

GREAT WYRLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GREAT WYRLEY PARISH COUNCIL held at the Senior Citizens Centre, Broadmeadow Lane, Great Wyrley which commenced at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday 6th October, 2021.

Present:

**(Chairman)
Cllr. A. Newell**

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

There were four members of the public present on this occasion, three of whom were in attendance with regard to a specific agenda item relating to the Community Recognition Memorial.

A resident of Great Wyrley addressed the Parish Council with regard to a perceived error in the approved minutes of 1st June, 2021 whereupon allegedly Mrs. S. M. Wood had not been recorded as present. The Clerk apologised for the error and advised the meeting that she would look into this matter and rectify any mistake if necessary and report back to the next meeting of the Council.

The same resident then asked Members to confirm whether or not they had had sight of the AGAR prior to it being signed off by the Chairman. Members responded that they had not had sight of the AGAR prior the meeting itself as a copy of this document had been placed before each Councillor present in their papers for the meeting on the night. The same resident then proceeded to clarify the matter by trying to establish whether any Members had seen the Parish Council figures prior to the Chairman signing the AGAR. Parish Councillors confirmed the fact that they had all received a copy of the Parish Council's accounts five days prior to the meeting.

The same resident advised the Parish Council that there were errors contained in the accounts. Cllr. R. J. Perry advised the resident that the Parish Council was fully aware that there were errors in the annual accounts. The Clerk advised the resident that in view of the fact that this matter was now the subject of an objection which was being looked into by the Parish Council's external auditors that it was not a matter for discussion at this time. The same resident specifically questioned Cllr. J. C. Jones whether he had had sight of the annual accounts as he had been recorded as both present and absent at the meeting; Cllr. Jones confirmed that he had had sight of the Parish Council accounts five days prior to the meeting as had other Councillors.

The same resident then attempted to raise two other matters, however, on his own admission these were irrelevant and Members agreed to receive these in writing. Two written items were handed to the Chairman of the Parish Council.

REPORT BY STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE SERVICE

PCSOs Tromans was in attendance at the meeting and delivered the report on the crime statistics for the preceding month. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. J. C. Jones requested clarification from PCSO Tromans whether the gang who had held up the Post Office had been apprehended. PCSO Tromans was unsure whether all of the

members of the gang had been taken into custody but assured all present that the matter was progressing well.

Councillor Mrs. K.M. Perry MBE thanked the PCSOs for their efforts and asked them to keep up the goods works.

55/2021 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson and Cllr. A. Smith.

56/2021 MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1st September, 2021 be accepted, approved and signed by the Chairman.

57/2021 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) GREAT WYRLEY ACADEMY

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Ian Moreton, Headteacher of Great Wyrley Academy, Mr. R. Baker and Mr. B. Mills to the meeting.

The three gentlemen referred to above had attended the meeting this evening with regard to the Community Recognition Memorial. The Chairman advised the meeting that he would be suspending Standing Orders to allow the gentlemen present to contribute to the discussion when the relevant agenda item was reached later in the meeting.

(b) GREAT WYRLEY HISTORY SOCIETY

The Chairman advised the meeting that the Parish Council had received an invitation to all Members to attend the opening Evening at the Senior Citizens Centre at 7.00p.m. on Thursday 27th October. The event included the unveiling of the 1881 map which had recently been restored and reframed. This was noted by Members.

(c) GREAT WYRLEY CARNIVAL

The Chairman advised the meeting that the Parish Council had received a request from the Carnival Committee to hold the Carnival on the Star Land on Saturday 25th June 2022 and to receive the Fair Rights for the day. The Parish Council was pleased to hear that the Carnival would be held next year and **resolved** to agree to the use of the Star Land and the donation of the Fair Rights. It was carried.

58/2021 CLERK'S REPORTS

(a) Refurbishment of Wooden Skate Ramps

Members recalled that over the summer break a number of complaints had been received relating to the condition of the original skate ramps. Following the complaints, Cllr. J. C. Jones and Cllr. A. Newell carried out extensive research into this matter. That research led to an approach to a company by the name of Surface Matters who gave the Parish Council excellent guidance on how to proceed with this issue. Surface Matters were able to supply the natural composite surface material; however, they only supply the materials and do not carry out any measurement or fitting of the new surface. Accordingly, the Parish Council's Head Grounds Man along with Cllrs. Jones and Newell had planned to attend a site meeting with a company called Radiiramps who would now be providing a quotation for the works required to remove the damaged surface and fit the new surface. Unfortunately, the company referred to above did not attend at the appointed time for the

meeting, due to poor weather conditions. Accordingly, a new meeting date was being rescheduled. This was noted by Members.

(b) Community Recognition Memorial

Members recalled that at the last meeting, the Parish Council resolved to forge a way forward with the design and costings for the Community Recognition Memorial which was to be placed in the Memorial Gardens.

Cllr. R. Myatt had kindly driven this project on behalf of the Parish Council with the assistance of the FROG organisation. As suggested by Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE, Cllr. R. Myatt had contacted Great Wyrley Academy and the project had now been able to attract the keen interest of the school along with a number of local organisations.

Accordingly, Mr. Ian Moreton, Head Teacher of Great Wyrley Academy, along with his colleague Mr. R. Baker and Mr. B. Mills were present in the public gallery with a view to giving an explanation of the role they were anticipating the Academy would play with regard to this project.

Cllr. R. Myatt introduced Mr. Moreton and Mr. Baker of the Academy to the Parish Council and also introduced Mr. Brian Mills who had been responsible for sourcing the proposed design.

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders in order to allow Mr. Moreton, Mr. Baker and Mr. Mills to speak on this subject. Members had sight of a mock-up of the proposed design which featured a Phoenix rising from the Ashes and appropriate wording which was felt encapsulated the strength of feeling. The Parish Council unanimously **resolved** to accept the design as presented and proceeded to discuss the materials from which the plaque would be fabricated. Following discussion on the design itself, it was agreed by all Members that the plaque be presented on a large plinth of stone which would have the capability to withstand exposure to the elements for a very long time.

Mr. R. Baker advised the Parish Council that he was able source exactly the right raw material for the project which was expected to cost in the region of £1,137.00. However, Mr. Baker was able to procure the material required for a far lower cost than would normally be required via a personal connection. This fortunate set of circumstances was set to save a substantial amount. Mr. I. Moreton then advised the Parish Council that it was his wish that Great Wyrley Academy itself absorbed the cost for the plinth as its contribution towards the project. This offer was gratefully received by the Parish Council and Mr. Moreton and Mr. Baker were sincerely thanked for their contribution.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE thanked Mr. Moreton for his kind offer and advised all present that she felt this would represent the thanks of the young people to the community as a whole.

Cllr. J. C. Jones thanked Mr. Moreton and Mr. Baker for all the work which had gone into project by the School and advised all that in his view the design was beautiful and he would like to see the actual tribute to be of the size which had been viewed by Council in the cardboard mock-up.

Following discussion it was **resolved** that Cllr. R. Myatt continue to drive this project and his report at the next meeting of the Parish Council would be looked forward to.

The Chairman thanked the gentlemen for their attendance this evening and reinstated Standing Orders for the remainder of the business to be transacted.

(c) Request for External Electricity Supply at the Memorial Gardens

The Parish Council had received a request from FROG for an external electricity supply to be made available at the Memorial Gardens in order to facilitate the charging of their power tools. Originally it was envisaged that the supply could be installed in the toilets for the disabled to which FROG had its own keys, however, this was not a practice which was acceptable as it contravened health and safety regulations. Accordingly, any such supply would need to be placed in a lockable container to ensure that it did not encourage unauthorised usage. A quotation for the installation of the electricity socket had been sought and had come in at approximately £400.

Cllr. A. J. Kelsey advised the meeting that an external electricity supply was already in existence at the Memorial Garden which was used annually for the PA System. The Clerk was unaware that there was already a supply in existence and was surprised to learn where it was situated. However, Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood requested clarification as to why this request had been made and what did the volunteers intend to use it for. Cllr. Mrs. Wood was of the opinion that leaf blowing formed part of the duties carried out by Parish Council Ground Staff and she could not envisage that any other power tools would be used by volunteers. The Clerk confirmed her agreement with Cllr. Mrs. Wood's assertion.

Cllr. A. Newell advised the Parish Council that FROG had purchased a leaf blower for use in the gardens.

Cllr. Mrs. Wood further advised the Parish Council that she had strong concerns regarding insurance cover if volunteer groups were to be using power tools on Parish Council land. Cllr. Mrs. Wood was concerned that from an insurance point of view the Parish Council could be seen to be enabling the volunteers should there ever be an accident. Cllr. Mrs. Wood was concerned that the Parish Council had no record of who the Members of the FROG group were, when they were in attendance at the gardens, what tools they were using and what duties were being undertaken. Cllr. Mrs. Wood was fully supported in this matter by other Members of the Parish Council and the Clerk was to clarify the matter with the Council's Insurance Provider and ascertain whether there was a need for FROG members to sign in and out when they have been on duty in the Memorial Gardens.

Cllr. Mrs. S. Toddington advised the meeting that it may well be more cost effective to purchase a second battery. This was noted.

(d) Alternative Arrangements to hold Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch

Members recalled that at the last meeting of the Parish Council, Members discussed a possible alternative location to hold the Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch. This project had now become infinitely more viable due to the offer of Cornwells Chemists to donate £1000 towards the Senior Citizens Christmas lunch by way of recompense for the previous misunderstanding.

Following the discussion on this subject which took place at the last meeting of the Parish Council, Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE had contacted Olde Wyrley Hall to ascertain whether they would be prepared to cater for this event. Fortunately, the operators of Olde Wyrley Hall were more than happy to hold the event at their premises and have offered a reasonable tariff at £13.00 per head with an extra £1 for teas and coffees. This price was on a par with that charged by Plyvine and considered to be very competitive. The Carnival Committee was still to provide the alcohol and the Christmas crackers, however, this would work in a different way to normal in order to avoid contravention of licensing laws. Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE also suggested that the Parish Council should provide higher class raffle prizes which would be purchased from the donation from Cornwells.

Accordingly, the date had been provisionally booked with Olde Wyrley Hall to take place on Friday 10th December, 2021.

Members fully supported this proposal and accordingly, there would now be sufficient time to ensure that everyone could be made aware that the event would be taking place this year and to allow for the sale of the tickets. This was noted by Members.

In order to drive this project Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry kindly agreed to administer the sale of the tickets by making herself available at Broadmeadow Lane Senior Citizens Centre between 1.00 p.m. and 2.00p.m. for the next four Mondays.

All Councillors were asked to confirm in advance of the event whether they would be able to assist on the day, well before the date to ensure smooth service. Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood advised the meeting that she would be unable to physically assist, however, she would like to donate raffle prizes. Cllr. R. J. Perry also advised the meeting that he had been able to arrange a local entertainer to perform free of charge as a contribution towards the event for the Senior Citizens of the village.

Cllr. J. C. Jones thanked Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry for all the work she had put into making the event possible for the Senior Citizens of the Village.

(e) Future Use of the Community Centre as a Covid Clinic

As Members were already aware the Community Centre would continue to be used to roll out the next tranche of Covid vaccinations, including the booster. However, in addition to the Covid Vaccination, Cornwells would now be operating a walk-in clinic for those requiring a Flu vaccination. This service would run alongside the present lateral flow testing facility which was being offered at the Community Centre.

The Community Centre was expected to be extremely busy for the forthcoming months, bearing in mind the Flu Vaccination was being offered to anyone over the age of 50. There would be two types of vaccine available against Influenza, one suitable for under 65s and one suitable for those over the age of 65. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood advised the Parish Council meeting that her views on this situation remained unchanged. This was noted

(f) Roadnaming for new Developments

(i) Development at 37 Jacobs Hall Lane

The Parish Council had received a request to put forward a suggestion for the road naming of the new development at the above mentioned site.

The Clerk was instructed to put forward the name Greenacres.

(ii) Former Industrial Site – Hazel Lane

The Parish Council had received a request to put forward a suggestion for the road naming of the new development at the above mentioned site.

The Clerk was instructed to put forward the name Harrison's Spires.

(g) Future of Play for the children of Great Wyrley

Councillor R. J. Perry had requested that this matter be placed on the agenda for discussion by the Parish Council on the basis that there were several play areas within the Parish all of which needed to be maintained. i.e.

- Brook Lane
- Jones Lane
- Leander Close
- Landywood Lane

Following discussion it was agreed by all Members that a monitoring exercise should be carried out of all the play areas under the Parish Council's control and an analysis of their usage be sought with a view to a further discussion at a future Parish Council meeting.

59/2021 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that there had been a sewerage burst in Honeysuckle Way which was being dealt with by Severn Trent Water.

Councillor Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that Severn Trent and Staffordshire County Council were currently in discussion as to the most effective way to improve the flooding situation via changes in the course of Wyrley Brook. As soon as a way forward had been decided upon, Cllr. Mrs. Perry was to make a full report to the Parish Council.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry also advised the meeting that the road works discussed at an earlier meeting were due to take place over a five to six week period and expected to create a very difficult situation for motorists in the Walkmill Lane/Coppice Lane area. The works were expected to commence in the following two weeks. There would be traffic lights on Coppice Lane with associated diversions. These works were also likely to have a very detrimental effect on the Parish of Great Wyrley. The works were required on health and safety grounds due to the depth that the new sewerage pipes needed to be laid at. Cllr. Mrs. K M. Perry advised the meeting that she had attended several meetings in the hope that this situation could have been avoided, however, to no avail.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry advised the Parish Council that the newly set up Community Fund which had allocated £2500 to each County Councillor to put towards community/voluntary organisations to help with their recovery from the pandemic had now opened and had a very limited time to left in which to apply. Councillors were to advise the Clerk should they have any proposals or projects they wished to support.

60/2021 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE gave Members a full report on the content of the Local Plan Review. Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised the meeting that in view of the fact that the District Council was not proposing to hold face to face consultation sessions within the Parishes itself that the Parish Council should take on this duty in order to ensure that no person in our Parish was disenfranchised from having their say with regard to the Local Plan. Cllr. Mrs. Perry went on to say that she did not agree with the contents of the Local Plan and had voted against it at the meeting on the basis that it contained proposals which, in her opinion, were extremely detrimental to some of the residents of Great Wyrley and that it was our residents' right to have their say. In order to carry this proposal through it would be necessary to hold two separate meetings during the early November. Ideally the meetings needed to be held one at the Senior Citizens Centre and one at Upper Landywood Chapel in

Streets Lane between 3.00 a.m. and 7.00p.m to allow for residents who work to attend. The details were to be confirmed. The Parish Council **resolved** to hold the meetings and to provide a template for written representations to be completed and forwarded to the Local Plans Team at the District Council by interested residents. The Clerk suggested that there should be a mailshot to Streets Lane and the other road leading of it.

61/2021 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

CENTRAL HEATING SYSTEM – COMMUNITY CENTRE

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the meeting that during the last few weeks there had been a number of serious problems with the boiler which runs the Community Centre heating system. The meeting was advised that there was an urgent need to resolve this matter. Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE was very concerned at the delivery time for a new boiler as everything had become very difficult to obtain. Ms. D. May advised the meeting that she had carried out research regarding this matter and the Parish Council would not be able take delivery of a new central heating boiler this side of Christmas.

There was a possibility that the existing boiler could be brought back into efficient use but there would be a time lapse whilst waiting for this to happen. One of the main problems was what form of heating could be used in the meantime. The Clerk was authorised to take whatever action was needed to ensure the Community Centre was heated and had hot water.

CEMETERY WORKING PARTY

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Cllr. A. Newell advised the meeting that he understood from the Royal British Legion that the service would be going ahead this year. The Parish Council would, of course, print the orders of the service in the usual way. This was noted by Members.

62/2021 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

HIGH STREET REGENERATION – FUNDING

Cllr. R. Myatt advised the meeting that he had received an email from the District Council ensuring that everyone was aware that there was funding under the banner of the regeneration of our High Streets. Discussion took place as to whether the Parish Council would have a valid reason to apply for this funding as it does not exactly have a High Street. The Clerk was to contact the owners of the Quinton Centre to assess whether they would be interested in working together on a possible project.

QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE – JUNE 2022

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE also advised the meeting that she would like Members to give consideration to holding an event to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen. The events were expected to take the form of a Street Party for the Children and an Afternoon Tea for the older residents. The Parish Council **resolved** to take this project forward.

The Clerk was instructed to research the possibility of procuring a marquee for the event.

NEW YEAR'S DAY WALK

Cllr. A. Kelsey asked the Parish Council whether it would be holding the New Year's Day Walk next year as he was more than happy to administer the event. Cllr. Kelsey also stated that the Parish Council could certainly have use of the Scouts and Guides Centre. The Parish Council **resolved** that as long as the circumstances remained safe enough to carry on with the event that it should go ahead.

FROG FUND RAISING CONCERT

Cllr. R. Myatt advised the meeting that he had organised a concert to take place originally in order to raise funds towards the Community Tribute to the NHS. As this may now not be essential it is proposed that the concert go forward and any monies raised go towards local charities.

REFURBISHMENT OF BENCHES IN THE MEMORIAL GARDEN

Cllr. R. Myatt advised the meeting that FROG had kindly agreed to carry out refurbishment works to some of the benches in the Memorial Garden which were in need of attention. This was noted by Members.

REMEMBRANCE DAY WREATHS

The Clerk was advised that Poppy Wreaths would still be on sale and that the Community Centre may be used as the collection and drop off point in the usual way.

63/2021 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

21/00733/FUL – TWO STOREY SIDE EXTENSION 20 WALSALL ROAD, GREAT WYRLEY – THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS PROPOSAL.

21/00927/FUL - REAR TWO STOREY EXTENSION TO PROVIDE KITCHEN AND ADDITIONAL BEDROOM TOGETHER WITH INTERNAL MODIFICATIONS TO PROVIDE SHOWER ROOM AND PLAYROOM AT 9 FOXLAND AVENUE, GREAT WYRLEY - THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS APPLICATION.

21/00972/FUL – PROPOSED SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION AT 19 THE HOLLIES, CHESLYN HAY - THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS PROPOSAL.

21/00892/REM – RESERVED MATTERS APPLICATION FOR THE ERECTION OF 2 NO. DETACHED DWELLINGS AND A DOUBLE GARAGE AT 203 WALSALL ROAD, GREAT WYRLEY – THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS APPLICATION.

64/2021 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.

65/2021 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.

66/2021 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

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

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Chairman