

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF DRAKES BROUGHTON AND WADBOROUGH WITH PIRTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 7th DECEMBER 2017 AT 7.30 PM AT DRAKES BROUGHTON CHURCH.

PRESENT: Cllr J Butterworth (Chairman), Cllr M Ward (Vice Chair), Cllr L Wild, Cllr T Pell, Cllr R Turner, Cllr R Small, Cllr S Wynn, Cllr F Mead, Cllr A Crouchman, Cllr J Yeo & Cllr M Gardner

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs N Nicholson (Clerk) & County Councillor R Adams

PUBLIC: P Andrews & R Cutler

1) APOLOGIES

Cllr D Proctor, Cllr M Griffith, Cllr S Wynn, Cllr J Driscoll & District Councillor P Middlebrough

2) DECLARATION OF INTEREST

N/A

The Chairman then closed the meeting for members of the public to speak.

3) OPEN SPACE REVIEW – Presentation

Mr P Andrews, The Chairman of the Open Space review committee: Presented the findings of the Open Space Review Committee to the PC Members. The full presentation can be viewed on the DBWPPC Website.

The basic premise of the review had been that other villages have better facilities and the committee was established to review how to make best use of all the open spaces throughout the village, a strong driver being health and wellbeing across all age ranges. The Committee has also reviewed the car parking facilities at the Village Hall with a view to increase by 50% with a better in/out system in mind for safer parking.

Further to this the committee had invited 3 external providers to pitch to the committee. All three companies are local and have experience of creating this kind of facility in local villages.

One company has been selected by the committee as the most likely to make the best use of the ideas and design a good integrated facility throughout the village.

Mr Andrews asked the PC to fund stage two of developing the design £2500 - £3000. The Chairman confirmed funds for this are available from monies left over from the Neighbourhood Plan grant. The members discussed the application and agreed to fund the next stage. This was proposed by Cllr Pell, seconded by Cllr Crouchman and agreed by all.

Mr Andrews thanks the members and confirmed the plans should then be available to go to full public consultation around March/April

The meeting was re-opened.

4) LOCAL POLICING

The Clerk read the local policing report for November:

There were 6 recordable incidents to report for November.

On the 5/11 there was a report of damage caused to an allotment on Worcester Road.

On the 8/11 there was a report received of a break into outbuildings on Worcester Road where a number of power tools and a trailer were stolen

On the 13/11 there was a report of a John Deere gator being stolen overnight from Wadborough.

On the 16/11 a report of a burglary in progress resulted in the arrest of a male. Inquiries are still ongoing.

20/11 an empty property was broken into overnight and power tools stolen.

21/11 a report was received of criminal damage to a car parked in Williamson Way.

5) MINUTES

The minutes of the PC meeting of November 2nd 2017 were proposed by Cllr Gardner, seconded by Cllr Wild, agreed by all and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

6) MATTERS ARISING

- Football Club – Memorandum of understanding

The Chairman asked Clerk if this had been agreed and signed by the club, The Clerk explained there was a query over the wording that had been on the old memorandum and that she was awaiting the club's agreement. The Chairman asked the Clerk to email the football club.

- Hedge Cutting – Playing field.

The Clerk confirmed Mr S Hill had been paid. Cllr Wild confirmed he had done a good job and recommended a further cut at the end of February. For the records payment of the invoice for this work is included in December's payments for members approval.

- Maintenance of Ditches

The Clerk confirmed she had written to the three landowners and to date had had one response. She read the letter and Cllr Small confirmed that it was a ditch further down Brickyard Lane that needed clearing. Members asked the Clerk to reply in writing confirming the location is further down Brickyard Lane. Cllr Adams confirmed that the landowner on Stonebow Road would be clearing his ditches in due course. Cllr Pell confirmed that the ditch at Beech Ave was still full of rubbish.

- Lengthsman Next Tasks

Cllr Small confirmed all work from the tour had been completed to a high standard. Cllr Small set out a few tasks for completion. Cllr Wild asked the clerk to remind the lengthsman to sweep the playground on a monthly basis. The Clerk was asked to pass these requests to the lengthsman.

- Bus update

Cllr Pell confirmed she had placed a notice in the Villager Cllr Pell reported that she had received three comments, some regarding safety of buses on Mill Lane. She had raised this with First however they had confirmed it was a safe route. Cllr Pell was able to confirm that the X50 will stop on request at Windmill Hill. Replies to the comments received by Cllr Pell will be sent to each correspondent by the clerk.

7) REPORT FROM SANCTUARY PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENT – and any suggestions for a name for the development and roads within.

The Chairman gave an overview from the recently held public consultation on the initial designs for the 110 houses behind the school. She confirmed there had been a good turnout 60+ and it was busy throughout. She thanked the Parish Councillors who had been able to attend. Sanctuary had provided feedback from the event which had already been circulated. She was able to confirm that there had been many discussions at the event regarding the sewerage infrastructure.

The Chairman confirmed that Sanctuary had invited the PC to suggest a name for the development and the approximate 4 roads within. Members discussed a few options and it was decided members should go away and think about it, with responses to the Chairman for the next PC meeting. Cllr Pell has a copy of the list of names suggested at the last development naming session and it was agreed to circulate these as a starting point.

8) FOOTBALL CLUB – request for grant towards cost of mole management

The members discussed this request and it was agreed that the PC will fund the first stage of the mole management, which will cost £220. This was proposed by Cllr Ward, seconded by Cllr Wild and agreed by all. The Clerk will confirm this in writing to the football club.

9) VEHICLE ACTIVATION SIGN – agreement to purchase of new batteries

The Chairman confirmed new batteries were required at a cost of £160 plus VAT. It was agreed the signs needed the batteries. The purchase was proposed by Cllr Pell, seconded by Cllr Mead and agreed by all.

The Clerk asked Cllr Adams to chase up the Highways team on the exact location the signs could be placed on in Stonebow Road as she had not received this as yet.

10) FLY TIPPING – Debby's Lane

The Chairman explained that Cllr Proctor had raised some concerns around fly tipping and it was agreed that the Clerk would ask Cllr Proctor to compose a notice about fly tipping for next month's Villager.

11) CONFIRMATION FOR CLERK SALARY INCREASE – agreed in May 2017

The Chairman congratulated the Clerk on her successful completion of ILCA and reminded members that it had been agreed that should the Clerk complete the course by the end of November her salary increase would be back dated to June 2017. This is reflected in the December's payments list.

12) DISCUSSION ON SHARING IMPORTANT INFORMATION – website, social media, villager etc.

The Chairman was pleased to confirm that the PC website is now fully compliant with all its legal requirements. The Council agreed that it is now time to look into what other information should be on the website. The Chairman had been providing the administrative support for the website and now Cllr Mead will be assisting with this task. It was agreed members should give some thought as to what further information should be available from the PC website and email any suggestions to the Chairman and it would be discussed again next month. A discussion arose around using social media and it was deemed not appropriate at this time.

13) REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

- (a) County Councillor Rob Adams – Cllr Adams informed members that Paul Robinson was appointed as the new CEO of Worcester County Council at an extraordinary meeting of the Council held earlier that day. Paul Robinson has been employed by Derby City Council: he will bring a wealth of experience.

Councillor Adam confirmed bus routes had been visited Wadborough through to Norton and The County Council and First Midland Red had agreed and accepted the 'stop on request' stops suggested.

County Councillor Adams advised that 26 gritting vehicles were out keeping the roads safe during the current cold snap.

County Councillor Adams has learned that that the person dealing with the passing signs at Stonehall Common had left the Council and Cllr Adams will pass this request onto the relevant person to get the signs in place ASAP.

County Councillor Adams confirmed he had visited Drakes Broughton, with the highways representative, Kieran. They had visited Woodleigh and discussed the garages and parking issues. The Chairman confirmed a walkabout was being arranged with the Housing Association early in the new year to review the overcrowded parking.

A discussion arose around the additional/unused signage at the entrance to Walcot Lane from Stonebow and Cllr Small confirmed that one sign was too low and unnecessary, County Councillor Adams will arrange for its removal. However it was agreed both the other 'unsuitable' signs were to remain as a safety requirement.

County Councillor Adams informed members he would be joining a debate in his County Councillor capacity and he had chosen rural housing as the topic and would be mentioning Drakes Broughton, with the massive expansion of housing whilst smaller villages have no affordable provisions for the young people who have grown up in the villages. The Chairman welcomed Councillor Adams drawing attention to the plight of Drakes Broughton.

(b) Members Reports

Cllr Pell confirmed new bus timetables would be delivered to all residents in Wadborough and Drakes Broughton by hand.

Cllr Gardener spoke of the constituency change to Mid-Worcester and asked if the Parish was still in the Evesham constituency. County Councillor Adams confirmed that this Parish was still in with Evesham but Whittington & Norton had joined Worcester City.

Cllr Butterworth informed members that the football club had purchased a defibrillator for Drakes Broughton. They were just waiting to purchase the acclimatised box needed to contain it. The Club is liaising with the Village Hall Committee regarding location at the Village hall, and are hoping that it will be in situ within the next month.

Cllr Butterworth explained that she is working with Wychavon DC and District Councillor Paul Middlebrough to ensure consistency of the funding/social housing priority allocated through 106 agreements to ensure that residents of Pirton were afforded the same priority as Drakes Broughton and Wadborough residents

14) FINANCE

The monthly reconciliation of cash and other monies received was undertaken for November by Cllr M Ward.

Cllr Mead & Cllr Butterworth confirmed all finances were in order following the 2017 half yearly scrutiny of payments.

It was agreed that the Finance committee meeting to set the precept for 2018 will be held on Thursday 4th January. With the monthly PC meeting then being held on Thursday 11th January.

It was proposed by Cllr Small and seconded by Cllr Pell to authorise the following payments:

a. Mrs. N. Nicholson – Clerk’s Salary –November	£452.30
b. Mrs N Nicholson – Back Dated Pay increase June – Oct	£72.50
c. Mr. B. Arrowsmith – Lengthsman –November	£209.00
d. Mr. B. Arrowsmith – Playing Fields –November	£28.80
e. Westcote Ltd – Vehicle Activation sign batteries	£192.00
f. Mr S Mitcham – Clerk Annual Software renewal	£83.98
g. E.on Energy Solutions Ltd – street light repair column 35	£105.00
h. Savilles (UK) Ltd – Pirton recreational ground rent	£142.80
i. Mr S Hill – Playing field hedge cutting	£100.00

Remittance – WCC Lengthsman Claim £400.00

15) PLANNING

- a) Walcot Lane – Appeal APP/H1840/W/17/3173392 – on Wednesday 13th December

Cllr Ward advised he had attended a meeting with Wychavon DC, Head of Planning J Heggerty. The overview of the report Wychavon were presenting to the inspectorate was discussed. The main points being that the first reserved matters application differed so greatly from the original planning permission it would need to be treated as a brand-new planning application and further to that the second reserved matters application was not presented within the agreed timescale. The Wychavon planning team believe this application should be refused as the county has more than fulfilled its land supply requirements, these 32 houses are not needed, and that the original application is not valid.

Cllr Wild and the residents group have employed legal representation to compile a set of words to be read out at the hearing. The cost was £1500 plus VAT. It was agreed that the legal costs for the preparation of this statement will be met by the PC, with the residents group being asked to make donations to offset 50% of the cost. This funding arrangement was agreed by majority vote for this payment (NB Cllr Wild abstained for this vote) It was agreed that the Chairman and Vice Chair will speak with the residents group regarding who should read the statement.

- b) Comments made to planning authority:

W/17/02115/HP 51 Stonebow Road, Drakes Broughton, WR10 2AP. Proposed 2 storey side extension to existing dwelling. Recommend Approval with conditions.

W/17/01948/HP The Old Smithy, Mill Lane, Wadborough, Worcester, WR8 9HB. New garage/office to replace existing workshop/office in curtilage of existing cottage. Objection made.

- c) Applications Approved:

W/17/00922/FUL Wheathlands Farm, Walcot Lane, Drakes Broughton, WR10 2AL. Erection of an agricultural building. (For housing cows)

W/16/01979/PN Wadborough Hall Farm Barns, Wadborough. Proposed change of use for 3 offices to holiday let units.

- d) Applications Refused

W/17/01441/FUL 2 Caldwell Cottages, Worcester Road, Drakes Broughton. Proposed conversion of existing stable block into a one-bedroom retirement dwelling.

16) CORRESPONDENCE

Suspected raw sewerage

The Clerk informed members of two reports from members of the public regarding foul smell and raw sewerage. This was being investigated by regulatory services and chased up by Cllr Middlebrough. The Clerk was receiving ongoing updates.

INFORMATION AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Finance Committee meeting – Thursday 4th January 2018 at 7.30pm. Venue to be confirmed

Thursday 11th January 2018 at 7.30pm at Drakes Broughton Village Hall – Monthly Parish Council Meeting

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and for all the work they are doing on behalf of the local community. She wished members a Happy Christmas and New Year and the meeting closed at 9.45pm.