

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 1ST October, 2025.

Present:

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

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier Cllr. R. Fairclough Cllr. J. C. Jones Cllr. Mrs. S. Manderson	Cllr. A. Newell 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).

52/2025 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr. M. Jackson and District Councillor J. Hill.

53/2025 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. M. Jackson had declared a standing interest in any matters pertaining to Planning Applications in his capacity as a member of the Planning Committee of South Staffordshire Council. Cllr. Jackson was not present on this occasion.

54/2025 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** to accept, approve and sign the minutes of the Audit and Governance Committee Meeting held on 3rd September, 2025 and the minutes of the Parish Council meeting also held on 3rd September, 2025. It was carried.

55/2025 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS OF GREAT WYRLEY WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that the Parish Council had received a letter from Mrs. Pat Jones on behalf of Great Wyrley Wesley Methodist Church advising everyone that on Saturday 11th October, Great Wyrley History Society was putting on a display in the Church depicting 100 years of Wesley Methodist Church. This was due to take place between 10.00a.m. and 2.00p.m. and refreshments would be available. This event formed part of the Centenary celebrations of Great Wyrley Methodist Church. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry went on to say that the actual date of the commemoration was 15th October and a Church Service for all the Churches in the Cannock Chase Circuit would take place on Sunday 19th October at 11.00a.m. followed by light refreshments in the Wesley Room. All Members were very welcome to attend this event along with their partners. This was noted by Members.

FASHION SHOW AT OLDE WYRLEY HALL

Councillor Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the Parish Council that she would be holding a Fashion Show on Thursday 13th November, at Olde Wyrley Hall in order to raise funds for the Great Wyrley Mining Memorial. The Fashion Show would be staffed by Glitzy Bits, Lilliann Styled by Ryan and The Boutique at Buzzards Valley.

The event would commence at 6.30p.m. with Prosecco and Nibbles with the Fashion Show to commence at 7.00p.m. Tickets were £10.00 each and would be available shortly. This was noted.

VILLAGE CENTRE BUSINESS NETWORKS

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry advised the meeting that it was expected that the Parish Council would be joined this evening by Ms. Alison Duckworth who would like to address the Parish Council regarding her Village Centre Business Networks Project. Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that this was a scheme which was being headed up by Wayne Dutton, Enterprise Manager of South Staffordshire Council and its aim was to support local networks, enhance village centres and ensure local businesses had a voice in shaping their future. This was noted.

Alison Duckworth was expected a little later and the Chairman was to suspend Standing Orders to allow her to address the Parish Council when she arrived. This was noted.

56/2025 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

Two residents of Great Wyrley were present in the Public Gallery on this occasion. Accordingly, The Chairman asked the residents if they would like to take this opportunity to address the Parish Council regarding their appeal against a Council decision. This item was to be discussed under agenda item (a) of the Clerk's Report on the Agenda. The resident concerned spoke for both parties and advised the meeting that the Clerk was aware of the grounds of appeal. The Clerk confirmed that the email containing the relevant information had been forwarded to all Members for their consideration.

The residents did not wish to verbally address the Parish Council at this point and were advised that this would be the only opportunity, as when the matter was being discussed as an agenda item they would not be allowed to take part in the discussion. This was accepted.

REPLACEMENT OF DIVIDING DOORS BETWEEN MAIN HALL AND LOUNGE AREA

The Chairman asked the other members of the public present in the Public Gallery if they would like to address the meeting as she had been advised that one resident had advised the Clerk earlier that there was an historical item that he would like to share with the Parish Council. The member of the public declined the Chairman's offer. The same resident then proceeded to advise the Parish Council that there was no justification to replace the dividing doors at The Community Centre on the basis that there was nothing wrong with them. The Clerk advised the resident that he was wrong in his assumption. The resident did not accept the Clerk's response and continued to ensure that all present were made aware that, in his opinion, there was no need to replace the dividing doors.

The Chairman then reinstated Standing Orders and progressed to the business on the agenda for the meeting.

57/2025 CLERK'S REPORT TO COUNCIL

(a) APPLICATION FOR CO-OPTION ONTO PARISH COUNCIL

Members were already aware that the Parish Council had received an application from

Mrs. Shannon Manderson for co-option onto Great Wyrley Parish Council.

The co-option had been deferred until this meeting of the Parish Council in order to give Mrs. Manderson an opportunity to be present at the meeting and to interact with Parish Council Members, prior to any commitment being made by either party.

Mrs. Manderson was present on this occasion and was warmly welcomed to the Parish Council meeting.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry invited Mrs. Manderson to address the Parish Council including whether she would like to elaborate on her motivation to join the Parish Council. Mrs. Manderson explained that she felt that with her work in the Charity Sector she felt she may be able to broaden the Parish Council's appeal to a wider/younger range of people. Mrs. Manderson went on to explain that in general she felt that the youths in the area were experiencing a lack of direction and that there seemed to be more opportunities for this in Cheslyn Hay. Mrs. Manderson felt that if perhaps Great Wyrley were more on board with this situation it could provide enriched opportunities for all walks of life to understand that there are possibilities for all young people despite their background. This was noted.

Cllr. J. C. Jones spoke to Mrs. Manderson and explained that he felt that she needed to realise that the Parish Council had very limited powers and he was concerned that she would be disappointed if things couldn't be achieved fast enough. Cllr. Mrs. Manderson was eager to learn how she could best serve the Parish Council and was looking forward to being hands on in this regard. Mrs. Manderson fully understood that the wheels of Local Government sometimes took time to turn.

The Parish Council **resolved** unanimously to co-opt Mrs. Shannon Manderson onto the Parish Council with immediate effect. Cllr. Mrs. Manderson signed her Acceptance of Office as a Councillor for Great Wyrley Parish Council and undertook to abide by the Code of Conduct expected of Councillors for Great Wyrley Parish Council.

Councillor Mrs. Manderson took her place at the table and the business of the meeting continued. All Councillors welcomed Cllr. Manderson on board and thanked her putting herself forward in this regard.

(b) APPEAL AGAINST PARISH COUNCIL'S DECISION REGARDING REQUEST FOR REPLACEMENT FENCING – PROPERTY AT LANDYWOOD LANE

Members recalled the request from the owners of the property which backed on to the Millennium Green at Great Wyrley to make arrangements to cut back the vegetation on the Millennium Green which they felt was compromising the stability of their garden fence. However, the original request had also included a request that Great Wyrley Parish Council fund the replacement of the fence in question. This second part of the original request had not been agreed to and the property owners had now lodged an appeal against the Parish Council's decision.

A copy of the grounds of appeal had been forwarded to all Members of the Parish Council. This matter was discussed and Members did not feel that the decision made at the September meeting should be rescinded. The Parish Council **resolved** not to rescind its previous decision. It was carried.

(c) WYRLEY BROOK SITUATION

The Parish Council was already aware from the discussion which had taken place at the meeting held on 3rd September, 2025 that there was a significant level of confusion surrounding the situation concerning Wyrley Brook. The present situation had the potential to result in a catastrophic turn in the ongoing project known as Great Wyrley Flood Alleviation Project. The Flood Alleviation was all set to have a

very beneficial impact on the flooding of properties in both Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay. Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE explained that the Flood Alleviation Project was well under way but unfortunately, was now very much in jeopardy due to outside interference. This situation had arisen because direct contact had been made with the Chief Executive Officer of Severn Trent Water regarding other issues. This action had forced an investigation into the ownership of the water course. The Parish Council was now being advised that Severn Trent would take no further responsibility for clearing the watercourse as it could not be proven that Severn Trent owned it. As things stand at the present time this duty has been passed to South Staffordshire Council.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that there will be an update on this situation following the upcoming meetings with Mr. M. Jenkinson of South Staffordshire Council and Mr. Andrew Brett, County Flood Engineer. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. R. Fairclough apologised if he had meddled but he did not feel that anyone did more for the Brook than he did. Mr. Fairclough gave the Parish Council a brief report on his personal insurance situation part of which was relevant. Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that she understood his concern and that was why the Parish Council had taken the measures it had to obtain a solution to this issue.

Cllr. J. C. Jones suggested to the Chairman that if the Parish Council garnered any information prior to the next meeting that it be cascaded out to Members as soon as possible. Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that she would call an emergency meeting as soon as any news was received.

(d) COMMEMORATIVE SIGNAGE – OLYMPIC TORCH AND ROYAL TRIBUTES

The meeting was advised that the Parish Council had finally been successful in its quest to find a Contractor who could actually provide the Parish Council with the appropriate tributes it had been trying to secure for a very long time.

The Clerk had circulated a copy of all the mock-ups for consideration. The mock ups ranged from the planned tributes to both the late HM Queen Elizabeth II and the Ascension to the Throne of King Charles III to The Commemoration of the Olympic Torch journey.

The commemoration of the Olympic Torch journey had been very cleverly incorporated into the Great Wyrley sign which already needed to be replaced and now looked very effective. This was noted.

In addition to the new signage there were also plans for plaques to be produced naming the species of the trees which depicted the Olympic Colours which everyone agreed was a really good idea.

The Parish Council **resolved** to approve and accept the signage which had been considered and the Clerk was authorised to continue with the transaction.

The Chairman suspended standing orders to allow Alison Duckworth to address the Parish Council.

ADDRESS BY ALISON DUCKWORTH

Cllr. Mrs. Perry welcomed Alison Duckworth when she arrived at the Parish Council meeting having already attended a meeting at a neighbouring Parish. Ms. Duckworth explained to the Parish Council that Great Wyrley had been identified as one of the priority Village Centre Networks Project, however she had been struggling

to obtain local contacts. Ms. Duckworth advised the meeting that she did have some local contacts, however, she felt that perhaps the Parish Council may be able to provide her with a more comprehensive list.

The purpose of the Village Centre Networks was try to pull all local businesses together with a view to them animating/adding value to our High Streets. This project would not financially impact on any Parish Councils as it would be completely driven by local businesses.

Ms. Duckworth basically needed contact details for local businesses to try to get this project off the ground; it had proved very popular in other Parishes. The main aim of this project was to have businesses and communities working together.

The Chairman advised Ms. Duckworth that the Parish Council would do their best to support the project. Ms. Duckworth thanked the Parish Council for allowing her to address them on this occasion.

The Chairman thanked Ms. Duckworth for sharing her views with the Parish Council and for her attendance. Ms. Duckworth then left the meeting.

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

(e) COMMUNITY CENTRE SIGNAGE

The Clerk had also forwarded details of the signage relating to the long awaited divisional fence to be placed between the Community Centre and the Doctors' Surgery. The signage mock-ups included various other replacement signs which were needed at the Community Centre including a Keep Clear sign to be displayed on the tarmac surface immediately between the two fire exits to the side of the Centre itself. This was noted.

Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** to accept the designs under consideration and the Clerk was authorised to proceed with the transaction. It was carried.

(f) LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the Parish Council that she did not have a great deal to report at the present time other than to advise all that Staffordshire County Council was proposing an East West split of the existing County and that South Staffordshire Council was supporting a proposal for a North and South division. However, Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised the meeting that ultimately the decision would be made by the Government. This was noted by Members.

(g) APPLICATION FROM GRANT FUNDING – CHILL OUT CLUBS

The Parish Council had received an application for Grant Aid from Chill Out Clubs. The Clerk had circulated to Members all the relevant information to assist in the decision making process. Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** to defer this matter until the next meeting of the Parish Council in order to investigate the matter further in terms of the utilisation of the funding. The Members of the Parish Council were divided in this regard and the Clerk was to research the matter further.

(h) UPDATE ON PROGRESS WITH PROPOSED CHAPS MINING MEMORIAL

Members had been advised at the last meeting of the Parish Council that this project appeared to have stalled over the Summer months. However, it now seemed that

the matter was still very much ongoing and there would be a public meeting regarding progress, raising of funds etc. immediately prior to the Parish Council meeting to be held on 5th November. This was noted by Members.

(i) MEMORIAL WALL – GREAT WYRLEY CEMETERY

The copy of the minutes of the Cemetery Working Party meeting held on 11th September, ratified earlier in the meeting had advised Members that matters were progressing well and ratification of the recommendations from the Working Party would now be put in place. This was noted by Members.

(j) REPLACEMENT DOORS TO MAIN HALL

The Parish Council had now received an extremely competitive quotation for the replacement of the dividing doors between the Main Hall and the Lounge Area. As Members were aware it had been extremely difficult to secure a Contractor to take on the required works, however, finally the Parish Council appeared to be making headway and the Clerk was hoping to report more fully on this matter by the next meeting of the Parish Council. This was noted.

58/2025 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr. Mrs. M. Woods was not present on this occasion.

59/2025 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry advised the meeting that it was business as usual at the District Council and that she had already given an update on the Local Government Reorganisation. This was noted by Members.

60/2025 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

BROKEN DRAIN IN BENTONS LANE

Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood advised the meeting that the broken drain in Bentons Lane was a real cause for concern. The Chairman advised Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood to contact Mr. Bob Taylor at South Staffordshire Council and the Clerk to contact Mr. L. Bellamy at Staffordshire County Council to add weight to the enquiry.

DETERIORATING HOUSE AT CHERRINGTON DRIVE

Cllr. R. Fairclough advised the meeting that there was a house going into wrack and ruin which was now home to a number of rats. Cllr. J. C. Jones gave the Parish Council a brief report on this issue and the Chairman agreed to contact The Enforcement Team at South Staffordshire Council. This was noted.

MISTREATMENT OF DOGS

Cllr. R. Fairclough advised the meeting that he was very concerned of reports that he had received about dogs being mistreated in a neighbouring property. The Chairman advised Cllr. Fairclough that unfortunately, this was not a subject over which the Parish Council had any jurisdiction and accordingly, would not be able to take any action. Cllr. Fairclough was advised to contact the RSPCA. This was noted.

SUSPECTED CRIMINAL GANG

Cllr. R. Fairclough advised the meeting that three men dressed in balaclavas had recently been the cause of serious concern in the Brooklands Avenue area. The Chairman advised Cllr. Fairclough that this was a matter for the Police. This was noted.

REDUNDANT BUS SHELTERS

Cllr. J. C. Jones had raised the issue that the bus shelter on Landywood Lane was no longer used and it may be possible to relocate it. The Clerk had spoken to the Parish Council Grounds men regarding this matter both of whom had been sceptical with regard to how successful this would be.

The Clerk had requested the Grounds men to remove the dilapidated Poly carbonate panels and this was to be dealt with as a matter of urgency. This was noted.

BURNT OUT PROPERTY IN SHAWS LANE

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier advised the meeting that the property in Shaws Lane which had been burnt out over a year ago was still in the same dilapidated condition and she was concerned that no action had been taken to resolve the issue. Following discussion Members agreed that the Parish Council's jurisdiction did not really cover this issue, however, the Clerk was to enquire of the local PCSOs in case they had any up to date information on this matter. This was noted by Members.

PARKING IN STREETS LANE

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry advised the meeting that she had recently been contacted by a resident of Streets Lane. The resident had contacted Cllr. Mrs. Perry because she had been recently bereaved and had been deeply distressed that the funeral cortege had been unable to park outside her home. All Members agreed that this was indeed a very unfortunate incident and discussed the resident's request for Double Yellow Lines to be imposed in Streets Lane. The Parish Council discussed the fact that the double yellow lines would not really address this issue it would only move the cars on to another area. This was noted. The Clerk was to contact the Parking Wardens with a request that the area be patrolled.

REPLACEMENT NOTICE ON THE SKATEPARK

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the Clerk that he was concerned that it had taken so long to have the repairs carried out to the skatepark. Cllr. Jones also advised the Clerk that the notices saying the park was not to be used needed to be replaced. The Clerk was to ensure that the notices were replaced immediately. This was noted.

DEMOLISHED BUS SHELTER

Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood requested the Clerk to give an update on any progress being made with the accidental demolition of the new bus shelter in Gorsey Lane which was alleged to be the fault of an Iceland Delivery Vehicle. The Clerk advised the meeting that this matter was in hand. This was noted.

61/2025 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

GREAT WYRLEY HISTORY SOCIETY

Cllr. A. Newell advised the meeting that Great Wyrley History Society would be holding an exhibition on the History of the Wesley Chapel at 10.00 a.m. – 2.00p.m. on 11th October, 2025. This was noted by Members.

62/2025 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

**25/00714/FULHH – LOFT CONVERSION AT 11 ELLIOT DRIVE,
CHURCHBRIDGE– THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS**

**APPLICATION IN PRINCIPLE BUT RESERVED THE RIGHT TO SUPPORT
OBJECTIONS OF NEIGHBOURING RESIDENTS SHOULD THIS BE REQUIRED.**

**25/00689/FULHH – GARAGE CONVERSION AT 23 PLANT VALLEY GLADE,
CHESLYN HAY. THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS
APPLICATION IN PRINCIPLE BUT RESERVED THE RIGHT TO SUPPORT
OBJECTIONS OF NEIGHBOURING RESIDENTS SHOULD THIS BE REQUIRED.**

**25/00720/LUE – SITING OF AN AUTOMATED PARCEL MACHINE AT THE
SCOUT HUT, WALSALL ROAD, GREAT WYRLEY – THE COUNCIL OBJECTED TO
THIS PROPOSAL ON THE BASIS THAT IT IS AN INCONGRUOUS EYESORE IN
THE STREET SCENE AND DETRACTS FROM THE EXISTING BUILDING.**

**25/00759/FUL - RETROSPECTIVE APPLICATION FOR SITING AN INPOST
PARCEL LOCKER AT THE SCOUT HUT, WALSALL ROAD, GREAT WYRLEY.
THE COUNCIL OBJECTS TO THIS PROPOSAL ON THE BASIS THAT IT IS AN
INCONGRUOUS EYESORE IN THE STREET SCENE AND DETRACTS FROM THE
EXISTING BUILDING**

63/2025 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.

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier advised the meeting that she needed to give her apologies for the next meeting of the Parish Council.

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

The meeting closed at 9.26p.m.

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