**WOLVERLEY & COOKLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council**

**Held at Wolverley Church Hall, Wolverley on Tuesday 6th December 2016 at 7.00pm**

Present:

Mr J Hart (Chairman)

Mr T Botterill

Mr D Cox

Mrs J Cox

Mr M Hart

Mr D Jones

Mrs L Jones

Mrs C Lewis

Mr C D Nicholls

Mr C Sherrey

Mr S Sherrey

Mr P Smith

Mr G Yarranton

County Councillor: Apologies

District Councillor: Ian Hardiman

West Mercia Constabulary: PC 2040 Richard Leek, Mick Simpson – We Don’t Buy Crime Project Manager,

PCSO 6239 Kate Easthope, PSCO Matt Brighton

169. **Apologies**

Councillor Mr R Drew, G Yarranton and District Councillor Mr S Williams.

1. **Declarations of Councillors Interests**
2. Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of need to update their register of interests.
3. To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. None Declared.
4. 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

There were five members of the public in attendance.

Mr Philip Stewardson spoke on the Barn Cottage retrospective planning application. He expressed disappointment that the Parish Council at the last meeting deferred the application awaiting reports from Highways and the Senior Waste Management Officer when a very detailed drainage report had been obtained by one of the residents. He asked that this report be examined. Councillor M Hart advised that he had spoken with Kirsten Huizer, the Senior Water Management Officer for North Worcestershire Water Management who had advised that the design and materials of the new main vehicle access are such that no surface water from this access will discharge onto the Caunsall Road nor will water discharge into the existing Highway Drainage system serving this road. Ms Huizer has seen the independent drainage report which refers to duties under the Land Drainage Act 1991 however these relate to ordinary watercourse regulation of which Caunsall is not therefore it would be a civil matter.

Mrs Kimberley Steffen spoke on the Solcum House application and advised that the public footpath is not moving, they wish to move the driveway away from the public footpath for safety, and they have provided pictures which show access onto the lane looks much better.

Councillor Peter Smith spoke on the application and commented that the plans will enhance the area.

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

1. **To consider the adoption of the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1st November 2016 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 as such by the Chairman.

**Matters for Discussion / Decision;**

1. **To receive Councillors Reports;**

**County Councillor;**

Apologies received from Councillor Gordon Yarranton.

**District Councillor;**

Ian Hardiman reported;

The Glades: Demolition Contractors have been appointed for the site clearance early next year,

Crown House: We are still continuing to try to source a resolution to ensure Crown House is demolished but the Council would not want to pay the demolition costs nor lose the rental income for the site,

Wyre Forest House Offices: We are continuing to achieve more than £200,000 annual income from letting office space within the building helping to keep down council taxes,

The District Council is offering free parking on all its Car Parks after 4pm each day from 12th November 2017 until 8th January 2017,

MP Mark Garnier is running a Jobs Fair at Kidderminster Town Hall on Thursday 2nd February @ 2.00pm onwards,

SDF the car components manufacturer has gone into administration causing redundancy for its workforce of more than 40 employees,

Councillor Yarranton has been asked to look into complaints about poor service on the 580/4A bus service and also to put speed wires along Austcliffe Road as there have been complaints about speeding.

Questions;

Councillor D Cox asked if the Blitz Squad still exist as parts of the Parish look very untidy. Ian advised to ring depot to report any issues,

Councillor Botterill expressed thanks to Wyre Forest for early morning clearing works when village was nearly in flood,

Councillor D Jones advised of fly tipping on land owned by Severn Trent, this is up to the landowner and not a Council issue,

Councillor Smith advised of contraventions of Planning in relation to Horsiculture in Horsely Hills Area, he will provide Ian with photographs and has requested Enforcement Action is taken,

Councillor D Jones raised again a problem with overgrown footpaths on the A449 from the top of Caste Road down to the Island Pool pub. After much discussion it was agreed that Ian would look into this as it is a safety issue, Clerk to e mail County Councillor to advise.

1. **To receive report from Local Representative, West Mercia Police.**

PC Richard Leek reported;

Monthly report previously circulated,

Most significant problem this month has been shed break ins and garage breaks in particularly in Wolverley,

Problems with Narrow boats,

One Kilogram of Cocaine Drugs Find in Car on Lock Car Park,

Sion Hill School – there has been a big improvement on the site with two thirds now boarded and no problems have been reported.

Councillor D Jones expressed thanks for police presence at Cookley Bonfire

Councillor Botterill expressed thanks for unofficial turnout for Remembrance Sunday Parades

The Chairman welcomed Mick Simpson – Project Manager, WE DON’T BUY CRIME, for West Mercia and Warwickshire to discuss Smart Water.

Mr Simpson introduced himself and advised he has worked for the police for over 40 years and does not work for Smart Water.

He advised that it is proven that is property is marked you are far less likely to become a victim

A project has been set up and been running for approximately 18 months with all second hand shops that take in goods to sell onto people asking to sign up to how they check property before they take it to sell to ensure that it is not stolen. All the information is put on a database d they are colour coded – green if they sign up to the scheme and provide evidence that they undertake checks and red if they don’t sign up or if stolen property has been found in the shop. In addition if a burglary has been undertaken and an identifiable piece of property stolen, eg an engraved watch then the police can send an instant e mail to all the shops on the database to look out for this item if someone tries to bring it in to sell.

The Police want everyone to mark and register their property. They are encouraging people to take photographs and serial numbers so that property is identifiable. You are then able to go on a secure website which is backed by the Government and Police to record all your information, you are then given a reference number. It is proven if you mark property you are far less likely to become a victim.

Smart Water Kits

Mick advised that these are £68 if you want to buy Smart Water Kits, however the Police have been able to secure a much reduced price of £8.90 for some areas that are already rolling this out. The results in Cleobury Mortimer have been very encouraging, even just the presence of a Smart Water sign can deter people choosing to break into a house.

Smart Water comes in a bottle, it is mainly water but there is a cement element in there. It can mark anything (except Pets) and fluoresces under UV. It has about 12 base metal elements and there is a machine in Telford that fires all the elements in, they are all uniquely different, you get a bar code and need to fill out a registration form as this links to bar code.

Mick has spoken to approximately 15 Parish Councils in last 12 months, some have taken it on some haven’t. If Finances are an issue there are some options that may be available. PC Leek can approach the Superintendent for some help with funding, also the PCC may match fund up to a maximum of £1000, and also if the Parish have Social Housing they may contribute. The Police provide all the signs.

Councillor Botterill advised that he has bought a kit, used it and it does work.

Councillor L Jones enquired how long it lasts. Mick stated that they only guarantee five years but it should last longer.

A bottle should mark around 50 items.

Clerk to agenda for discussion and find out possible funding options.

1. **Financial Matters;**

Recommendations from Grants Committee;

Cookley Church (Cookley Churchyard) £1034.28

Wolverley Church (Wolverley Churchyard and donation towards hire of hall) £1934.28

Anne A Mitchell Trust £500.00

Churchyard Grant has been increased by 2% in line with budget.

Councillor C Sherrey advised that there was a surplus in the Budget for Grants so if given to the Anne A Mitchell Trust this would only result in a small overspend.

Councillor Smith gave a brief explanation of what the Trust do which is to employ visitors in each village to go to the Elderly.

Although the visitors receive the minimum wage, costs are increasing and the dividend income from capital investments is going down. Councillor S Sherrey advised that Wolverley Charities give a Christmas payment to two needy individuals as identified by the Trust and perhaps there may be scope to do more in the future. This matter will be discussed at the next Wolverley Charities meeting. It was agreed that the Grant should be a one off payment.

It was proposed Councillor C Sherrey, seconded S Sherrey and agreed payment of Grants as recommended by Grants Committee.

1. Accounts for Payment – to agree the schedule of cheques to be signed.

42 Mrs B J Drew 903.45

(Salary November 16)

43 Mr T Dale 467.10

(Lengthsman Fee November 16)

44 Broxap 8351.04

(Litterbins)

45 Shaw & Sons Limited 151.19

(Minute Book)

46 Cookley Church 1034.28

(Cookley Churchyard)

47 Wolverley Church 1934.28

(Wolverley Churchyard and donation towards hire of hall)

48 Anne A Mitchell Trust 500.00

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

**PC No WFDC No/Details**

3250 16/0570/Full: Change to main use of second access with improved threshold and gravel drive, west access

opposite pub car park reduces with extended existing wall and gate at Barn Cottage, Caunsall

Road, Caunsall,

Recommend Deferral. This is a very sensitive retrospective application and the Parish Council felt that they need all the information available before making a decision. They were surprised by the Officer comments that they are currently reviewing the case including comments from County Highways and the Senior Drainage Officer as they thought these reports had been received. The Parish Council therefore agreed to defer again until the Case Officer has completed his review and advises the Parish.

3254 16/0588/Full: Conversion and extension of the garage to provide a kitchen, new shed and summer house and

works to the garden, replacement of windows and works to the interior of Oak House, Wolverley

Village,

3255 16/0589/List: As above

Recommend Approval.

3257 16/0274/Rev: Additional / Revised Plans for erection of three detached 4 bedroom dwellings at Red Lion, 70

Castle Road, Cookley,

Recommend Deferral. Await revised comments following Case Officer Site Visit.

3258 16/0534/Rev: Revised Plans for erection of single storey extension to existing dwelling, closure of existing

vehicular access including re surfacing of existing driveway and construction of a new vehicular access and driveway to serve dwelling at Solcum House, Drakelow Lane, Wolverley,

Recommend Approval.

3259 16/0642/Full: Proposed Barn at field at end of Copes Lane, Wolverley,

Recommend Approval.

3260 16/0640/Full: Refurbishment of existing property comprising of first floor extension (including new roof).

Alterations to external appearance including fenestrations and addition of render, timber

cladding, glass roof to kitchen, new conservatory at Hobro Croft, Hobro, Wolverley,

Recommend Approval.

1. **To update on progress with Localism Fund Projects;**
   1. Litterbins, These have now been received, 28 post mounted and 16 floor mounted. Tim will commence rollout of floor mounted however straps and a ratchet are needed for the post mounted at an additional cost of £200.00 This was unanimously agreed. Old bins will be returned to WFDC.
   2. Gateways, Now complete with new signs. Some old signs will be removed next week.
   3. The Pound, Wolverley. Works Completed. Damaged railings will be replaced with a minimal cost.
2. **To update on next phase of Street Lights to be converted to LEDs.**

Order has been placed for 36 lights, works will be done before end of financial year.

1. **Wyre Forest District Council Parish Council Localism Fund 2016 – 17, deadline 31st January 2017.**

Councillors C Sherrey advised of proposed projects;

3 additional gateways – Lowe Lane, Blakeshall and Bridge Rd / Caunsall Rd plus new signs

9 Planters to go under gateways at an approximate cost of £100 for Planters, Compost and Plants

Tourism Boards – Sited at The Lock Inn, Wolverley Memorial Hall, and somewhere in the village

Also signs on significant historical buildings

The Letter will be completed by end of week and then forwarded to Councillor M Hart to check.

It was approved that Delegated Powers be given to Councillor C Sherrey and Chairman to submit the application.

1. **To update on progress with extension to Wolverley Memorial Hall Lease and Trust Deed.**

Councillor Smith advised a lengthy list of questions has been received from Mr McClean at Thursfields.These are being worked through and some required documents have already been sent to Thursfields. The Clerk, Councillor Smith and Councillor M Hart are due to meet on 14th December to finalise documentation and reply to hopefully move this forward.

1. **To discuss Churchill and Blakedown Neighbourhood Plan Publication.**

Noted

1. **To discuss a Dementia friendly Parish Council.**

Councillor Nicholls advised that Dementia has now taken over from Heart Disease as number one killer. There was an article in last week’s Kidderminster Shuttle raising awareness. Councillor Nicholls would like the Council to invite Jo Hughes from the Alzheimer’s Society to come to the January meeting and do a presentation. This was agreed. Councillor Nicholls to provide Clerk with contact details.

1. **To discuss Superfast Broadband in the Parish and Voluntary Community Champions.**

Noted

**Parish Matters for Update Only – no decisions required**

1. Clerks Report (Clerk)

Decision Notices, Parish Support Fund, List of 2017 Meeting Dates

1. Update on Lengthsman Scheme (Councillor T Botterill) Councillor Botterill provided an update.
2. New Issues / Items for Next Meeting: Budget, Dementia Presentation, Smart Water.
3. Dates for Meetings

Chairman’s Carol Service – Friday 9th December 2016, 7.00pm

1. Date of Next Meeting – to confirm the date of the next meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday 3rd January 2017, 7.00pm

Meeting closed at 8.35pm.

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