

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**MEETING OF KINGTON & DORMSTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Held in Kington & Dormston Village Hall**  
**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 7:30pm**

**Present:**

Cllr M. Tilt (Chair)	Cllr I. Bull
Cllr R. Drake	Cllr V. Longmore
Cllr P. Collins	Cllr T. Richards
Cllr S. Richins	Cllr E. Faizey

**In Attendance:** Clerk and three members of the public were in attendance

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** – Notes are covered in an aide memoir at the end of the minutes

1. **APOLOGIES-** District & County Cllr L. Robinson

2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST-** None

3. **GRANTS FOR DISPENSATION-** None

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022 were approved as true and correct.

5. **PROGRESS REPORTS:**

**a) County & District Councillors Report- Linda Robinson**

New data which is released weekly shows that Wychavon Covid 19 numbers have dipped again. We currently have 40 cases down from 102 last week.

Last week there were 43 admissions to Worcestershire Acute Hospitals with Covid . Data from the last six weeks shows that Worcestershire had 30 deaths related to Covid 19.

Vaccination take up has been steady for both flu and Covid boosters.

Less good news for our wild birdlife populations in Worcestershire with cases of avian flu being confirmed nationally. Strict biosecurity measures have been introduced. It follows the deaths of wildfowl including swans at the lakes around County Hall and Nunnery Wood. All bird keepers are advised to keep their stock inside. This could have a knock-on effect for the supply of turkeys for Christmas. Two thousand were culled in Lancashire today.

People are being urged not to touch any sick or dead wild birds and to report sightings to officials. The risk to the public from avian flu remains very low , however it is possible for humans to catch the virus , so it is vital not to touch any sick or dead birds or have contact with their droppings ,eggs or bedding which may also be contaminated.

In readiness for any downturn in the weather, Worcestershire’s gritters are now on standby for the winter season. they have around 16,750 tonnes of salt stored in depots across the County, 36 gritting lorries and over 50 drivers. Let’s hope they will not need it all and we avoid too many cold spells especially with the current energy crisis.

**Residents urged to put their bin out on time**

The time waste and recycling bins are collected across Wychavon may change slightly. Changes are being made to all waste and recycling collection rounds across Wychavon to further improve efficiency and ensure the current high standard of service is maintained. Only Chawson residents in Droitwich Spa will see a change to their collection day and residents have already been contacted about this. Across the rest of the district, collection days will remain the same but the time bin crews arrive may change from what people are used to. To make sure nobody misses their bin collection, residents are being urged from Monday (7 November) to make sure their bin is out by 7am on the day of their scheduled collection. Crews will collect anytime between 7am and 6pm.

**New Census data releases**

New data has been released from the 2021 Census giving us a greater insight into how our district is changing. The data shows we have an estimated 57,346 households, more than anywhere else in the county. Over 8,000 are single person households occupied by someone 66 and over, an increase from 6,764 from the 2011 Census.

The median age of our residents is 47. We have more people over 50 in Wychavon than the average for England and Wales and are significantly behind the England and Wales average in the age group from 20 to 40..Around 32,900 of our residents are 65 and over with 16,149 aged 18 to 30. Interestingly 51 of our residents are 100 or more. The Census ranks household according to if they are considered deprived based on the four deprivation dimensions – education, employment, health and housing.

27,730 of our households are considered deprived in at least one dimension.

Marriage remains the main form of living arrangement in the district with 56,975 people in an opposite sex marriage and 271 in same sex marriages – more than anywhere else in Worcestershire. 10,720 people moved into Wychavon from another address within the UK the year before the Census took place with only 548 moving from an address outside the UK – Covid-19 restrictions on travel in place at the time may have affected these figures. In terms of migration, the vast majority of our residents were born in the UK. Our single biggest group of non-UK residents are from Poland at 2,625, followed by Romania on 1,229. There are 1,556 people living here from various other EU countries that joined the union between 2001 and 2011.

### **Have your say on sites for Travellers and Travelling Show People in South Worcestershire**

The South Worcestershire Councils are inviting comments on the provision of sites for Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. Worcester City, Malvern Hills District and Wychavon District Councils have prepared a Development Plan Document which includes information on the accommodation needs of Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across South Worcestershire. The document includes policies which seek to ensure that future Traveller sites are appropriately located and designed.

The document proposes additional Traveller pitches on two existing Traveller sites at Newlands, Malvern and Charlton, Pershore and two existing sites at Aldington and Evesham are also allocated in case the latest planning permissions lapse.

To help meet the medium to longer term needs of Travellers or Travelling Showpeople, new sites are also proposed on the new and expanded settlements at Worcestershire Parkway, Throckmorton and Rushwick, together with a site on each of the urban extensions at Worcester South and Worcester West.

The six-week public consultation runs from 1 November until Tuesday 13 December 2022 at 11.59pm. The public and other interested parties are being asked to comment on whether they believe the Development Plan Document is sound and legally compliant.

The Development Plan Document has been informed by earlier public consultations held in 2016, 2018 and 2021. This is the last public consultation on the document before it is submitted to the Government's Planning Inspectorate for independent Examination in 2023.

### **Cllr David Harrison, Chairman of the South Worcestershire Development Plan Joint Advisory Panel,**

**said:** "Providing sufficient appropriately located and designed sites for Travellers and Travelling Showpeople is vitally important, so I would urge people to make their voices heard on this essential issue."

While all comments submitted during the consultation will be forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate for consideration during the next stage of the document, the Government's Planning Inspector is only likely to consider comments that relate to the soundness and legal compliance of the document.

People can comment by visiting <https://www.swdevelopmentplan.org/consultations/south-worcestershire-traveller-and-travelling-showpeople-policy> from Tuesday 1 November and downloading and filling in the comment form, by email or by post. Paper copies will also be available from Customer Contact Centres, local libraries and some parish and town council offices.

### **Consultation starts on SWDP Review Publication**

A six-week public consultation has started on a key planning document that will shape the future development of South Worcestershire.

The revised South Worcestershire Development plan allocates land for 13,240 additional new homes and 290.7 hectares of employment land to be delivered by 2041. This will help meet the Government requirement to allocate land to build 26,360 new homes and 350.5 hectares of employment land across South Worcestershire from 2021 to 2041. Not all sites in the Plan are new, with some being carried over from the last version of the SWDP and sites that already have planning permission being taken into account.

The majority of the new housing will be met through strategic growth sites at Worcestershire Parkway, Throckmorton, Rushwick and Mitton.

The public are being asked to comment on whether they consider the review of the South Worcestershire Development Plan is sound and legally compliant. To be considered sound the Plan must have been positively prepared, based on robust, credible evidence, show a clear deliverable vision and be consistent with national planning policies.

On top of this the three South Worcestershire Councils – Worcester City, Malvern Hills District and Wychavon District Councils – must also show they have complied with planning legislation including the legal duty to help neighbouring councils meet their strategic housing needs. Comments can be made from Tuesday 1 November until 11.59pm on Tuesday 13 December 2022. Only comments made during the consultation can be considered.

People can comment by filling in the online comment form available on the SWDP website at [www.swdevelopmentplan.org/review](http://www.swdevelopmentplan.org/review). Paper copies are also available from Customer Contact Centres, local libraries and some parish and town council offices. After the consultation all comments will be passed on to the Planning Inspectorate. The Plan will then go for Examination where it will be scrutinised in detail to make sure it is sound and legal. A series of public hearings may also be held where people will have the chance to make representations and ask questions providing that they have responded to this consultation.

It is expected the plan will be formally adopted by the South Worcestershire Councils in late 2023.

**Cllr David Harrison, Chairman of the South Worcestershire Development Plan Joint Advisory Panel, said:** “At this stage we are seeking views on whether people feel the Plan meets the test of soundness and is legally compliant. We cannot make changes to the Plan at this time; however, all comments will be passed to the Planning Inspectorate for consideration. There is a lot of information available through the SWDP website and in local libraries to help people understand what is being proposed and how to comment. I urge people to get involved with the consultation and to make their views known.”

## **6. HIGHWAYS**

No issues raised

## **7. LENGTHSMAN**

Cllr Tilt requested the leaves around the bus shelter be removed as the surface is becoming very slippery- Clerk to action

## **8. PLANNING**

### **a. Applications considered at the meeting: None**

**b. Applications approved since previous meeting:**

Application Number 20/01639/OUT  
 Location Address Little Ashdene Farm Kington Lane Kington Worcester WR7 4DH  
 Proposal Permission for the demolition of all existing buildings within the application site and the construction of up to four self-build dwellings

**9. FINANCE –**

a) The following payments were approved by all Cllrs:

Luke Farnsworth	Lengthsman Aug/Sept	£305.00	Cheque 000533
Lisa Cope	Salary	£468.88	Cheque 000534
HMRC	Lisa Cope Tax	£117.20	Cheque 000535
Lisa Cope	Expenses	£72.33	Cheque 000536
Lisa Cope	Clerk pay award (backpay of extra £1ph from 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022)	£181.00	Cheque 000537

b) The bank balance as of 26/10/22 is £8,250.87

c) The first draft proposal for the budget 2023/24 was presented to all Cllrs by the Clerk to start considering before the January meeting. One notable increase are the Village Hall electricity charges which have risen from £57 a month to £164 a month. Cllr Tilt suggested that the Village Hall committee are contacted as although the Parish Council have historically paid this charge it could now possibly be re-allocated.

**10. PROPOSED JBM SOLAR FARM**

There were no further developments to discuss at present

**11. FLAG POLE**

Cllrs were presented with a quote for £330.54 from Flags and Flagpoles, the company used by Flyford and Cllr Robinson had agreed to cover the cost of the pole from divisional funds (£237.50). However Cllr Collins stated that the same pole could be purchased cheaper elsewhere.

The Village Hall Committee had also been contacted for their permission of the flagpole and location but a response had not been confirmed as yet.

Cllr Drake also raised the issue of who would install and maintain the pole and raise the flag on set days.

It was agreed to defer the flagpole until the January meeting.

**12. TREES**

Following Cllrs Drake and Collins meeting with local company Limebridge to discuss suitable trees to the chosen locations, all Cllrs agreed to the following trees to be planted in the new year:

Four trees in Kington Lane: 2x Hornbeam and 2x Field Maple

Six trees in Dormston: 2x Small leaved lime, 2x Field Maple and 2x Wild service tree

Cllr Collins confirmed that both landowners in Kington and Dormston were aware and happy to proceed with the planned planting.

Clerk to place the tree order with Limebridge

**13. SMARTWATER**

Cllrs had not re-visited Smartwater since 2017 and wondered if it was worth re-evaluating the initiative for the village, it helps to prevent crime but incurs a cost of approx. £8.90+vat per household. All Cllrs agreed that it required the input of parishioners to be aware of the initiative, use the equipment and register the codes to be successful.

It was agreed to try and gauge from parishioners if this was of interest and so information would be shared on the noticeboard, WhatsApp group, What's On magazine and a meeting would be organised at 7pm on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at the Village Hall with a Smartwater representative present to talk through and answer any questions. Clerk to action.

**14. PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE**

Information and costs for a new website were circulated to all Cllrs before the meeting however it was decided that this was not required at this time and the focus would be to promote the village WhatsApp group-Clerk to make a poster for the noticeboard.

**15. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**16. COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

Cllr Faizey had noted a parishioner had enquired as to whether another dog reduce bin would be possible within the village-Clerk to research costs and present to the Parish Council at the next meeting to consider. Smartwater, Flagpole and the budget were all also on the January agenda.

**17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – The next meeting was agreed for Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023 starting at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

Signed Chairman.....

Date.....

**AIDE MEMOIRE**

One parishioner attended on behalf of neighbourhood watch and to find about item 14. Smartwater

One parishioner was interested in whether a 20mph speed limit could be imposed on the village