

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF DRAKES BROUGHTON AND WADBOROUGH WITH PIRTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 2nd FEBRUARY 2023 AT 7.30 PM AT DRAKES BROUGHTON VILLAGE HALL.

PRESENT: Cllr J Butterworth (Chair), Cllr R Turner, Cllr A Crouchman, Cllr Pell, Cllr Bessant, Cllr Williams, Cllr R Small, Cllr R Booker, Cllr Roberts, Cllr Thomas & Cllr J Murphy

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor Linda Robinson, and Mrs N Nicholson (Clerk)

PUBLIC: None

1) APOLOGIES: District Councillor Mark Ward, Cllr Yeo and Cllr D Skeys

2) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3) MEMBER VACANCY PIRTON

The Chair advised that the vacancy is advertised, one person had approached with an expression of interest but has not, as yet, progressed to applying.

4) MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting held on 5th January 2023 were proposed by Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Williams, agreed by all and signed by the Chair as a true record.

5) MATTERS ARISING

Trees on Playing field – Members advised that there had been no further action. It was decided to revisit during the phase 2 Open Space development.

Flooding on the playing field –The Chair advised that she had consulted with Mr Wild who thought the field was still quite wet. There had been no standing water or flooding since 2019, however there was now planning permission for more building on Brickyard Lane which is causing members further concerns regarding the drainage. The fact that Elan Homes had not fulfilled their agreement with the PC to further survey the pipe and drain under their site was discussed and it was thought that funds may be needed towards the drainage in the future. It was felt that the PC had been very let down by Wychavon DC.

Pirton – Covered land drain, Worcester Road – The Chair reported that following the reinstallation of the drain an out flow pipe had collapsed causing further flooding. WCC was informed and will repair.

6.) FINANCE

The monthly bank reconciliation for January was completed by Cllr Murphy.

Precept budget 2023-2024 – The Chair advised that the precept of £25066 had been requested, this would be a zero % increase to tax payers.

The Chair advised that she had held a finance briefing for new and interested members yesterday.

The Chair advised that Cllr Tanfield had been a cheque signatory and that she needed to be removed and replaced, it was suggested that Cllr Skeys was made a signatory as he lived in close proximity to the clerk which aided any intra meeting payments.

The Chair advised that correspondence from WDC regarding the remaining 106 monies available to the parish had been received, showing a slightly lower figure than anticipated and she was querying this with officers at WDC and would confirm to members once she received clarification.

It was noted that during the month SSE monthly street light electricity payment had been made of: £506.67 & Mr B Arrowsmith had been paid £65.32 for securing the flooding shed.

There was a discussion around adding payments at the meeting that weren't on the original agenda. It was thought that as these were included in the overall budget for the year and would be reported in the minutes for the public record that this was the best and only way to ensure timely payments of invoices. The clerk would get further advice on this.

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

a) Mrs. N Nicholson – Clerk Salary –January S/O	£559.64
b) Mr B Arrowsmith – Lengthsman Services – January	£240.00
c) E.on Energy Solutions Ltd – Col 28 upgrade (CIL)	£1500.00
d) E.on Energy Solutions Ltd – Col 14 bulb change	£134.40
e) E.on Energy Solutions Ltd – Col 4 repair & upgrade (3 rd party insurance)	£1500.00
f) SSE – Streetlighting electricity	£TBC
g) Mrs. N Nicholson - quarterly Clerk line rental contribution	£60.00
h) Mrs. N Nicholson – clerk quarterly OPE	£33.91
i) M Harley tree care – Pirton recreation field tree maintenance	£360.00

Remittance:

Admiral insurance for Col 4 damage £1250.00
WCC reimburse lengthsman November £240.00
National Grid – wayleave payment £72.44

7.) PLAYPARK and PLAYING FIELD – CCTV, Open Space Consultation 2 & Football Garages.

The Chair advised that a CCTV contractor had done a site visit regarding increasing the current CCTV coverage with a view to extend further over the Open Space. The picture quality was not the best and she now awaited their quote. Cllr Bessant advised that during the recent police surgery/drop-in session, they had been skeptical about CCTV and had suggested investigating ways to engage the youths. It was noted that CCTV can only be used as evidence of criminal damage and not ASB.

The Chair advised that the final consultation regarding the second phase of the Open Space Development would take place Friday 17th February 2-7pm at the Village Hall. Cllr Thomas volunteered to leaflet drop to all the houses backing onto the Playing Fields, posters would be advertised on Facebook, The notice board and at the shop.

The Chair advised that the football garages still required removal and quotes were in the process of being obtained. Members were reminded that these were owned by the Village Hall but sited on PC land and that the PC may need to consider granting some money to get these removed as they may have low grade asbestos in them; the one that has been damaged might be a H&S risk. It was noted that the garage had been completely sealed.

The Chair confirmed she had made contact with One Ltd and that the Open Space masterplan was nearly completed.

8.) PIRTON PLAYING FIELD

The Chair advised that during the month the required tree maintenance had taken place.

9.) WALCOT LANE FORD

The Chair advised that during the month there had been more vehicles stuck in the ford. During correspondence with WCC it had been clarified that the current policy was only to close the ford whilst there was a vehicle actually stuck in it. It was noted that comments on Facebook indicated that when the ford was in high flood the footbridge was in line with the water and visually could mislead drivers to it only being shallow assuming the footbridge was at road level.

It was thought that engaging with the assistant Police & Crime Commissioner was the next step to find out the cost of rescues, up to 3 fire engines and rescue teams being deployed to each incident. The overall cost saving of having a barrier could be considerable.

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

It was noted that WDC had agreed 0% Council Tax increase.

It was also noted that WCC had increased the lengthsman allowance by 5%

Members Reports

Cllr Murphy gave a few updates from Wadborough on behalf of Cllr Yeo:

There had been a shed break in and a suspected incident of hare coursing that police attended.

It was noted there was a young man sleeping rough between Wadborough & Pershore.

Cllr Thomas advised that the fence causing visibility issues at the Bovis development had been removed.

Cllr Thomas advised there had been a near miss at the crossing with a driver failing to stop when the lights were on red!

Cllr Bessant advised that the police drop-in session had been well attended.

Cllr Bessant advised that the mobile speed van had been located on Stonebow Road and B4084 during the month.

Cllr Booker advised that the WCC culvert near Boughton Lodge was once again collapsing into the ditch.

Cllr Turner advised that he had attended the Parish Games AGM and had spoken to the Chair, currently Drakes Broughton had no one to organise the entrants. Sue Collins had suggested putting an advert in the Villager to see if there was any local interest.

Cllr Turner advised that a number of pavements in the village were becoming difficult to use due to residents not cutting back their hedges. The Clerk would initially remind residents via a notice in the Villager, if that had no impact then these hedges would be reported to WCC.

Cllr Turner advised that the footpath finger pointer at Pirton Farm had been reported to the Countryside Centre.

Cllr Turner advised he had taken delivery of the repair wood for the Play Park Zip line.

Cllr Turner advised that the Stonebow Road school crossing sign was still not operating.

Members advised Cllr Small there had been lots of lovely compliments on the Facebook notice board on his many years serving as the community lollipop man and wished him well in his retirement.

11.) PERIODIC HIGHWAYS REVIEW

Cllr Small advised that the lengthsman was doing a good job. Cllr Small reported increased litter at the playing fields.

12.) LENGTHSMAN CONTRACT

The Chair moved this item to the March meeting.

13.) VILLAGER SUBMISSION

It was noted this was required on Monday and the Clerk & Chair would liaise regarding the content.

14.) PLANNING

SWDPR – Parishes submission

The Chair advised that the joint Parishes Submission had been made and a copy would be circulated to all Members.

- a) Comments made on planning applications to Wychavon: W/22/02503/CU Land at (Os 9405 4842) Walcot Lane, Drakes Broughton. A further submission recommending return to original site and layout. W/22/0278/PIP Land at 9Os 9311 4891) Beech Ave, Drakes Broughton. Objection submitted outside of NP.
- b) Applications Approved: N/A
- c) Applications Refused: N/A
- d) Applications Awaiting comment: N/A
- e) Application Withdrawn: W/22/02074/HP Proposed extension at Woodground Cottage, Chevington Lane, Drakes Broughton.
- f) Planning Committee: W/21/00636/TDC5 Alley Garden, Brickyard Lane. The Chair thanked Cllr Pell for representing the PC at the planning committee. It was noted that the committee had passed the application which was for the detailed proposals as planning in principal had already been granted. Members commented about the size of the property proposed and the narrow lane access for developer machinery and flooding.
- g) Planning correspondence: It was noted that x2 Residents had approached The PC regarding the permission in principal application in Beech Ave the PC has submitted a strong objection, the area is outside the boundary as defined in the Neighborhood Plan.
It was noted that X4 Residents contacted The PC regarding the new siting of the holiday log cabins application on Walcot Lane, taking this correspondence into consideration the PC made a further submission recommending return to original siting or the application should be refused.

15.)CORRESPONDENCE

- West Mercia re Community policing priorities – ASB & Speeding submitted.
- WDC - Election briefing information.
- WCC – Green infrastructure strategy consultation
- Trees call for action project
- WDC Proposal to move the dog waste bin causing visibility issues at DB Village Hall on to lamp post at the Village Hall entrance. Cllr Roberts proposed the bin was located the other side of the entrance gate as this would then reduce nearside visibility issues. The Clerk was asked to notify WDC.

16.)INFORMATION AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council will be meeting on **Thursday 2nd March 2023** at 7.30pm at Drakes Broughton Village Hall

Meeting closed 21.00.