.

59. Clerks Report. (Clerk) Update on Dog Bin Transfer, Local Government Boundary Commission Review.
60. Update on Lengthsman. (RD/WS) Training 5th July.
61. New Issues / Items for Next Meeting. (All) Defibrillators (AW)
62. Date of Next Meeting - to confirm the date of the next meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday 1st August 2023.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.50 pm

Signed by Chairman - 1st August 2023