

Wyre Piddle Parish Council
NOTES of the Parish Council
26th March 2020

1. Co-option: To consider applicants for co-option to the Parish Councillor vacancy.

Ms. Yvette Butler; Mr. Steve Lister;

The co-option forms were circulated by email for Councillors to decide who would be their preferred option to serve the community. Councillors studied the applications and 6 Councillors voted for Mr Lister (including the Chairman). 1 Councillor Abstained. The Chairman agreed to contact Mr Lister to ask whether he was still happy to accept the position and the Clerk emailed the Acceptance of Office and Declaration of Interest Forms to the Chairman to forward to him. The Chairman agreed to write to Ms. Butler once Mr Lister had signed the Acceptance of Office thanking her for her application.

2. Update reports Parish Councillors.

Cllr. Wilks reported the following:

No Further update to report other than informal meeting notes.

24th March all Lengthsman work suspended due to Coronavirus restrictions.

Cllr. McFarland reported the following:

The Bollards are now ordered for the Cross.

Cllr. Searle Reported the following:

Eastern Bridge

I am continuing to ensure that the Eastern Bridge is being monitored and that CCTV footage is being sent to Operation Snap. I have been in communication with officers from Operation Snap and have been informed that prosecutions are made where private vehicles are driving over the bridge against red lights. Worcestershire County Council have assured me that CCTV footage is being passed to Operation Snap.

Planning Issues

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

Neighbourhood Watch

A newsletter has been sent out to all members of the neighbourhood watch scheme (NHW). There are 35 members of NHW within the village and we seek to recruit more. Wyre Piddle NHW is now around 1 year old and there is now an app for smart phones that allow almost instant alerts regarding crimes and other issues. This app can be downloaded by non-members. More about this in the Piddle Post.

The Anchor Inn

I have received communication from Wychavon council to say that the Anchor Inn is now classed as an Asset of Community Value based on the original plan submitted which shows part of the car park and the land for sale to the east of the site omitted from the site plan of the asset.

Interim Meeting

I attended the interim meeting. Please see minutes of the meeting.

Dodderhill Parish Council

Councillors were asked if they would meet the above parish council members who were struggling to work together. John Paul, Susan Essex and Myself attended an Extraordinary General Meeting of the parish council to observe and we later provided

feedback. We have been asked if we would be willing to mentor the Dodderhill councillors which we have agreed to do. The councillors were also invited to attend our meetings.

Covid-19

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, all parish council meetings have been cancelled until further notice. I am still available to answer any questions or queries (if I can) by phone or e-mail.

Cllr. Essex reported the following:

Street Lights

Mark Colston of Prysmian has made recommendations regarding the wattage for best energy efficiency and colours for best aesthetics. Below is his summary:

1. Wattage - This is a simple one, just the same as domestic lamps we can install a lantern with a range of wattages - for your needs we would install one ranging from 10watts - 27watts. The great thing about these lanterns is that it can be adjusted in increments after it is installed. So I would suggest a 14w or 19w to begin with and then we can reduce or increase depending on the reaction.
2. Colour temperature - This is more to do with the appearance of the light (How white or cold looking it is). As a rule we install 4000 kelvin LED lights (this is middle of the road) the higher the number the more efficient a light is but the more cold it is in appearance. You can go up to a 5700 kelvin LED but I would not recommend this (very white and uncomfortable). My suggestion would be either a 3000 kelvin or we can now get 2700 kelvin lights which do have a tint of orange in them. As they are not so efficient I would probably suggest a 19w wattage if you go for either of these. I think in your situation this would be my suggestion.

I am happy to take his expert advice. I am waiting for any feedback from residents after the latest Piddle Post is delivered before making a decision.

I have been in consultation with ecological experts and am happy that we have no need for bat friendly bulbs in any of our lights.

I am awaiting a quote from Western Power Distribution for the changes needed to the supply on two of our lights as instructed on Mark Colston's original report.

Cllr. Paul reported the following.

All Parish risk assessments completed for March.

Cllr. Townsend

No report update for this period.

Report on Interim Informal Meeting- Report by Cllr. Wilks

Report on Informal Meeting – 19th February 2020 by Jenny Wilks

Present: Susan Essex, Misan McFarland, John Paul, Lew Searle, Carole Townsend, Jenny Wilks

Councillor Vacancy

One application has been received so far. It has been advertised several times. Closing date 19th March.

Doddershill Parish Council Meeting 25th February

We have been invited to attend to give advice on procedure. John, Susan and Lew will attend. Carole will be stand-by.

SWDP update

Tony Peachey continues to be very proactive in contacting local council and others. As a Parish Council we are very aware of the major issues: flooding, sustainability, wildlife, infrastructure, etc. We are aware there are some parishioners who are not in favour of the council objecting as they feel new housing is vital. We will try once more to gather views one way or the other by posting an article in the Piddle Post, and on the Community Face Book page. Lew and John are willing to be contacted by phone or email. We will emphasise the importance of villagers making their view known to us. There is a County Council briefing on the 31st March which Lew and Misan will attend.

Anchor Inn update

A Grade II listed building. According to Wychavon the adjacent building plot has been sold subject to contract, therefore the application for community status has reverted to the original which was for the Pub and half the car park (only 3 parking spaces). The application has now been approved and the site has protected status until March 2021. (Strangely, John had been informed at a meeting on Saturday 15th by the Estate Agents that the land would not be sold until the pub is sold.) Jenny said she had heard in other villages that the pub could not be a community asset unless it was the only one and we have the Hotel. John said the hotel is not a pub, it is a hotel. Jenny replied it has been used as a pub for at least 10 years and that the landlord has run it continuously, unlike the pub which has changed landlord many times and has had periods of being closed altogether. In fact the Hotel landlord provided the bar at the hotel at the community's request when the pub first failed and closed. He has since put on social events and provided a base for newspapers to be distributed and now collects items for the food bank.

There is a small community group interested in trying to buy the pub. The new estimated value is £650,000, though there is some debate as to whether this may be less. Currently there have been no accounts made available. One previous land lord suggested that a high gross profit was achievable. However the community group will need to check how true this is. Their first course of action is to seek funding in the form of a grant. They are researching possible sources. They have suggested that if successful they would put the grant/pub in the Parish Council's name meaning that if it failed it would revert back to the Parish as an asset. Councillors expressed concern that the PC may become liable for debts, staff, etc. There would have to be careful investigation into all implications before proceeding. Further meetings are planned and John and Lew will keep us informed of developments.

Volunteer drivers

We may see a curtailment in the current bus service in and out of Wyre Piddle. At our last Parish Council meeting a few of the attendees said they would be happy to provide some voluntary help for shopping, doctor's appointments, etc. We decided that we would put a notice in the Piddle Post to ask if there someone who would be willing to coordinate this activity on behalf of the village.

Great British Spring Clean (Keep Britain Tidy)

Susan said we tried this event last year but it was not particularly successful. She advocates not taking part this time but will organise an event for the village later in the year.

Formal Monthly Parish Council Meeting

It was suggested at the last PC meeting that we should consider holding a formal meeting every month rather than bi-monthly. Councillors agreed that this would not be happening. The informal meeting we have between the official PC meetings is very useful and gives a better opportunity for discussion. A report is always included in the minutes of the official meeting.

Abbey View Petrol Station

There has been a new application in which there are several variations to the original. Councillors agreed to support Lew submitting our objection to the variations to the original plans as detailed by email. These will be available at the next PC meeting.

Worcester Pollination Strategy

In order to encourage the growth of wildflowers and wildlife Lew suggested we ask the lengthsman to limit verge cutting to an approximate 30cm strip next to footways, leaving the remainder to grow naturally. Jenny will consult with the lengthsman for his opinion and feed back at the next PC meeting.

Parking

Some residents have expressed concern over inconsiderate parking by people moving their cars from Mill Lane during floods. The village hall car park could be used but there was a feeling that most people would prefer to park nearer to Mill Lane. There was also a question as to whether it was lawful to park on kerbs. John Paul will ask the community policeman Paul Brown when he meets him next week.

Street Lighting

Susan reported that there was a choice between 4000 Kelvin (a blue/white), 3000 Kelvin a warmer colour and a new one being trialled 2700 Kelvin which has a warmer orange tint. Once Susan knows more about the differences she will consult people who are most affected.

Questions to PC

It was agreed at the last PC meeting we will invite people who would like to talk to Councillors face to face to make appointments for 7pm before the PC meetings. This will be in the Piddle Post and on the community FB page.

Footpaths

Susan met with the Lower Moor Footpath Warden. He has done a lot of work on footpaths locally, including the Avon Way. We agreed we would welcome his advice and help on maintaining footpaths in Wyre Piddle. She will get in touch with him.

We Don't Buy Crime

Misan said she had not heard anything for a while about the changes to signage. On asking, she was informed that the new signs are not yet ready for delivery but we will be notified when they are.

The Preaching Cross

Misan reported there has been a delay caused by discrepancies over delivery and unloading of required items. This has now been resolved and we await notification a date for installation.

Disabled Access to Smith's Meadow

Misan reported that this was still delayed due to wait for news from Ringway Contractors.

3 Parish Councillor current roles and responsibilities/workloads

Parish Councillor current roles/responsibilities

Jenny	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collating content and providing it for publishing Piddle Post• Taking notes and producing a monthly Informal meeting report.• Co-ordinating Lengthsman workload and responsibilities
Lew	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All planning applications and activities, inc meeting attendance• Co-ordinating Neighbourhood Watch• SWDP specifics• Wyre Traffic monitoring
John	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Smiths Meadow maintenance• PACT – policing issues• Risk assessments, Park, shelter, Smiths meadow• Senior contact for parishioner queries/ issues• Village hall defibrillator checks

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor for JUE • Council representative for village hall • Council representative for Anchor community group.
Misan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WDBC • Hill and Moor CLG representative • Repair and maintenance of The Cross • Proposed improvement to Smiths meadow access
Susan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans for change/ maintenance of street lighting • Litter pick co-ordinator • Public footway maintenance co-ordinator for Upper Moor • Financial checking of accounts
Carole	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defibrillator 3 monthly maintenance • Deputy for Lengthsman workload and responsibilities • Deputy for Wyre traffic monitoring

Planning matters, applications and decision notices- Report by Cllr. Searle.

19/02648/PIP – A Planning in Principle application has now been approved for the construction of two Live/Work dwellings on the remaining part of the site of the former garage on Evesham Road. Work has commenced on clearing the site.

19/02755/FUL – A planning application has been submitted to vary 16 of the 29 conditions made to the original approved application 19/00613/FUL for the new petrol filling station adjacent to the Abbey View roundabout. The parish council did make objections to 8 of these variations, with the main objections being to the proposed increased size of the shop/kiosk area, the travel plan submitted and the foul and surface water drainage. Although the variations of conditions were requested, our objection to most was that there was no further information put on the Wychavon Planning website to allow us to consider whether these variations met the conditions imposed upon them. Since sending our objections, I have noticed that additional information has been added to the Wychavon Planning website for this application.

20/00396/HP – A planning application has been submitted for a rear extension at Robin Hood House. The extension actually is to the rear, side and front of the property, and will have a flat roof. The parish council has no objections to this application, with four replies currently in favour of the application.

SWDP Review – The SWDP review is still exercising the minds of a number of villagers, and one in particular who has written several e-mails to or local MP and both central and local government on the subject to make them aware of the possible implications to the village, and to seek their help and support. I am continuing to look at the issues that might affect the village should developments go ahead, and how we should approach these issues to ensure their effect upon the village is mitigated. The proposed parish and town councillor briefing on this matter due at the end of the month, which is being given by the various South Worcestershire Councils responsible for the SWDP review, has now been cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

An e-mail from the South Worcestershire Councils has been sent out instead, outlining the number of representations each main proposed development received, and we are advised that they have now been summarised and put onto a database with planning officers now considering the comments and reviewing sites in light of the representations made. Changes are also being made to the wording on some of the development management policies of the SWDPR and the revised document and other evidence is due to be published in the autumn.

The publication version of the SWDPR is the formal draft of the plan and representations which are received to this consultation will be those considered by the Inspector overseeing the examination in 2021.

The South Worcestershire Council's focus is currently on considering the final list of proposed sites and rewording topic specific policies.

Finance: -**a) Payment of accounts for 26TH March 2020.**

Payee	Description	TOTAL £
C Hirst	Clerk Salary to 5th March	311.16
HMRC	Clerk Tax 5th March	77.80
C Hirst	Clerk Salary 5th Apr 20	311.16
HMRC	Clerk Tax 5th Apr 20	77.80
P Hurst	Lengthsman Feb 20	60.00
BROXAP	Bollards	1,795.20
C. Hirst	Clerk Expenses Jan 30 to 26th March 2020	40.00
TOTALS		2,673.12

b) Receipts received since the last Parish Council Meeting.

WCC	Jan Lengthsman	£67.20
Dodderhill Parish Council	Shared ink and paper	£47.42
Lloyds Bank Interest		
Pinvin Parish Council	Shared Ink	£42.63
Stoke Bliss PC	Shared Ink	£42.63
	Shared ink and paper	
Abberley PC	paper	£47.42
Broadwas PC	Shared ink	£42.63
Pinvin pc	Shared paper	£ 4.79

TOTAL £294.72

c) Formal Bank Reconciliation as at 16th March 2020

Per Bank Statement Business Account £40,220.80

Per Bank Statement BB Instant Online £25,092.24

TOTAL AT BANK £65,313.04

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

d) **The Parish Council Financial Regulations** were amended and approved via an email vote to give delegated responsibility to the Clerk and RFO for payments.

e) **A Scheme of Delegation** was circulated by email for Councillors to approve.

d) and e) will be ratified at the next full parish council meeting.

County and District Councillor Tucker Report.**Correspondence.**

- **21/2/20-** West Mercia PCC Road Safety Strategy- launch of draft Road Safety Strategy for consultation- Survey for completion by 20th March 2020.

- **26/2/20- SWDP-** Review of the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP), the South Worcestershire Councils are conducting a Call for Sites inviting landowners and / or their agents / developers to submit land for potential large-scale renewable and low carbon energy projects.
- **10/3/20- Wychavon Parish Games Invitation-** Closing date for entries 5th June.