

## **Wyre Piddle Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2019 in the Village Hall, Wyre Piddle**

*Meeting commenced: 7.30 pm - Meeting ended: 9.15pm*

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

**In Attendance:** 7 members of the public.

**1/11/19 Apologies for absence – None**  
**Absent –** Cllr. Smout.

**2/11/19 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

**3/11/19 To Consider Written Requests from Councillors for the Council to Grant a Dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011)** None.

**4/11/19 Approval of Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

The minutes had been previously circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr. Wilks Proposed that they be approved as a correct record of the meeting; Seconded by Cllr. McFarland. All in favour. They were duly signed by Cllr. Paul (Chair).

**5/11/19 Update reports Parish Councillors.**

#### **Cllr. Wilks**

##### **Smiths Meadow- Bin report 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

Finally met with Phil Childs this morning. The bin by the bottom gate is already the larger 100l size bin. There are none bigger!

Both the bins in Smith's Meadow were provided by Wychavon Council before 'the cuts' of 2012. They continue to be emptied for free. Since then a charge is being made for extra bins as follows;

An additional bin larger bin - £450 for the 100L bin and £19.89 for fitting, however, there would then be an annual charge of £61.88 per year for emptying and £17.09 for fitting.

A smaller bin - £150 for the 50L bin £17.09 for fitting and £61.88 per year for emptying.

Although I thought he'd checked previously, he said he wasn't sure if we were scheduled for emptying once a week or once a fortnight. If the latter, we can ask for a weekly collection just in the summer. I will let you know when I hear back from him. I explained that part of the problem in the holiday season may be caravan owners leaving their rubbish there. He said that this was fly tipping and suggested the first thing to do would be to send a polite letter to the caravan park management asking them to ask their clients to desist. If that doesn't work, get back in touch with Phil who is an enforcement officer and he will follow it up. There does not seem to be much point doing this at present, but I will write note to self to compose a letter in the Spring when the new season starts.

### **Cllr. McFarland.**

#### **Vehicle Activated Speed Sign**

#### **Parish Rota Jan 2019 – Dec 2020**

We received the rota for the VASS that is shared by Wyre Piddle, Pinvin, Bishampton & Throckmorton. Below are the Wyre Piddle dates for 2020:

January, April, July, October

I have received a reply from Dev Naraine who is happy to continue to collect and fix up the VAS system. I will like to thank Dev for continuing to support the Council.

#### **We Don't Buy Crime**

I have a few A3-size WDBC signs left; if anyone knows or thinks there is an area that needs one please get in touch [misanmcfarland@wyrepiddlepc.org.uk](mailto:misanmcfarland@wyrepiddlepc.org.uk). Also, if you know of newcomers to the Village please let me know so that we can offer them a Smartwater kit.

#### **The Cross**

Barry Barnes from WCC has sent me a different photo of a bollard that he thinks will be more suitable to protect The Cross. He said the bell will sit outside the parameters of The Cross. If the Council is minded to approve this then Barry Barnes will schedule the works. Cllr. Paul Proposed and Cllr. McFarland Seconded that the bollards and finances be approved. All in favour.



#### **Smith's Meadow**

There has been no significant progress regarding improving the access to Smith's Meadow. Barry Barnes from WCC will send me the information regarding boundary ownership. However, we will still need someone to do the drawing with dimensions before Ringway, the County Highways' contractors, will process our application. Cllr. Searle offered to help Cllr. McFarland with the drawings.

#### **Hill & Moor Community Liaison Group**

There are no issues to report that specifically affect Wyre Piddle, the report was mainly about Incinerator Bottom Ash aggregate (IBA), which is the residue ash that is left after the refuse has been incinerated. The metals are then separated and removed off site as during the previous campaign. They have not disclosed how much is generated by the removal of the metals! We were told that approximately 800 tonnes of IBA is delivered into Hill and Moor Landfill Site from EnviRecover every week which has been stockpiled on site since May 2018 (approximately 40,000 tonnes) and it is now being processed until approximately mid-January 2020.

#### **Cllr. Searle Report.**

A nomination form has been submitted to Wychavon Council in order for the Anchor Inn to be classed as an Asset of Community Value.

I attended a course at the village hall on the use of the defibrillator.

I carried out a village walkabout with the Chairman, to inspect and identify work required to pavements, hedges and other issues.

I have attended five meetings regarding the SWDP Review, including one specifically on the Throckmorton site, and have drafted a paper to assist further discussion regarding the parish council's response. Following the special committee meeting on the SWDP review, I have commenced working on the parish council's response to the view.

I am continuing to ensure that the Eastern Bridge is being monitored and have met with Cllr Townsend to discuss with Cllr Tucker the current issues with the traffic lights and the possibility of closing the bridge permanently. However, we were informed by Cllr Tucker that we would lose the bus service if the bridge was closed as the bus company would refuse to come into the village. We were informed that a new loop to allow buses to change the lights would be fitted within 2 weeks from our meeting on the 05 November. I have written an e-mail chasing up the installation of this loop.

I attended a "sub-committee" meeting with other Councillors and it was agreed that a special committee meeting was required specifically to discuss the SWDP Review, which was held on 14 November and which I attended.

Metal neighbourhood watch signs have been erected with help from an NHW coordinator in place of the plastic ones, which were already showing signs of damage due to wind. I am still actively trying to enrol new members and visited the property that was burgled.

I am continuing to review and to comment on relevant planning applications within the village, please see my planning report.

### **Cllr. Essex reported the following:**

**New Npower Contract.** We have now received the cheque for refund of overcharged electricity totalling £283.04.

**Street Lighting LED conversion.** Npower will not give a quote for likely charges if we change street lighting to LED.

I got in touch with Lower Moor PC as advised by Cllr. Liz Tucker but they were well behind us in their research, so I was more use to them than they were to us.

The change to LED lighting needs to be carefully considered against the funds available. I can only provide the estimates shown in figures quoted at earlier meetings as npower can't give any guarantees. It will take several years to recover the initial outlay but as a PC I believe we should be thinking long term and there will be an eventual saving.

The question to answer is can we afford to do it and for this I need a better understanding of our financial position.

Cllr. McFarland asked that this be referred to the Interim Informal Meeting and to report back to the next Parish Council. Cllr. Essex to liaise with the Clerk regarding any financial information required.

### **Litter**

I have only had two volunteers for the adopt a street scheme. We have Chapel Lane and my side of the bridge covered! I will probably organise another community litter pick in the Spring and then try and persuade the people who turn out for that to become part of the scheme.

### **Cllr. Paul reported the following.**

#### **Risk Assessments.**

Risk Assessment for play park-: All ok.

Risk Assessment for the bus shelter-: I will continue to monitor the missing strip of wood for splinter issues.

Risk Assessment for Smith's Meadow-: Concerned about the Meadow being used when flooding occurrences happen, **ACTIONS:** Clerk to write to Worcestershire CALC to ask

for a legal opinion in putting up signs during floods etc. Where we would legally lie should anything happen after a sign has been put up.

### **Smith's Meadow.**

New hedgerow weeding/pruning/top gate painting weekend. Unfortunately, we only had 1 parishioner, 1 councillor and my brother turn up for the day, however we managed to clear most of the weeds from around the canes, pruned the front hedge and painted the gate. We still have work to do on the left-hand side in clearing the bramble and pruning the trees back to hedgerow. If anyone wishes to volunteer to support this event please contact myself on my mobile 07805651502 or email [johnpaul@wyrepiddlepc.org.uk](mailto:johnpaul@wyrepiddlepc.org.uk) for more information.

New for Smith's Meadow the bottom gate has now been replaced making the Meadow more secure for dogs and young children.

### **Cllr. Townsend.**

#### **Pershire Infrastructure.**

I met with Mark Mills from Worcester County Council on 27<sup>th</sup> September to discuss the work planned which affects Wyre Piddle and surrounding area. They have 3 key areas of development, the improvements to the Pinvin junction, development of the Northern bypass and installing a public cycle/ footpath on Wyre Hill.

Mark is holding a meeting at the village hall on 28<sup>th</sup> November to update on the current status of these plans and all local residents have been informed via Piddle Post and noticeboards.

#### **Eastern Bridge.**

As there continues to be uncertainty about current use of the bridge and future plans linked to the development of the Northern By-pass. I arranged to meet Cllr. Liz Tucker this month which Cllr. Searle and I attended. We discussed the legacy agreements so now have a better understanding of the decisions made and put forward our current parish councillor concerns and the outcome we want for the village for the future which is to maintain the existing status quo for buses and emergency vehicles access only. Cllr. Tucker felt that costs linked to the bridge may be key to the council plans and we have requested some figures so that we can review any opportunities for potential savings. Cllr. Tucker reported that she did have some financial figures and would report these back.

#### **Heartstart Training.**

Following the installation of the defibrillator unit in August a training session took place on 24<sup>th</sup> October with 7 attendees consisting of parish Councillors and local residents. The training was very useful and the trainees all feel more confident now on using the unit if called on. A donation was made to Heartstart from the parish funds for providing this service.

#### **Informal parish council meetings.**

A further 2 meetings have been held since the council meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> September. One to provide general updates on workload and agree individual and group actions and one to specifically discuss the SWDP and plans to provide an objections paper on behalf of Wyre Piddle.

All agree that these meetings are very useful and we intend to take them forward into 2020.

### **6/11/19 Report on Interim Informal Meeting- Report by Cllr. Wilks** **Village Hall**

Cllr. Paul reported that there are plans for the village hall to install double glazing at an approximate cost of £7000. The Committee will be in touch with us to ask if we can help. Cllrs. Wilks and McFarland will look at possible funding streams to help with this cost.

#### Bin for Smith's Meadow

Cllr. Wilks has tried to meet Phil Childs from Wychavon on three consecutive Fridays to discuss the site of the new bin. Unfortunately, Mr Childs has not attended any or the arranged meetings. She is awaiting further contact.

#### New items of discussion

SWDP An email from Cllr. Liz Tucker outlined in more detail the proposed sites for consideration for housing in the reviewed SWDP including the site on the Wyre Piddle side of Hurst Farm, Wyre Road, which was turned down at appeal has now been allocated for 72 dwellings with another 28 dwellings opposite the second Taylor Wimpey site on Wyre Road. Also, there is some suggestion that the removal of the strategic gaps between Pershore, Pinvin and Wyre Piddle might be considered. A proposed new town on Throckmorton Airfield will begin with 2,000 houses, starting building from 2030 with a further 4,000 dwellings to come in the next 5-year review to be built after 2041.

Cllr. Paul will write to Cllr. Tucker expressing concern over proposed development in Wyre plus supporting her in her thoughts about the proposed new town planned for Throckmorton.

Cllr. McFarland and Cllr. Searle will attend the Wychavon District Council meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019. Cllr. Essex, Cllr. Searle and Cllr. Wilks will attend the briefing for Parish Councils at the Guild Hall, Worcester on 6<sup>th</sup> November.

Cllr. Wilks will include an article in the Piddle Post Parish Council Report about the SWDP and encourage parishioners to attend the public road show to be held at Pershore Town Hall on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November. This will also be published on the WP Community FB page. A letter with more information has been circulated to all Parishioners.

#### Burglary in Poplar Avenue

Cllr. Searle will call at the house to ask if they've registered on the Neighbourhood Watch register or if they've got their Smart Water kit. Cllr. Searle reported that he had done this but had been beaten to it by the local Policeman who had handed a Smart Water Kit to the resident. Cllr. Searle reported that the resident has now joined the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

#### Eastern Bridge

A watch is being made of traffic passing over the Eastern Bridge every two weeks for a day. It has been noted that there has been a marked reduction of traffic. There was some discussion of the possible opening of the Bridge once the Northern link road has been built. It was felt that this would not be in the best interests of the village. Cllr. Townsend said she would talk to Cllr. Liz Tucker about this.

#### Speed Cameras

Both Cllr. McFarland and Cllr. Essex had found out prices for the PC to purchase speed cameras. Generally, those present felt that the amount of traffic speeding through the village did not justify the outlay. However, this will be discussed and decided at a future PC meeting.

#### Site Fences round the new build houses on Main Rd

Cllr. Paul will talk to the owners about when these fences are to be removed as they are not attractive and prevent the Lengthsman from trimming back the hedgerow.

Smith's Meadow Gate repair Cllr. Paul was hopeful that this would be carried out before the end of the month.

#### Christmas Meet the Councillors evening

We decided we should have an open night at the village hall around Christmas time to give parishioners the opportunity to come and meet and talk to us. Possibly with a suggestion board or box and maybe an update on SWDP news. Cllr. McFarland rang

the Village hall and arranged for us to use it on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December from 7-9pm. Cllr. Paul will source wine and mince pies. Cllr. Townsend will buy plastic glasses.

**7/11/19 Adjournment of the meeting for the receipt of public questions.  
The meeting was adjourned for public question time.**

Mr. Peachey congratulated Cllr. Searle on his response to the consultation on the SWDP and thanked him for his hard work in preparing the response. He asked how the Parish Council were responding to the SWDP Consultation and Cllr. Searle went through his proposed response with everyone. Cllr. Searle suggested that it would be advantageous for as many residents as possible respond to the SWDP Consultation and Mr. Peachey asked whether it would be a good idea to prepare a response for the community and that this could be taken around the village to get residents to sign up to and get it sent off. Mr. Peachey agreed to prepare the response and others agreed to help get this out around Wyre Piddle. It was suggested that Mr. Peachey and Cllr. Searle arrange to meet up to go through the response. Mr Peachey commented that the SWDP Consultation was based on historical figures and facts and that flooding would be a major factor from the new housing development including contaminated flood water running off from Throckmorton Airfield Site.

**8/11/19 Planning matters, applications and decision notices- Report by Cllr. Searle.**

**19/01469/FUL** – Peace Avon Landscaping – Following the parish council's objection to the landscape proposals to the rear gardens of the three properties on the Peace Avon site, we have received an e-mail from the planning department saying that following discussions with the agent, changes to the design have been made. The planner enquired whether we had any further views on the amended design and requested a reply by Friday 22 November. I could see no significant change in the proposal apart from now knowing that the piling was for the full extent of the river frontage and replied that our objections remained.

**SWDP Review** – I have attended a number of meetings regarding the review, including a special meeting with the parish council, with the exception of Cllr Smout. It was agreed that we would only consider issues that would affect the village directly. These are listed below: -

- The significant/strategic gap
- Development boundary
- Strategic growth areas
- Access to Throckmorton airfield
- Existing infrastructure
- Loss of village identity, which may be covered by some of the above.

It was also agreed that we would not financially support Throckmorton and Bishampton parish council's use of consultants to support their objections to the development of the airfield, as it was considered that such expenditure would not be prudent.

**9/11/19 Finance: -**

**a) Approval of the payment of accounts for 28<sup>th</sup> November 2019.**

<b>C Hirst</b>	<b>Clerk Salary to 5 Oct</b>	<b>272.34</b>
<b>HMRC</b>	<b>Clerk Tax 5 Oct</b>	<b>68.00</b>
<b>NPower</b>	<b>Supply July 1 to 30th Sep 19</b>	<b>243.19</b>

C Hirst	Clerk Salary to 5Nov	272.34
HMRC	Clerk Tax to 5th Nov	68.00
P Hurst	Lengthsman Sept	199.10
C. Hirst	Clerk Expenses to 28 Nov 19	65.05
Memorial Restoration co	Stonework repairs	250.00
Wyre Piddle Village Hall	Defib training	16.00
New Farm Grounds Maint	Oct-19	248.40
Heartstart	Defib training	100.00
Post Office	Stamps	15.72
John Paul	Expenses for paint brushes and wine	128.82
John Paul	Remembrance cost bugler	30.00
Peter Hurst	Lengthsman Duties	152.20
TOTALS		£ 2,129.16

Cllr. Townsend Proposed and Cllr. Essex Seconded that all above payments be approved. All in favour.

- b) Receipts received since the last Parish Council Meeting.** WCC Lengthsman £151.98, WCC Lengthsman 199.10, NPOWER Rebate £283.04, Lloyds Bank £1.14, Saleway PC shared ink £10.82. **TOTAL £646.08 Noted.**

**c) Bank Reconciliation as at 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

Per Bank Statement Business Account £41,633.39

Per Bank Statement BB Instant Online £25,146.90

**TOTAL AT BANK £66,780.29**

Reconciled with cash book/bank statements by Cllr. Searle.

Councillors discussed which Councillor would take over from Cllr. Searle to undertake the bank reconciliation before each meeting as Cllr. Searle was very busy with planning issues. Cllr. Paul Proposed and Cllr. McFarland Seconded that Cllr. Essex take on this task. All in favour.

- d) Out-turn Budget for 2019/20- Budget for 2020/21 and Precept setting for 2020/21.** The Clerk prepared the revised budget for 2019/20 which was circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting and a proposed budget for 2020/21 to the Parish Council. The budget prepared considered a 0% increase in the Parish Council Precept for 2020/21 the Precept for 2020/21 remaining at £13,362 as set in 2019/20. Cllr. McFarland Proposed and Cllr. Paul Seconded that the 2020/21 Budget be approved and that a 0% Precept increase be determined. All in favour.

## **10/11/19 To Consider the Parish Council's response to the SWDP Consultation.**

Wyre Piddle is a category 4B village, which is a village "which has low/medium level of public transport provision and low services/facility provision". Wyre Piddle has a low level of public transport provision, and no services within the village, apart from a public house. Therefore, the nearest shopping centres are in Pershore and Evesham, which for most residents are not within walking or cycling distance for shopping.

### **The Strategic/Significant Gap Between Wyre Piddle and Pershore.**

The interactive development plan map that accompanied SWDP 2016, shows that the significant gap is outside development boundaries both for Wyre Piddle and Pershore, and is thus defined as open countryside according to the SWDP 2016 document, SWDP 2C.

Current housing and employment developments are already proposed or built that border the significant gap (SWDP 47/1 and 47/2).

The Local Plan 2006 stated in SR10 that "In order to protect their setting and prevent the coalescence of settlements and within the defined Strategic Gaps, as shown on the Proposals Map, will be kept open and essentially free of development. Minor development proposals may, however, be permitted if they do no harm, individually or cumulatively, to the function and purposes of a Strategic Gap, or to its open character". The SWDP 2016 states in that "Development proposals should ensure the retention of the open character of the significant gaps" (SWDP 2D). It also states that "development proposals should ensure the retention of the open character of the Significant Gaps". The Significant Gaps are then justified by SWDP 2016 by pointing out that the purpose of maintaining these gaps, which serve as a buffer or visual break between rural settlements and adjacent urban areas, is to provide additional protection to open land that may be subject to development pressures. This designation helps to maintain a clear separation between smaller settlements and urban areas in order to retain their individual identity. Acceptable development proposals within a Significant Gap would be the reuse of rural buildings, agriculture and forestry related developments, playing fields and other open land use and minor extensions to existing dwellings.

For at least 10 years, the Strategic/Significant Gap has been of importance to Wychavon Council, but now they want to do away with it, and it is apparent that if this happens Wyre Piddle and Pinvin will be subsumed into Pershore and the village will lose its identity and gain nothing. Why has there been a sudden change of heart over our Significant Gap?

Wyre Piddle Parish Council object strongly to the removal of our Significant Gap and insist that it is at least maintained at its current location, but we would consider that extending the gap to the South and East down to the Piddle Brook would mitigate the proposed development south of Wyre Road by the Travis Perkins site.

### **Development Boundary**

In the evidence that was presented with this SWDP Review, the Development Boundaries Review stated "that the purpose of a Development Boundary is to direct development to the more sustainable locations, prevent encroachment into the open countryside, therefore protecting its character" Therefore it is unclear why Wychavon Council want to unilaterally remove the development boundary to Wyre Piddle, and why it is considered no longer appropriate. It appears that such changes are to allow developments to be put on any land that developers can obtain where no development boundary exists.

Since the 1960's, there has been significant development within the village, with housing developments at Avon Green; Church Farm; Poplar Avenue; Brook Way; Willow Bank; Haines Avenue; Ryelands and George Lane, as well as individual developments along Worcester Road; Main Road and Evesham Road.



Much of the land that is identified on the SWDP Review interactive map of Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) that is within the Wyre Piddle parish boundaries, is outside the development boundary shown on the SWDP 2016 on the interactive map, and is thus classed as open countryside, where development will be strictly controlled.

However, the proposal is to remove the Development Boundary from around Wyre Piddle. This will lead to pressure for infill development on land that was previously just outside the development boundary of the village. This appears to be allowing development by stealth and is opposed by the Parish Council. We wish to have the existing Development Boundary retained.

The SWDP 2016 development strategy was to "Safeguard and (wherever possible) enhance the open countryside and to focus most development on urban areas, where both housing need and accessibility to lower-cost public services are greater. The removal of the development boundary would appear to at odds with development strategy. As a category 4 village, we consider that further development outside the existing development boundary would be detrimental to the character of the village.

### **Strategic Growth Area**

Item 17 of the SWDPR identifies Throckmorton Airfield as a new settlement, although it does not show or give any indication as to the strategic Growth Area that will take in land outside of the airfield. The Parish Council has become aware of a Strategic Growth Area (SGA) that is shown on a map to the North of Wyre Piddle that extends from Pinvin to Upper Moor and is either side of the A44 (Wyre Piddle Bypass). This Strategic Growth Area is not identified in your SWDP Review. Neither is the Strategic Growth Area around Throckmorton Airfield, where the maps that have been shown to us only has a star to indicate the approximate site of a development. Currently the land bordering the Wyre Piddle Bypass (A44) is showing as land that has been offered for development.

Obviously, Wychavon Council's plans have gone far beyond a star on a map, in the case of Throckmorton Airfield, and it is disingenuous of the Council to withhold information that would have a significant bearing on people's comments, when the current published information about these areas is very short on detail.

Some of the land that has been identified in the SGA is land that is known to flood regularly both from fluvial and surface water. Developments in these and other areas to the North will increase the risk and frequency of flooding in other areas despite SWDPR 33.

This SGA bordering both sides of the A44 (Wyre Piddle Bypass) is currently in the open countryside and is intensively farmed. There is no reason why perfectly good farmland that is still being used to grow crops should be developed. Wychavon Council should first use all brownfield sites to build upon before considering any greenfield sites.

As previously mentioned, Wyre Piddle is a category 4B village with no services and limited transport provision. Additional housing on the scale proposed on the SGA will have a significant effect on services in Pershore and the existing infrastructure. The proposals will ruin the integrity and identity of the village. In the SWDP 2016 it states that villages of a lower category than category 3 have a limited role in providing additional future development. It seems that policies are changed to suit developers rather than the residents of these areas.

The table associated with SWDPR 2 states that Category 4 villages are unsuitable locations for facilitating growth and that there are no allocations (for development) so we are extremely confused regarding the SGA map which is not in public circulation but produced by the Council, and what the Wychavon Council appear to be saying in their SWDP Review document.

The Parish Council oppose any development on this land, which should be left in cultivation.

### **Access to Throckmorton Airfield**

SWDPR 50. The proposed development on Throckmorton airfield is not within our parish boundary, but may have adverse effects on the village, especially if roads are built to link up with the A44 close to the village.

Currently, there is a proposal to create a road from the roundabout on the A44 which leads to the landfill site. This will cause more congestion on the roads around Wyre Piddle and will almost certainly mean that Wyre Piddle will be used as a route to and from Pershore, missing the roundabout and congestion near Pinvin, especially if there is a major development immediately North of Wyre Piddle. This will negate the benefit that the Wyre Piddle Bypass brought the village. However, lack of detail in the SWDPR means that there is little to comment on at this stage. It would make more sense to have two roads leading onto the A44, one to miss the Pinvin crossroads, taking traffic towards Worcester and one leading towards Evesham. This would prevent significant backing up of traffic at the Pinvin crossroads.

### **Existing Infrastructure**

The parish council is also concerned about the existing infrastructure in the Pershore area, that will be significantly affected by proposed developments.

Whilst item 10 of the SWDP Review speaks about viability assessment for sites, this appears to be only for new sites and does not discuss existing infrastructure. SWDPR 6 mentions infrastructure that is required to deliver the development, which might take in roads, schools and GP surgeries, but no sustainability appraisals have been carried out to see what effects there might be on the surrounding existing developments.

On non-strategic developments, there will be no new shops, schools or surgeries. This will no doubt be good for the existing shops, but there will be parking issues with more cars vying for limited parking spaces. There will be increased waits for doctor's appointments. The parish council also found nothing in item 11 and SWDPR 7, Health and Wellbeing, regarding the hospitals in the area, which will also be affected by an increase in the local population.

SWDPR 32 relates again to new developments, but these developments even with sustainable drainage systems may increase water in existing surface water drains, ditches and culverts, and it is essential to include these in any development plan to prevent unexpected flooding as a result.

Whilst it is the aim of the SWDPR to reduce car use and to increase walking and cycling, and the aim in the Worcestershire Local Transport Plan 4 to create a Vale West Strategic Active Travel Corridors (SWAT 5), there is currently no funding for this scheme. There is no pathway/ cycle path between Wyre Piddle and Pershore, making walking and cycling hazardous.

Any development plan must take into account the need for improvements to all existing infrastructure.

### **Flood Risk**

Whilst SWDPR 32 and 33 are all very well and good, water will run downhill towards the rivers and streams. Wyre Piddle lies on the banks of the River Avon and thus is already susceptible to flooding. Surface water captured by new development and diverted into surface water drains will usually discharge into watercourses. With a lot of water in the drainage systems, water will flow more quickly into water courses and could cause flooding as a result. SWDPR 32B ii states that developers "will ensure no increase in flood risk or harm to third parties". How is this to be managed, and should more flooding be caused as a result of development, what remedy would the Council apply to the developers? I would suggest that it would be very difficult to prove that a development has caused an increased flood risk, and thus a more robust inspection of proposals will be required at the planning stage, and an increase in staff both in the office, to ensure that the designs are adequate, and on site to ensure that the work is carried out

correctly. It is well known that developers will try and minimize costs when they are on site and cut corners for the sake of keeping on programme. Given the extent of flooding that has occurred in Worcestershire, it is imperative that flood mitigation and sustainable drainage systems are rigorously inspected. Will you be increasing your staff to ensure that work is regularly inspected?

With potentially more water entering existing watercourse more quickly, there is more risk in flooding in these areas. What policy will deal with ensuring these watercourses will be maintained, and what guarantee do we have that they will be maintained?

### **11/11/19 County and District Councillor Tucker Report.**

Cllr. Tucker reported that following advice from WDC Planning department regarding Peace Avon that Gabion Boxes are not suitable and that piling must be used. She further reported that Traffic Management have said that there is no need for change at Mill Lane.

Regarding the tarmacking of the entrance to Smiths Meadow, Cllr. Tucker asked whether any quotes were in place. Cllr. McFarland reported that Barry Barnes had not got back to her with either the costs or the Land Ownership Plan which the Parish Council needs to identify the ownership of the land by the entrance of Smiths Meadow which Cllr Tucker thought was WCC Highways land. Drawings need to be done for the entrance and access. Cllr. Tucker said that Barry had promised her a "ballpark" figure and that she would chase up the Land Ownership Plan and cost.

Cllr. Tucker reported that she was hopeful that she would have some footpaths funding following the Parish Council report on the state of footpaths on Church Street up to the Church. She was hopeful that funding set aside for another project elsewhere had now secured Section 106 funding and therefore funding may now be available. Cllr Tucker agreed that she would put some money into the Smith's Meadow entrance as well as money for the paths along Church Street.

Cllr. Tucker was asked if she had managed to obtain the annual costs of barriers at Eastern Bridge. Cllr. Tucker agreed to look into it. Cllr's Essex and Searle reported that the Upper Moor end barrier although only recently replaced was in the "up" position.

### **SWDP Review.**

Cllr. Tucker now has maps. She reported that up-to 17,000 new homes were being proposed along the A44 corridor with up-to 6,000 homes around Throckmorton. Bishampton and Throckmorton Parish Council and Pinvin Parish Council have produced leaflets which have been distributed around their parishes. Cllr. Tucker agreed to supply a copy to Cllr. Searle. She further reported that Bishampton and Throckmorton Parish Council have now commissioned a Planning Consultant.

### **12/11/19 Correspondence.**

**22/10/19- WCC-** Adult Services social work teams are working with local groups and voluntary and community sector to capture all adult support opportunities in the local area with a view to promote the assets available. A form was completed and returned by Cllr. Paul. **Noted.**

**24/10/19-** West Mercia Police- West Mercia PCC's Rural Crime Strategy Consultation- Closing date for consultation 8<sup>th</sup> November. **Noted.**

**28<sup>th</sup> Oct 19 – Gary Robinson-** Smells emanating from the Tip; Gary Robinson and Cllr. Paul reported this to the Environment Agency. Cllr. Paul commented that he had received a response from the Environment Agency but there have not been any noticeable smells since. Cllr. Tucker commented that it is always worth reporting these issues. Dog walker failed to clear dog mess on Mill Lane; Weeds by the Preaching Cross and various other matters.

**4/11/19- WCC-** Launch Event Worcestershire Community Rail Partnership - 10.30am Friday 8 Nov 19. Noted.

**4/11/19-** SWDP- Consultation timetable for Preferred Options Consultations-The consultation runs from 9am on 4th November 2019 to 5pm on Monday 16th December 2019. Venues listed for consultation if required. **See Item 10/11/19.**

**7/11/19** – Power for People- request re national community energy campaign. Cllr. Paul requested that this be referred to the next interim informal meeting.

**17/11/19-** Gary Robinson wrote to Councillors asking if the Parish Council could promote to residents the fact that he is now working on updating Catherine Hammond's Book and that he was looking for brief stories of "Life in Wyre Piddle" noting that it is 40 years since the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of Catherine Hammond's book was produced. For information Gary can be contacted by email at [garyrobinson27@btinternet.com](mailto:garyrobinson27@btinternet.com) .

**23/11/19-** Gary Robinson wrote to complain that Ferryfast drivers were still dropping litter on Wyre Road which was littering the grass verge. Action: Cllr. Paul agreed to write to Ferryfast to ask them to inform their drivers that litter must not be thrown out before reaching Ferryfast.

Cllr. Paul reported that he had been passed data from most recent traffic survey which showed that Waverley, Church Street from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019 daily volume of traffic Eastbound was 125 vehicles and Westbound 122 vehicles. The Mean Average was 20mph and that 85% of this traffic averaged 25mph.

**Exempt Items:**

**13/11/19** Staffing- Wyre Piddle Parish Council considered a report on a review of the Clerk's hours and Home Working Allowance. Cllr. Paul Proposed and Cllr. McFarland Seconded that the Clerk's hours be increased from 7 per week to 8 hours per week and that the Home Working Allowance be increased from £15 per month to £18 per month. All in favour.

**14/11/19 Date of next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting- 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7.30pm at Wyre Piddle Village Hall.**

Approved as a true record Cllr. J. Paul .....  
Chairman 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020