

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 February, 2026.

Present:

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

Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier	Cllr. D. Norris
Cllr. J. C. Jones	Cllr. A. Newell
Cllr. A. Kelsey	Cllr. R. J. Perry
Cllr. P. Kruskonjic	Cllr. Mrs. C. Whiston-Taylor
Cllr. Mrs. S. Manderson	Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood

District Councillor J. Hill was also in attendance.

111/2026 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr. M. Jackson, Cllr. D. F.W. Norris and Cllr. Mrs. M. Woods.

112/2026 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 unable to be present on this occasion.

113/2026 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 14th January, 2026. It was carried.

114/2025 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained to the Parish Council that she did not have any specific Chairman's announcements to make on this occasion. This was noted by Members.

115/2026 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman advised the residents present in the public gallery that now was their opportunity to address the Parish Council.

A resident of Love Lane who was present in the Public Gallery, reminded the Parish Council that he had brought his wish, some months ago, to have double yellow lines in Walsall Road extended around the corner into Love Lane in order to stop parking on the junction. Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that unfortunately, County Cllr. Mrs. Michelle Woods was unable to attend the meeting on this occasion but that the Parish Council would make a note of his views and pass them on to Cllr. Woods with a request for an update on the situation.

The Parish Council was also to contact Mr. M. Keeling at Staffordshire County Council Highways to add its own weight to the proposal. There were no other requests to address the Parish Council on this occasion. This was noted by Members.

(a) Replacement of Demolished Bus shelter at Gorse Lane

Councillors recalled that the situation relating to the bus shelter at Gorse Lane had been placed on the agenda for a number of meetings now. Following its deferment from the meeting held on 14th January, 2026 it had now been placed on the agenda for a decision to be made.

Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood explained that she had requested that this matter be deferred on the basis that a number of residents felt that, should the Bus Shelter be replaced by the same design it would only be knocked down again because it was positioned so close to the kerb. On this basis, Cllr. Mrs. Wood had suggested that perhaps the Parish Council should forget it completely. This statement was based on the fact that the only way to solve the problem would be to have the shelter positioned further back from the kerb. This action would involve firstly finding out who owned the relevant land and if agreed to the trimming back of the hedge and the excavation of the land to accommodate the new bus shelter.

Following discussion, which included the additional costs involved in the suggestion made above, it was proposed by Cllr. J. C. Jones and seconded by Cllr. P. Kruskonjic that the Parish Council **resolve** to purchase a new bus shelter and for it to be located in its original position as soon as possible. It was carried. The Clerk was to procure a quotation as soon as possible.

(b) Play Area Costings

Members recalled that this matter had been discussed at the Budget Meeting held on 14th January, 2026.

During the discussion on the Budget, Members requested information from Cheslyn Hay Parish Council regarding its recently installed play equipment. During that same discussion the Parish Council had confirmed that an amount of £15,000 be earmarked for a playground replacement project. However, based on the information placed before Members discussion took place as to whether there was a need to increase the original allocation of funds to this project.

The required information had now been cascaded out to all Members. Cllr. Mrs. Perry gave Members a brief outline of the project which included the fact that the Parish Council supported four play areas in total and a considerable amount of money was already spent on keeping them all usable.

This matter had appeared on the Agenda for many years now and the optimum choice of equipment included a MUGA, an updated play area and also some Outdoor Gym Equipment for use by both older children and adults. Cllr. Mrs. S. Manderson asked whether it was planned to run down the use of the other three play areas. Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that running down the other three play areas may well prove to be very unpopular as they were still well used. This was noted.

Cllr. Mrs. Manderson also asked whether the Parish Council would be able to offset/reinvest the amount of money it was already spending on keeping the play areas up and running into the procurement of a new play area. To facilitate this Cllr. Mrs. Manderson requested that it would be helpful to know what amount of money had been spent on all the play areas, in terms of repairs, over the last two year period. Cllr. Mrs. Manderson also offered to research appropriate funding opportunities. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Mrs. Manderson for her kind offer.

Cllr. P. Kruskonjic advised the Parish Council that there was an officer at Cannock Chase Council who may be able to be of assistance to the Parish Council regarding

this issue as this person had recently masterminded a new play area in Cannock. This was noted by Members.

Following discussion, the Parish Council agreed that it would be beneficial to call a separate meeting to discuss this matter more fully and a date was to be selected going forward.

(c) Proposed Enhancement of Christmas Lights

Members recalled that at the last meeting of the Council, Councillor J. C. Jones suggested the addition of additional Christmas lights for Walsall Road and accordingly, proposed the addition of £2000.00 to the Christmas Lights earmarked budget figure. At the time the Parish Council made the decision to research how many additional Christmas lights the £2000 might support.

Quotations had now been sought for both four and six additional lights. (Three or two additional lights on each side of Walsall Road). Turnocks Limited had now provided the Parish Council with a forecast of the financial commitment and the oncosts involved in this proposal.

Following discussion, the Parish Council **resolved** to take up the offer of Turnock's Limited to adjust the terms of the Parish Council's existing three year contract to enter into a longer four year contract over which the cost of an additional four lights could be spread and thus lessen the impact on the Parish Council's financial position. It was carried.

(d) Review and Update of Parish Council Policies

The Clerk had explained in her report that as part of the Annual Audit Regulations the Parish Council needed to review its Financial Risk Assessment, Financial Regulations and Standing Orders. This was primarily a box ticking exercise, however, the documents needed to be reviewed annually, even in the event, that there were no changes. This was noted by Members.

Copies of the relevant documents had been cascaded out to all Members for their consideration and amendment should this be required. The Clerk enquired of Members whether it was felt that any amendment needed to be made to the documents listed above and following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** that no changes were required. Accordingly, the documents were approved by Full Council without amendment for the forthcoming Municipal Year. It was carried.

(e) Proposed Migration of E-mail provider to Outlook

The Clerk had advised the meeting that at the present time the Parish Council e-mail provider was a company by the name of Namesco. The Parish Council's contract with Namesco would be coming up for renewal nearer to the end of the year and the Clerk enquired of Members whether they felt that an alternative provider may prove to be more suitable.

There was a possibility that the Parish Council could procure a more efficient and user-friendly service by migrating over to Outlook. However, it needed to be taken into account that any migration of the main **clerks** email address could only take place on certain conditions. The main proviso was that the alternative provider was capable of meeting the Parish Council's requirements in terms of historical storage, number of users and the ability to self-manage the system itself. This was noted by Members.

Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** to support a migration to an appropriate provider and welcomed the suggestion. It was carried.

117/2026 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr. Mrs. M. Woods was not present on this occasion. However, Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE enquired of Members whether they had any issues they would like to report to Cllr. Mrs. Woods via the Clerk.

Cllr. P. Kruskonjic advised the meeting that he had noticed on social media that Great Wyrley had been flagged up as being badly affected by potholes. On this basis, Cllr. Kruskonjic kindly offered to take a survey of the potholes in Great Wyrley Parish and to make sure all of them were reported on the mystaffs app. The Parish Council was very grateful for this kind offer and Cllr. Kruskonjic was more than happy to take the relevant photographs and make the reports. This was much appreciated by all Members.

118/2026 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE invited Cllr. J. Hill to address the Parish Council at which point he advised the meeting that it was his understanding that an official complaint had been made by a resident of Great Wyrley regarding the cutting back of trees and vegetation bordering her property. This was noted.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that she was aware that there had been an incident connected to this matter and gave the Parish Council the background to the situation. Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised Cllr. Hill that this situation was unfortunate but not unexpected. Cllr. Mrs. Perry also advised Cllr. Hill that going forward it would always be beneficial to check the background to any matters which had not been raised as a matter of course; it may well be that there was a valid reason in existence which would clarify the situation prior to taking any action.

Cllr. Hill accepted the reasoning behind this assertion and agreed that he would check matters of this nature with the Parish Council going forward. This was noted.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that there would be a 7 week Local consultation on the Local Government proposals in due course. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry also advised the meeting that the District Council would again be administering various funding streams and that it may well be worth investigating these sources with regard to the update of the Parish Council's play areas. This was noted.

119/2026 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP INFORMATION BOARD

Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood advised the Parish Council that the remaining Members of the Community Partnership would really appreciate it if the Parish Council would allow it to place an information board, similar to the one already in existence at the Memorial Gardens, which would show how The Millennium Green as we now know it came to be. This was noted by Members.

Following discussion, Councillor J. C. Jones suggested that the Community Partnership submit a detailed design for the structure to the Parish Council in order to allow for an informed decision to be made. This was noted.

Cllr. Mrs. Wood advised the Parish Council that she would take this suggestion back to the remaining Community Partnership Members and would advise the Clerk when she would like this matter to be placed on the agenda for consideration. This was noted.

SEVERN TRENT – WYRLEY BROOK UPDATE MEETING

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the meeting that there was a need to pursue Severn Trent Water regarding the promised follow up meeting relating to the situation with regard to Wyrley Brook, particularly in the light of the number of complaints received regarding the recent incidents of flooding due to the constant rain.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry advised the meeting that she had also received several enquiries regarding the maintenance of the Brook and explained that South Staffordshire Council was not actually responsible for the complete run of the Brook course. Accordingly, Cllr. Mrs. Perry had contacted Mr. Andrew Brett and following several communications, South Staffordshire Council had kindly come out and cleared the grills despite the fact that the responsibility for these works did not actually rest with the Authority.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry agreed that there was a need for the promised Stage 2 meeting with all the stakeholders in this project. At the present time a date had not been fixed for the Stage 2 meeting and the Clerk was instructed to contact Mr. A. Brett and Mr. R. Taylor, South Staffordshire Council's Locality 3 Enabler to secure a date for such a meeting.

Cllr. J. C. Jones also advised the meeting that during the last spate of flooding an extremely malodorous stench had emanated from the holding tank in the Berwyn Grove area. Cllr. J. Hill was also requested to raise this issue at Cheslyn Hay Parish Council as the area itself was in Cheslyn Hay Parish. Cllr. Hill kindly agreed to raise this issue at Cheslyn Hay Parish Council in his capacity of Parish Councillor. This was noted.

SIGNAGE FOR OLYMPIC TRIBUTE, ROYAL COMMEMORATIONS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE SIGNAGE

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting, that over the period since the last meeting, she had been putting pressure on the local Contractor who had submitted a very competitive quotation to provide all the signage required. Signs had been commissioned to commemorate the Olympic Torch and individual signs identifying the trees which had been planted at the site which complemented the colours highlighted on the Olympic Rings Logo.

The quotation also included the Commemorations of the Late HM Elizabeth II and the Ascension of King Charles III to the throne. The Royal Tributes tributes were to be attached to the railings which front the memorial Gardens.

The quotation also included all the new signage to be placed at the Community Centre. One of which would provide a barrier on the verge between the Community Centre and the Health Centre which was constantly being driven over by inconsiderate motorists. In addition, the quotation included a marked out "No Parking" area positioned across the two fire escape doors to the side of the Community Centre in order to curtail the parking of vehicles thus ensuring that the two fire escapes are kept clear and similar measures on the opposite side of the walkway to ensure access is also kept clear for pedestrians with wheelchair and push chair requirements. This was noted by Members.

The quotation submitted was actually very competitive and had come in at a figure lower than the Parish Council had actually budgeted for. The quotation included a choice of options concerning the installation of the yellow "no parking" floor markings. This was noted by Members.

Following discussion, the Parish Council **resolved** to accept the quotation for Option 1.

The Parish Council thanked Cllr. Mrs. Perry for managing to bring this much delayed project to fruition. It was carried.

REQUEST FROM GREAT WYRLEY CARNIVAL COMMITTEE FOR STORAGE OF CARNIVAL SLEIGH

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that she had been approached by a member of the Carnival Committee with a request that it consider providing storage for the Sleigh which is used for many Carnival Committee events.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that originally the thought had been that the Sleigh may be able to be accommodated underneath the canopy to the rear of the Community Centre, however, following further investigation it had become clear that this area was actually regularly used by hirers of the Community Centre. Following this information the Clerk was instructed to research whether there was a possibility that the Sleigh could either be stored in the Community Centre garage or at The Jones Lane Pavilion.

The Clerk was to request that the Parish Council Groundsman liaise with the Carnival Committee in this regard. This was noted by Members.

FALLEN TREE BRANCH IN STREETS LANE

Cllr. Mrs. Perry had been advised that there was a large tree branch fallen in Streets Lane which resulted in pedestrians having no choice other than to walk into the highway to negotiate a way past it. This matter had now been reported and it appeared that the issue had now been resolved. This was noted by Members.

FUTURE EVENTS FOR THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that she felt that now would be a good time to look at costings to put on more localised events at The Community Centre. These events could include Film Shows, Bingo, Fish and Chip suppers and Afternoon Teas. This was noted.

Cllr. Mrs. S. Manderson also advised the meeting that it would be much appreciated if some events could be tailored towards the youngsters of the Parish such as Teenage Discos etc. Cllr. Jones advised Cllr. Mrs. Manderson that the film shows could also include movies which would appeal to the younger generation. This was noted by Members.

JONES LANE CAR PARK

Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised the meeting that in her view there was a need to create a car park/hardstanding area within the Jones Lane Recreation Ground. In addition to this assertion there was a real need to actually create one usable Football Pitch.

This view was acknowledged by everyone present, as it had been some years since the Parish Council had needed to stop letting out the Jones Lane Pitch. For the information of newer Councillors this action had been taken as the waterlogging issue had led to the cancellation of so many matches it had become unviable to let out the pitches due to lack of reliability. This was noted.

Cllr. J. C. Jones fully supported Cllr. Mrs. Perry's views and felt that now was the time to carry out further research in an attempt to secure funding to work towards reinstating a football pitch at Jones Lane. Members were aware that this aim could only be achieved if the drainage of the area could be improved. The Clerk was to research this matter with Sport England.

NEW CAR PARK AT LANDYWOOD LANE

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the meeting that he had been questioned on several occasions about when the new car park in Landywood Lane become operational. Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that at the present time, the car park had not yet been signed over by the Developers. Cllr. Mrs. Perry also advised the meeting that the operation of the car park would be completely under the control of the Developer. It also needed to be taken into account that Local Government Re-Organisation would also have an effect on this issue and time would tell. This was noted by Members.

120/2026 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

CARNIVAL COMMITTEE – 50th ANNIVERSARY

Cllr. A. J. Kelsey advised the meeting that this year would be the 50th Anniversary of Great Wyrley Carnival, however, Cllr. Kelsey explained that, as yet, he could not reveal the theme for the Carnival, but could advise the Parish Council that the entertainment for the day would be more expensive than usual in order to reflect the importance of the occasion but that fund raising had been going well. This was noted by Members.

121/2026 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

26/00013/FULHH – EXTENSION OF THE EXISTING SWIMMING POOL TO FORM AN ENCLOSURE OVER EXISTING POOL AT DUNELM, HAZEL LANE, GREAT WYRLEY WS6 6AA. THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS APPLICATION.

25/00933/FULHH – AMENDED DESCRIPTION AND AMENDED PLANS RECEIVED FOR SINGLE STOREY FRONT AND REAR EXTENSIONS. LOFT CONVERSION INCLUDING ROOF ENLARGEMENT TO REAR AND ROOF ALTERATIONS TO THE FRONT OF 10 HILTON LANE, GREAT WYRLEY. THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THE AMENDMENTS BUT STILL RESERVED THE RIGHT TO SUPPORT NEIGHBOUR OBJECTIONS SHOULD THIS PROVE NECESSARY.

26/00073/TTREE TPO NO. 14/1976 LIME (T1) REPOLLARDING AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH HALL, STATION ROAD, GREAT WYRLEY. THE PARISH COUNCIL INSTRUCTED THE CLERK TO REQUEST CLARIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION AND THE PURPOSE THE WORKS WERE TO SERVE.

26/01152/FULHH – SIDE AND FRONT EXTENSIONS WITH LOFT CONVERSION ABOVE WITH DORMER WINDOWS AT 9 OLDE HALL LANE, GREAT WYRLEY. THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS APPLICATION BUT RESERVED THE RIGHT TO SUPPORT NEIGHBOUR OBJECTIONS SHOULD THIS PROVE NECESSARY.

122/2026 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.

123/2026 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.

