

Wyre Piddle Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the Council held on
28th March 2019
in the Village Hall, Wyre Piddle

Meeting commenced: 7.30 pm - Meeting ended:
9.30pm

Present: Cllr. Paul, Cllr. McFarland, Cllr. Searle, Cllr. Townsend,
Cllr. Essex.

In Attendance: 5 members of the public.

1/3/19 Apologies for absence – Cllr. Wilks.

Absent – Cllr. Smout.

2/3/19 Declarations of Interest for

a) the Meeting (Personal and Prejudicial) None.

b) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. None

c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. None

3/3/19 To Consider Written Requests from Councillors for the Council to Grant a Dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) None.

4/3/19 Approval of Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 29th November 2018

The minutes had been previously circulated prior to the meeting. An amendment was noted that Minute reference 9/11/18 should read 9/1/19 Cllr. McFarland Proposed that with amendment they be approved as a correct record of the meeting; Seconded by Cllr. Townsend All in favour. They were duly signed by Cllr. Paul (Chair).

5/3/19 Update reports Parish Councillors.

Cllr. Wilks.

WCC Lengthsman Scheme: report for March 2019

The reported blocked gulleys and drains have all now been cleared. The lengthsman has continued with his programme of mowing the roundabout and grass verges. He has cleared the weeds along the road side over the bridge towards Evesham Road. He will continue to deal with roadside weeds on Church St. The overhanging branches and brambles growing through the fence on Haines Avenue have been trimmed back. The new budget will begin in April and councillors will meet with him to discuss an outline of work for the following 12 months.

Cllr. Townsend.

Cllr. Townsend reported "Wyre Piddle currently has 1 defibrillator which is situated on the wall of the Village Hall on the entrance road to the village.

We have an opportunity to obtain further units at a discounted price of £1500 including VAT.

The purchase would also include training on CPR and use of the Defibrillator. We need to discuss and agree whether we want to pursue the opportunity for 1 or more units and if there is sufficient budget available to purchase or if we will need to raise the funds and any ideas to do this. I have approached the Old Spot management company about the possibility of an external unit being hung on the wall of the Anchor Inn

which would provide cover to the upper end of the village and am waiting for a response.

Timescales for supplying unit and training will be available once we complete the application although we have been informed that delivery would be 7 days from receipt of order.

Councillors asked if further quotes had been sought. Clerk to provide information to Cllr. Townsend on costs of defibrillator obtained for comparison. An email decision would then be taken to agree whether this is progressed.

Cllr. McFarland.

New Homes Bonus Consultation

The Parish Council consulted the community regarding the £8440 New Homes Bonus money by delivering 300 letters to all homes and putting it on the local Community Facebook page. Villagers were invited to select from 3 options (A) Improvements to access at Smith's Meadow, (B) Protection of The Cross, or (C) Enhancements to Gateways to the Village, or to make their own suggestions.

The results of the consultation are:

(A) Smith's Meadow 17; (B) The Cross 47; (C) Gateways 26.

We Don't Buy Crime – Smartwater Kit

The Parish Council had a very successful day on Saturday 23rd March, with many residents collecting their Smartwater kit. The Parish Council still has a significant number of kits available so if anyone wants a kit, they are available from Cllr.

McFarland at Weatheroak, Church Street to pick one up. The new Smartwater kit is unique to each household and has a simple way of coding valuables. Anything that is marked can be returned to you if recovered. Almost anything can be marked including cars, boats, jewellery, paintings, personal items, electrical goods, gardening and power tools. As we still have a lot of Smartwater kits leftover the Parish Council will need to hold another event in the evening and if after that the kits are not finished then the police will bring some cadets to go house to house to deliver the rest (ideally the Parish Council would prefer people to collect theirs if they are able to). Thank you to Mick Simpson (Police), Cllr. Searle and Alan McFarland for their help in making the morning run smoothly.

The Preaching Cross.

I have had the final meeting with WCC Paul Green, Barry Barnes who is taking over from Gerry Brienza and the civil contractor Rob Taylor on site at the preaching Cross on Wednesday 23rd March. The final position of the Bell Bollards has been agreed and Rob Taylor is proposing to start work in April after the Easter holiday. He estimates it will take about 3 days after which the WCC will white line any area that needs it. The engineers from WCC have refused our proposed of the planters for safety reasons so we will not be putting the planters. Cllr. Tucker mentioned that if this was the case, having given £1,000 from Cllr. Tucker's WCC Divisional Fund towards stone planters she would require that Cllr. McFarland contacts WCC to report that the planters could not be permitted and suggest a further use of the funding or return the funding. Cllr. McFarland suggested that the funds be used on Smiths Meadow which Cllr. Tucker thought was a good alternative.

Cllr. Searle.

Cllr. Searle has registered Wyre Piddle as a Neighbourhood Watch area.

Flyers have been sent out to all homes regarding NHW and as a result we currently have 5 members registered.

Flyers were also issued at the Smart Water event about the first meeting of the NHW, on 03 April where we have some speakers including PC Paul Brown who will give us more information and ideas on the direction we may wish to take our NHW.

The "Our Watch" website is not particularly user friendly and you have to register not only with the Wyre Piddle NHW but also with the national NHW. This has caused some problems, so for the NHW meeting, we will be getting some step by step guides on joining the NHW.

Cllr. Searle has also requested information on street signage and window stickers. He believes that we can get 3 signs free of charge but would have to pay for posts and erection if required. Cllr. Searle intends to speak to the utility companies and Worcestershire County Council to see if we would be allowed to erect the signs on lamp posts, road directional signs and telegraph poles, if required. This should be carried out in conjunction with the "We Don't Buy Crime" signs.

The parish council will need to decide whether they will be funding the NHW, or whether we will need to fund it in other ways. Cllr. Paul asked Cllr. Searle to ascertain costs to enable the Parish Council to make a decision and report back to the May Annual Parish Council Meeting.

Cllr. Essex.

Cllr. Essex reported that she and Cllr. Townsend attended a meeting at WDC re the Community Grants Scheme. There was no scheme in mind at that time but were looking at replacements of street lights with LED's. WDC were not supportive of this and for the Round 2 grants programme a definite project would have to be thought through before submission with consultation.

Cllr. Essex has explored the costs of replacing bulbs with LED's and was seeking feedback from the Parish Council to see whether the Council would support this idea. Rough costs for the 14 Parish Council lamps would be £2500. LED Lamps are 3 to 4 times more efficient with fittings lasting 20 years as apposed to 2 to 3 years for standard fittings. Action: Clerk to send energy bills to Cllr. Essex for information.

A community Litter Pick as part of the Great British Spring Clean is planned for 10.30am on the 6th April. To date there are 6 volunteers. Equipment has been loaned by WDC and Public Liability Insurance is in place. Concerns have been raised about domestic waste in village litter bins thought to be coming from campers/boat people. Cllr. Essex commented that litter bins seemed over used in summer periods compared to the winter and enquired whether emptying could be carried out twice weekly in the summer and less in winter. Clerk to enquire with WDC or as an alternative the Lengthsman be asked to empty bins on the extra emptying.

Cllr. Essex carried out a survey of village signposts for Cllr. Tucker and sent her through the results. As yet there has been no feedback. Cllr. Essex also raised a couple of issues with Cllr. Tucker raised by local residents at the Upper Moor side of the bridge who felt strongly about appalling conditions of the road surface and speed limits. Cllr. Essex is pursuing this.

Cllr. Paul.

Cllr. Paul received correspondence from Mike Oakley reference the Anchor Inn. The asset of community value listing lapses February 2020 and there are concerns that if this happens the Enterprise might try and develop the site. Cllr. Paul has spoke to WDC to obtain the forms to reapply for this.

The Parish Paths Warden vacancy is available for anyone wishing to do their part for the village, if anybody knows anyone who would fit the role please let Cllr. Paul know and he can forward the relevant information on to them. The applicant would need to be fit and walk the paths. The aim would be to keep the paths open and may require some physical work as well as reporting to WCC Footpaths Officers works and repairs

that may be required. This is advertised on the Parish Council Website, Facebook site and in the Piddle Post.

The shared VAS batteries are running low. In past years Wyre Piddle PC have purchased them and claimed the cost back from the Pinvin and Bishampton parishes. Councillors agreed that this should be pursued again. The Clerk to contact Bishampton and Pinvin Parish Councils to ascertain their approval for this. Cllr. Paul to provide the Clerk with the costings obtained.

Mr. Bryant of Avon Green undertakes litter-picking down Mill Lane litter picking. Cllr. Paul asked that a record of thanks from the Parish Council for his time and commitment in doing this. Councillors were all in agreement.

Cllr. Paul reported that Mrs. Stokes who has been tending the flower tubs around the village for many years has moved out of the village. Cllr. Paul wanted to record thanks from the Parish Council for her giving her time and keeping the village looking pretty. The Council would be interested if anyone knows a volunteer that would be interested in taking this over. If interested please contact Cllr. Paul.

After speaking to Devendra Naraine he is happy to continue to look after (as a volunteer) the VAS as its situated outside his house. Councillors decided that this would be a good solution.

Smiths Meadow hedgerow left hand side as you enter from the top needs cutting back. This could be done either done using volunteers or hire a contractor to complete. Cllr Paul o ascertain the cost and report back to the next meeting. Cllr. Tucker to ascertain whether WDC has a mulcher that is available for hire if this were to be done by volunteers. Cllr. Searle mentions that it would be nice if the outer edge of Smiths Meadow could be left for wildlife. Cllr. Paul reported that it was already.

6/3/19 Adjournment of the meeting for the receipt of public questions. The meeting was adjourned for public question time.

A resident discussed that there may be problems in the future regarding the number of cars being excessive relating to two care homes on George Lane. Cllr. Paul agreed to monitor the situation.

A resident voiced her concerns over traffic from Keytec Island to Island over bridge. It appears that traffic travelling down the hill is not seeing the traffic to the right as there are overhanging trees obstructing the view to traffic. Cllr Paul to speak to the land owner to cut back the overhanging trees and if this is not undertaken to look at getting them cut back. Cllr. Tucker agreed to discuss signage and restrictions with WCC Highways to help the situation.

Gary Robinson voiced his disappointment in lack of progress on anything happening with Eastern Bridge. He also reported that lorries were throwing rubbish out of the cabs. Cllr. Paul noted his concerns.

7/3/19 Planning applications and decision notices

18/02596/FUL Lower Avon Navigation Trust Ltd, Mill Lane, Wyre Piddle. WR10 2JF Change of use of land to expand existing storage area to provide a secure area for temporary storage when the existing yard is at capacity- **Approved.**

19/00603/FUL The Willows, Wyre Road, Pershore, WR10 2JP- Retrospective Earth Bund and Area of Permeable Hardstanding- **Consultation to 8/4/19.** Cllr. Tucker requested the assistance of Mike Oakley in preparing a response to this application for the Parish Council. Metal gates not according to planning application. Plan to have a track down left-hand side and down the back. Mike agreed to offer help.

8/3/19 Finance: -

a) Approval of the payment of accounts for 28th March 2019.

Parish Council Website	Website Hosting 2019/20	120.00
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Office Outlet	Envelopes	11.99
C Hirst	Clerk Salary Feb	259.04
HMRC	Clerk Tax Feb	64.80
Peter Hurst	Lengthsman Jan/Mar 19	81.90
C Hirst	Clerk Salary Mar	259.04
HMRC	Clerk Salary Mar	64.80
C. Hirst	Clerk Expenses to 28th Mar 19	68.70
Peter Hurst	Lengthsman Mar 19	110.10
Smartwater	Home Security Packs	1,676.76
TOTALS		2,717.13

Cllr. Paul proposed the payments be made- Cllr. Searle Seconded – All in favour.

b) Bank Reconciliation as at 28th March 2019

Per Bank Statement Business Account £30,580.39

Per Bank Statement BB Instant Online £25,138.46

TOTAL AT BANK £55,718.85

Reconciled with cash book/bank statements and signed by Cllr. Paul as reconciled.

NOTED.

c) Clerk Incremental Increase and Annual NALC Pay Award 2019/20.

NALC Annual Salary Award takes effect from 1st April 2019. The Clerk is due a spinal column point increase to SCP 22 (new SCP. 12) and the annual increase for cost of living. The pay is due to increase from £10.68 per hour to £11.22 per hour. This will represent an increase in annual salary from £3886.06 to £4084.08. This has been taken into account with the 2019/20 precept and budget. Cllr. McFarland Proposed and Cllr. Essex Seconded that this be approved. All in favour.

9/3/19 County and District Councillor Tucker Report.

- Pinvin crossroads improvements. Planning for this improvement which will ease traffic flow and speed up traffic by providing more lanes was approved in March 2019. More details about plans and timescale will follow.
- Northern Link Road. This has actually been talked about since before the WP bypass. Plans are under consultation which was opened on the 26th March. Cllr Tucker reported that if there are no delays that the Planning Application would be considered on the 9th July 2019. The bridge would be higher than anticipated to account for double tracking and for future electrification. It will be more visible than originally envisaged. It is hoped that the Northern Link would be completed in 2021. Cllr. Tucker voiced her concerns regarding the strategic gap between Pershore and Wyre Piddle not enough to delay plans.
- Keytec7 planning application is in at the moment. Not yet known when this will be determined although down for delegated decision this is likely to be called in. There are two large buildings from where the ash ground is going towards Wyre Piddle. It will be screened and set back but it is in a place where it shouldn't be. Cllr. Tucker is hoping WPPC could get this clarified and would hope for the support of Mike Oakley in preparing for this.

- Eastern Bridge – no further news on how to resolve ongoing issues regarding the Eastern Bridge. The CCTV is still working. They can make checks on CCTV if provided with dates and times. Cllr. Tucker advised if possible, for residents to obtain dates, times and if possible, vehicle registration numbers. Cllr. Essex commented that this was not always possible. Cllr. Tucker reported that a speed camera had recently been purchased and would be based at Pershore Station but would be used by PC Brown when possible in the village including around Eastern Bridge. Some enforcement is happening. Cllr. Tucker reported that it was unlikely that anything further would happen with Eastern Bridge until the Northern Link Road is opened. Cllr. Paul commented that he would raise concerns and issues at the forthcoming PACT meeting in April with regards to this.
- Signage for eastern side of Wyre Piddle. There is currently confusion for delivery vehicles caused by the Wyre Piddle sign which marks the start of the Wyre Piddle Parish because the post office has designated all of Evesham Rd beyond the railway bridge as the postal area 'Upper Moor', with an Upper Moor postcode, despite this actually being part of the Wyre Piddle village. Highways have proposed a suggestion that the Wyre Piddle sign be removed to prevent this confusion in the future. The Parish Council agreed to the removal of the Wyre Piddle sign but asked that an Upper Moor sign be placed over from the village. Kieran has agreed to that Wyre Piddle Parish Council can now progress this.
- Station Rd would entail full road closure until Easter holiday and then it should all be tidied up. The lights are now back to the 1,2,3,4, lights. By early May we should normal road back until the summer.
- Cllr. Tucker was expressing concerns over cut backs to the local bus service and asking for feedback for what may happen in the future which may be better use of community transport.

10/3/19 Correspondence.

11th March – New Farm Grounds Maintenance – Grass Cutting Schedule Dates for 2019. Councillors approved the schedule with the additional cut for the Summer Fete mid-week before the fete.

Cllr. Paul reported correspondence to himself from Gary Robinson relating to widening Mill Lane on the slope and hazard signs pointing out the bends (top and bottom). H.G. V's and cars are increasing in numbers and speed. Gary offered a solution "once the new trees have taken over the Smith's Meadow road side bank, there must be an opportunity to cut back the meadow bank in say one or two years. Perhaps the road could be widened". Gary Robinson further reported a fallen tree by Smiths Meadow which needs removing. **Now removed.** A fallen branch down Mill Lane across the road which Gary moved himself. Gary has had a conversation with Cresswells Bus Company for using the road as a cut through when not picking up passengers. The company have said they will tell the drivers not to do this in future.

11/3/19 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AND AGM OF THE WYRE PIDDL PARISH COUNCIL: Thursday 16th May 2019 commencing at 7pm

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.30pm

Approved as a true record Cllr. J. Paul
Chairman 16th May 2019