

Wyre Piddle Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 25th March 2026 at 7:30pm in Wyre Piddle Village Hall

Present: Cllrs P. Carr, O. Cornelius, H. Laud (Chairman) Y. Butler, L. Fullagar, Cllr T. Loizou + 4 Members of the public

In Attendance: Lisa Cope (Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer)

1. **Apologies-** Cllr. Tucker (WDC) and WCC Boatright- Greene sent their apologies.
2. **Co-Option-** Cllrs received an application for co-option from Mr Thomas Power which was circulated to all Cllrs before the meeting, Cllr Carr proposed Mr Power as councillor, as seconded by Cllr Laud with all in favour. New councillor information and declaration of interests form to be sent to Cllr Power
3. **Declarations of Interest:**
 - a) **Register of Interest-**Reminded
 - b) **To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests-** None
 - c) **To declare any Other Disclosable Interests-** None
4. **Written request for the council to grant a dispensation-** None
5. **The minutes of Wyre Piddle Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 28th January 2026** were circulated prior to the meeting and were approved as true and correct as proposed by Cllr. Butler and seconded by Cllr Carr, they were signed by Cllr Laud.
6. **County Councillor Reports:**
Cllr Dan Boatright-Greene County Councillor
No report.

Cllr Liz Tucker District Councillor

Apologies that I am not at your parish council meeting this evening. I am at the Wychavon special council meeting to adopt the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review. Hurrah! It has taken eight years to reach this point!

Assuming no hold ups at the other two councils then the SWDPR will be formally adopted later this week.

The adoption of the new development plan represents a significant change to the policy framework against which planning applications must be considered, including changes to the spatial strategy, housing land supply position and a number of key development management policies. The next Planning Committee on 2nd April has been cancelled to deliver a focused SWDPR training session and to address some of the practical implications of implementing the new plan. I'm not a member of planning committee but I have put myself down to be attend.

Parish Planning applications:

W26/00305/PIP One dwelling Haines Avenue: Refused.

W/26/00213/PIP 3 dwellings Upper Moor: I did not ask for this to go before Planning Committee as I could not find planning reasons that would outweigh the "tilted Balance" while Wychavon has only 1.28 years rather than 5 years land supply. The officer's report says "the 'tilted balance' is engaged as per paragraph 11(d) of the Framework. This requires permission to be granted unless i). the application of policies in the Framework that protect assets of particular importance provide a strong reason for refusing the development; or ii). any adverse impacts of doing so would

significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the Framework taken as a whole.”

A new online form for registering to speak at Planning Committee will go live on 1st April 2026. The updated form is designed to streamline the process for members of the public, parish council representatives, and applicants or agents who wish to address the Planning Committee. Once submitted, registrations will be sent directly to the Member Support Services team for processing and action. Full details on how to access and use the form will be updated and available on the Council’s website from the 1st April -[Guide to participant speaking at Planning Committee - Wychavon District Council](#)

PACT Meetings

My attempts to re convene the Pinvin Ward PACT meetings have been unsuccessful. An email has been sent by the Neighbourhood Team Inspector to Parish Councils setting up a six monthly on-line meeting with chairs and clerks. The police have asked councils to list their top three concerns and say they do not have the capacity or see the value of additional meetings. Councillors can ring their neighbourhood team or go to one of their drop in sessions whenever they have a concern. They don't see how the time spent in our local meeting will add value to their parish liaison. I explained that the council reps benefit from meeting the Neighbourhood police in person as a group, and listening to the experience of the other parishes in the ward. The reply was that parish councillors should ring the team whenever they had concerns and attend any of the Drop Ins in the area to meet face to face. I wait to see how 6 monthly that on-line meetings with the Inspector and parish council chairs and clerks across the Evesham North Neighbourhood area will work out but I accept that their team of 4 is very stretched with a wide area to cover.

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Signup link: <https://lgiu.org/sign-up/>

LGIU membership: a reminder for all Wychavon members and partners

Wychavon District Council’s LGIU membership is available to every elected member, committee chair, parish representative and local MP’s office who works with us. Anyone connected to Wychavon’s democratic and community leadership can create their own LGIU account and access a wide range of trusted local government intelligence.

Councillor Update reports

Cllr Laud

Street Lighting

Lights were checked on the evening of Wednesday 11th March and all found to be illuminated as expected. No issues to report.

Bus Shelter

Structurally in good order. Moderate littering removed although a thorough sweep required due to cigarette ends (hopefully completed before this evening’s meeting). Potentially research suitable receptacles to minimise problem.

Poplar Ave Play Park

I completed a detailed risk assessment of the facilities on Tuesday 17th March. Generally, everything is OK but there were a few items requiring attention:

- 1) Bench seating – although structurally sound, the wooden bench struts will require varnishing this year.
- 2) The pathway was heavily soiled with winter deposits from the willow trees adjacent, presenting a slip or trip hazard. These have been swept clear.
- 3) The carousel pole is structurally sound but in need of lubrication – recommend a service this year.
- 4) The multi-play climbing board has rotted at the base causing the rubberised surface to split and the retaining bolts to come loose. This will require replacing ASAP.
- 5) The multi – play standing platforms (x3) were all heavily soiled with pigeon dirt. These have been scrubbed clean and plastic zip-ties attached to all of the side support panels as a deterrent to prevent future issues.
- 6) The carousel bowl retaining bolts at the base have a considerable amount of play in them. Whilst this is not an immediate and significant hazard, it will only get worse. There is also an element of ruffification within the bowl where the paint has worn away – for these reasons, recommend a service this year.

Hill & Moor Community Liaison Group (CLG)

I attended the meeting on 9th March, and all appears to be running very well. There were a couple of breeches (one for leachate and one for chlorate) but dealt with swiftly. Operationally, the site seems to be setting standards – the Environment Agency stated that they were very happy with the site and that it was one of the best they visit.

WPPC Finances

The bank reconciliation from 13th January 2026 to the 10th March has been checked against the cash book receipts and expenditure as well as the bank statements and found to be in order.

Cllr Butler

Lengthsman

The VAS on Wyre Hill now seems to be maintaining its charge since it's been tweaked, so currently no need for new batteries.

Nothing else of note to report over the winter months, all drains ok, apart from the recurring issue in Church Lane. This has been reported by both villagers and the Lengthsman.

PACT

Unfortunately the agreed meeting date has been changed. As yet I have not heard when a new one is to be scheduled.

Traffic Safety

Following our letter to all concerned reference the Eastern Bridge, it has been disappointing to note that we received only two responses to this. One from the head of Highways, and one from our local MP. The other recipients have not responded. As this letter was sent in January, it would appear doubtful they are indeed going to respond.

Cllr Carr

Planning: The Inspectors' examination of the SWDPR has been completed, modifications made and the three councils will be considering it and hopefully adopting it this week. Wychavon will then have an adequate housing supply.

Since my last report two more Permission in Principle applications have been received. The first, for a house between Haines Avenue and Main Road, has been rejected. The second, for another three houses in Upper Moor, has been approved.

Litter Picking - no coordinated litter picking needed at present.

Resuscitation Training - A second training session was hosted this month and was fully attended.

Clr Cornelius

VAS Camera

I have attached two PDF's showing VAS reports from 26/01/26 - 21/02/26 (West) & 21/02/26 - 18/03/26 (East).

Due to the VAS camera moving from the west to east position, going forward I will be providing separate reports for each position. This will therefore give us more accurate representation of traffic data through the village.

26/01/26 - 21/02/26 (West)

The overall volume of passing traffic during this period was 37,907. Taking into account the shorter monitoring period than the last report, volume of traffic has increased by roughly 5.5%.
From 1,331 to 1,404 vehicles per day.

Average speeds remain consistent, with a slight decrease in both directions.

Incoming: 23.77mph - 1.4% decrease

Outgoing: 22.83mph -1.3% decrease

Most of the other statistics remain unchanged.

- 95.3% complied with 30mph limit.
- 4.1% of drivers 30-35mph band.
- 0.6% of drivers exceeding 35mph - a total of 242 vehicles.

Maximum speeds have improved slightly.

The incoming max speed had decreased from 57mph to;

- 46mph - 11:55 on Saturday 21/02/26
- The outgoing max speed had decreased from 73mph to;
- 62mph - 13:28 on Tuesday 27/01/26.

21/02/26 - 18/03/26 (East)

Unfortunately I have been unable to retrieve the data during this period. Even with the help of former councillor Parsons, moving the camera to the east position. The camera seemed to have stopped recording data 5 hours after installation. Diagnostics report battery and camera are in working order. I will be investigating further this week.

Highways & Byways

Nothing to report.

ClIr Loizou

The Cross and War Memorial

Examined both on 18th March 2026. Both appear to be in good order. With the onset of summer there are signs of weeds beginning to appear, which will be dealt with on an ongoing basis, as laid down by Historic England.

Village Hall

At the last meeting on 26th February among the subjects discussed were more ways of generating income, general housekeeping, Health and Safety and general day to day upkeep.

SmartWater

A resume of SmartWater was included in Piddle Post. Awaiting responses.

Neighbourhood Matters

Nothing to report

ClIr Fullagar

Defibrillators

Both Defibrillators have been checked, information recorded and submitted to the Circuit, there was no issues and both in working order with good access.

Defibrillator mounted on the Anchor proposed move to phone Box

Nothing to report

I have asked Penny for some help to complete the licence application for the phone box that needs submitting to WCC prior to any works being carried out.

Smith's meadow

The fence to Ruths field needs repair in several places I will put some ideas together in the next week or so.

Risk assessment carried out as per template.

Meeting adjourned for the Public Question Time (notes in aide memoire)

7. Finance

- a) The following payments from January and February were approved as correct to pay, as proposed by ClIr Carr and seconded by ClIr Butler:

Payments		25/03/2026
Paul Brewer	lengthsman Jan	£ 200.00
Paul Brewer	lengthsman Feb	£ 100.00
Lisa Cope	Salary Feb & March	£ 914.00
HMRC	Clerk tax	£ 228.40
Lisa Cope	Clerk expenses	£ 44.50
First Responders	Defib training	£ 150.00

- b) The bank reconciliation to 10th March was circulated to all Cllrs before the meeting and approved by Cllr Laud.
- c) The same internal auditor as last year, Nicola Archer was appointed for the end of year accounts as proposed by Cllr Laud and seconded by Cllr Carr.

8. Highways and byways Matters

Nothing new to report, ongoing issues with a defective gully in Church Street, Cllr Carr is going to follow up with WCC and copy in Cllr Boatright-Greene.

9. IT Policy

Following the requirement for an IT Policy for the Parish Council, the Clerk shared a generic policy with all Cllrs, this was adopted by the Parish Council as proposed by Cllr Laud and seconded by Cllr Butler.

10. Local Government re-organisation consultation

The consultation ends on 26th March and all residents were urged to respond, as a Parish Council all voted in favour of a Transforming (two) Worcestershire rather than One Worcestershire primarily because the parish is in a rural area and has very different needs to the urban areas such as Bromsgrove and Redditch.

11. Planning Matters

- a) No new planning consultations to consider

12. Correspondence

Clerk shared correspondence from a resident that the old life ring had been removed on Smiths Meadow and Cllrs had collated a response.

Cllr Laud had received old photos and footage from Mr Barry Phipps who founded the factory which was once located on the estate where Poplar Avenue and Phipps Close is and there is some interesting footage which can be shared with the village.

Cllr Carr shared that the Village Fete takes place on 27th June and so far all plans are running smoothly.

Date of next meeting – To confirm the date of the next Ordinary Meeting of Wyre Piddle Parish Council is Tuesday 19th May 2026 at 7:00pm at Wyre Piddle Village Hall. This will be the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting at 7:30pm or approx.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:30 pm

Approved as a true record

Chairman 19th May ,2026

Aide Memoire

- One parishioner enquired about any updates on the issue with the flooding on Church Street
- One parishioner enquired if further works were required in the playpark as funds had been spent on it last year- this was however essential maintenance.
- One parishioner enquired if there was to be a smoking device for cigarette butts at the bus stop whether this would this encourage smoking.