

GREAT WYRLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GREAT WYRLEY PARISH COUNCIL held at Great Wyrley Community Centre, Landywood Lane, Great Wyrley which commenced at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday 7th December, 2022.

Present:

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

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier Cllr. M. Dabbs Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson Cllr. A. J. Kelsey Cllr. M. McKenzie Cllr. A. Newell	Cllr. A. Pearson Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE Cllr. R. J. Perry Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood Cllr. Mrs. C. Whiston-Taylor.
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Also in attendance were the Parish Clerk (Mrs. S. McGlue) and the Parish Administrator (Ms. D. May).

PRESENTATION BY SEVERN TRENT WATER RE: CHURCHBRIDGE SEWERAGE WORKS

The Chairman welcomed representatives of Severn Trent Water, Dalcour Maclaren and CPC Civils to the meeting.

The Parish Council was advised that the purpose of the meeting was to ensure that the Parish Council was made aware that works presently taking place at Churchbridge would cease over the Christmas period but would recommence on 3rd January.

The Officer from Severn Trent Water explained to Members that the project referred to related to the replacement of an existing rising main which stretched from Littlewood to Goscote.

The meeting was advised that this was the final stage of quite a large project which was expected to conclude in June 2023. The remainder of the works was to involve tunnelling through under the railway and the associated water course. However, this stage of the process, unfortunately, would be carried out on a 24 hour basis in order to meet with the requirements of Network Rail.

On return to the site, post Christmas, the dewatering of the site would need to take place to reduce the water table and allow for the tunnelling to take place. Unfortunately, the tunnelling would be the part of the process which would involve considerable noise nuisance because the shafts needed to be sunk. This exercise would take approximately three months because of the changes in soil conditions. Tunnelling itself would take 2 – 3 weeks and was relatively silent as it was so deep underground, however, the removal of the detritus from the shafts was likely to cause the most nuisance as it was suspended in water which then needed separating out, prior to disposal. There would be noise mitigation in place, both for the generators and the plant required to separate the removed substance from the shafts and everything was being done to ensure that the disruption was managed as properly and sensitively as possible.

Following these works there would be a return to general working which would not be quite so disruptive.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE requested clarification from Severn Trent whether they had ensured that everyone who lives at Lock Basin Close and the surrounding estate had been advised that these works were to take place. Cllr. Mrs. Perry felt it most important that a direct dial number was publicised to everyone so that all affected knew who to contact, should they have a problem. This measure would be very much appreciated as otherwise the Parish Councillors

and the Parish Council Office would be the first place of contact should a problem arise.

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised those present that it was inevitable that complaints would be made and early preparation on how to deal with such instances would be key.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry asked of Severn Trent whether these works would put a stop to all the problems which had been experienced in the area in the past. Cllr. Mrs. Perry was advised that there would be increased capacity as the pumping stations were also being upgraded. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. J. C. Jones thanked the representatives present for attending the meeting on this occasion and for explaining the implications of the project to the Parish Council. Cllr. Jones also suggested that it may be beneficial to post notices in the area of the works publicising contact details in addition to leaflet dropping the properties affected. This was noted. The Chairman wished the attendees all the best for the future and wished them the compliments of the season.

80/2022 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr. R. Myatt and Cllr. Mrs. S. Toddington.

81/2022 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Parish Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE declared a standing interest in any items relating to planning applications on the basis that she represents Locality 3 at South Staffordshire Council's Planning Committee meetings, and would, therefore, not vote on any planning matters brought before the Parish Council. Cllr. Mrs. Perry may remain at the meeting and any views she may have expressed were based on the information before her at that time. Those views may change in the light of further information or debate at a future South Staffordshire Council's Planning Committee meeting.

82/2022 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Resolved that following an amendment to the paragraph relating to Local bus services on page 6 to read... "In Cllr. Mrs. Wood's view the X51 Service cannot be relied upon at the moment." the minutes be accepted, approved and signed by the Chairman. It was carried.

Resolved that the minutes of the Strictly Confidential meeting of the Annual Governance and Audit Committee meeting held on 29th November, 2022 be accepted, the contents ratified and the decisions recorded in the minutes approved and adopted by the Parish Council.

83/2022 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised Members that he would like to take this last opportunity to remind everyone that the Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch would take place on 16th December, 2022 and commence at 1.00p.m. All volunteers would be most welcome; the more the merrier.

The Chairman also advised the meeting that the New Year's Day Walk would be taking place again this year. Cllr. A. J. Kelsey advised the meeting that the Walk would indeed take place, but it may be shorter than it had been in previous years, however, this was mostly due to ensuring safe walking conditions. The walk would start from the Scout and Guide Centre at 2.00p.m. on New Year's Day and hopefully it would be a good turn out as in previous years. The Parish Council was to publicise the walk on the Parish Council website and the Parish Notice Boards. Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood reminded the Parish Council that Cllr. A. Kelsey would appreciate any help given with this event.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders to allow the Parish Council to be addressed by Members of the public.

A resident of Great Wyrley addressed the Parish Council relating to the fact that there was presently a problem with drivers mounting the kerb and driving along a footpath to approach Brook lane. This was causing disruption to the frontage of several properties and he felt that a concrete bollard strategically positioned may well resolve the problem. Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that other authorities would not take on that responsibility as it comes under the jurisdiction of Housing Plus. The resident had already contacted Housing Plus but did not hold out much hope. The Parish Council agreed to support the resident's view and approach Housing Plus with a similar request. The Parish Council was to communicate with the resident should it have any further information on this subject.

The Chairman reinstated Standing Orders and continued with the business of the meeting.

(a) Misuse of Wyrley Brook

The Parish Council had recently been requested to publicise the fact that there was a real need to ensure that as many parents as possible instil into their children how important it was not to misuse Wyrley Brook.

Apparently, Severn Trent felt that a message on social media to discourage Fly tipping and the placing of urban debris into the watercourse would be really beneficial. Of course, the Parish Council would publicise this request on its website.

By way of clarification it seemed that an ongoing fight had been taking place for some time involving youngsters throwing things into the brook and this problem appeared to be escalating. Severn Trent's operational staff pull these items out of the Brook during their weekly maintenance visits, however, Severn Trent's staff do not have a license to dispose of items like shopping trolleys and traffic cones and this is the reason they are left on the side of the Brook and were consequently thrown straight back in. This was noted by Members.

Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** to request the Clerk to contact Mr. R. Taylor of South Staffordshire Council to enquire whether it would be possible that the Street Scene Organisation may be able to explore the possibility of working together to improve this situation.

(b) Local Plan Review

As Members were already aware the Local Plan Review was presently out for consultation. Apparently, there had been a number of instances whereupon Members of the public/organisations etc. had been requesting clarification of South Staffordshire Council as to how to respond at this stage of the consultation. The response to the enquiries had now been publicised by South Staffordshire Council and accordingly placed on the Parish Council's website for information.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE explained that not everyone had access to the internet and that it may be beneficial to ensure that a hard copy of the Local Plan was made available at the Community Centre so that anyone wishing to respond to the consultation could read the document before doing so. Cllr. Mrs. Perry reminded the Parish Council that the content of the Local Plan had now been approved by

South Staffordshire Council and that this final consultation related to the soundness of the process itself. This was noted by Members.

(c) Landywood Development - Road Naming

Members recalled that the District Council had requested Members to put forward possible names for the new development at Landywood Lane.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry explained that the following names had been put forward and the history behind the choices were as follows:-

Modder River Close for the first spur off - this was what Streets Lane used to be referred to as locally and this was because some of the houses which were built there at the time had a possible connection to the Modder River Battle which was fought during the Boer War.

Spion Cop View - was chosen because the view from Streets Lane was over to Gorse Lane which was locally known as Spion Cop during that time and the history was similar to that for Modder River Close above.

Plant Valley Glade - this was chosen because the local pit opposite was known as Plant Pit and was bordered by two huge pools. Also the land overlooked a valley which was the other side of the railway line. Hence the name Plant Valley Glade.

These names would honour the history of the village.

The meeting was advised that South Staffordshire Council had responded with a number of amendments as follows:-

Extract from email from South Staffordshire Council
*"The developer had asked if the Parish Council would accept slightly shorter names:
Boer Close or Modder Close – Instead of Modder River Close?
Spion Cop View – The Developer has accepted.
Plant Valley – To keep it shorter."*

Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** that it would prefer to keep the selections in their initial form but had no objection to the shortened version should these prove to be the preferred option of Royal Mail.

(d) Christmas and New Year Refuse Collection

The Clerk advised the meeting that South Staffordshire Council had recently advertised its programme for the collection of waste. A copy had been provided to all Members for their information.

85/2022

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

GREAT WYRLEY LIBRARY

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE informed the meeting that she was very pleased to advise Members that the Catherine Care Organisation had made the decision to carry on running Great Wyrley Library. The length of the new contract was unconfirmed. This was noted with gratitude by Members.

HAZEL LANE TRAFFIC LIGHTS

Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised the meeting that from 23rd February, 2023 there would be traffic lights in Hazel Lane. Cllr. Mrs. Perry also advised the meeting that there was a network available to all called one.network which would provide all the

information needed regarding why any work was being done and who was carrying out the work. This App was available on the Parish Council website. This was noted by Members.

RE-OPENING OF STATION STREET, CHESLYN HAY

Cllr. Mrs. Perry also advised the meeting that Station Street, Cheslyn Hay was due to reopen shortly and that New Horse Road would hopefully re-open on 16th December. This was noted by Members. In addition to this information Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that the highways issues relating to Bentons Lane and Streets Lane would be reported to Mark Keeling OF Staffordshire County Council Highways at the beginning of the New Year. This was noted by Members.

86/2022 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr. Mrs. J. A. Johnson advised the Parish Council that she had been in attendance at the Planning Meeting when the Walsall Road Development was considered and could advise Members that works would commence during February of the New Year. Cllr. J. C. Jones asked Cllr. Mrs. Johnson whether building contractors would be using the main entrance to the site during the construction stage. Mrs. Johnson's response was that yes they would be. This was noted.

87 /2022 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

NO DOGS ALLOWED NOTICE ON LEANDER CLOSE PLAY AREA

Cllr. A. Newell advised the meeting that, unfortunately, a resident of the village was continuing to use Leander Close Play Area as his personal space to train his dogs.

Notices had already been displayed on the gates, however, these were being removed as fast as they were placed. Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that there was a possibility that Mr. R. Taylor of South Staffordshire Council may be able to assist with this matter. This was noted by Members.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ON THE A34

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE took this opportunity to thank the Clerk for ensuring that the Christmas Lights were now switched on in Walsall Road. It was agreed by all that the Christmas Lights looked very effective indeed and everyone seemed to enjoy the festive atmosphere they created.

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the meeting that he had received a complaint that the lights had been left on during the day. The reason for the constant illumination is that they are LED lights and they are cheaper to run if left on than having timers fitted to each lamp post. This was noted by Members.

ANNUAL CAROL CONCERT

Cllr. M. Dabbs advised the Parish Council that he had been asked whether the Parish Council would be holding a Carol Concert this year. Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood advised the meeting that unfortunately, even before Covid, that due to the lack of co-ordination between the local schools it had not been possible to support the event. This was noted by Members.

88/2022 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from outside bodies.

89/2022 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

22/00763/FUL – AMENDED PLANS AND DESCRIPTION OF THE RETENTION OF 5 NO. LIGHTING COLUMNS AND ASSOCIATED LUMIONAIRES (3NO. 18 WATT LUMINAIRES AS EXISTING AND 2 NO. PROPOSED 10 WATT FLOODLIGHTS IN THE POSITIONS SHOWN FOR EXISTING STABLES AT LITTLE ACRE, JACOBS HALL LANE. THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS APPLICATION.

22/01105/FUL – GARAGE ROOF TO BE EXTENDED OVER EXISTING UNCOVERED STORAGE AREA AT 15 HUTHILL LANE, GREAT WYRLEY – THE PARISH COUNCIL OBJECTED TO THIS PROPOSAL ON THE BASIS THAT IT WOULD CREATE A CRAMPED APPEARANCE AND BE INCONGRUOUS IN THE STREET SCENE.

90/2022 **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.

91/2022 **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.

92/2022 **CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

Following discussion the Parish Council unanimously **resolved to** support the recommendations made under this item.

The meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

Chairman