

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 4th December, 2024.

Present:

**(Chairman)
Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE**

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier Cllr. M. Jackson Cllr. J. C. Jones Cllr. A. Newell	Cllr. D. Norris (Snr.) 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)

CO-OPTION OF ROBERT FAIRCLOUGH AS COUNCILLOR OF GREAT WYRLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Mr. Robert Fairclough signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was witnessed by the Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer of Great Wyrley Parish Council. By signing his Declaration of Acceptance of Office, Mr. Fairclough also agreed to abide by the Code of Conduct expected of Great Wyrley Parish Councillors. Cllr. Fairclough was given copies of a number of documents which would be of assistance to him in his ability to carry out the role he had been co-opted to. Cllr. Fairclough was to complete his Declaration of Financial Interests in due course and understood that this document would then be lodged with South Staffordshire Council's Monitoring Officer and published on both the District Council and the Parish Council website.

The Chairman and Members then welcomed Cllr. Fairclough to the Parish Council and he took his place at the table.

75/2024 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr. A. J. Kelsey and Cllr. D. Norris (Jnr.)

76/2024 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chairman invited Cllr. D. Norris (Snr.) to declare an interest in Agenda Item (g) which related to a Station Street Boundary Dispute and reminded him that he would need to leave the room when this matter was discussed in accordance with the correct procedure.

Cllr. Norris advised the Chairman that he had been advised by a Mrs. Cooper that he did not need to leave the room while this matter was discussed. The Chairman advised Cllr. Norris that this was incorrect and that he would indeed need to leave the room while discussion took place as this item concerned a personal interest. Cllr. Norris took umbrage at this suggestion and advised the meeting that if that was the Parish Council's attitude he would leave the room immediately.

A number of verbal attempts were made from several Members of the Council to make Cllr. Norris aware that there was no need to leave at this point in the meeting, however, Cllr. Norris disregarded these appeals, left the meeting and did not return.

77/2024 **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 November, 2024. It was carried. Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood questioned the wording used in the minute regarding the agenda item relating to the Recent Water Supply Outage in that there was mention of flooding. Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood was advised that there was indeed a flood in the adjoining Parish resulting from a burst water main pipe which had in turn caused the water shortage in the village. This was noted.

78/2024 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman advised the meeting that the Parish Council had received a request to publicise the fact that there was a need for volunteers in South Staffordshire and that this information was available on South Staffordshire Council's website. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE also took this opportunity to advise the Parish Council that it had received an email from past Councillor Barbara Sigley thanking the Parish Council for the beautiful Christmas lights, which had now been illuminating Walsall Road. This was noted by Members.

79/2024 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders in order to allow the members of the public in the gallery to address the meeting.

SHAWS LANE ACTION GROUP

A group of residents of Shaws Lane were in attendance on this occasion. However, Cllr. Mrs. Perry could only reiterate that she had been informed by Mr. M. Keeling of Staffordshire County Council Highways that he was planning to request that when DHP funding became available he was to have the situation in Shaws Lane included in the programme.

Mr. Keeling had also copied the Parish Council into a recent statement he had made to the Shaws Lane Resident's group stating that he understood their concerns and agreed most of the issues raised relate to Shaws Lane, however the local authority was unable to dismiss claims of HCV use from the wider community. Whilst the County Council had not received a petition from the adjacent roads, it still must consider potential solutions, review, or monitoring and the appropriate use of public money through scrutiny.

Mr. Keeling's message went on to say that the County Council would consider the best way forward in line with the funding available to them and whilst funding was still an uncertainty, it is currently some way off being able to offer any confirmation at this stage.

A member of the public present advised the Parish Council that there was no need for a feasibility study to be carried out as it had been made very clear that the action already taken had been effective. However, Cllr. Mrs. Perry needed to advise the member of the public that this matter needed to be viewed in the "bigger picture" as it was not only Shaws Lane which was experiencing this problem.

One of the group reminded Cllr. Mrs. Perry that the sign still needed to be replaced. This was noted by Cllr. Mrs. Perry.

Having confirmed that there were no further questions from the Public Gallery the

Chairman reinstated Standing Orders and continued with the business to be transacted by the Parish Council.

80/2024 CLERK'S REPORTS TO COUNCIL

(a) REPORT FROM COMMANDER OF STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE

The Clerk advised the meeting that the Parish Council had received an email from the Police Commander to the effect that it had been brought to his attention that there may have been a misunderstanding in relation to an e-mail which had been sent from his office.

The main content of the email was in regard to there no longer being open access to the Police area in the Community Hub at Codsall. Apparently, about two months ago, a decision was made relating to the Police facility within the hub, that decision being that there would be a restriction of 'free movement' relating to anybody who isn't in the Police service. This was a decision made to protect the integrity of some of the data they share and conversations that are held within their site.

Inspector Norbury's understanding was that conversations were held after a number of 'near misses' and a direction was provided to restrict access as a result. The result of this action is that if partners (i.e. other agencies including Parish Councils) or others wish to come into the Police area, they simply have to provide notice so they can put protections in place.

By way of explanation, Chief Inspector Norbury had advised the Parish Council that anyone can contact him, at any given time and many Parish Councillors enjoy free conversation with him on a regular basis, e-mail him, or even use his mobile number as long as it doesn't result in phone calls at 2am.

Chief Inspector Norbury goes on to say that any Member is welcome into the Police Post, just make his Deputy, Nicola Brookes or himself aware of an impending visit and you will be more than welcome.

Chief Inspector Norbury has asked that Members please understand that he has put an unbelievable amount of work into achieving results in South Staffordshire in the last 10 months and as such, the opportunities to 'get out' and visit Parish Councils haven't been as regular as he would have liked.

Over the 10 months that Chief Inspector Norbury has been at South Staffs. The following changes have occurred.

- Crime has reduced by 10%
- ASB has reduced by 19%
- Domestic violence has reduced by over 20%
- Arrests have increased two fold
- We have the highest number of engagement events recorded in Force
- Our Force contribution to problem solving has increased from 3% to 13%
- Stop search has increased by 30% (second highest in Force) with a 60% outcome rate last month
- Positive outcomes for criminal investigations have increased from 11.5% to 16%
- Our File quality as assessed by the CPS is the highest of any local Policing team in Force
- Our victim care and investigation management is the highest of any local Policing team in Force (it was near the lower end).

- The average time of a criminal investigation in South Staffs has reduced from 63 days to 13 days (whilst increasing outcomes and the quality of investigations).
- Our outcome rate for Burglary is the highest in the Force.
- Apparently he could go on...

To achieve these results:

- He had implemented processes described by HMIC as "First Class innovation".
- Listened to the Parish Councils – he has provided Neighbourhood teams with more Police Constables and provided dedicated roles to tackle DV and problem solve
- He has developed deployment plans ensuring our resource management is more efficient.
- He has made use of central resources to increase the footfall of officers we have in South Staffordshire and to support operational Policing.

The content of Commander Norbury's email was noted by Members and the Clerk was requested to write to the Commander thanking him not only for his valiant efforts but for bringing the Parish Council up to be speed with the current situation.

(b) MEMORIAL WALL AT GREAT WYRLEY CEMETERY

As Members were already aware the Parish Council has been in the process of having a contractor construct a dedicated Memorial Wall for Great Wyrley Cemetery. Although this process seemed to have taken considerably longer than anyone would have envisaged, it had now been completed and looked very impressive indeed as was evidenced from the photographs circulated to all Members.

It now fell to Members to make the decision on how the Parish Council was going to regulate this scheme. The Clerk had been in negotiation with a local Stonemason, who was familiar with Great Wyrley Cemetery, during which discussion had taken place regarding the choice of material and the plaque sizes required. The Parish Council would also need to set a charge for this facility and also ensure that the plaques were affixed to the wall by the same method and set out in a manner which would provide an aesthetic appearance to the Wall itself.

The suggestion would be for the first plaque to be affixed to the Centre of the Wall and subsequent plaques spread out across the structure from that point. The Stonemason had also suggested that plaques should be affixed by the use of a waterproof adhesive. This was because, should the wall be the subject of constant drill holes with precious little distance between each individual plaque it may lead to the possibility that the stability of the wall itself would become compromised. The Stonemason also suggested that to ensure continuity the same adhesive applied at the same depth be adopted for each plaque. Bearing this in mind, it would seem that this is a duty which would need to be carried out by the same local Stonemasons with which a detailed contract would need to be agreed.

The Parish Council also needed to make the decision whether this facility was used for Memorial Plaques only or if it wished to include a dedicated area to scatter ashes.

The scattering of ashes in Great Wyrley Cemetery was already an option available to deed holders. However, the scattering of ashes on one specific site would in effect create an area which would be deemed a common grave and accordingly, there would need to be a clear instruction that this area could not facilitate any memorials, including, but not exclusive of personal memorabilia, flowers, plants etc.

This process would need to be organised officially through a Funeral Director and would be treated in accordance with the current interment regulations and fees. Any application would also need to include the associated paper work in order to maintain the required legal records.

The Parish Council **resolved** that initially this would be a matter for the Cemetery Working Party to work through as all regulations and fees would require clarification. The Working Party to then report to Full Council prior to any action being taken on its recommendations. The Clerk was also instructed to invite a local stonemason to be in attendance at the Cemetery Working Party Meeting. It was carried.

(c) ENQUIRY/OBSERVATIONS RE GREAT WYRLEY BONFIRE EVENT

The Clerk advised the meeting that she had recently received a forwarded copy of an email sent by a resident, presumably of the area, giving his views on the fact that the Great Wyrley Bonfire Event no longer took place.

The Clerk had circulated a copy of the email to all Members for their information. For ease of reference a copy of an extract of the email was set out below:-

Dear Councillors.

As you know, Great Wyrley Bonfire night has been a "look forward to" event in the village calendar for many decades. As a young child, I would go with my family and friends, we would meet many people in our community, to stand next the warm fire on a cold night with anticipation and excitement waiting to see the fireworks in a safe controlled environment. Then we may get lucky to get treated to a nice hotdog or some fish and chips on the way home, supplied via our local businesses who require this much needed trade boost.

This great night was enjoyed by my daughter [REDACTED] and did many other children in our village, until the last few years. Now, I have heard a few reasons why our night has been cancelled by the council, despite the overwhelming majority of the villages wanting bonfire night back.

I have been told it was down to trouble, as "none" village people attended, If this is the case, then I would be dismayed that we have allowed a small minority of people to stop a major event in the community. The day we stop going about our daily business, then these people have won. What message does that sent out?

Other suggestions was the cost of the Event. This is easily fixed, as a charge can be made to those who wish to attend, thats what people are doing now to visit organised events. The cost can cover any extra security, which will resolve issue one. For those in our village, who are less mobile, or are unable to travel to other events, would welcome the opportunity to have a local Bonfire.

I really think its fitting and necessary to see our Bonfire night back and welcome any comments on how we can make this great event happen in 2025, as the community we want this night back. I'm sure Sir Gavin, who is an extremely proactive MP for our area, would support us, if any extra help was required with the Police.

I look forward to the positive replies

Kind Regards

As the resident clearly felt that this was a District Council matter the Clerk had now advised him that it was Great Wyrley Parish Council who organised and funded the Great Wyrley Bonfire event and had given him a full explanation as to why the event no longer took place.

The Clerk advised the meeting that as there was reference to a number of spurious reasons why the Great Wyrley Bonfire no longer took place included in the communication, that it may be that Members may wish to have the explanation posted on the Parish Council website in order to clarify the situation once for all.

The Parish Council **resolved** that it would like the Clerk's response published on the Parish Council website in order to clarify this matter. It was carried.

Again for ease of reference the Clerk's response is set out below:-

Good Afternoon,

I have recently received a copy of your email to all our District Councillors expressing your disappointment that Great Wyrley no longer hosts its own Bonfire Night Event.

Your email has been passed to me to respond directly to you because the annual Wyrley Bonfire event was actually organised by Great Wyrley Parish Council and, as ever, there are a number of anomalous rumours in the village as to why it is no longer held.

By way of explanation, the Parish Council was advised by Staffordshire Police that it should no longer stage this event on the basis that the event itself had grown to such proportions that it was considered not only unmanageable but also unsafe to continue.

This was further hindered by the fact that Staffordshire Police Service were in a position where it needed to completely withdraw its support for the event. This entailed the withdrawal of traffic management, crowd management and general security.

Over several years The Parish Council attempted a number of different ways to maintain control over the event, including the provision of private security and its own traffic management plan, reduction in Fairground rides to Children's rides only. The Parish Council was also instructed that it had to control the unauthorised sellers directly outside the perimeter of the event ground which proved to be impossible. None of these actions alleviated the issues or the concerns of both Staffordshire Police and Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service.

In addition to the safety issues referred to above it must not be forgotten that the village was also gridlocked during the run-up, the duration and the conclusion of the event, which also had to be taken into account. Clearly this situation could not be allowed to continue as it was feared that it represented a health and safety issue should access be needed by emergency services for any resident in the area surrounding the event.

Many residents felt that the Wyrley Bonfire had been in a way a victim of its own success. This view was based on the fact that people would come from miles around to be part of the event as it was free of charge and an excellent evening. However, in the end Councillors had no choice other than to listen to the advice of Staffordshire Police and just accept the fact that the event had outgrown the Parish Council. For one year a head count of over 5000 people in attendance was recorded by Staffordshire Police and this just could not be ignored.

Please do not imagine for a moment that the decision not to hold the Bonfire Night event was taken lightly. In fairness the Parish Council tried every way it could to keep the event even if it meant having to levy a charge for entrance. However, it soon became clear that this was not feasible as there are so many unofficial access points to the area and completely locking down a site of this scale is impossible and unsustainable for the natural environment. In addition this action would undoubtedly have led to people viewing the event from outside the periphery of the site causing even more congestion in the surrounding area. The Parish Council recognised that this action was considered to be quite a blow to the residents who had always loved the event and supported it over so many years.

Because of this the Parish Council took the decision to provide Christmas Lights along the A34 so that the villagers could, at least, enjoy the festive season.

Unfortunately, it has to be recognised that in the end the Parish Council had to make the safety of the public its priority and to completely ignore Police advice would have amounted to an act of pure negligence. The end of the Bonfire Event was never about the money.

I hope that my explanation has clarified the situation.

kind regards,

The Parish Council resolved that this explanation be posted on the Parish Council website. It was carried.

(d) BUS SHELTER IN STREETS LANE

As Members were already aware the Parish Council was requested to provide a Bus Shelter to be located in Streets Lane. This request was agreed to and the Clerk had been attempting to assemble all the necessary permissions to go forward with this project.

At the present time the Clerk was awaiting a written response from Staffordshire County Council as to whether there were any utilities beneath the location of choice and also permission to remove the overgrowth of vegetation which presently renders the spot extremely narrow. The area of land to the rear of the proposed bus shelter is in the ownership of Staffordshire County Council and it is assumed that there will not be any particular problems identified which would put a stop to this plan.

However, in the meantime, as Members were already aware, Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE had kindly managed to organise that the South Staffordshire Council Working Party carry out the task of the removal of the overgrowth resulting in the provision of a suitable space for the bus shelter.

The cost of bus shelters appeared to vary greatly, however, the Clerk had managed to obtain a quotation from Ace Shelters to provide exactly what was required for the sum of £3,495. Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** to purchase the Bus Shelter as discussed with the addition of the perch seating. It was carried.

(e) DEMOLISHED BUS SHELTER IN GORSEY LANE

As Members were aware the bus shelter which the Parish Council provided in Gorse Lane was demolished by an ASDA delivery vehicle back in 2023. A. J. Gallagher and Son, the Parish Council's Insurance Broker, had been attempting to recoup the costs for this accident ever since the incident occurred. However, as yet they had been completely ignored by ASDA.

Gallaghers had now requested that the Parish Council make an attempt to get a direct response from ASDA itself, so accordingly, the Parish Council Grounds staff hand delivered a letter to the Store Manager of ASDA setting out the situation and requesting the details of its Insurance. At this point the Clerk had still not received a response.

The Clerk reminded Members that the bus shelter had been missing for quite some time and as bus users were now being exposed to the winter season Members may wish to consider the replacement of the Bus Shelter from its own resources and await the outcome of the proceedings between the Insurance Companies.

The Clerk advised the meeting that should this action be taken it would not prejudice the insurance claim so it depended upon Members views whether it felt that this

course of action should be followed.

Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** that the Clerk should take this matter to the Chief Executive Officer of ASDA and bring the matter back to the next meeting of the Parish Council. It was carried.

(f) CHRISTMAS MARKET – 6TH DECEMBER, 2024

The Clerk advised the meeting that the plans for the Christmas Market were now progressing well and hopefully the event would be a success. The Parish Council now had 11 stall holders with very little duplication of sale items. There was to be a Hog Roast, Mulled Wine and Mince Pies, a visit from Father Christmas, the switch on of the Christmas Lights on the Tree at the Community Centre at 5.30p.m. all to the background of carols and festive songs from the Cheslyn Hay Community Choir. The Clerk advised the meeting that hopefully, Storm Darragh would not hit at the precise time it had been forecast, as this would lead to a change in a lot of the arrangements; however, this would remain to be seen. This was noted by Members.

(G) STATION STREET BOUNDARY DISPUTE

As Councillors were already aware there had been a long running boundary dispute concerning the land to the side of Barkers Garage and the driveway to Great Wyrley Cemetery.

This dispute had a very long history and basically did not come under the remit of Great Wyrley Parish Council as the land was never in its ownership. The land in question was transferred into the ownership of the then owners of Station Garage in 2003 under the auspices of adverse possession through the Land Registry.

Cllr. D. Norris had requested that this subject be reopened for consideration and wished to provide sight of the ownership deeds to his home as part of this process. This request was made at the last meeting of the Parish Council when it was agreed to. Since that time the Clerk had reminded Members that the Parish Council was advised by the then Monitoring Officer of South Staffordshire Council, Mr. David Pattison and the Southern Staffordshire Legal Department that this matter was a private dispute and not a matter to which the Parish Council should be party. On this basis the Parish Council **resolved** that it would enter into no more discussions on this matter.

Should the Parish Council now wish to enter any discussions relating to this matter there is a requirement for the Parish Council to rescind its previous ruling. However, it needed to be recognised that there had been no changes whatsoever in the situation. The Parish Council also bore in mind that this resolution was included in Judge Brian Kennedy KC's ruling on the tribunal sought by Cllr. Norris to overturn the decision of the Information Commissioner dated 30th June 2023. Members were of the view that to rescind this resolution would not be of any benefit to either party.

A copy of Judge Kennedy KC's ruling was available at the Parish Office should any Member wish to familiarise themselves with this document. A copy of the results of a Land Registry search provided by Staffordshire County Council also negated the statement made by a member of the public at the last meeting of the Parish Council that the Parish Council owned all the driveway to Great Wyrley Cemetery – it does not. The only reason the Parish Council funded the repairs to the driveway to Great Wyrley Cemetery was because it desperately needed to be done. Its condition had deteriorated so badly that hearses trying to enter the Cemetery were unable to do so with any level of the dignity required for such an occasion and it was clear that the works would not be carried out by any other party.

All the information and supporting evidence in regard to this matter was already in

the public domain, however, Cllr. D. Norris Senior still needed to declare an interest in this matter and accordingly, not be party to the conversation and leave the meeting for the length of time the matter was under discussion. However, when advised of this at the commencement of the meeting under the declarations of interest agenda item, Cllr. Norris refused to do so.

Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** that there had been no change in this situation and accordingly made the decision not to rescind the existing resolution not to enter into any further discussion on this subject. It was carried.

(H) DATE FOR PUBLIC PRESENTATION OF CHAPS MINING MEMORIAL

As Members were already aware the plans to install a CHAPS Public Space Mining Memorial on land just off Walsall Road were progressing well and the presentation to the public by Chase Arts for Public Spaces was due to take place at the Community Centre on Friday 31st January, 2025 at a time to be confirmed, which was expected to be early afternoon. This was noted by Members. The Clerk was also to compile a précis of the project for distribution to the diners at the Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch. This was noted by Members.

(I) THE WYRLEY BROOK PROJECT WORKING PARTY

Following the remedial works carried out to Wyrley Brook, which had made such a massive difference, Members felt that now was the time to reform the Wyrley Brook Project Working Party. The Parish Council still retained a little funding for this purpose and it had been suggested that a project to cosmetically enhance the appearance of Wyrley Brook could be re-launched in the New Year.

The Parish Council **resolved** that the Local Enabler for Locality 3 should also be involved in this project and Members agreed that a meeting should be set up for this purpose. Cllr. Mrs. Perry was also to approach Great Wyrley Academy in this regard.

(J) UPDATE ON THE PARISH COUNCIL'S .GOV.UK STATUS

Members recalled from the last meeting of the Parish Council that there was a need to add an additional layer of security to the website and Councillors' e-mail addresses. The website was now compliant and the e-mail addresses which were taking more detailed migration, was in progress. Once the migration had fully concluded there would be a need for all Members to adopt a generic email address. It is anticipated that Councillor e-mail addresses would be live towards the end of February. On completion full set up instructions would be issued, however, should Members require any assistance in this matter, provided their devices were either tablets or laptops that could be brought into the Parish Office, the Parish Administrator had offered to assist with this process. This was noted by Members.

(K) CLIMATE CHANGE

The Clerk advised the meeting that she had applied for funding towards LED Lighting for the foyer at The Community Centre, under the Climate Change Fund, however, had not, as yet, received a decision. This was noted by Members.

81/2024 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 other than the fact that she was aware that there were still a great number of roads needing to be redressed but that obviously this would take time. Cllr. Mrs. Perry also advised the meeting that it was expected that remedial treatment to footpaths would follow on eventually. This was noted by Members.

82/2024 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that, at the present time, she still did not have any further information with regard to the Local Plan. Cllr. Mrs. Perry also reminded all Members that the Parish Summit was to be held in the forthcoming week. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. M. Jackson advised the meeting that he was pleased to report that the lighting situation in Brooklands Avenue was now much improved. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. Jackson also advised the meeting that he had been made aware of an issue relating to public use of the Royal Oak Car Park. Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry advised the meeting that this matter had now been partially resolved as the landlord had now come to an agreement with the local school that the car park could be used at certain times of the day which would coincide with school drop off and collection times.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry went on to say that the car park at the Royal Oak had been the subject of a Joint User Car Park under an agreement with South Staffordshire Council, however, this agreement was dissolved many years ago and as things stood at the present time the owner is entitled to operate the car park in any way he saw fit. This was noted.

As Cllr. Mrs. Perry understood the situation the communication between the School and the Landlord of the Royal Oak had brought about the compromise which would assist both parties. This was noted.

83/2024 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

STREETS LANE PARKING

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier advised the meeting that she had been approached by a resident of Streets Lane complaining about the completely inconsiderate parking by motorists in Streets Lane. This situation had been causing concern for some considerable time and it seemed that there was no sign of improvement.

Cllr. Mrs. Brazier had understood that it had been turned down for double yellow lines and wondered what would be the best way forward to deal with this matter. Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised Cllr. Mrs. Brazier that no request for double yellow lines had actually been turned down but that even if there were double yellow lines it may well not solve the problem. Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that she had raised this matter with various organisations and suggested that the Clerk contact Chief Inspector Norbury with a request that this matter be looked into more fully.

PAVED AREA TO THE RIGHT OF THE PLAY AREA

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the meeting that there was a safety issue which needed to be looked at whereby tree roots had come through the surface and pushed the slabs out of place near the play area on Landywood Lane. The Clerk was to request the Parish Council Groundsmen to effect repairs. This was noted by Members.

MOTORBIKE RIDING ON LANDYWOOD LANE PLAYING FIELD

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the meeting that there was a motorbike being ridden on the Landywood Lane play area which was being used to create images in the grass. The PCSOs were to be made aware of this. This was noted by Members.

INCONSIDERATE PARKING ON BROOKLANDS AVENUE

Cllr. R. Fairclough advised the meeting that a resident of Brooklands Avenue had been driving a truck (in the ownership of a local commercial business) and tearing up the verge in Brooklands Avenue. Cllr. R. Fairclough was to supply registration details to the Clerk to take the appropriate action. This was noted by Members.

SEVERN TRENT DISCARDED TUBES

Cllr. R. Fairclough advised the Parish Council meeting that he had contacted Severn Trent and advised them that there had been a very near miss with an injury to a child when one of the large discarded concrete tubes, which still remain on land at Brooklands Avenue, had come free, rolled away and narrowly missed a young child.

These concrete tubes had now been removed, however, the area still needed to be reinstated to its original condition. The Clerk was to take this matter forward.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised Cllr. Fairclough that he had done well, however, for the future would he please contact the Clerk to deal with this matter officially. This was noted.

SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised the meeting that the lunch would be taking place on 20th December and anyone who wished to be in attendance would be very welcome. The event starts at 1.30p.m. This was noted by Members.

84/2024 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from outside bodies.

85/2024 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There was one planning application for consideration on this occasion.

24/01006/FUL – TEMPORARY STORAGE OF SOIL AND SPOIL FOR UP TO TWO YEARS IN CONNECTION WITH 24/00131/FULM (LAND SOUTH OF LANDYWOOD LANE – MEMBERS WERE ADAMANT THAT THIS STORAGE WOULD BE CURTAILED IN TWO YEARS. THE SOIL BEING STORED WOULD EVENTUALLY BE USED TO ASSIST WITH GROUND WORKS ON THE PHASE 2 CONSTRUCTION.

86/2024 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.

Bearing in mind that an issue had occurred during the meeting which concerned the handling of a conflict of interest situation, the Chairman exercised her right to call an "*in camera*" session to be held immediately prior to the end of the meeting in order to discuss an issue which had come to light during the evening.

87/2024 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.

88/2022 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

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

The Chairman thanked Members for their attendance and closed the meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.09p.m.

Chairman..... **Date**.....