

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF DRAKES BROUGHTON AND WADBOROUGH WITH PIRTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 4th OCTOBER 2018 AT 7.30 PM AT DRAKES BROUGHTON VILLAGE HALL.**

PRESENT: Cllr J Butterworth (Chairman), Cllr D Proctor, Cllr M Ward, Cllr T Pell, Cllr J Yeo, Cllr L Wild, Cllr F Mead, Cllr S Wynn, Cllr A Crouchman, Cllr M Gardner, Cllr R Small, Cllr J Proctor Nicholls & Cllr R Turner

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs N Nicholson (Clerk), District Councillor Middlebrough.

PUBLIC: Mr R Durant & Mr D Rhodes

1) APOLOGIES:

Cllr J Driscoll & County Councillor Adams

2) DECLARATION OF INTEREST

N/A

The Chairman closed the meeting for members of the public to address the meeting.

Mr Durant raised his concerns regarding the ability of the current drainage system to cope with the new building developments that have received planning permission. Namely an additional 180+ houses being connected to the existing 4-inch pipe system. The Chairman advised Mr Durant that the PC had raised these concerns with the developers and asked the Clerk to write to Severn Trent once again raising the concerns of the community regarding this issue. Mr Durant also wished it noted that he did not think the number of houses planned were appropriate for the village of Drakes Broughton.

Mr Rhodes asked members of the PC if they had any formal idea what the future plan is for the currently closed Plough & Harrow pub. The Chairman advised Mr Rhodes that the PC had no formal information about future plans. District Councillor Middlebrough advised that WDC had not been approached for any pre planning advice.

The Chairman thanked Mr Durant and Mr Rhodes and advised them should any further information on their queries become available they would be kept informed.

3) LOCAL POLICING

The Clerk read the police report for September as follows:

Burglary of outbuilding 29/08

Criminal damage to a mobile home off Stonebow Road – 30/08

Further damage reported to mobile home – 11/09 (some of the suspects have been identified and spoken to)

Damage to a vehicle on building site 17/09

There were no other issues to report but the police would like to remind people to leave a light on in the evenings now the nights are drawing in.

4) MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 6th September 2018 were proposed by Cllr Pell, seconded by Cllr Gardner, agreed by all and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

5) MATTERS ARISING

• Roof Top Walkabout

Cllr Small advised that upon another inspection none of the work promised by Rooftop during the walkabout several months ago has been done and he advised that the area is still deteriorating. The Chairman advised members that she has repeatedly raised the issues with Rooftop and would continue to do so.

• VAS

The Chairman advised members that the VAS was now intermittently working, however the lengthsman had advised that the switch is a faulty. The Clerk advised she is awaiting a repair cost for this.

- Notice Board

The Clerk advised she had requested the lengthsman to wood treat the support posts and was awaiting an update on this.

- Data Protection Audit

Cllr Mead and the Clerk will organise to complete this over the coming weeks.

- Drakes Boughton Drains

The Clerk advised that she had received notification from highways regarding the eyelets on Stonebow Road and they have been added to the Jet Vac investigations programme but there may be some delay due to the number of locations requiring investigation across the county. The drains on the B4084 had been reported but as yet there had been no response from the Highways Dept on this. Cllr Small advised that some of the drains towards Pershore had been recently attended to.

- Woodleigh – Cul De Sac sign

The Clerk advised members that these had been ordered and would be installed following receipt of the PC payment.

- Relocation of Litter Bin – Beech Ave

The Drakes Boughton members discussed this and it was decided to leave the bin at its current location. The Clerk advised she had informed the police of the litter and damage that had occurred.

- Wadborough Phone Box

The Clerk advised that BT had confirmed that the telephony would be removed on 22nd October. The Chairman advised Wadborough members following the decommissioning, a decision for its use would be required.

- Bus Stop – Stonebow Road

The Chairman advised that a temporary bus stop had been put in place and the advice from WCC was that this was to gauge demand for reinstating this stop permanently. The Clerk was asked to put a note in the Villager.

- Bus Services

Cllr Pell advised members that despite the lobbying of the Vale transport Group many of the rural services were just not getting used enough to be cost effective and that a disappointing cut of services took place in Mid-September. New timetables are available on the bus stops and on the First website. Cllr Pell advised she will be attending a further meeting next month. Cllr Pell advised that WCC will be conducting a review of the rural transport needs and she and the Vale Transport Group will be pushing the need for the services especially in light of the forthcoming increase in housing within DB.

A discussion arose regarding what services the volunteer Centre in Pershore could offer for those unable to get suitable buses to Doctors etc. Cllr Pell agreed to get this information to the Clerk to include in her update in the Villager.

6) GRIT BINS

Cllr Small advised members that a WCC yellow bin is currently sited off the highway and suggested this should be relocated to Shrubbery Ave so that it will be included in the WCC maintenance rounds. Members agreed to this suggestion.

7) PLAYING FIELD - Hedge Cut

The Chairman advised members that the playing field hedge cutting was now due. She asked Cllr Wild if he was happy to contact last year's contractor and organise this. Cllr Wild agreed and advised that the cost was reasonable for a tidy job.

8) OPEN SPACE REVIEW – Committee, terms of reference, next steps

A discussion arose regarding the next steps and inviting some more people to join the committee with the right expertise and energy to make good progress with this important programme. Cllr Wild undertook to make some approaches. He also advised that prices and phasing needed to be part of the next stage potentially meeting with local contractors to gain some ideas of initial costs. There was some discussion about any additional costs to the phased approach and if there was any merit in the PC getting a loan to allow the project to be completed without phasing. The Chairman advised that this was a possibility, but much more detailed costing need to be obtained before this could be considered. Cllr Wild advised that a strategy would be in place for the next PC meeting. The Chairman thanked Cllr Wild for his support on this.

9) VILLAGE HALL

The Chairman advised members that the VHC had written to Lady Coventry to ascertain if the footprint of the village hall could be altered within the refurbishment plan. She was pleased to inform members that in principle Lady Coventry had agreed this was possible.

Cllr Proctor-Nichols has met with the VHC Chairman and Treasurer, The Chairman asked Cllr Proctor Nichols to report to the members: Cllr Proctor Nichols advised members that the detail in the current drawings and plan were not detailed enough at this stage to engage a QS. He suggested a brief needed to be developed to be used in any approaches to an architect to develop the plans further. He also advised that as the project would involve spending public money he would suggest interviewing three companies and then choose one that can take the project forward in more detail to get to a costing stage. Again, a discussion arose about a loan to fund the project and the Chairman advised all was possible but detailed financial requirements would be needed to take any loan proposals forward. Cllr Middlebrough advised that a loan could be taken against the increased amount of precept due to the increased number of houses and that this could potentially be achieved without increasing any individual household precept.

The Chairman reminded members of the VHC Birthday celebrations being held on 16th & 17th November – the Hall will be 60 years old!

10) REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

a) District Councillor

District Councillor Middlebrough advised members of changes due to the refuse service as WDC had engaged new contractors at a considerable cost saving. He advised that all households would receive a letter regarding the changes and some of the improvements to recycling would include opportunities to recycle batteries, small electrical appliances and textiles.

Cllr Middlebrough advised that the Wadborough Park Farm planning application would go to the planning committee.

Cllr Wild asked the District Councillor about the Community Speed Watch Scheme, Cllr Middlebrough advised that it was available through the Safer Road Partnership and that speeding motorists would be issued with a letter but not fines.

b) Other reports as necessary

Cllr Gardener notified members that the second cut of grass verges hadn't occurred and was necessary. The Chairman asked the Clerk to email County Councillor Adams regarding this.

Cllr Yeo advised that there was no suitable place for the police to conduct speeding checks in Wadborough.

Cllr Wynn advised members that the passing place signs on Stonehall Common were now in place. Cllr Wynn asked District Cllr Middlebrough if there was any update regarding the parking at Stonehall common, she also enquired if any spending could be made available from our Parish funds for this. The Chairman advised Cllr Wynn that spending needed to be directed at this time to needs within our Parish Boundary. Cllr Middlebrough agreed to ask about progress for parking on the Common at the next meeting of Kempsey PC

Cllr Wynn queried the additional grant towards the VHC heating and the Chairman gave a detailed outline, explaining that due to the reduced cost of the new heating system the Grant from WDC had been reduced leaving a short fall which had been originally agreed by members to cover this. All members confirmed understanding and agreement to this.

Cllr Small advised that the ditch and culvert on Stonebow Road had been damaged by the recent Severn Trent work and the Chairman asked the Clerk to contact Severn Trent regarding this.

11) TASKS FOR LENGTHSMAN

Cllr Small advised members that the lengthsman had plenty to be getting on with currently. Cllr Small advised he was due to be working on the grips in Wadborough.

12) VILLAGER UPDATES

The Chairman and Clerk have agreed that PC update in the next edition of the Villager should include information regarding the second stage of the Open Space Review and a call to the community should members of the public want to be involved, Information on the support the PC are giving the Village Hall Committee and advise as to the newly purchased signage for Woodleigh.

As agreed earlier in the meeting Cllr Pell and the Clerk will include further information on the bus service, the temporary bus stop and information from the volunteer Centre. No other members had anything to add.

13) REQUEST FROM THE FOOTBALL CLUB TO REMOVE BENCH FROM PLAYING FIELD

The Chairman advised members that the football club had cited the bench at the edge of the adult pitch as a potential safety hazard. This was discussed at length and consensus was that it should remain in the short term as it is well used by parents watching their children at the play park Members agreed that it will be reviewed as part of the Open Space Review project. In order to reduce any immediate risks associated with the bench he Clerk is to inform the football club that they had permission to used padding around the concrete legs as and when required to ensure the safety of their players.

14) FINANCE

The monthly reconciliation of cash and other monies received was undertaken for September by Cllr Wild.

The finance subcommittee report was read by the Chairman:

Precept and lengthsman money received this year will be around £23k and so far this year we have spent circa £8.5k. With regard to the predicted running costs we are pretty much on plan although as usual some of the spending identified in the budget is no longer required (for instance £250 for a training course and some of the Grass cutting allocation) and there are items that weren't included that will need to be paid (for instance contribution to Clerks broadband cost £20 per month).

I am pleased to report that we have spent money this year on new waste bins, refurbishment of the notice board and bench, and for new road signs for Woodleigh. Other money has been granted to and lent to the Village Hall so that it has a chance of being warm in there this winter.

We will have circa £38k in our current bank account now that the 2nd precept payment has been received and circa £15.5K in reserves and so there is money available for us to improve facilities in our communities. There are a few things that we will need to spend money on so we can gain access to funds to improve the Village Hall and the Playing field but we should be looking to see if there are other things that would benefit from our attention. Suggestions might include some new benches, more waste bins, more notice boards, tidying Pirton playing field, Wadborough phone box. and maybe a new VAS.

It was proposed by Cllr Pell and seconded by Cllr Gardner to authorise the following payments:

a) Mrs N Nicholson – Clerk salary – September	£461.34
b) Mr B Arrowsmith – Lengthsman – September	£220.00
c) Mr B Arrowsmith – Litter Clearing Playing fields – September	£100.80
d) Mrs N Nicholson – Quarterly OPE	£103.33
e) PKF Littlejohn LLP – External Audit Fee	£240.00
f) Wychavon District Council – Woodleigh Street Signage	£273.60
g) Wychavon District Council – Beech Ave & Walcot Lane Litter Bins	£684.49
h) One Ltd – Final Stage & Public Consultation Boards	£410.40
i) Mr B Arrowsmith – Quarterly Bus Shelter Cleaning	£30.00

The Chairman advised members of an additional payment request for the cost of paint for the milestones in Wadborough. She advised members that the correct procedure for a spend was to gain full council approval

before any monies changed hands. She asked members if they were willing to agree to spend retrospectively. Members agreed, and it was proposed by Cllr Butterworth and seconded by Cllr Pell to pay the following payment.

j) Mr R Cother – Paint for Wadborough Milestones £61.43

Remittance - WDC Precept Payment – £10201.00

15) PLANNING

a) Comments made on planning applications to Wychavon

W/18/01730/AGR Kites farm, Worcester Road, Pirton, Worcester, WR8 9EG. General purpose agricultural building. No Objection.

W/18/01855/FUL Land Adjacent to, Wheelright, Walcot Lane, Drakes Broughton. Construction of 2no. bungalow. Recommend refusal.

W/18/01378/HP Wadborough Park farm, Wadborough, Worcester, WR8 9HJ. Proposed change of use of redundant building to form granny annex. No Objection.

W/18/01830/HP Blue Banks, Worcester Road, Pinvin, WR10 2DY. Erection of detached three bay garage with wash facilities and WC for farm workers. No Objection.

b) Applications Approved:

W/18/01597/FUL The Old Smithy, Mill Lane, Wadborough. 1 new detached dwelling in existing residential curtilage and replacement parking for the Old Smithy. Demolition of existing structure – Variation of Condition 2 of W/15/03091/FUL to allow the addition of a garage.

W/18/01452/HP 1 St Peters Close, Pirton. Internal alterations to existing residential property including window alterations to ground and first floor, external installation of a Calor gas storage tank, alterations to garden walling, fences, gates and proposed shed.

c) Applications Refused: N/A

d) Applications Awaiting comment: N/A

e) Notification of Planning appeal: APP/H1840/W/18/3208074. New build 2 bedroom bungalow to garden land at the rear of the Old Post House, with use of shared access to Stonebow Road.

f) Elan Homes – footpath lighting for Walcot

The members discussed the adoption and surrounding costs of footpath lighting on this development and the consensus was that the emphasis needed to be to keep light pollution to a minimum and that the PC would not want to fund the footpath lighting. The clerk was asked to notify Elan Homes and WCC of the members' decision.

g) The Old Smithy – Wadborough – comments had been submitted reinforcing members objections and queries regarding scales.

h) Road names – Bovis and Elan Homes.

The Clerk advised that one road name was required for Elan Homes and 7 for the Bovis development. She had received suggestions regarding Deer, Fruit Trees and Butterflies from members. The members discussed the proposed names and it was decided to forward the Butterfly names to Elan Homes and the Pear tree names to Bovis.

16) CORRESPONDENCE

- Resident Call regarding Column 32 – Members discussed this and agreed to review where the light was located and perhaps suggest to the resident to contact the developer regarding additional shielding of the light. The light is required for the bus shelter users.
- Section 106 letter regarding monies held
- Resident Call re Buses – Clerk will forward the contact number to Cllr Pell.
- Resident contact regarding bird nesting and access to new development land – Clerk advised she has passed this to WDC enforcement.
- Resident email regarding speeding in Woodleigh
- WDC Licensing Consultation
- Resident email re Stonebow speeding

- Resident email regarding Huntsman Close Street light – Clerk advised members she had reported the fault to E.on

17) INFORMATION AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 1st November 2018 at 7.30pm at Drakes Broughton Village Hall – Monthly Parish Council Meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.