

**DRAFT**  
**Wyre Piddle Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the Council held on**  
**25<sup>th</sup> March 2021**  
**Via ZOOM**

*Meeting commenced: 7.30 pm - Meeting ended: 8.25pm*

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

**In Attendance:** Carole Hirst (Clerk). 1 member of the public.

**1/3/21      Apologies for absence – None.**

**2/3/21      Declarations of Interest for:**

- a) the Meeting (Personal and Prejudicial)** Cllr. Lister declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in item 6/3/21 (b) Two items on payment schedule were re-imburements for materials purchased. Cllr. Lister abstained from voting.
- 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.

**3/3/21      To Consider Written Requests from Councillors for the Council to Grant a Dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011). None Requested.**

**4/3/21      Approval of Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2021.** Cllr. Lister Proposed that they be approved as a correct record of the meeting; Seconded by Cllr. Townsend. All in favour.

**5/3/21      County and District Councillor Tucker Report.**  
**Church Street (south) footway** work – permit to start work on 22<sup>nd</sup> April through to 14<sup>th</sup> of May. It will involve 2-way traffic lights.

*Cllr. McFarland reported that post completion questionnaires have been posted to local properties to complete.*

**Northern Link:** Work on Wyre Road is due to start once Persimmon/Taylor Wimpey have completed their current works. Best guess would be late June. The link road is probably another 12 months so on that basis completion could be March 2022.

**Flooding:** Wychavon are refusing to accept that there is a problem and just say it had been raining heavily! Charles is leading on this problem as the Plum Tree Walk estate and Mr Wescott are within the Pershore Town Council boundaries. Key to the problem is the fact that, post development, the water now moves much faster through the ditch to join

Piddle Brook and thereon down to Mr Wescott's property, whereas before the water would have moved slower and percolated into the side of the ditch on its way so less reached the brook and over a longer period.

**Eastern Bridge:** Lew Searle has had 2 responses from Highways officers about the signals and follow up of offending drivers. They are clear that only a very small number of vehicles are breaching the rules and most of those appear to be locally generated. Highways have invested a lot of money over the years and now hold that they cannot justify further costly time and money on the bridge above other needs and risks elsewhere in the county.

**SWDPR** Nothing about new potential sites will be published until agenda papers in September for Wychavon Council to approve the final Plan in October together with Malvern Hills and Worcester City. There will be no opportunity to debate and change the recommendations before that decision. The public consultation will be after the decision has been taken. No new sites or details of the Throckmorton new town will be published before then. The confidential briefing for parish councils intended for 29<sup>th</sup> March has been cancelled due to purdah rules relating to the County Council elections and I think it is most unfortunate that there was not the forethought to hold it 10 days earlier.

**Wychavon and County Council budgets** and council tax requirements were approved in February. Wychavon agreed a nil increase to its precept. It has been increasingly achieving savings through joint working and staffing arrangements with Malvern Hills. The County Council restrained its increase to 1.5% rather than the 2% available and only 1% of the 3% Social Care precept allowable over 2 years. This keeps their precept within the bottom quartile of like counties but leaves a big shortfall to be found in future years.

*Cllr. Paul thanked Cllr. Tucker for her many years of loyal service to the Parish Council as WCC Councillor. Cllr. Tucker is standing down at the forthcoming elections on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May 2021.*

*Cllr Searle spoke about the need for a safe walking/cycle route from Wyre Piddle to Pershore and suggested that once the Northern Link Road was open, the section of Wyre Road from the Keytec roundabout to the Wyre Piddle roundabout could be closed to traffic by placing metal bollards across the road, thus preventing traffic using the full length of this section of road and making it safe for cyclists and walkers. He suggested that this would be a cheap and easy solution to the problem which would negate the need for a purpose built footpath/cycle track. Cllr Searle asked Cllr Tucker to take this matter forward and agreed to provide further information to Cllr Tucker.*

## 6/3/21 Finance.

- a) **Bank Reconciliation and bank balances to 14<sup>th</sup> March 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 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and note receipts.** Cllr. Essex Proposed and Cllr. Paul Seconded that the payments below for the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 2021 be approved and receipts noted. Cllr. Lister took no part in this item and abstained from voting.

<u>Payments List</u>	<u>March 25th 2021</u>	
<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
C Hirst	Salary to 5th March	£ 338.33
HMRC	HMRC to 5th March	£ 84.60
Post Office	Registered post to bank	£ 2.25
Worc CALC	Training	£ 150.00
C Hirst	Expenses to 25 March	£ 53.00
Post Office	1st class recorded	£ 3.23
S Lister	Materials Smiths Meadow reimbursement Travis Perkins	£ 48.00
S Lister	Life Buoy Rope reimbursement	£ 22.50
Viking Direct	Stationery, ink, and sundry for 2021/22 (shared between 5 councils)	£ 136.06
C Hirst	Salary to 5th April	£ 338.33
HMRC	HMRC to 5th Apr	£ 84.60
Lloyds Bank	Charges	£ 7.00
Lloyds Bank	Charges	£ 7.00
New Farm Grounds Main	Smith's Meadow work	£1,910.82
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£3,185.72</b>
<u>Receipts</u>	<u>March 25th</u>	
<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
WCC	Lengthsman Oct 20	£ 59.70
WCC	Lengthsman Nov	£ 106.20
WCC	Lengthsman Jan	£ 104.70
HMRC	VAT return to 28th Feb	£ 433.38
Lloyds Bank	Interest Feb	£ 0.20
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ 704.18</b>

- c) **Income and Expenditure Against Budget Report to the 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2021.** A report was circulated by the Clerk prior to the meeting. **Noted.**

- d) To approve to extend the Grounds Maintenance Contract with New Farm Grounds Maintenance for an additional year at an increased cost of £10.35 per cut. Cllr. Paul Proposed, Cllr. Essex Seconded all in favour.
- e) Agree Asset Register for 2020/21 audit and Risk Review log. Cllr. Searle Proposed and Cllr. McFarland Seconded that this be approved. All in favour.
- f) Approve quote for boulders for Village Green. Quote from Cotswold Hill, Stine & Masonry Ltd for 3 boulders approx. 0.5 tonne each, £69.00 each. Delivery with crane offload, £230.00. +VAT. Total £437.00 + VAT. Cllr. Paul Proposed and Cllr. Lister Seconded that this be approved. All in favour.
- g) To formally approve the upgrading of the Parish Council website quote for 2 to 3 hours at an hourly rate of £45 per hour. Cllr. McFarland Proposed and Cllr. Essex Seconded that this be approved. All in favour.

## **7/3/21 Parish Councillors update reports.**

### **Cllr. Paul. Village Green**

I have been looking into the issue of vehicles driving on the village green (opposite the Anchor), of which it was decided to purchase 3 boulders to protect the corner. As discussed at our informal meeting 3 boulders approx. 0.5 tonne each, £69.00 each. Delivery with crane offload, £230.00. +VAT. This needs to be approved in the formal meeting.

### **Tree Coppice**

I had a request from a resident to see if possible, we could cut back the trees on the village green, so far, I have received one quote of £750 and still awaiting 2 others, I will report back when received.

In the meantime, I had an issue brought to my attention by Councillor Butler that the willows on Popular Avenue may need looking at. I will get a tree surgeon to look to see if they also need to be coppiced.

### **Request from residents**

I have had two requests from residents.

First. At the Brook Bridge, would it be possible to continue the wooden fence to the bridge for two reasons 1. Will make it look nicer and 2. Safety as there is no barrier into the field?

Secondly. Should we be ensuring that fishermen have a fishing licence, and should we be charging them a fee for using our meadow?

### **Defibrillator Village Hall**

Emergency ready

### **Public right of way**

We are still looking for someone to be a public right of way warden, if you would be interested in doing this role or would like more information please get in touch.

**Parking on pavements and grass verges**

There are a lot of vehicles around the village parking on pavements and grass verges, please can I ask that residents refrain from doing this and ask their visitors and tradesmen not to also, it is not only illegal to obstruct the pavements but causes safety issues for pushchairs and wheelchairs having to manoeuvre on to the road to get by and causing damage to the pavements from the vehicle's. This also comes with an up to £1000 fine

**Dog Excrement**

Many parishioners are complaining about the amount of dog excrement being left by inconsiderate dog owners, please can I ask that all offending owners pick up after their dogs.

**Cllr. McFarland.****Wyre Bridge**

I reported to the County Council bridge or structure online system that there was vegetation and growth on Wyre Bridge and that the stonework is also crumbling. I also attached some photos. I have received notice that an inspection of the bridge will take place and any works required will be passed to their contractors for programming.

**Preaching Cross**

As the Preaching Cross is the responsibility of Wyre Piddle Parish Council it is our duty to clean and maintain it. We already know that we can only remove weeds and moss from The Cross outside wintertime as advised Dr Neil Rimmington from Historic England. He also explained that we cannot do any cleaning other than removal of moss and weeding.

**Conservation.**

I have contacted Molly Edwards the Conservation Officer for Wychavon who undertakes conservation area appraisals. She wrote to the Parish Council requesting that we contact her to look at reviewing the current conservation area within Wyre Piddle. This will be an important piece of work to be undertaken so that we can preserve the conservation area of Wyre Piddle.

**Cllr. Searle.****Eastern Bridge**

I have had no information from Worcestershire County Council regarding the monitoring of the traffic using the bridge, and what they are doing with this information. I have been told that they are reporting illegal use to the police. I have asked Cllr Tucker to find out what is happening with this monitoring information and whether the police are being informed. I have again written to Worcestershire County Council (WCC) regarding the CCTV cameras. I have been informed by a villager that the cameras were installed at the same time as the traffic lights, about 2005, but the barriers were only installed about 4 years ago. I have asked WCC for the installation dates of the cameras, traffic lights and barriers.

### **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. We are now in a consultation period over the Sustainability Appraisal which ends on the 19 April. This is our last chance to inform the SWDPR regarding the suitability of sites and if anyone has information regarding the sites it is important that this is relayed to Wychavon DC.

### **Grass Verges**

I am awaiting the appointment of a new Lengthsman before obtaining prices for the roadside verges. Work, if it is approved, cannot start now until the autumn, as we will now miss the spring deadline. I have had an e-mail from a villager in Hill and Moor who is also interested in wildflower verges. They have written to Hill and Moor PC regarding this, and it may be that we can share expenses on this.

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

I am in the process of handing over to Cllr McFarland.

### **Cllr. Essex.**

#### **Streetlights**

Prysmian have set a date for The Close street light column replacement as Thursday 1st April. I have delivered the following letter to residents to inform them that a streetlight column is being replaced at the bottom of the Close on 1<sup>st</sup> April including proposed timings to advise of restricted access.

#### **Litter**

Cllr. Searle and I carried out a litter pick along the main road on the Upper Moor side of the village up as far as the Railway Bridge. Any organised whole village litter picks will be postponed until we are out of lockdown.

### **Bank Accounts**

I now have full access to the bank accounts and can take over any duties from the Clerk should I need to.

### **Cllr. Townsend.**

Cllr. Townsend's report is covered by Cllr. Searle and Cllr. Butler.

### **Cllr. Lister.**

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

Bottom Gate Type 1 base settled down nicely, may have to be topped up once a year?

Signage still in place and clean.

Lifebuoy, new rope attached all good.

Picnic tables to be concreted to ground. Endeavouring to be done in time for Spring.

The rest of the Meadow is looking really good after the boundaries were cleared (Thanks to Cllr. Paul for his work).

**Play Park**

All Fine

**Bus Shelter**

No Change from last report, brushed out fag ends etc

**Anchor Inn**

Have circulated 'sample' questionnaire to WPPC on the 'importance or not' of the Anchor Inn to the villagers.

**Telephone Box**

One pane smashed, cleaned out sharp glass from frame and brushed up mess on floor but pane requires replacing.

**Cllr. Butler.**

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of March the Clerk, Cllr. Paul and myself interviewed a candidate via zoom, for the role of Lengthsman and subsequently a site meeting was arranged to go around the village.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of March Both Cllr. Townsend and myself walked round the village with him, which was a good meeting.

There does not seem to be anything that he will not do, apart from that which he is not certificated to undertake. The applicant has now accepted the role, for both Wyre Piddle and Pinvin Parishes.

The new Lengthsman agreed to let me know if he sees anything on his rounds that needed doing by either him or the WCC Highways.

Areas of current concern that were discussed.

If any Councillors get emails or verbal suggestions from villagers regarding any duties that should be dealt with by the Lengthsman, that they be forward to myself to deal with, obviously after liaison with the Parish Council as a whole, should the need arise.

**8/3/21**

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

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

This planning application is almost identical to the first one (see January report) 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. Decision pending.

**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 has now been approved.

**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. This application has been approved.

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

This application has now been approved.

**20/02794/HP - The Manor House**

A planning application has been submitted for repairs and restoration to the front elevation of the property and for repairs to the chimney tops and the boundary wall, plus new fence, and gate to bring it back to a similar appearance as it was around 1950. I consider that the work will improve the appearance of the property and will also enhance the village.

**20/02795/LB – The Manor House**

This is an application for listed building approval for the above works as The Manor House is Grade 2 listed.

**SWDPR Sustainability Appraisal Consultation**

The consultation regarding this document commenced on the 01 March 2021 and ends on the 19 April 2021. The Sustainability Appraisal report contains an assessment of the 9 strategic locations; 48 draft SWDPR policies; 41 additional reasonable alternative potential site allocations and 79 sites that were featured in the 2016 SWDP. The report also sets out the reasons for selecting or rejecting reasonable alternative strategic locations.

Throckmorton is one of the 9 strategic locations which is ranked second only to the Worcestershire Parkway site.

This consultation is for all residents to bring up anything they consider may affect the sites significantly which have not already been considered by the report, or that have been considered but there is evidence within the community that the conclusions may be wrong. This is the last chance we get before the SWDPR goes to the government inspector.

Cllr. Searle asked Councillors to consider any reasons why sites would be unfeasible (e.g., flooding etc) Please let Cllr. Searle know if so.

**9/3/21**

**Correspondence.**

- a) 29/1/21- Live & Local-** Community Arts during Lockdown and Subsidised Outdoor Performances. **Noted.**
- b) 3/2/21- PCC-** The Police and Crime Commissioner and Worcestershire County Council elections are scheduled to take place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May. Due to the ongoing public health situation, they are promoting the availability of postal votes to Malvern residents. **Noted.**
- c) 4/2/21- SWDP-** The South Worcestershire Development Plan will be published in the autumn following a 12 month delay due to the Covid-19 pandemic- **Noted.**
- d) 4/2/21- SWDP-** New sites to provide accommodation for Travelling Show people and Travellers are being put forward by councils in South Worcestershire. **Noted.**
- e) 4/2/21-WDC-** An ambitious package of measures has been unveiled by Wychavon to help the district recover from the damage caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. **Noted.**
- f) 1/3/21- SWDP-** South Worcestershire Development Plan Review Preferred Options Further Regulation 18 (III) Sustainability Appraisal Consultation, Monday 1 March to Monday 19 April 2021. **Noted.**
- g) 24/3/21- Keep Britain Tidy-** 2021 Now Launched.



**Date of next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting- To be agreed at 7.30pm via ZOOM – Due to imminent updating of Coronavirus legislation and requirements for the Parish Council AGM the Parish Council agreed to arrange a date for the forthcoming AGM once the Coronavirus Legislation was confirmed.**

**Approved as a true record Cllr. J. Paul .....  
Chairman Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021**