

GREAT WYRLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GREAT WYRLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER, 2020 AT GREAT WYRLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE, LANDYWOOD LANE, GREAT WYRLEY

PRESENT:

(Chairman)
Cllr. A. Newell

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier Cllr. M. Dabbs Cllr. J. C. Jones Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson Cllr. A. J. Kelsey Cllr. R. Myatt	Cllr. A. Pearson Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE Cllr. R. J. Perry Cllr. S. Toddington Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood
--	---

151/2020 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. M. McKenzie and Cllr. A. D. Smith.

152/2020 MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th August, 2020 be accepted, approved and signed by the Chairman following the amendment of Minute No. 144 (d) to read "..... as the area of land in question is covenanted to be used for community use only."

153/2020 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

YEMSCROFT FOOTBALL MATCHES

The Chairman advised the Parish Council that the Clerk had now been in communication with Walsall Swifts Football Club. Walsall Swifts had been using Yemscroft without the authorisation of the Parish Council and had now apologised for their oversight and agreed not to use Yemscroft Field in the future. This was noted by Members. The Clerk was also instructed to have a sign erected which prohibited the playing of organised football matches.

THE STAR PUBLIC HOUSE

The Chairman advised the Parish Council that it was his understanding that the Star Public House had now closed for the foreseeable future; unfortunately, the owners seem to have blamed the Parish Council in part for this decision a rumour which was currently being spread via social media. However, in support of the Parish Council's decision there were others residents within the Parish who had been kind enough to defend the Members' decision to protect the public open space for the residents. This was noted.

OVERHANGING TREE ON THE RECREATION GROUND

The Chairman advised the Parish Council that the tree on the Recreation Ground which was overhanging 22 Saxon Close, had now been professionally inspected which had revealed that the tree was in need of works/felling and this would be carried out shortly by S. J. Pritchard Tree surgeon. Cllr. Newell was to liaise with the owner of the property affected. This was noted by Members.

154/2020 **STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE SERVICE REPORT**

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

155/2020 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no representations from the members of the public gallery on this occasion.

156/2020 **CLERK'S REPORTS**

(A) RESIGNATION OF CHAIRMAN OF PARISH COUNCIL

Members discussed the fact that Helen Snape had resigned as Chairman and from the Parish Council as a body on 11th August, 2020.

As Vice-Chairman, Cllr. A. Newell had kindly agreed to take the Chair until such time as the Parish Council set a date for an Annual General Meeting.

The Clerk advised the meeting that in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act, 1972 (Section 87(2)) a notice of the casual vacancy which had occurred would be posted and following the expiration of the statutory period of publication the Parish Council should be in a position to co-opt provided there had not been a call for a by-election. The Notice was to be posted immediately following the meeting. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the Parish Council that he would like a letter of thanks to be sent to Miss Snape to thank her for all the hard work she had done for the Parish Council over a period of nine years. Cllr. Jones said that Helen had been a leading force in the Council and that her contribution should be officially recognised by a bouquet of flowers and a letter of thanks. This was carried.

(b) Tree Risk Management survey

Members recalled that the Parish Council had requested an assessment of the trees in its ownership immediately prior to lockdown and agreed to refer back to the copy of the latest survey which would allow Members to make an informed decision regarding the Rolling Programme for the maintenance of trees.

Members noted that any works relating to the removal of epicormic growth had actually been carried out by the Parish Council Grounds Staff just before lockdown, however, by the time the works had been carried out the assessor had also gone into lockdown and the trees which needed reinspection following the removal of overgrowth were now due for inspection.

The Clerk reminded Members that the Parish Council was advised to fell a compromised Ash Tree; this work was to be carried out by SJ Pritchard and Son immediately prior to lockdown, but was not carried out due to Covid19 restrictions. This work is to be carried out in the next two weeks. This was noted.

The Parish Council resolved to defer making a decision on embarking upon a rolling programme for tree work until there had been an opportunity for Members to survey the land in Parish Council ownership so that decisions could be made in conjunction with the content of the assessment.

(c) Update on Flood Defences

The Clerk advised the Parish Council that the Community Centre had managed to remain unscathed following the extremely severe weather which had been experienced since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

However, the Clerk was nonetheless delighted to advise the Parish Council that the works to clear out the French drain at the far end of Landywood Playing Field had been commenced, however, the Clerk was awaiting a progress report as to the existence of a significant electricity cable which had been unearthed during the works. The Clerk advised the meeting that she was expecting to attend a meeting with Mr. J. Webb in the near future.

Members had also noticed that South Staffordshire Council had now erected a height barrier on the Station Car Park which would make it far more difficult for a traveller incursion to take place in future.

(d) Update on re-opening of Community Centre

The Clerk advised the Parish Council that the majority of hirers had now produced their risk assessments and in the main they all aligned well with the Parish Council's requirements for the health and safety of the public. In the event that all the arrangements could be put in place prior to next week then the Centre would be open to hirers, however, the main Parish Council office would be dealing with business either by telephone, email or pre booked appointments. This was noted.

157/2020 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that she did not have a great deal to report on this occasion although the County Council had still continued to operate its normal business via virtual meetings.

The Flood Risk Assessment data was presently being collated and the drains in the ownership of a local land owner were in the process of being attended to.

Cllr. J. C. Jones asked Cllr. Mrs. Perry if she would be kept aware of any local outbreaks of Covid19 in Staffordshire to which she responded that this information was available on a day to day basis and to rest assured that immediate lockdowns would be put in place to protect the public. Cllr. Mrs. Perry directed Cllr. Jones to the County Council website in order to stay abreast of all eventualities.

158/2020 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson advised the meeting that as ever the teams at South Staffordshire Council had been working hard to keep on top of all the business required to be attended to and the Council Offices were still only open at limited times to allow for collection of work. Leisure Centres were now open and the schools would reopen next week. This was noted.

159/2020 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

FALLEN TREE – CO-OP CAR PARK

Cllr. J. C. Jones asked the Clerk to write to the Co-operative Society with a request that the fallen tree which is taking up part of its car park could be removed as soon as possible.

FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT FORMS

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier asked the Clerk whether the new website would include a facility for parishioners to ask questions of the Parish Council. The Clerk advised Cllr. Mrs. Brazier that there would be an interactive question facility incorporated in the website.

160/2020 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

CORRECTION TO MEMORIAL INSCRIPTIONS

Cllr. R. Myatt advised the Parish Council that both personally and as a member of FROG he felt that it would be appropriate for the Parish Council to write to Paul Ford and thank him for leading and assisting with the provision of such a great facility for the village. The Clerk was to write to Mr. Ford expressing the Parish Council's thanks.

Cllr. R. Myatt also advised the Parish Council that in the event that anyone would like a copy of the extremely moving address given by Paul Ford on the occasion of the unveiling of the information plaque he would be able to assist. This was noted.

161/2020 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

20/00288/FUL – RETENTION OF STORAGE FACILITY AND CHANGE OF USE TO B8 ON LAND ADJACENT TO LANDYWOOD FARM HOUSE, LANDYWOOD FARM LANE, GREAT WYRLEY. THE PARISH COUNCIL STRONGLY OBJECTS TO THIS APPLICATION ON THE BASIS THAT IT IS WHOLLY INAPPROPRIATE DEVELOPMENT IN THE GREEN BELT, CONTRARY TO HIGHWAY SAFETY AND DETRIMENTAL TO THE AMENITY OF NEARBY RESIDENTS.

20/00490/FUL – DEMOLITION OF EXISTING GARAGES AND ACCESS HARD STANDING AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF ONE AFFORDABLE HOUSE WITH ASSOCIATED WORKS AT THE GARAGE SITE IN COTSWOLD CLOSE, GREAT WYRLEY THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS PROPOSAL.

20/00490/FUL – DEMOLITION OF EXISTING GARAGES AND ACCESS HARD STANDING AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF ONE AFFORDABLE HOUSE WITH ASSOCIATED WORKS AT THE GARAGE SITE IN OXFORD CLOSE, GREAT WYRLEY THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS PROPOSAL.

20/00701/TTREE – TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 109/1991. T9 OAK REDUCE BRANCHES GROWING TOWARDS PROPERTY AND TOWARDS ADJACENT ALDER T10, REDUCE BRANCHES GROWING TOWARDS OAK AND CROWN THIN BY 15 PER CENT AT 12 HIGHFIELDS GRANGE, CHESLYN HAY – THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO THIS PROPOSAL.

20/00590/TTREE – T1 OAK APPLICATION FOR CROWN REDUCTION OF UP TO 30% FROM ITS CURRENT RADIUS AT 48 POOL MEADOW, CHESLYN HAY – THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO THIS PROPOSAL.

20/00735/TTREE – TPO 109 1991 CROWN LIFT/PRUNE 2 OAKS TO GIVE UP TO 3 METRES CLEARANCE FROM/OVER GARAGE CONSERVATORY AND HOUSE AT 4 CHILTERN CLOSE, CHESLYN HAY – THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS APPLICATION.

20/00720/HEDGE – NOTIFICATION TO REMOVE A HEDGROW ON LAND WEST OF JACOBS HALL LANE, GREAT WYRLEY – THE PARISH COUNCIL REQUESTED ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION WITH REGARD TO THE POSITION OF THE HEDGEROW CONCERNED.

161/2020 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.

The meeting closed at 8.20p.m.

Chairman