

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF DRAKES BROUGHTON AND WADBOROUGH WITH PIRTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 8th SEPTEMBER 2022 AT 7.30 PM AT ST BARNABAS FIRST & MIDDLE SCHOOL.

PRESENT: Cllr J Butterworth (Chair), Cllr R Turner, Cllr A Tanfield, Cllr A Crouchman, Cllr Williams, Cllr Bessant, Cllr Murphy & Cllr Boniface

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor Linda Robinson, District Councillor Mark Ward & Mrs N Nicholson (Clerk)

PUBLIC: None

The Chair gave condolences to the Royal family following the death of the Queen only an hour before the meeting. It was noted that no disrespect was meant with continuing with the meeting as advertised.

1) APOLOGIES: Cllr Yeo, Cllr Pell, Cllr Small & Cllr Roberts

2) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3) MEMBER VACANCY PIRTON & DRAKES BROUGHTON

The Chair advised that the vacancy for the Pirton Ward would be filled by D Skeys following his application, he will be co-opted in October's meeting.

The Chair advised that a Parishioner had shown interested in the Drakes Broughton Ward vacancy, they had received the official information and we now await their application.

4) MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting held on 4th August 2022 were proposed by Cllr Boniface, seconded by Cllr Murphy, agreed by all and signed by the Chair as a true record.

5) MATTERS ARISING

Trees on Playing field – The Chair advised Members that a second letter had been sent to the resident/owner of the trees that posed a threat adjacent to the playing field.

Flooding on the playing field – District Councillor Ward advised that he had no further update. The Chair asked him to go back to the Land Drainage officer at WDC and express the frustration and considered lack of action/support on this ongoing matter. It would seem that Elan Homes have potentially damaged existing drainage and that no action has been taken to rectify the matter.

Wadborough Crossroads – County Councillor Robinson advised that residents in the vicinity of the crossroads are keen on implementing the visibility mirror. The owners of the property are unwilling to reduce the hedge to the required 1M and the Highways liaison Officer has permitted the mirror. Cllr Robinson advised that the Highways dept were not keen to change the junction to a stop junction. Cllr Murphy advised that the Wadborough Association would take in the funds and pay for the insurance on the mirror and take on responsibility for it. Cllr Crouchman noted that this was a U-turn from previous advice over many years from WCC Highways that the mirror was not permitted.

Wadborough Verges – Members advised Cllr Robinson that despite the letters being sent from WCC Highways asking residents to remove the many stones and roadside markers, none had been removed.

Pedestrian Crossing Worcester Road – County Councillor Robinson advised that the lights had not been operational as there was a fault in the apron surrounding the lights. The work to create a new apron was scheduled for 24-28 October. Members were very concerned for the safety of the school children crossing

the busy and fast B4084. It was suggested that a temporary pedestrian crossing should be supplied by WCC until the lights are operational. The Clerk was asked to contact the school to discuss the matter.

Bus Services – The Chair advised that Cllr Pell had attended a zoom meeting regarding the Bus Services, and she has reported that WCC have agreed to fund the Community bus service until March 2023. The longer-term strategy being discussed was to use Community Bus Services to bus in from rural areas to the main hubs of Pershore & Worcester. It is suggested that the Community Bus Services should be promoted more widely to increase usage.

6.) FINANCE

The monthly bank reconciliation for September had been completed by Cllr Tanfield. The Chair advised that Cllr Murphy and Cllr Bessant had received information to enable them to complete future bank reconciliations.

Village Hall monitoring: The Chair advised that Cllr Tanfield has been tracking all the Village Hall building monies. The builder had the snagging list and there were a few outstanding invoices before the final spend can be reported and the project concluded.

Streetlighting – The Chair advised that Col 30 had been reported as unlit and Col 4 had been damaged by a resident. Col 4 could be repaired, and the resident’s insurance would pay for this. Col 30 could be upgraded under the PC programme of upgrades at a cost of circa £1100, however with the increased electricity costs (£5487.17PA fixed for 4 years) and having spent £3137.20 year to date on upgrades there was already a streetlighting overspend on the budget of £2124.37. The actual budget for the year is £6500 and to date spend £8624.37. Members decided that a bulb change should be implemented this time. Future practice should be for an amount to be put in the budget for upgrades each year, when the budgeted amount is used for the upgrade programme the PC would then revert to the bulb changes for the remainder of the financial year.

It was proposed by Cllr Butterworth and seconded by Cllr Turner to authorise the following payments:

a) Mrs. N Nicholson – Clerk Salary – August (S/O)	£501.55
b) Mr B Arrowsmith – Lengthsman Services – August	£240.00
c) Society of Merchant Venturers – Pirton Playing field annual rent	£166.80
d) Smart Cut Ltd – Grass cutting & Safety surfaces August	£263.30
e) SSE – Streetlighting Electricity	£478.03

Remittance:

WCC lengthsman reimburse – June £240.00

7.) VILLAGE HALL – Update

The Chair advised that the Village Hall is getting busier, and that the CCTV is operational. The builder is working through the snagging list. Events are being organised and there is a steady stream of bookings. The toilet seats and mirrors have been replaced. There is some damp to be addressed. There have been some welcome new people join the Village Hall Management Group and the Events Group

8.) GROUND MAINTAINANCE PLAYPARK

The Chair suggested that the maintenance be reviewed in October’s meeting. The Members could take a walk around the area and see what if anything further was required to keep the area neat and tidy and litter

free. There had been a request for an additional bin near the Play Park entrance sign with an initial cost of £719 installation and first year emptying fee. This would be reviewed during the walk about next month too.

9.) AREA OUTSIDE THE SHOPS – Progress update

The Chair advised that two prices had been received to upgrade the steps and wall. The limited time parking restriction was not going ahead. The lowered curbs had been installed; however inconsiderate parking was making them un-useable, so a parking H had been requested by the County Councillor. County Councillor Robinson advised that a replacement of all the curbs surrounding the village green was planned.

10.) SWDPR – Update

The Chair advised that the public consultation would run from 1st November for 6 weeks. The information being consulted on is being released on 23rd September, no doubt it will be a very detailed document. The Parishes Committee has made a submission to the Villager directing residents to Stoulton PC website where all the information that residents require will be held. It is intended that Members of the Parish Council will leaflet drop information to all our residents regarding the proposed 5k or 10K house garden town. There is still a lot of ambiguity and the concern regarding the infrastructure. The Plan is, in addition to the leaflets, to run roadshow style information meetings for residents. There will be a meeting of the Parish Council Subgroup to agree what action the Parish Council should be taking with a report back to the next Parish Council monthly meeting.

11.) DBFC – UPDATE INCLUDING MEMORADUM OF UNDERSTANDING, STORE & GARAGES

The Chair advised that a very positive meeting had been held last night between Members of the Parish Council, Members of DBRFC and Members of the Village Hall Management Group. The football club have confirmed that they are happy with the memorandum of understanding. This includes sole use by DBRFC at no cost for two evenings training and Saturday morning matches. The club has confirmed it now has 9 teams and a mini kickers team for the really young players. The football club are having to use other pitches due to their expansion. They are endeavouring to keep the youngest players just starting up at the Drakes Broughton pitches with some of the older more established teams playing at Pinvin. The main objective of DBRFC is to keep access to the club as accessible & affordable as possible.

12.) OPEN SPACE

The Chair advised that an attempted break in of the flooding shed had raised the query do we need the flooding shed? and do we need it at that location? The Chair will discuss this with Cllr Small in the first instance.

The Chair advised that the funding to remove the garages maybe unavailable. The two garages used by DBRFC are located on PC land.

The Chair noted that the FC container store still had not been moved on to the Playing Field and that the dry weather window of opportunity for this year was closing.

13.) WALCOT LANE – HGV RESTRICTIONS

The Chair advised that a resident of Walcot Lane had raised their concerns about the number of HGV's using the narrow lane.

The Members discussed what further restrictions could be put in place. County Councillor Robinson was asked to see if an HGV restriction could be implemented. This could still allow for farm access but no through road to other HGV's. The current restriction was 7.5 tonne limit.

14.) REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS – Reports from County & District Councillors had been circulated prior to the meeting.

County Councillor Robinson advised that the Highways Liaison Officer can attend with a metal detector to locate the missing storm drain in Pirton.

County Councillor Robinson advised that 211 children from the Ukraine had been given places in the County's schools and were receiving the same priority as UK children and automatically receiving Free School meals and home to school transport.

County Councillor Robinson advised that some residents she had spoken to over the past month were unaware of the Community Bus Service and how it worked she asked the Parish Council to advertise it widely on a monthly basis.

County Councillor Robinson advised of increases to crime potentially fuelled by the cost of living crisis.

District Councillor Ward advised that the application process for the cost of living payment (£150) for low income families in the higher council tax band properties was still in process and once he had the details he would advise the Members.

Members Reports

Cllr Crouchman thanked the Parish Council for the newly fitted bin in Wadborough. However, there was an ongoing issue with dog waste not being collected and put in the bin. Cllr Crouchman asked that the bin and the fact it can be used, should be used, for dog waste be announced in the next Villager report.

Cllr Crouchman reminded Members it was the Heritage weekend this coming weekend where the workings of the Pirton clock tower would be on view with cakes and tea available at Pirton Church.

Cllr Williams raised her concerns regarding the speeding on B4084. County Councillor Robinson agreed to ask for the speed monitoring strips to be laid down. There was a discussion regarding using the VAS on the B4084 and/or including the location in the Community Speed watch programme. Cllr Bessant advised that two locations had been safety audited but she would see if a location can be added on the B4084. Cllr Bessant asked that an advert for more Community Speed Watch volunteers be put on Facebook, she has 6 volunteers the minimum required to run a Community Speed Watch programme but some extras would give more flexibility.

15.) PERIODIC HIGHWAYS REVIEW – Including tasks for lengthsman

The Chair thanked Cllr Roberts and Cllr Small for reviewing the Highways and reporting local issues.

The Chair asked the County Councillor to find out when the work to Walcot Ford pedestrian bridge was scheduled. It had been over a year since it was reported and put on the schedule of works by WCC.

16.) VILLAGER SUBMISSION

The Chair advised this had been submitted. Cllr Bessant asked that for next month an advert for more Community Speed Watch volunteers is included.

17.) PLANNING

- a) Comments made on planning applications to Wychavon: W/22/013556/HP The Old Smithy, Mill Lane, Wadborough. Installation of solar panels to garage roof. No Objection. Cllr Crouchman noted that there had been an objection on environmental grounds to this application.
- b) Applications Approved: W/22/01242/HP Oakfield Station Road, Wadborough. Front extension. New pitched roof to side over flat roof garage.
W//22/01446/GPDQ Rookery Nook, Worcester Road, Drakes Broughton. Prior approval for the proposed change of use of an agricultural building to a dwelling house and for build operations reasonably necessary for the conversion as approved under reference 20/02262/GPDQ – variation of condition 1.
- c) Applications Refused: N/A
- d) Applications Awaiting comment: N/A
- e) Appeals: APP/H1840/W/22/3295278. Thorndon Grove, Windmill Lane, Stoulton. Conversion of existing barns including link extension, to replace approved residential conversion. Resubmission of planning permission 20/01714/FUL to include two storey rear extension. APPEAL DISMISSED
APP/H1840/W/22/3297867. Land to the south of Walcot Lane, Drakes Broughton. Erection of 12no dwellings and new access.

18.)CORRESPONDENCE

- Resident re Tree adjacent to 21 Hawthorn Close
- Resident re football goal usage – passed to DBRFC
- Resident re unmaintained council land at Croome Close
- Resident reported col 30 unlit
- Resident re streetlight damage Lewis Close
- Resident regarding Bovis footpath closure
- Resident request for a memorial bench at the Play Park – The Members agreed in principle however some further discussions would be needed regarding location and securing of the bench. The Chair thought creating a policy regarding memorial requests should be drawn up.

19.)INFORMATION AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council will be meeting on **Thursday 6th October** 2022 at 7.30pm at Drakes Broughton Village Hall

Meeting closed 21.20.