

Wyre Piddle Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the Council held on
28th January 2021
Via ZOOM

Meeting commenced: 7.30 pm - Meeting ended: 8.40pm

Present: Cllrs. Paul, Essex, Searle, Townsend, McFarland, Lister, and Butler.
Cllr. Tucker (WCC and WDC Councillor)

In Attendance: Carole Hirst (Clerk). There were 6 members of the public.

1/1/21 Apologies for absence – None.

2/1/21 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. Cllr. McFarland declared an "Other Disclosable Interest in item 8/1/21-i) living directly opposite the section of Church Street in discussion. Cllr. Searle and Cllr. Essex declared an "Other Disclosable Interest" in relation to Minute reference 6/1/21-(e) approval of wild-flower verges costs as they live nearby on this road.

3/1/21 To Consider Written Requests from Councillors for the Council to Grant a Dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) Cllr. McFarland requested dispensation to speak at the meeting having declared an "Other Disclosable Interest in item 8/1/21-i) living directly opposite the section of Church Street in discussion. Councillors unanimously agreed to the dispensation.

4/1/21 Approval of Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 26th November 2020. Cllr. Essex Proposed that they be approved as a correct record of the meeting; Seconded by Cllr. Searle. All in favour.

5/1/21 Finance.

- a) **Bank Reconciliation and bank balances to 14th January 2021.**
Cllr. Essex studied the Parish Cash Book and Bank Statement and confirmed that the Bank Reconciliation was a true and accurate record.
Noted.
- b) **Approval of the payment of Accounts for 28th January 2021 and note receipts.** Cllr. Essex Proposed and Cllr. Lister Seconded that the payments below for the 28th of January 2021 be approved and receipts noted. All in favour.

Payments List	January 28th 2021	
Recipient	Details	Amount
Post Office	Stamps	24.72

C Hirst	Salary to 5th Jan	£ 338.33
HMRC	HMRC to 5th Jan	£ 84.60
P Hurst	Lengthsman Nov	£ 106.20
C Hirst	Expenses to 28th Jan	£ 53.00
C Hirst	Salary to 5th Feb	£ 338.33
HMRC	HMRC to 5th Feb	£ 84.60
J Paul	Reimbursement for 2 metal posts for signs smiths meadow, Epson ink, A4 Printer Paper	£ 86.66
P Hurst	January Lengthsman	£ 104.70
British Heart Foundation	Def battery	£ 160.00
E.ON	Lighting elec supply	£ 118.91
Lloyds Bank	Charges	£ 7.00
	TOTAL	£1,482.33
Receipts	28 January 2021	
Recipient	Details	Amount
Broadwas PC	Shared Ink and Paper	£ 60.89
Stoke Bliss PC	Shared Ink and Paper	£ 60.89
Abberley PC	Shared Ink and Paper	£ 60.89
Pinvin PC	Shared Ink and Paper	£ 60.89
WCC	Lengthsman Sept	£ 268.80
Lloyds Bank	Interest Dec/Jan	£ 0.43
	TOTAL	£ 512.79

- c) **Income and Expenditure Against Budget Report to the 14th of January 2021.** A report was circulated by the Clerk prior to the meeting. **Noted.**
- d) Cllr. Essex asked the Parish Council to consider to Stand Down "Financial Regulations under Financial Regulations Section 11.1 (iii) for work to be executed or goods or materials to be supplied which consist of repairs to or parts for existing machinery or equipment or plant" and to approve the quote from Prysmian to replace streetlight Column in "The Close" (following up from structural damage report) is £1200 + VAT. Cllr. Essex Proposed, Cllr Paul Seconded that the Financial Regulations Section 11.1 (iii) be stood down and that the quote for Prysmian for £1200.00 + VAT be approved. All in favour.
- e) To consider to "Stand Down" the Financial Regulations under Financial Regulations Section 11.1 (iii) and to consider approval of the quote for Wildflower verges to plant and maintain (5-year plan) £7,336.70. As reported in Minute reference 5/1/21 –(f) The Lengthsman had resigned and that this consideration was based on prices given by the Lengthsman it was Proposed by Cllr. Searle that this item be deferred to the next Parish Council meeting following the commencement of the new Lengthsman Contract anticipated to be March 2021. Cllr. Paul Seconded. All in favour.

- f) The Clerk reported that on the 25th, January 2021 the Lengthsman submitted his immediate resignation. The Clerk agreed to place an advert and prepare adverts and specification for the role. Cllr. Searle Proposed and Cllr. Lister Seconded that the Clerk place an advert and produce a specification for the Lengthsman's replacement. All in favour.
- g) The Clerk reported that Cllr. Essex as Councillor responsible to oversee finance should be added to the bank signatories and be given access to online banking. Cllr. Paul Proposed and Cllr. Searle Seconded that Cllr. Essex be added to the bank signatories and given access to online banking. All in favour.

6/1/21 Update reports Parish Councillors.

Cllr. McFarland-

Cllr. McFarland has been asked to contact Historic England regarding "cleaning" of The Cross and Brook Bridge following correspondence from Parishioner Gary Robinson. Cllr. McFarland reported that she had contacted Historic England for advice and was awaiting a reply at which point she would report back.

Cllr. Searle Reported the following:

Report to the January 2021 Wyre Piddle Parish Council Meeting

Eastern Bridge

The Traffic Signals department of WCC have informed me that they will be continuing monitoring the traffic using the bridge and will try and send me the results. To date I have had no response from them. They have also informed me that they will no longer be using their CCTV cameras for enforcement as the cameras were installed to catch people damaging the barriers. This appears incorrect and I have a report from 2003 that shows that the cameras were to be used for enforcement. I feel that once again no-one is interested in preventing the illegal use of traffic over the bridge, and there is a likelihood that there will at some time be a serious accident. I have written regarding this matter to the county councillor with responsibility for Highways and copied in our county councillor and a reply has been received reiterating what I have been told. I have contacted the police involved in Operation Snap to see if they could assist in any way with some equipment for monitoring, but they were unable to help. Thus, there will be no more monitoring of the bridge unless villagers get date; time and registration number which can be passed on to the police. They may have to attend court.

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.

Grass Verges

I have now obtained a price for preparing the verges, seeding and ongoing maintenance from the Lengthsman. I have split the verges to be done into 3 areas and changed the trial area. The costs for the areas to be done are laid out below and are for a 5-year cycle: -

Year	Area M ²	Ground Preparation	Maintenance	Seed	Yearly Total
1	82.5	825.00	200.00	20.40	1,045.40
2	135.0	1350.00	500.00	27.20	1,877.20
3	168.0	1680.00	900.00	34.00	2,614.00
4	385.5	0.00	900.00	0.00	900.00
5	385.5	0.00	900.00	0.00	900.00
5 Year Total					£7,336.70
Ave Annual Cost					£1,467.32

I have sourced the seed and have sent details of the plants to the Highways Department and am awaiting the issue of the Section 96 licence that will allow us to plant wildflower seed if this is agreed.

Whilst the cost does seem quite high, it will improve our environment, both for humans and insect pollinators. The insects that pollinate our garden flowers and food plants also are in steep decline and this is one small way to help as well as making our verges something to be enjoyed during the summer.

Cllr. Essex reported the following.

We have now received two invoices for street light electricity supply. The first quarter was £58.76, and the following quarter was £60.15. This is a dramatic saving – previous quarterly bills were between £250 and £300.

Quote from Prysmian to replace street light column in The Close (following up from structural damage report) is £1200 + VAT.

Still no invoice from Prysmian for LED replacements but I have been told that we should receive it by the end of the month.

Litter seems to be accumulating around the village and surrounding countryside. The flooded river brings a lot with it. It may be wise to do an organised village pick, like last year, in the Spring. If we make it an annual event, we may get the same group of regular volunteers.

Cash Book and Bank reconciliation inspection carried out. All is in order as usual. Carole is meticulous and efficient with the records.

Cllr. Paul reported the following.

Nothing to report.

Cllr. Butler reported the following.

I contacted Peter Hurst the Lengthsman and arranged a meeting for Friday 22nd January. A report was circulated following the meeting with the Lengthsman, to Councillors.

I have had a long conversation with the treasurer of Pershore and District Volunteer Centre. The centre was set up 35 years ago, and the Treasurer said that Cllr. Tucker's husband helped set it up. All drivers are DBS checked. Bullet points from the conversation as follows:

1. Wyre Piddle is included in the Pershore and District Volunteer Centre, so we are in their catchment area.
2. Pershore volunteer centre currently offers a bus route every Friday from Drakes Broughton and Peopleton into Pershore giving clients 2 hours approximately to shop. This is currently funded by subsidy from both parish councils, Worcestershire County Council, and a regular grant too. This is something we could look at if the need arose. The cost is £2 each way, reduced by a £1 each way if the client has a bus pass.
3. There is also availability to hire the minibus for events, from the volunteer centre, for example Cropthorne hire it for their annual walkabout. Visitors park in a nearby field and the minibus takes them to the centre of the village.
4. Pershore volunteer centre also runs a volunteer run car service, although currently due to COVID only offering doctors, dentist, or hospital appointments, but in normal times they do include social trips for example to the theatre etc, as well as shopping into Evesham, the cost is variable depending on the distance travelled. A ball-park figure for the car trips is a 16-to-20-mile round trip would be £15 reduced by a £1 each way if the client has a bus pass.

The prime aim of this service is to help people who have no transport, but it is available to others on enquiry, for example if you have a hospital appointment in Worcester and you cannot get a bus at the correct time,

or you are nervous of parking there etc, you may be able to use the car service.

It would appear to me that we would be better advised to help with volunteering our resources to an already existing organisation than trying to re-invent the wheel ourselves. Pershore and District are keen to recruit as many volunteer drivers as possible in this area, particularly if we use their service. All people who volunteer to the car scheme use their own car, they are paid £0.45 per mile, and they must notify their insurance company that they will be doing volunteer driving-there is usually no problem with the insurance companies. If you are interested in volunteering you do not have to commit to certain days, the volunteer centre will just phone the nearest volunteer driver to the request for transport and keep trying volunteers until they get a positive answer for a driver. The drivers will have to be DBS checked, the organisation pays for this, but the volunteer would contribute a £6 admin fee towards this.

Cllr. Lister reported the following.

Playpark

Generally, in good condition, all apparatus secure.

Bus Stop

No major issues with bus stop, will look to clean up in Spring.
Telephone Box - one window smashed.

Smiths Meadow

Generally, in good condition.

Will look to move picnic table back to River as prone to be stolen where it is and cement in position. May need hand as very heavy.

Bottom gate, type 1 sub-base to be laid, will order from Travis Perkins
Signs in place, poles to be shortened at top (not urgent but will look better)

Large sign next to Lifebuoy, requires securing, will do on next visit

Cllr. Townsend reported the following.

Eastern Bridge.

Cllr. Searle and I had a meeting early January to discuss any actions needed. Cllr. Searle received a reply from Cllr. Amos's office which was disappointing in terms of any monitoring support or budget but positive in that there are no current plans to re-open the bridge.

We need to decide if we want to start now taking action to get bridge permanently closed and how we overcome current usage or to wait until Northern bypass work is underway.

I have also asked Cllr. Liz Tucker and Barry Barnes WCC if we can have a telephone meeting when Barry has some outputs from the highways exercise currently in place.

Pershore Infrastructure

I have spoken to Mark Mills WCC about the revised plan and dates and asked him if he can provide an update for our end of January meeting which he will try and do.

Mark did confirm that they are looking at Spring 2021 to start the Northern bypass.

The Anchor Defibrillator
Checked the box this month and pads all in date.

Lengthsman

Held a meeting with Yvette to help with handover of Lengthsman duties. Yvette now has the zone plan agreed in August, Peters current list of duties and the budget.

7/1/21

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

20/00027/CM – Recycling Centre, Evesham Road, Fladbury

This planning application is not within our parish boundaries, but as a neighbouring parish we were invited to comment. The application is for a civil engineering and recycling facility, mainly recycling aggregates. The application has now been withdrawn.

20/00043/CM – Recycling Centre, Evesham Road, Fladbury

This planning application is almost identical to the first one (above) and the comments agreed on the first application have been submitted to the County Council. The main changes to this application are for better noise attenuation.

20/01888/FUL – Peace Avon and Eaton Bank

This was a retrospective application for the landscaping and moorings to the two gardens. There are no points in which to refuse this application and therefore the parish council have no objections to this application. The application is approved.

20/02059/CLE – Land Adjacent Orchard View, Wyre Road

This application is for a Lawful Development Certificate for the stationing of caravans for habitable purposes and for the keeping of horses.

According to the affidavit attached to the application, the land has been used for these purposes for over 10 years.

This application cannot be judged on its planning merits but must be determined in accordance

with the found lawfulness of the development/use. However, I find that the application is within the strategic gap; does not accord with SWDP 2 and that it also fails to consider the biodiversity of the site. Therefore, the parish council have agreed to oppose the application based on the above points. A decision is still to be made on this application as of 11/01/2021

20/02502/ADV - Euro Garages Ltd Pinvin Service Station

This application is for signage, including illuminated signage for this petrol station on Abbey View Road. It is in the Pinvin parish. Apart from the illuminated sign to be installed by the entrance to the petrol station, the signs are within the site boundary and will be screened by earth banking and tree planting from Abbey View Road. I do not consider that these signs will be a nuisance to dwellings in Wyre Piddle and thus I shall not be raising any objection to the siting of them. The signs have been erected despite the decision still being pending as of 11 January 2021.

20/02842/HP – 7 Avon Green, Rear Extension; Side Roof Extension; Front Porch

This building is not in a conservation area nor is it a listed building. Apart from the front porch, it will have limited visual impact on the area from the front elevation. No additional traffic will be generated, and the proposal is not thought to affect adjoining properties privacy. Therefore, I recommend that the Parish Council does not object to this application.

Overview of the Planning Function

I attended a zoom meeting regarding the above. It was to give attendees an overview on the roles and functions of the development management and enforcement processes. I hope that this will assist me when I deal with planning applications.

SWDP Review

There was a briefing on the Throckmorton Strategic Growth Area (SGA) on the 25 November 2020. Wychavon Council reported that they had got an internal working group working on this project and were also looking at creating a community working group who could help to establish a concept plan and impart their local knowledge to assist the council in creating the plan which will eventually go to the government inspectors in a year's time. Much work has already been carried out mapping the land for various purposes, including identifying ecological; contamination; flood risk; archaeological sites etc.

The SGA has not been identified and confirmed but the land that was put forward for development purposes has been mapped and ownership mostly identified.

It was stated that a new link road will be required to link the site with the existing connector roads and a link road will be required between Pershore station and the A44, as well as car park provision for the station, although the development will be required to provide cycle and walking links with the station, as the design of the development will look to reduce the number of car journeys.

Along with the 2,000 dwellings proposed in the first phase, there will be 20 hectares of employment land.

The Planning for the Future white paper should not affect the progress of the SWDPR.

This consultation was confidential, and I am not able to expand any further on the above.

The government requires that Development Plans should be updated every 5 years. With the government's commitment to build 300,000 homes each year, the land available for development will become less and less each year. My concern is what is currently being considered as a buffer in this review and other land that we consider is important as a community asset, will become victims of the continual need to develop the land, as we are seeing now with the proposed removal of the Strategic Gap and the development boundary within the village.

During the consultation period of the SWDPR, we tried to use our Parish Plan to back up our objections and comments. However, this plan has no legal standing and thus was not considered. A Neighbourhood Plan does have more weight and Wychavon Council would have to consider it in any further review. The Parish Council should consider whether we want to invest in drafting a Neighbourhood Plan.

8/1/21 i) Correspondence regarding renew kerbstones on the south side of Church St Wyre Piddle with Heritage Kerb Stones.

The Clerk prepared the following detailed report:

Mr. Alan McFarland, a resident of Church Street, emailed the Clerk on the 23rd of December regarding decisions taken by Wyre Piddle Parish Council at the November 26th, 2020 Parish Council meeting. Mr. McFarland sent in a letter to all Parish Councillors which was circulated and a copy of a petition which was signed by 20 residents against the approval of "concrete kerbs" approved at the Parish Council meeting November, Minute 10/11/20 refers to "Heritage Kerb Stones". The letter from Mr. McFarland outlined a vote which was taken on whether to consult residents of Church Street regarding the proposal by WCC Highways to remove the existing granite cobble kerbs as part of the footway resurfacing works on the south side and replace them with concrete 'conservation' kerbs. The vote was narrowly defeated, and it was then decided by a subsequent 5 to 1 vote to request WCC to organise the use of heritage (conservation?) kerb stones. It further appears that this second vote was taken prior to the WCC representative having obtained the "more detailed information".

Mr McFarland believes that this decision was taken prematurely and (i) without due consideration of the strong views of the residents of Church Street, and (ii) without recognition of the fact that the affected footway is within the Wyre Piddle Conservation Area.

The survey was conducted of residents in the 23 households on the south side of Church Street. Replies received from 19 households expressed a preference for reusing the existing cobbles. Most explained that this was to preserve the character of this part of the village.

Mr McFarland formally requests the council reconsiders the decision regarding the type of kerbs to be used when the footway is resurfaced. The residents have an undisputable preference for reusing the cobbles, which would be commensurate with preserving the character of the Conservation Area.

Cllr. Paul (Chairman) replied to Mr. McFarland saying that he had spoken to Cllr. Tucker with reference to the Cobblestone and Heritage conservation kerbs and this is her reply:-

"I talked with the heritage officer at Wychavon DC. He confirmed that the proposed type of curbs had been accepted by Wychavon. They had had no success in getting Highways to continue with cobbles in conservation areas".

Cllr. Paul spoke to Barry Barnes who explained that the level of the footway would be higher with curbing with gentle dips for driveways. Barry Barnes agreed to ask if some cobbles might be able to be used across the driveways as they could be set more deeply and not come out of place so easily. Barry didn't know if it would be allowed"

Cllr. Paul further commented that with reference to speaking to residents, we as a parish council must make decisions involving all areas of village life (these decisions will not please everyone). It would not be viable to include all parishioners on all decisions we make. This would be the same as the Government asking the Country on all decisions they make.

Each councillor had their reasons for voting against the cobblestone sets. I believe the main reasons were costs (a lot more expensive to reset the cobblestone than kerbs, and more expensive maintenance), also

residents on Church Street parking on the pavements causing a hazard to pedestrians and obviously damage to the cobblestone.

The Clerk commented that the financial costs are being dealt with entirely directly by WCC Highways and are not required to go through the Parish Council's Financial Agenda.

Cllr. Paul further commented that with reference to the survey undertaken by Mr. McFarland, I believe it may be a little misleading as in the preferences you put Granite Cobbles, Concrete Kerbs or not bothered. I personally believe the wording should have been Heritage Conservation Kerbs and not "Concrete Kerbs" so as the residents had the correct information.

Cllr. Searle commented that Conservation kerb stones are concrete but are made using granite aggregates and then shot blasted to give it a texture not dissimilar to granite kerb stones. They do not look like standard concrete kerb stones that are normally laid on new estates. The Clerk circulated a Google maps of Church Street showing the current kerbs used on the North and South sides of Church Street. There is a difference between North Side (modern kerbing) and South side (heritage-style), so there is already a dichotomy within the conservation area.

Cllr. Tucker's report details WCC position on this (Minute 9/1/21 paragraph 1 to 3)

The report was noted.

- ii) **25/1/21- West Mercia Police Crime report update- Circulated for information.**
- iii) **26/1/21- Wychavon District Council -** Developing a vision and investment prospectus for Pershore, to promote the area to attract investors, businesses, visitors, and talent. Survey on the development of the Pershore Town Vision and Town Centre Prospectus. Noted.
- iv) **27/1/21- SWDP- South Worcestershire Development Plan Review - Parish and Town Council Newsletter January 2021. Noted.**

**9/1/21 County and District Councillor Tucker Report.
Footway South side of Church Lane:**

I have explained that this has been discussed with the Wychavon Heritage office who says that the proposed kerbs have been agreed between them and Highways because Highways will no longer source cobbles. I think we have got Highways to agree to your existing cobbles to be reused in the dropped level of drive accesses – assuming the parish agrees – as they will be deeper set and more stable.

There is no money at this stage to ask for the opposite side of the road to be done (Gary Robinson's request). It is in a better state than the southern side. But we can ask for identified bad bits to go on a future list.

Cllr. McFarland asked whether the footway on Church Street from the Church to Smiths Meadow could be extended. Cllr. Tucker explained that extending footpaths and further maintaining them comes from a different budget to the repairs and Maintenance of existing footways. Cllr. Tucker agreed to investigate this.

Northern Link: Mark Mills say We have established the site compound at the Link Road and have released an advanced order to the Contractors to enable them to start the task of removal of the bund material ahead of award of the main contract.

Wyre Road will fit in with the other development work planned in the area. Persimmon Homes have a road closure planned from 22nd February until 4th April. I am hoping to have awarded contract and be ready to start soon after this.

Eastern Bridge: Awaiting info from Highways officers. Spoke to legal officer who said that Traffic signals are subject to statutory provisions and detailed mandatory guidance. However, this is highly technical and more usually the domain of officers with expertise in traffic signage within Highways, so Legal is not normally directly involved. Highways also deal with safety assessments. Action: Cllr. Tucker agreed to the Legal Department Officer and report back.

Planning: 20/02059 Land adjacent to Orchard View: affidavit now refers to only one caravan not 2

20/02671 Pidele House: Conservation officer not objecting.

SWDPR Consultation starts 1st March re updating the sustainability appraisal and consulting on the gypsy and traveller sites proposals. Bishampton and Throckmorton parish council want to resume their cross-parish group to keep abreast of the Throckmorton New Town agenda. Does Wyre Piddle wish to join in this time?

Council Budget proposals: The County Council seems to propose 1.5% council tax plus 1% of 3% allowable over 2 years for Adult Social Care and will remain in the bottom quartile for comparable county councils. There is a contradiction in complaining about insufficient money for social care and choosing to reduce potential council tax rise prior to County elections.

10/1/21 Correspondence.

- **23/12/20- SWDP- South Worcestershire Development Plan Review** - Parish and Town Council Newsletter December 2020.
Noted.
- **Letter from Gary Robinson with various queries:**

- a) Can English Heritage clean the Preaching cross and the brook bridge. *Action: This has been handed over to Cllr. McFarland who is awaiting a reply from Historic England.*
 - b) Can the right-hand side pavement in Church Street be re-laid?
Cllr. Tucker response as Minute Reference 9/1/21 paragraph 2.
 - c) Issues with Speeding through village. Action: Councillor Paul will take this issue to the next PACT meeting.
 - d) A Kissing-gate has been asked for at the bottom of Smith's Meadow. Response sent saying that we have only just fitted a new gate which helps with mobility access.
 - e) Signs in Smith's Meadow- a request to add Wyre Piddle Parish Council name to the sign was made. Cllr. Paul has explained that this is not now possible.
- **18/1/21- Letter of introduction from new owners of part of the former garden of the Anchor Inn was for sale as a building plot** (circulated).
 - **22/01/21- SWDP- South Worcestershire Development Plan Review – Forthcoming Consultation March 2021-** The consultation on the Sustainability Appraisal covers technical updates to the report document arising out of feedback we received to the SWDP Review Preferred Options consultation in the autumn of 2019.
 - **28/1/21- Parishioner-** flooding, potentially coming from the Hurst Park Estate, Pershore. The rugby pitch and the next field in Wyre Piddle. **Passed to Cllr. Tucker to investigate and report back.**

Date of next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting- 25th March 2021 via ZOOM

**Approved as a true record Cllr. J. Paul
Chairman 25th March 2021**

Appendix 1

Minutes of the Interim Parish Council Meeting on the 17th of December 2020

Attendees. John Paul, Lew Searle, Misan McFarland, Carole Townsend, Yvette Butler.

Non-Attendees. Susan Essex, Steve Lister.

1. Vehicles driving/ parking on grass at the Green and the Close. John.

There are 2 issues. 1 is the number of large lorries turning round by the Green and causing tyre and kerb damage. These have been mainly from the building works on Main road. John has suggested putting some large boulders around the corner to reduce damage.

Action. John to obtain some prices and report back to parish Councillors.

Second issue is the new family who moved into the end property on the Close who are parking their car on the grass outside their gate. This has been compounded by visitors there who are also parking on grass and with the amount of rain we have had the grass is now churned up with car tracks. We do not believe they need to park here as there is plenty of room on the road outside their property.

Action. John to speak to them and maybe put something in writing from the parish council.

2. Eastern Bridge. Lew.

Lew raised some questions over current situation with the lack of bridge monitoring due to broken hard drive and what is happening with the exercise currently being undertaken by Worcester highways - in summary this is setting traffic lights to turn green after 30 seconds which they believe could reduce the risk of an accident and doing a traffic count on the use of the bridge. Liz is the key contact for this, and we chased for an update for our meeting, but Barry from Worcester highways was on holiday last week.

This in turn led to a more general conversation about the use of the bridge, that it is an offence to use the bridge but without any monitoring we cannot do anything, future plans for bridge and our desire to see it closed and what we need to do to start this conversation bearing in mind the buses and emergency vehicles.

Action. Liz to provide an update from Barry as soon as possible and confirm an end date for their exercise.

Action. Lew and Carole to meet and organise a communication to Worcester Highways detailing our views as a parish council and agreeing a set of actions to put a plan in place for the future of Eastern bridge. Carole will also send out the note from Barry to Liz and herself as we were not sure everyone had seen this.

Action. Yvette to review bus usage and the list of people who had previously offered to volunteer their services driving the people in the village who currently use the bus service.

3. Kerb stones in Church Street. Misan.

Misan reported that she was unhappy with the outcome of the parish council vote in our November meeting which was to replace the damaged kerb with heritage stone rather than cobble due to the price difference as Church street is a conservation area and we should be trying to maintain original features. None of us were aware it was a conservation area. Misan also said that some residents in Church street were putting together a petition on this and we are aware that this has started and there has been some activity re door to door calling.

Action. John/ Misan to check if we can revisit the conversation about replacing the stones, given that it was voted against at Novembers meeting.

Appendix 2

Public Questions.

Questions were raised by 2 members of the public regarding the plan by Worcestershire County Council to renew kerbstones on the south side of Church St Wyre Piddle with Heritage Kerb Stones. (A report and detailed summary of a survey conducted with residents on the south side of Church Street had been submitted to the Parish Council prior to the meeting by one of the Parishioners attending). The Parishioner questioned why residents of Church Street were not consulted prior to decisions being taken. **(A summary of the report and resulting discussions can be found under Minute 9/1/21-i)) and further clarification from Cllr. Tucker on the position of WCC Highways can be found under Minute reference 9/1/21 paragraphs 1 to 3.**

Cllr. Tucker agreed to go back to WCC to ascertain whether or not the cobblestones are any longer reset within footways. Cllr. Tucker was also asked to ascertain what the price difference was between laying cobblestones and laying the Heritage Kerb Stones. She agreed to report back to the Parish Council.

A member of the public commented that if Wychavon District Council had undertaken a Conservation Area Appraisal it would have added weight to the public's views and requests for the cobbles to remain, but Wychavon have not done the Conservation Area Appraisals.