

WYRE PIDDLER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council duly convened and held in the Village Hall, Wyre Piddle on **Thursday 26th November, 2015** commencing at 7.30pm

Present Councillors: - **N Wood** (Chairman)
G Smout, G Johns

In attendance: - County Councillor Liz Tucker
D Taverner – Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer

Apologies recorded: - Cllr D Naraine

1/11/15 **Declarations of Interest**

a) Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests: There were none.

b) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature: There were none

c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature: There were none.

2/11/15 **To Consider Written Requests from Councillors for the Council to Grant a Dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011)**

No such requests had been received

3/11/15 **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 24th September, 2015**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 24th September, 2015 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record of that meeting.

4/11/15 **Matters arising from the minutes.**

Referred from the public questions session of 24th September: _

Questions from members of the Public

1. From Mr G Robinson – why had there been no repairs undertaken to the brickwork of the bridge crossing the entrance to Mill lane?

The Clerk replied that the works required were of an extremely minor nature and would be attended to as soon as possible

2. From Mr G Robinson – could a 20mph speed limit be introduced on roads throughout the Parish?

The Clerk replied that this would be a matter for the County Council to consider and enforcement would be well-nigh impossible given the lack of prosecutions brought about under the existing 30 mph speed limits within the Parish.

3. From Mr G Robinson – had action been undertaken to inspect and clear the ditches in Mill Lane? *-The Clerk repeated the reply that he had given to Mr Robinson on several occasions regarding this matter. The ditches had been inspected by Wychavon District Council's Land Drainage inspector who had complimented the Parish Council for the work which had been undertaken in keeping the drainage channels clear. Regular inspections of the drainage ditches were undertaken by the District Council throughout the year and enforcement action against riparian landowners had been carried out as necessary.*

5/11/15 **Report of County Councillor Mrs Liz Tucker**

The Council's Corporate Plan is having are fresh. One area that is being looked at is Directorates of the Council. There is a proposal for some changes to be made. The new directorates will be: -

- Adult Social Services
- Infrastructure/ Highways and Environment

- Children's, Families and Communities
- One the consequences of these changes will mean that Libraries, Museums, Countryside services will all be transferred to Children's, Families and Communities. There will be a new head of service appointed to the role and this will be done in the New Year.

These changes are to be implemented from Jan 2016.

The use of new technologies in Care The council is investing £2 million pounds into the use of new technology to help residents remain in their homes whilst been supported. The University of Worcester has done a lot of work in the area and has built a special house on their main canvass which shows all the different type of technology

Worcestershire Regulatory Services Worcestershire Regulatory service was set up in 2010 and included all the districts as well as the county Council's trading standards. Over the years the service has developed and saving have been made by both the County Council and the District Councils. Following a large reduction in County Funding for the next financial year a decision has been made for the County Services for Trading Standards and Animal Health to be taken back in house. This will be completed by the beginning of the new financial year. By leaving the shared service the County Council will be able to maximize the budget by absorbing employee costs and employ more officers to carry out the work.

County Council to partner Environment Agency in Flood Risk Management campaign

Worcestershire County Council's Flood Risk Management Team is working in partnership with the Environment Agency to help people at risk of flooding protect their homes and businesses.

The Flood Risk Management Team has been working with other organisations to implement local flood alleviation schemes which reduce the likelihood and impact of flooding.

However, there is still a lot of work to be done - there are around 1,700 flood spots in Worcestershire and up to 20,000 properties potentially at risk of flooding.

From 2 November 2015, the Environment Agency will be running Floodaware, a nationwide flood action campaign. People can get involved with the campaign by following @EnvAgencyMids on Twitter, or by sharing #floodaware Facebook posts from Flood Group UK and the Environment Agency on Facebook. Alternatively, visit

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency>

Northern Link

Cllr Tucker was due to attend a further meeting on the Northern Link proposals specifically aimed at alleviating current problems around Station Road in Pershore and the proposals that were due to considered for the Pinvin crossroad junction

6/11/15 Planning Applications

15 02241 -**The Retreat, Main Road** -Front extension to upper ground floor (road level), and balcony overlooking river to rear of riverside dwelling.

Members resolved to object to this application.

The site has a chequered planning history with the first two applications seeking to build a dwelling on the site being refused. On the third attempt permission was granted although notably, permitted development rights were removed.

Within this application the Parish Council has concerns for the potential for space between the balcony and what is described as the flood defence wall, to become enclosed and absorbed into further living space at some point.

This building has already had a detrimental impact on the conservation area since it was first built and the proposed extension only serves to compound this issue. The street scene has already been compromised by the extension previously granted and this further application will have the same impact at the rear of the property.

The excessively large balcony proposed is out of all proportion to the existing dwelling and the proposed dwelling would have a negative impact upon neighbouring amenity, potentially leading to loss of light as it would contravene the 45degree angle rule.

The Retreat building presents an example of how the good design principles, championed by the District Council, can be compromised. The street scene perspective is more similar to a squash court than to a dwelling house

7/11/15 Community Events update

No major changes to the events diary were envisaged. The events group are considering a street party during 2016 to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday

The Anchor Inn has re-opened following extensive refurbishment.

The Remembrance Sunday Service was well attended and the sale of refreshments in the Village Hall following the service raised £90 for the Help for Heroes Charity.

Preparations were in hand for the children's Christmas party on 19th December

There would be the usual Christmas Carols event on the Village Green on Christmas Eve

Wyre piddle had performed extremely well in the Wychavon games events and Carrie Oakley was attending the games presentation evening on behalf of the Parish

8/11/15 Tree works – Poplar Avenue estate

Willows on Poplar Ave, two more contractors have been invited to tender for work – quotes are pending but any work necessary will be commissioned and completed before March 2016.

9/9/15 Finance

a) To approve payment of Accounts

The following accounts were approved for payment: -

cheque	Payee	For	£
901139	D M Taverner	Salary & Admin Expenses - Oct and Nov	638.64
901140	Wyre Builders Ltd	Defibrillator installation	90.00

b) Bank account balances at 26th November,2015

The Clerk circulated details of the Council bank balances as at 26th November which were represented by; -

	£
Bank Current account	5,498.70
Bank Deposit account	29,827.29
National Savings account	13,738.74

Total Cash held at 27th November, 2015

49,064.73

9/11/15 Report from lengthsman and related repair and maintenance projects

Peter Hurst was again thanked for the excellent standard of work that he had undertaken to the maintenance of the grass verges and other repair projects throughout the village and a further claim for the reimbursement of the work undertaken recently was due to be submitted to the County Council.

12/11/15 Poplar Avenue Play Area update

Further details of indicative replacement / updated play equipment for the Poplar Avenue play area had been presented at consultation events in the Parish. The Council was now considering the various schemes and cost quotations received with the objective of having the refurbished play area open by the spring of 2016.

13/11/15 Date of next meeting was confirmed at Thursday 28th January, 2016

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10pm.

Chairman

26th November, 2015