

GREAT WYRLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE INFORMAL OPEN 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 9TH February, 2022 to discuss arrangements for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Present:

**(Chairman)
Cllr. J. C. Jones**

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier Cllr. M. Dabbs Cllr. A. J. Kelsey Cllr. M. McKenzie	Cllr. R. Myatt Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE Cllr. R. J. Perry Cllr. A. D. Smith
--	--

113/2022 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr. A. Newell, Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood and Cllr. Mrs. S. Toddington.

There was only one agenda item to be discussed on this occasion and representatives of all Local Organisations had been invited to attend in order to share their ideas regarding events being organised to celebrate HM Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Cllr. J. C. Jones welcomed the representatives of the Local Organisations who were in attendance which included the following:

Great Wyrley Carnival Committee

Mrs. P. Kelsey and Cllr. A. Kelsey

Great Wyrley History Society

Mr. G. Smith and Mrs. D. Tolley

Great Wyrley Community Band

Mr. D. Watson and Mr. K. Watson

Great Wyrley Wesley Church

Mrs. P. Jones

Great Wyrley Townswomen's Guild

Mrs. P. Kelsey

Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay Community Group

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier.

INTRODUCTION

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the meeting that the purpose of calling this meeting was to find out what events other organisations within the Village were planning to hold to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Also to gauge whether there were any ways in which the Parish Council could be of assistance to other organisations in terms of advice and guidance. For instance should any of the organisations meet the right criteria they would be able to tap into funding which had been made available from South Staffordshire Council. Cllr. Jones advised the meeting that he had a number of Application Packs which included information on how to apply and all present were welcome to take one with them at the end of the meeting. The forms were self explanatory and the funding was up to £1000 per organisation.

Cllr. Jones also advised the meeting that other organisations may wish to know what the Parish Council was hoping to put on and that if they wished to be part of that event they were welcome but if they would prefer to hold their own event the Parish Council was here to help too.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that just by way of clarification she felt that it was really important to create a calendar of all the events that were to take place within the Parish so that there would be no clashes of dates. Creating a calendar now would mean that there was potential for the entire long weekend to be celebrated in one way or another.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised the meeting that the programme for what would be taking place in London over those four days had now been published and these were as follows:-

THURSDAY 2ND JUNE

The Queen's Birthday Parade (Trooping the Colour):

Over 1,400 parading soldiers, 200 horses and 400 musicians will come together in the traditional Parade to mark The Queen's official birthday, usually held on the second Saturday in June.

Beginning at Buckingham Palace, the Parade will move down The Mall to Horse Guard's Parade, joined by Members of the Royal Family on horseback and in carriages. The Parade will close with the traditional RAF fly-past, watched by The Queen and Members of the Royal Family from the Buckingham Palace balcony.

Platinum Jubilee Beacons:

The United Kingdom's long tradition of celebrating Royal Jubilees, Weddings and Coronations with the lighting of beacons will be continued to mark the Platinum Jubilee. Over 1,500 beacons will be lit throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK Overseas Territories.

FRIDAY 3RD JUNE

Service of Thanksgiving

A Service of Thanksgiving for The Queen's reign will be held at St Paul's Cathedral. Further events will be announced in due course.

SATURDAY 4TH JUNE

Platinum Party at the Palace

The BBC will stage and broadcast a special live concert from Buckingham Palace that will bring together some of the world's biggest entertainment stars to celebrate the most significant and joyous moments from The Queen's seven decade reign. Members of the public will be invited to apply to attend this special event and details of the ballot for UK residents to secure audience tickets will be released in February.

SUNDAY 5TH JUNE

The Big Jubilee Lunch

Every year since the idea began in 2009 The Big Lunch has encouraged communities to celebrate their connections and get to know each other a little bit better, coming together in a spirit of fun and friendship. In 2022 The Big Lunch will bring the Jubilee celebrations into the heart of every community.

PARISH COUNCIL'S PROPOSED EVENTS

Friday 3rd June

Outdoor Children's Event

The Parish Council is proposing to hold an outdoor event on Landywood Playing Field on the morning of Friday 3rd June for the children of the village incorporating old fashioned entertainment, a bouncy castle, children's disco etc.

Senior Citizens Afternoon Tea

The Parish Council is proposing to hold a late Afternoon Tea for the senior citizens of the village which will be held outdoors in an old fashioned street party setting or inside the Community Centre should the weather dictate. There will be a film showing of the Queens Accession to the throne and various other features along with the History Society Exhibition to be displayed at the Community Centre.

Saturday 4th June **Picnic in the Park**

The Parish Council is planning to hold a Picnic in the Park to be held on the Great Wyrley Academy field backing onto Olde Wyrley Hall. The Parish Council is hiring an 8sq. Metre mobile screen which will be showing the Platinum Party at the Palace live streamed from Buckingham Palace. This will be an event for all ages and involve everyone bringing their own chairs, tables, food, drink and Candelabra, umbrellas or gazebos if required. This event will follow the nature of an outside Night at the Proms. Time to be confirmed along with security details.

At the present time there is no more detail on these arrangements until they have been ratified by the Parish Council at its next meeting on 2nd March, 2022.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that everyone was welcome to be part of these plans but equally if they wish to plan their own event it would all be assisted by the compilation of a diary to ensure that no events were clashed with.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry also advised the meeting that she had some excellent news in that the donator of the Christmas Lights for the Walsall Road had now contacted her with regard to specially designed Platinum Jubilee Lights which could be attached to the existing fittings on the Walsall Road. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry also advised the meeting that the Parish Council was planning to plant all the tubs along the Walsall Road with red, white and blue flowers to make sure that all bases were covered and that Great Wyrley was gearing itself up for some brilliant celebrations.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry concluded by giving the meeting an email address which could be utilised in the event that any other organisations were planning on closing roads to hold their own street parties. The email address is nmu@staffordshire.gov.uk as permission would be needed from Staffordshire County Council to close any road. However, the County Council will not be providing closure equipment. In essence organisations would need to produce their own signage.

In conclusion Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised the meeting that once a calendar of events had been produced the closure of roads could be included in the information to ensure everyone was aware of road closures which could be publicised on the Parish Council website.

Cllr. J. C. Jones asked Cllr. Mrs. Perry if she was aware of whether the County Council would continue to levy a charge for road closures. Mr. D. Watson advised the meeting that he had

observed in the press that such charges would be waived during these celebrations. This was noted.

Mrs. P. Kelsey asked the question whether there would be a Beacon Lighting Ceremony. Cllr. Mrs. Perry felt that it may be appropriate to hold a service immediately prior to the lighting of the Beacon and would look into this with the Reverend Monica Judson. There was a suggestion that this may take place on the Friday whilst everyone was already out and in attendance at the parties at the Community Centre. However, this needed to be confirmed with the dates selected nationally for the lighting of the Beacons.

Mr. D. Watson asked the Chairman where the funding which had been referred to earlier was emanating from and was advised that it was available from South Staffordshire Council. Mr. D. Watson also advised the meeting that there was another funding stream available from the Community Foundation of Staffordshire which may be worth tapping into. This was noted.

There was some confusion over which organisations were offering funding, however, it was confirmed that the funding from the Community Foundation of Staffordshire was sponsored by the Arts Council and the Community Innovation Funding was sponsored by South Staffordshire Council. Cllr. Mrs. Perry clarified that the Support Staffordshire Organisation had offered assistance to organisations in applying for such funding it was not actually funding any projects itself.

Cllr. J. C. Jones reiterated that the funding application packs were available tonight for any organisation who wished to look into the possibility of funding. The Clerk advised the meeting that the applications packs could be found on South Staffordshire Council's website but that it closed on 18th February, 2020 so time was of the essence.

Cllr. J. C. Jones then invited Mr. G. Smith of Great Wyrley History Society to address the meeting with their plans for the occasion. Mr. Smith advised the meeting that the History Society was currently in the process of preparing an exhibition which detailed the history of Harrison's Choir and particularly the story of Howard Benton. Cllr. R. Myatt explained that this project was yet to be sorted out but that there was a link to Queen's Accession to the Throne but it did not necessarily need to clash with any of the other events taking place. Mr. Smith then enquired of Mrs. Kelsey when the Carnival would be held and was advised that the Carnival would take place after the Celebration Weekend and on its usual weekend which this year was 25th June.

Mrs. P. Kelsey explained that the Scarecrow Event which they were currently organising was to be held the week before but there was nothing to stop people bringing their scarecrows back into the spotlight as part of the Jubilee Celebrations.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry suggested that the Calendar should cover the entire month of June so that any events which were taking place during that period could be advertised.

Cllr. J. C. Jones asked whether there was any firm date set yet for the positioning of the Tribute to the NHS in the Memorial Garden. Cllr. R. Myatt advised Cllr. Jones that this matter was still to be agreed with the Parish Council.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry advised the meeting that it may be a nice touch if The History Society put together some photographs of the previous Jubilees to give a flavour of the history of the event over the years. Mr. G. Smith advised the meeting that the History Society had many photographs of both the 1953 event and the 1977 events but wondered where it would be appropriate to show these exhibitions. Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry suggested that as the Community Centre would be back under the control of the Parish Council well before that time that an exhibition could be staged there. Such an exhibition would add value to the events which the Parish Council was planning to hold on Friday 3rd June and could be staged in the long room to the side of the building. This area would lend itself to this use very well and could be accessed from the side of the building for people to call in to view. The film of the Accession to the Throne could also be projected onto the screen in this area.

Mr. G. Smith advised the meeting that this was a theme which they had planned to adopt for the Carnival this year, however, preparing it for the Queen's Celebrations could be carried out as suggested and then it could be shown again at the Carnival. This was noted.

Cllr. J. C. Jones then invited Cllr. R. Myatt to address the meeting with his suggestions. Cllr. Myatt explained that he had a copy of the leaflet from the Royal British Legion publicising the plaques under the Queens Green Canopy which may be appropriate to place in the Memorial Garden. The Clerk advised Cllr. Myatt that when she had had a conversation with him the day before she had been unaware that this idea had already been flagged up with the Wyrley Branch of the British Legion. The Parish Council was presently awaiting a response from Mr. T. Poulton as to whether they would be organising this tribute themselves. Cllr. Mrs. Perry also advised the meeting that should this be the case the Parish Council may wish to assist with its funding knowing how difficult it had been for them to raise funds over the last couple of years.

The particularly strong link between The Memorial Garden and Royal British Legion needed to be remembered at this time, as after all our armed forces have all fought for Queen and Country. This suggestion was endorsed by Cllr. J. C. Jones and all others present. Accordingly, this item was to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council Meeting. Cllr. Myatt advised the meeting that in the event that any difficulty was experienced regarding this matter, FROG would be happy to fund its purchase. This was noted.

Cllr. J. C. Jones then invited Mr. D. Watson and Mr. K. Watson to address the meeting with their proposals.

Mr. K. Watson advised the meeting that, as yet, the Great Wyrley Community Band did not have anything planned, however, they had received a number of enquiries. They had presently not agreed to any bookings on the basis that their Members came from far and wide and many of the Band Members were in full time work. This was a factor which needed close supervision as it was impossible to work with half a band.

Mr. K. Watson explained that one of the things he was concerned about was the fact that these events would be taking place over a Bank Holiday and he was worried that there may be problems with the Saturday evening event as some Band Members may already be working.

Mr. Watson advised all present that he would be calling a meeting of the Great Wyrley Community Band to sort out all these matters and have a clear way forward. Mr. Watson explained that the Covid Pandemic had virtually brought the Bands activities to a standstill including fund raising and there were a number of issues which needed to be resolved, however, he felt strongly that Great Wyrley Community Band should be part of the celebrations being held in Great Wyrley and would appreciate being advised of the dates as soon as these had been confirmed to ensure that this could be accommodated.

The Clerk advised Mr. Watson that she hoped to be able to confirm dates following ratification at the next meeting of the Parish Council on 2nd March, 2022. All present thanked Mr. Watson for his kindness and loyalty to Great Wyrley Parish.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry suggested that once the Afternoon Tea had taken place and if the Rev. Monica Judson was able to hold a service on the Millennium Green it may be that the Band could be part of that event on the Friday afternoon. Mr. Watson advised the meeting that this would, of course, be dependent upon the weather. There would be a marquee or a canopy. Mrs. P. Kelsey advised the meeting that they would happily allow the use of the Carnival marquee for this purpose. Members discussed the fact that there needed to be a timeline involved in this proposal as the Beacon needed to be lit in darkness for its full effect to be achieved.

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the meeting that it may well be possible to set up the Band at the Playing Field side of the Community Centre immediately outside the Patio Doors so that they could entertain the Afternoon Tea Party.

Cllr. J. C. Jones asked Cllr. M. Dabbs if he wished to address the meeting with his ideas and was advised by Cllr. Dabbs that he would be more than happy to assist with the erection of the gazebos. This was noted.

Cllr. J. C. Jones invited Mrs. P. Jones to address the meeting on behalf of the Great Wyrley Wyrley Wesleyan Methodist Church and the Great Wyrley Townswomen's Guild. Mrs Jones advised the meeting that she would let Mrs. P. Kelsey address the meeting on behalf of the Townswomen's Guild.

Mrs. Jones advised the meeting that The Wesley was to hold its normal Sunday Service at its usual time and then go into a special Lunch Celebration immediately following the service. Mrs. Jones advised the meeting that some organisations had gone down the route of preparing ham salads and apple pies but this would not work for the Wesleyan and they had decided to provide picnic boxes for all in attendance and then should anyone have an engagement they needed to get off to they had a choice of whether they remained at the picnic or took their picnic box with them. They would be decorating the area with streamers and all would be wearing Red, White and Blue.

Mr. D. Watson advised the meeting that when the 1977 Jubilee took place the District Council arranged a "Best Street Party Competition" which everyone really enjoyed. This had been difficult to arrange as timings needed to be streamlined to ensure all could be judged properly.

Cllr. A. Kelsey advised the meeting that the programmes for the parties could be confirmed at a later date and once set in stone a Judging Party could be appointed to visit each street which had entered. This would work by way of inviting all streets to enter into the competition if they wished to and then judging them over the whole weekend using the Calendar.

Cllr. J. C. Jones asked whether the Parish Council could offer a monetary reward for the winners. Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry explained that it was difficult to make a monetary award as it was impossible for this to be shared out properly, what had happened in the past was that the winners had been given a plaque to be attached to the winning street, more a matter of pride than financial gain.

Cllr. Jones asked whether winning plaques would be produced by County Highways. Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry advised Councillor Jones that the signs were Green with the District Council's Logo on as it had been run by the District Council at that time but that the Parish Council could source signage itself.

Cllr. Jones was concerned that there may be a lot of streets which would choose to hold a street party and the Parish Council may not necessarily be aware of them. Cllr. Jones asked whether Cllr. Mrs. Perry may be able to assist with gathering this information through the road closure applications. Cllr. Mrs. Perry agreed that she would certainly enquire as to this stream of information but felt it may be more beneficial to ask the organisers of any street parties to advise the Parish Council so that the information could be placed on the Parish Council website.

Mr. K. Watson advised the meeting that this proposal would be a very good one to go with and not prove to be very expensive either. Cllr. A. Smith advised the meeting that it may be beneficial to leaflet the village asking anyone who was intending to hold a Street Party to advise the Parish Council so it could be entered on the Calendar and whether they wished to enter into the competition.

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier advised the meeting that she had not been advised by the Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay Community Group of any plans they had in place. Cllr. Mrs. Brazier advised the meeting that she had asked Mr. L. Murphy to attend this meeting with her but he had not chosen to do so and as she had stated earlier she was unaware of any plans which had been made.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry advised the meeting that she felt that before Cllr. Mrs. Brazier made any report back to the Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay Community Group on any of the plans discussed this evening the decisions should all be ratified at the next meeting of the Parish Council. This was noted.

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier agreed that the most important point to refer back to the Community Group was that there was funding available from two different sources.

Mr. G. Smith advised the meeting that the 1977 Jubilee had been such a benchmark in events in the Country, but that the 50th Anniversary had not been anything like as well received. Cllr. Mrs. Perry agreed and advised the meeting that we would just need to accept the fact that modern life is quite different to the old days. Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the meeting that at least the Parish Council was making it clear to all that it wanted to make this celebration as a special as possible and was inviting the village to be a part of it.

Cllr. R. J. Perry advised the meeting that he thought there were very good ideas being discussed tonight and the sooner we got the calendar done the better and we could put signs all over the village advertising what the Parish Council was planning to do.

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the meeting that it may also be good policy to have signage on our main road in Great Wyrley Celebrating the Queen's Jubilee. Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that no one was allowed to use the highway as a signage position but there may well be ways around it. She would ask this question of the District Council.

The Clerk suggested that should the banners be displayed on private land at each entrance to the Village the Parish Council could purchase large advertisement banners for a reasonable amount of money.

Cllr. J. C. Jones asked Cllr. A. Smith if he wished to address the meeting and Cllr. Smith advised all organisations present that he understood what a massive task it was to organise events such as these and that he wanted all present to know that he was eager to be put to work and would be prepared to volunteer to help whichever organisation needed him. The Clerk was to circulate Cllr. Smith's email address to all organisations in order to facilitate contact.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry was able to show all present a photograph of the specialised lights which had been offered to us for the Queen's Jubilee Celebration and all agreed that they were really spectacular would certainly herald Great Wyrley Celebrations.

Cllr. Jones invited Cllr. A. Kelsey to address the meeting on behalf of the Carnival Committee and he advised the meeting that they would be holding a family event on the lawned area at Harrisons on the Saturday as they always did for St. Georges Day. This was to be confirmed at a forthcoming meeting.

Cllr. J. C. Jones invited Mrs. Pauline Kelsey to speak on behalf of the Townswomen's Guild and she advised the meeting that they would be holding their picnic in the park at the Wesley Chapel on Tuesday 5th June.

Mrs. Kelsey also advised the meeting that the Carnival would be taking place on 25th June and if any local organisations were planning on purchasing bunting for their events then it was available at a very reasonable price at Penkridge Market.

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the meeting that the Clerk would be contacting all present when the diary was starting to take shape but in any event after the next Parish Council meeting.

In conclusion Mrs. P. Kelsey advised the meeting that St. Georges Day would be celebrated with a parade through the village followed by a Fete at Harrisons to take place on 23rd April, 2022.

Cllr. J. C. Jones distributed funding application packs to all present and thanked everyone for attending this evening. It had been a good meeting with a lot of good ideas and all that was left to say was God Save the Queen.

The meeting closed at 8.40p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

Chairman