

GREAT WYRLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF GREAT WYRLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY 3RD FEBRUARY, 2021

PRESENT:

(Chairman)
Cllr. A. Newell

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier Cllr. M. Dabbs Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson Cllr. J. C. Jones Cllr. A. J. Kelsey Cllr. M. McKenzie	Cllr. R. Myatt Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE Cllr. R. J. Perry Cllr. A. D. Smith Cllr. Mrs. S. Toddington
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174/2021 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. A. Pearson and Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood.

175/2021 MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th October, 2020 be accepted, approved and signed by the Chairman.

176/2021 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman gave Members a full report on the operation being run by Cornwell's Chemists in association with the NHS to roll out the first tranche of the Covid19 Vaccination.

The Chairman took this opportunity to thank Pritpal Grewal and his staff at Cornwell's Chemists, along with the army of volunteers who had stepped forward to assist with this massive operation. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE who had been the main link in getting this project off the ground as well as volunteering her services with the project itself. Cllr. Newell stated that he was absolutely amazed at the way the volunteers had just got on with the job especially in such awful weather conditions. In particular, The Chairman thanked Cllr. A. Kelsey, Cllr. R. Myatt, Cllr. J. C. Jones, Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE and Cllr. R. J. Perry for their sterling efforts on behalf of the Parish. Cllr. Sharon Toddington also thanked everyone who had volunteered from the Parish Council for their incredible efforts on behalf of the Parish and thanked the Chairman who was also one of the volunteers. This was noted.

177/2021 STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE SERVICE REPORT

There were no representatives of Staffordshire Police Service present on this occasion.

178/2021 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of the public had joined the virtual meeting but did not address the Parish Council on this occasion.

179/2021 CLERK'S REPORTS

The Clerk had provided Members of the Parish Council with a copy of the Budget Report for 2021/2022.

Members had the following observations to make on its content.

PORTABLE SPEED CAMERAS

Cllr. A. Newell requested clarification regarding the item included in the report which referred to portable speed cameras. Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the Parish Council that she had requested that this item be included in the budget for the forthcoming year. This request had been made on the basis that there were still far too many incidences of speeding within the Parish. This was particularly relevant to two or three areas in Great Wyrley i.e. Streets Lane/Holly Lane, Wardles Lane and Station Road. Station Road was particularly dangerous due to the narrow nature of the pavements alongside the highway in this location.

The portable nature of the cameras would enable the Parish Council to place the device in specific locations whenever the need arose. Cllr. Newell was concerned that the devices were run by batteries which were attached to the cameras which were positioned in the highway verges which would make the devices vulnerable and an easy target for theft. Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that the batteries were housed at least 20ft in the air and would be difficult to steal without being apprehended.

Cllr. A. Kelsey explained that he had witnessed the speeding in Streets Lane at first hand and advised the meeting that the signs did not photograph motorists they were merely an effective deterrent by flashing up the speed motorists were travelling at which tended to slow motorists down.

The Clerk also put forward the suggestion that it may be possible to utilise the website for this purpose and give residents an opportunity to flag up speeding hotspots within the village so that the device could be put to good use wherever and whenever necessary.

Members **resolved** that this item should be included in the budget for the following year.

GREAT WYRLEY BROOK PROJECT

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the meeting that he would like clarification of the present position with regard to the Great Wyrley Brook Project. Cllr. Jones questioned whether the £2000 being put towards this project was the sum being brought forward from last year or an additional annual amount. Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE gave Cllr. Jones a full report on the progress being made with this project which included the fact the Covid19 Pandemic had somewhat halted the process. A meeting had been due to take place with outside agencies which included local Schools, Severn Trent Water, South Staffordshire Council and South Staffordshire Housing Association in March of last year, however, this had been impossible to pull together at that time. Cllr. Mrs. Perry also advised the meeting that this project had now become intertwined with the problems relating to flooding in the Parishes of Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay and aspects of the project were being tailored around ameliorating the affect that flooding had on certain parts of Wyrley Brook. Specific plans for the achievability of this aim were presently in the hands of Severn Trent and hopefully it would be possible for a meeting to take place via Zoom and arrangements would be made for that to happen in the near future.

The Clerk explained to Cllr. Jones that the Parish Council had been earmarking funds towards this project over a three year period and the £2000 contribution for the coming financial year would bring this figure to £6,000. In addition through another funding stream brought to the Parish Council's attention by Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE in her capacity as County Councillor specifically relating to

Climate Change, additional funding was expected to become available in the near future. This was noted by Members.

MEMORIAL WALL FOR GREAT WYRLEY CEMETERY

Cllr. J. C. Jones requested clarification on the earmarked amount of funding for the Memorial Wall in Great Wyrley Cemetery. The Clerk explained that the project had been due to commence in January, but, due to the general situation prevailing in the country at the present time it had been felt to be extremely insensitive to have builders working in the Cemetery on a regular basis. Cllr. Jones was also advised the amount referred to in the report was already included in the budget and did not relate to additional funds being earmarked for this purpose.

PLAY AREA PROJECT (IN ABEYANCE)

Cllr. J. C. Jones requested clarification of whether the earmarked funds for the new play area which was being held in abeyance until more suitable funding streams opened up would be returned to the normal budget. The Clerk advised Cllr. Jones that the previously earmarked funds would now be returned to general budget.

Cllr. A. Newell advised the meeting that the Parish Council Ground Staff were presently in the process of refurbishing all the play areas in the Parish Council's ownership and that any unforeseen expenses related to this programme could be met from the savings made by not holding the Annual Bonfire event. Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson advised the meeting that she felt that this was an excellent idea.

On this subject Cllr. A. Newell advised the Parish Council that he had been made aware by the Parish Council Ground Staff that should the Parish Council resolve to approve the changes/updating of their plant and machinery it was their view that it would be possible for them to continue to carry out all their required duties without the need to fill the post sadly left vacant by their late team member.

Cllr. Newell felt that the two employees in question should be commended for having this approach to their duties and thanked them both for always going the extra mile whenever it was necessary, which was more often than not outside their working hours.

Cllr. A. Kelsey advised the meeting that there were two items which had been included in the annual contributions to outside bodies which could be removed from the earmarked list on the basis that it was unlikely that these events were likely to take place. The items referred to were the £100 donation to the Scouts and Guides Movement for the New Year's Day Walk refreshments and the second item was the £400 contribution towards Great Wyrley Carnival. Members agreed that both these items would be reviewed in the future.

The Clerk enquired of Members whether it wished to discuss the proposal for the new plant and machinery which was due to become available from Cheslyn Hay Parish Council during the next six months.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that in her view the Parish Council should ensure that it continued to support its much valued staff and adhere to the decision it made last year to purchase the equipment as recommended in the report and also the additional equipment referred to in the 2021/22 Budget Report.

NO INCREASE IN CEMETERY OF HIRE CHARGES

It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. S. Toddington that the Parish Council not increase the charges levied for either the Cemetery Charges or the Hire Charges for the Community Centre. It was carried.

BUDGET REPORT 2021/22

Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** to approve the content of the Budget Report for the year 2021/22. A copy of the Budget Report is attached at Appendix 1 for information.

PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT REQUIREMENT FOR 2021/22

It was proposed by Cllr. J. C. Jones and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson that the Parish Council precept requirement not be increased for the forthcoming financial year. This was carried unanimously.

180/2021 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

County Councillor Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that she was very pleased to inform all present that the Covid Vaccination roll-out was going incredibly well and a huge new Vaccination Centre had been created at the Kingston Centre in Stafford. Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that there were still concerns relating to the new variants which were perilously close to the South Staffordshire borders but hopefully if everyone continued to be as careful as possible along with the added protection of the Vaccine things may improve soon.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised the meeting that unfortunately flooding and potholes were still a real problem in the County. Cllr. Mrs. Perry also urged people to use the App on the County Council's website and actually report problems themselves. Direct reports made on the dedicated App were much more likely to receive attention than waiting for an Officer response as all staff were presently working from home.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry also advised the meeting that the County Council's precept requirement for next financial year would include an increase of 4.99% overall of which 3% would be ring fenced to support social care.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised all Members that Ben Adams would be holding a Question Time Session prior to standing as a candidate for Police Crime Commissioner and suggested that should the Parish Council wish to raise any questions they make this known to Ben Adams beforehand. This was noted.

181/2020 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson advised the meeting that South Staffordshire Council continued to work very hard to keep all Members up to date with the business being conducted by the Local Authority.

Cllr. Mrs. Johnson advised the meeting that South Staffordshire Council had resolved to levy a precept increase of £5 per household, however, this was still to be ratified by full Council.

Cllr. Mrs. Johnson also advised the meeting that the South Staffordshire Work Clubs were presently being operated on-line only for the present time but were still very much operational. This was noted.

182/2021 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

THE LATE CAPTAIN SIR TOM MOORE

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the meeting that he felt that the Parish Council might like to take this opportunity to support the www.change.org website which was supporting a request to give Captain Sir Tom Moore a State Funeral. Captain Sir Tom was a marvellous character and an inspiration to us all and deserved the utmost respect. This was noted.

TRIBUTE TO THE NHS AT THE MEMORIAL GARDEN

Cllr. A. Newell advised the meeting that he felt that the Parish Council should put on its agenda for the future a project to commemorate the NHS. This was carried.

183/2021 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from outside bodies on this occasion.

184/2021 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

20/01113/FUL – THE ERECTION OF AN OPEN TIMBER GAZEBO OF 3M X 3.5M WHICH HAS AN OVERALL HEIGHT HIGHER THAN 2.5M IS BEING PROPOSED TO BE INSTALLED WITHIN 2M OF THE CUSTOMER BOUNDARY IN LINE WITH LANDSCAPING PROPOSAL AT 17 THE HOLLIES, CHESLYN HAY GREAT WYRLEY – THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS PROPOSAL

21/00035/FUL - PROPOSED GARDEN ROOM TO REAR GARDEN OF 323 WALSALL ROAD, GREAT WYRLEY – THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS PROPOSAL PROVIDED THAT CONDITIONS WERE IMPOSED TO RESTRICT ITS USE FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE.

21/00044/FUL – SIDE EXTENSION UNDER 30SQ.M AT 70 WALSALL ROAD, CHURCHBRIDGE - THE PARISH COUNCIL OBJECTED TO THIS PROPOSAL ON THE BASIS THAT IT DID NOT MEET THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY SPACE ABOUT DWELLINGS POLICY

21/00071/FUL – TWO STOREY SIDE EXTENSION AT 52 RAMILLIES CRESCENT, GREAT WYRLEY – THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS PROPOSAL.

20/00815/FUL – CHANGE OF USE OF LAND TO THE STABLING AND KEEPING OF HORSES INCLUDING ERECTION OF STABLE BUILDING BRICK BUILT STRUCTURES TO HOUSE AN ELECTRICITY SUPPLY LAYING OF HARDSTANDING (PART RETROSPECTIVE) AT LITTLE ACRE, JACOBS HALL LANE, GREAT WYRLEY - THE PARISH COUNCIL RECOGNISED THAT THE USE APPLIED FOR WAS NOT INAPPROPRIATE IN THE GREEN BELT BUT WOULD RECOMMEND THAT CONDITIONS BE IMPOSED ON ANY SUCH CONSENT TO THE EFFECT THAT THE BUILDINGS COULD BE USED FOR RECREATIONAL USE ONLY AND NO OTHER PURPOSE.

20/00814/FUL – CHANGE OF USE OF LAND TO THE STABLING AND KEEPING OF HORSES INCLUDING ERECTION OF STABLE BUILDING BRICK BUILT STRUCTURES TO HOUSE AN ELECTRICITY SUPPLY LAYING OF HARDSTANDING (PART RETROSPECTIVE) AT CHERRY TREE MEADOW, JACOBS HALL LANE, GREAT WYRLEY - THE PARISH COUNCIL RECOGNISED THAT THE USE APPLIED FOR WAS NOT INAPPROPRIATE IN THE GREEN BELT BUT WOULD RECOMMEND THAT CONDITIONS BE IMPOSED ON ANY SUCH CONSENT TO THE EFFECT THAT THE BUILDINGS COULD BE USED FOR RECREATIONAL USE ONLY AND NO OTHER PURPOSE.

185/2021 REPORT OF OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS

A report on the outstanding accounts for authorisation for payment was presented to Council and it was **resolved** that the report be accepted, approved and signed by the Chairman.

186/2021 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted that the public and press be excluded and that they are instructed to withdraw in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

Section 12.

187/2021 **CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

Following discussion the Parish Council unanimously **resolved to** support the recommendations included in the Clerk's Confidential Report.

The meeting closed at 8.50p.m.

Chairman