

Notes of Great Wyrley Parish Council Meeting held on 1st April, 2026 at Great Wyrley Community Centre, Landywood Lane, Great Wyrley.

PRESENT:- (Chairman)

Alderman Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE

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

Executive Summary – The following record represents the minutes of the meeting held on 1st April which was kindly facilitated by Cllr. P. Kruskonjic.

- **Shaws Lane weight restriction now budgeted at £45 k** (up from £15 k), with 7.5-ton limit proposed for Shaws Lane, Bentons Lane, and Wharwell Lane; timeline unclear but traffic survey complete and temporary signs already reducing HGV volume.
- **Carnival confirmed 27 Jun 2026 (50th anniversary)** on Star Field; Family Colour Run proposed for **26 May 2026** pending event-management plan submission at least two months in advance—Council supportive if paperwork filed on time.
- **Leander Play Area fencing vandalized**, gates locked until repairs complete; long-term fencing decision deferred to May meeting.
- **Police PCSO shift-pattern review** launches end of summer to focus daytime hours (not post-10 PM) and save £9 M this year, £11 M next—Staffordshire avoiding redundancies (unlike Cheshire's 60 % PCSO cut).
- **Community Speed Watch launch** planned for **15 Jul** national day; **Cllr. P. Kruskonjic** recruiting volunteers and training session (1.5 h) will run at council offices once team assembled—equipment cost ~£300.

MINUTE NO. 136

Full Summary

Apologies and Declarations

- Apologies from Cllr. Mrs. S. Manderson, Cllr. Michelle Woods, Cllr. D. F. W. Norris and Cllr. Mrs. C. Whiston-Taylor (on holiday)
- Cllr. A. Kelsey declared interest in carnival matters

MINUTE NO. 137

Clerk Matters

- Clerk absent due to bereavement (husband passed away)
- Parish Council sent flowers to the family
- Meeting recorded for transcription

Correspondence and Community Links

Great Wyrley Scout and Guide Centre

- Laura McGowan (acting Chair) requested meeting with Parish Council
- Council will invite her to next meeting to discuss mutual support

Police and Crime Commissioner Response

- Staffordshire Police reviewing PCSO shift patterns to establish consistent working practices, with changes beginning end of summer
- PCSOs will work day hours rather than evening shifts (after 10 PM), with no reduction in total community hours
- Review driven by financial pressures requiring £9 million savings this year and £11 million next year
 - Approach avoids redundancies, unlike Cheshire which is cutting PCSO cohort by over 60%
- Response failed to address request for PCSOs to attend parish council meetings and provide local crime breakdowns
- Opportunity to raise concerns directly with new chief constable missed due to illness

MINUTE NO.138

Traffic and Highway Matters

Shaws Lane HGV Weight Restriction Scheme

- Scheme included in 2025/26 capital program with £15,000 allocated for development
- Consultation expanded to include Hilton Lane, Shaws Lane, Bentons Lane, and Wharwell Lane
- Traffic survey found Hilton Lane and Holly Lane already carry significantly more large vehicles, while Shaws Lane, Bentons Lane, and Wharwell Lane need traffic calming
 - Proposed 7.5 ton weight restriction across these three roads
- Cost escalated from £15,000 to £45,000
- Temporary signs from Mark Keeling have reduced traffic
 - Community group contacted hauliers requesting drivers avoid Shaws Lane with positive results

- Second temporary sign requested for interim period

- Implementation timeline unclear
- Residents to email concerns to Cllr. Michelle Woods (County Councillor) and Mark Keeling (Community Highways manager)

- Council Chair will contact Mark Keeling for face-to-face discussion
- Previous email went unanswered

- Concern that without restriction, heavy traffic will resume significantly

MINUTE NO. 139

Community Traffic Concerns

- Heavy goods vehicles observed on Shaws Lane from 4-8 AM
- Factory development near Landywood Enterprise Park would have generated two HGVs every seven minutes

- Council objected but developers won appeal
- Current status uncertain, hopeful it may not proceed

- Holly Lane also used by heavy vehicles, with multiple complaints from both Nursery school and Primary school to police

MINUTE NO. 140

Community Facilities and Safety

Leander Play Area Fencing

- All fencing pulled down at play area
- Roger Harris reported incident Tuesday morning but didn't witness responsible party
- Unclear if deliberate damage or wind-related
- Groundsman made area safe short-term, gates locked until site secured
- Long-term fencing decision deferred to May meeting
- Play area should remain closed during interim

Bus Shelter in Gorsey Lane

- New bus shelter requires hedge cutting at 50 to 60 Gorsey Lane to prevent vehicle impacts
- Martin Wallace from Housing Association visiting site week of March 16th to assess
- Awaiting Housing Association response

MINUTE NO. 142

Events and Celebrations

Carnival on June 27, 2026

- Annual carnival requested for Star Field with Dobson's Fun Fair operating fairground attractions
- This is the 50th anniversary of the Carnival
- District Council requires ADIPS certificate for fairground rides, PIPA certificate for inflatables, risk assessments and insurance
- Parish Council insurance covers up to 15 events
- Alan to contact Dobsons to confirm all necessary certificates in place

Family Colour Run - May 26, 2026

- Event proposed for 50th carnival anniversary on Star Field
- Parents and children dressed in white run through and are splashed with biodegradable paint, with balloon arches as decoration
- Event management plan required from organizers at least two months in advance
 - Carnival Committee with new members has not yet submitted plan
 - Pauline Kelsey managing documentation requirements
- Council approval conditional on proper event management plan and documentation
 - If received in time, event proceeds May 26; otherwise deferred
- Star Field preferred over smaller field area due to capability to handle event
- M. Sullivan (district council) is point of contact for event management plan submission

MINUTE NO. 143

Planning Applications

- Application 26/00166/FULHH: 23 Manor Avenue - single-storey rear extension and double storey first floor side extension
 - No objections from council or neighbours
- Application 26/00210/FULHH: 119 Walsall Road - two-storey side extension and single storey rear extension
 - No objections from council

MINUTE NO. 144

Finance

- Finance report reviewed and accepted, all accounts signed off

MINUTE NO 145

Other Reports

County Council and Local Government Planning

- No county councillor report (Michelle Woods absent)
- Local government reorganisation in progress with decision expected approximately July
- Local plan under inspection since December, good news expected shortly
- Five-year plan development underway despite current plan still under review
- Government housing targets requiring millions of new homes nationally, with limited available space in Great Wyrley

MINUTE NO. 146

Flooding and Wyrley Brook Update

- Andrew Brett (flood management) willing to convene meeting for flooding situation update
- Council waiting for clerk to return before scheduling
- Meeting to be scheduled as soon as possible

MINUTE NO. 147

Community Speed Watch Initiative

- Cllr. P. Kruskonjic met with Police last week regarding program
- Staffordshire Safety Partnership will provide training for new volunteers
- National Community Speed Watch day on July 15th
- No existing team in Great Wyrley – Cllr. P. Kruskonjic establishing one
- Equipment needed: gun, tuning fork, and counter - approximately £300 total
 - Police will provide high visibility vests and other equipment
- Training session approximately 1.5 hours
- Council to publicize volunteer opportunity on website and through office
- Cllr. P. Kruskonjic has recruited volunteers in Cannock and Rugeley areas
- Training to be conducted at Council Offices if volunteers come forward