

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 3RD April, 2024.

Present:

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

Cllr. O. Brazier Cllr. A. J. Kelsey Cllr. A. Newell Cllr. M. Jackson	Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE Cllr. R. J. Perry Cllr. Mrs. C. Whiston-Taylor Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood
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Also in attendance was Parish Clerk (Mrs. S. McGlue)

131/2024 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr. D. Norris.

132/2024 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE had 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.

133/2024 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** to accept, approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6th March, 2024. It was carried.

134/2024 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman advised the meeting that the Parish Council had been approached by Mr. Mike Mellor of the Chase Arts for Public Spaces Organisation requesting an informal meeting with Members in order to discuss an idea (which was presently in its infancy) regarding the placement of a CHAPS tribute to the mining community of Great Wyrley. The Chairman confirmed that there was no financial implication for the Parish Council in this approach, it was simply a project that the Chase Arts organisation would like to progress. This was noted.

The Chairman advised the Parish Council that a meeting had been arranged to take place at Great Wyrley Community Centre with the Chairman of CHAPS at 11.30a.m. on Friday 5th April, 2024. All Members were invited to be in attendance. This was noted.

134/2024 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present on this occasion.

135/2024 CLERK'S REPORTS

(a) COMMUNITY HEARTBEAT TRUST – UPDATE

Members recalled that the Parish Council had discussed this matter at length at its last meeting. The Clerk advised the meeting that since that time the Community Heartbeat Trust had clarified a number of points which had previously led to an element of confusion.

The Parish Council had now been advised that the Defibrillator located at the Salem Methodist Church had been officially adopted by the Salem Methodist Church and that they had raised the funds themselves to ensure that the facility remained available. Cllr. A. J. Kelsey advised the meeting that Great Wyrley Senior Citizens Welfare Centre and Harrison's Sports and Social Club had also taken ownership of the devices located at their premises and funding would be raised with the assistance of the Carnival Committee to retain both facilities. This was noted by Members.

Following a free and frank exchange of views the Parish Council **resolved** to take responsibility for the Defibrillator located at Great Wyrley Community Centre which was to include the monitoring of the device and any financial support required.

Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood felt that the Parish Council should also take responsibility for the Defibrillator located at the Table Tennis Club, however, this was felt to be inequitable as it would be very difficult to single out one device to support when there were others also in need. This was noted by Members.

(b) CHRISTMAS LIGHTING REQUIREMENTS – TURNOCK LTD

Members recalled that full discussion took place regarding the Christmas Lighting requirements for 2024 at the last meeting of the Parish Council. Subsequently the Clerk had received a set of photographs showing the designs for the lighting scheme for 2024 from Turnocks Limited for consideration. By way of clarification the Clerk advised the meeting that the designs chosen were compatible with the street furniture on the A34. This was noted.

The Clerk advised the meeting that Turnock Limited had also provided the Parish Council with an option to have two of the decorations incorporating the name of Great Wyrley. These specific lights to be placed at each end of the A34 forming a welcome to the village. Following consideration the Parish Council **resolved** that the selection of lighting designs in general was excellent and that they would also like to purchase the two specifically designed lights incorporating the name of the village. It was carried.

(c) REQUEST TO PERFORM VOLUNTEER SERVICES AT GREAT WYRLEY CEMETERY

The Clerk advised the meeting that the Parish Council had been approached by a resident of Cheslyn Hay requesting Councillors to give permission for a 16 year old person to carry out volunteer work in Great Wyrley Cemetery particularly relating to the cleaning of memorial stones.

Members agreed that, of course, the offer of voluntary assistance from a young person was always gratifying, however, in this instance were concerned whether the Parish Council was authorised to agree to such an activity as although it owned and operated Great Wyrley Cemetery it did not own or have any jurisdiction over the headstones contained within it. On this basis the Parish Council **resolved** not to accept this offer. It was carried.

(d) REQUEST TO HOST AND SUPPORT A COMMUNITY EVENT TO ASSIST UNPAID CARERS FROM CANNOCK MEDICAL GROUP WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CANNOCK VILLAGES PCN

The Clerk explained to the Parish Council that at the time the agenda was published the implications of the booking requested appeared to be much more complex than they actually were. This matter was now being treated in the same way as any normal booking for the Community Centre and did not require specific consideration by the Parish Council. However, as the request had already appeared as an agenda item an explanation was required. This was noted by Members.

(e) APPROACH BY COMMON STORY FOR CBEEBIES TO FILM AT GREAT WYRLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Members recalled that following the last meeting of the Parish Council the Clerk had sent out an email advising everyone that the Parish Council had been approached by a member of staff from a television production company requesting permission to film at Great Wyrley Community Centre. Following discussion which included the concerns of Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood regarding the amount of parking which may be needed by the Film Company, those concerns were assuaged and the Parish Council **resolved** to accept the booking should it be confirmed. It was carried.

(f) CLIMATE CHANGE

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that she had requested that this item be placed on the agenda for each meeting of the Parish Council. She had made this request on the basis that Climate Change was a very important issue indeed and whilst it was on the agenda for each monthly meeting it would ensure that it was clear to all that the issue was being taken very seriously by the Parish Council.

136/2024 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the Parish Council that an additional £2 million had been included in the budget for Staffordshire Highways this year. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry also explained that she had now had an opportunity to express her deep seated disappointment at the standard of the current workmanship applied to repairs to the highway and that she felt it was important that this issue was properly dealt with as a matter of urgency. This was by Members.

137/2024 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised the meeting that she had a number of matters to report but invited Cllr. M. Jackson to address the Parish Council should he so wish.

Cllr. Jackson advised the meeting that he had now been informed that it had not been possible to erect the security camera on the car park at Meadowbank Grange as there had not been anywhere suitable to site it. However, Cllr. Jackson assured all present that this matter was being looked into further and a solution to the issue would hopefully be found shortly. This was noted.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised the meeting that the District Council was presently offering District Council Ward Members the use of a two man maintenance team for 12 days per year to carry out works which they felt needed to be carried out in their wards. Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that this plan was very similar to the NHT project which was withdrawn by Staffordshire County Council some time ago. Cllr. Mrs. Perry felt that this would be an excellent opportunity for District and Parish to work together and produce a list of tasks.

The Chairman requested all Members to contact the Clerk with any issue they felt would fit the bill in this instance to enable her to ensure that the list was submitted to the District Council sooner rather than later, but in any event, in time not to allow any of those twelve days to go to waste.

The following items were put forward:-

- Landywood Green (also known as The Triangle and Browns Corner) which is near the junction of Old Landywood Lane and Streets Lane needs the

footpath clearing back to make it usable as it is the only pavement in this area and vital for people to access Strawberry Lane Cemetery. The hedges also need cutting back to make the footpath usable safely. Slow pedestrians crossing signs have already been requested by Cllr. Mrs. Perry.

- Walkway by the side of The Malt which is in District Council ownership and now need clearing and making safe to use and the barriers need to be moved as they are not wheelchair or pushchair friendly.
- Station Road Car Park (Meadowgrange) needs to be completely cleared and tidied of weeds and detritus as it looks derelict.
- The walkway which goes along the side of the Tesco garage to Hut Hill Lane needs the path cleared and cut back as it is covered in mud and unusable at the moment and needs to be used by school children.
- From Holly Lane to Long Lane on the A34 the footpaths need edging and the hedges need cutting back to allow safe use of the footpath.
- The A34 from Meers the Butchers up to opposite the Wheatsheaf Public House has badly overgrown hedges onto the pavement.
- Pavements to be swept in Autumn of each year outside St. Mark's Church as the leaf fall makes the surface very dangerous for pedestrians. Suggest booking road sweeper during that period.

The Chairman requested that any Member having any issue they wish to raise should advise the Clerk as soon as possible so that those issues can be added to the list for works to be carried out.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry also explained that the Local Plan (which had been stalled for some time) was now out for consultation and everyone should try to ensure that they were aware of its content.

The Chairman advised the meeting that the relevant content of the Local Plan should be advertised at the Community Centre as prominently as possible to ensure that everyone was made aware of agreed proposals. The commencement date for the consultation period was for a six week period from 18th April to 12 noon on 31st May, 2024.

138/2024 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood advised the meeting that she had been advised that motor bikes were using The Star Land as a race track on Sundays. This matter was to be reported to Staffordshire Police as a matter of urgency.

Cllr. Mrs. Wood also reported that there was a sunken drain in Bentons Lane which was very dangerous. Cllr. Mrs. Wood was advised to report this matter to the County Council as even though the drain itself may not be the responsibility of the County Council it would still ensure that the matter was raised with the relevant organisation.

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier advised the meeting that she had recently reported that it had come to her notice that the new development was receiving rate bills referring to Cheslyn Hay. Cllr. Mrs. Brazier was advised that this issue had now been resolved with South Staffordshire Council. This was noted.

139/2024 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from outside bodies on this occasion.

140/2024 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

24/00226/FUL – RETROSPECTIVE APPLICATION – RETENTION OF 3 STORAGE CONTAINERS FOR AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT AT SUTHERLAND FARM, 38 JACOBS HALL LANE, GREAT WYRLEY – THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBSERVATIONS TO MAKE ON THIS APPLICATION AND CHOSE TO BE GUIDED BY THE OFFICERS.

23/01075/FULHH – AMENDED PLANS FOR FRONT PORCH AND BAY WINDOW EXTENSION. TWO STOREY SIDE EXTENSION, PART TWO STOREY, PART SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION, TWO FIRST FLOOR SIDE FACING BATHROOM WINDOWS TO EXISTING HOUSE AND A DETACHED GARAGE. THE PARISH COUNCIL OBJECTED TO THIS PROPOSAL ON THE BASIS THAT IT WAS CONSIDERED TO BE OVERDEVELOPMENT.

24/00226/FUL – TWO LARGE BAY WINDOWS TO SIDE OF EXISTING BUNGALOW AT 30 SHAWS LANE, GREAT WYRLEY - THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS APPLICATION.

141/2024 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 of the meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

Chairman.....Date.....