

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 May, 2024.

Present:

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

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
---	--

Also in attendance was Parish Clerk (Mrs. S. McGlue)

ONE MINUTE'S SILENCE IN MEMORY OF FORMER COUNCILLOR MARK DABBS

The Chairman invited all present to observe a one minute's silence for former Councillor Mark Dabbs who had sadly passed away in February of this year. This was carried.

142/2024 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr. Mrs. O. Brazier, Cllr. D. Norris and Cllr. D. F. W. Norris.

143/2024 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.

144/2024 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 3rd April, 2024. It was carried.

145/2024 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman advised the meeting that all documents relating to the Local Plan were now available for public view in the foyer of the Community Centre and that it was a most important document in terms of development in the Parish. The Chairman felt that everyone should take this opportunity to look at them this evening if they so wished. This was noted by Members.

The Chairman advised the meeting that there would be an Extra-Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council to sign off the Parish Council's year end documents. This meeting would be held immediately, prior to the Annual Parish Assembly which was take place on 15th May, 2024. The Parish Council would then hold its Annual General Meeting where the election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman would take place for the forthcoming Municipal Year. The timings for the meetings would be made public in due course.

The Chairman also advised the meeting that the PCSOs were unable to be present on this occasion, however, the monthly Police Report had been circulated to all Members for their information. This was noted.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that she was pleased to see that the

document was considerably shorter on this occasion which she felt was a good sign. Clearly, the crime figures had come down slightly but she had noticed that the vehicle crimes were still the main problem. This was noted by Members.

146/2024 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

147/2024 CLERK'S REPORTS

(a) REQUEST TO MARK GREAT WYRLEY CEMETERY GRAVE SPACE WITH A RELIGIOUS SYMBOL

The Clerk advised the meeting that the Parish Council had been requested to consider giving permission to place a Cross on a grave space (which was just off F Section) in Great Wyrley Cemetery which was referred to as Section FX and which had primarily been used for the burial of children during the 1950s and 60s.

As this area was used for the burial of children, presumably ranging in size from infancy etc. it was not the custom during that time to take measurements of the plots used for this purpose and accordingly, it was not now possible to say with any certainty exactly where the infant had actually been laid to rest. Accordingly, on this basis the Parish Council had concerns as to whether it would have the right to give this permission.

Following full discussion Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that should the Parish Council give permission on this occasion it would undoubtedly lead to more requests of a similar nature and that it may be unwise to begin a process which it was already concerned about, as it may become quite difficult to control.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry felt that the Parish Council would be far better to offer the family a space on the new Memorial Wall once the works were completed. Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** to offer this alternative to the family. It was carried.

(b) PROCUREMENT OF LICENSE TO SELL ALCOHOL AT GREAT WYRLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Members recalled that during previous Parish Council meetings they had discussed the idea of bringing in additional revenue by putting on events itself at the Community Centre.

Having now had an opportunity to discuss this matter with the Community Centre Officer, she had come forward with an offer to apply for a Personal License for the sale of alcohol at the Community Centre.

In effect this meant that the Parish Council would be able to sell alcohol at the Community Centre whilst running its own events. As an employee of the Parish Council the personal licence would cover the Community Centre.

By way of background the Clerk advised the meeting that the Officer in question had held the relevant License for many years and it had only recently expired.

On this basis the Officer was more than happy to renew her personal license to allow the Parish Council to hold events such as Bingo and Prosecco Nights, commonly known these days as "Pringo" which had become very popular indeed in recent years. These events seemed to work very well and were very lucrative.

Following discussion Members unanimously agreed that this was a very kind offer and that they would like to accept it and would be prepared to meet any

costs incurred which was likely to be in the region of £150.00. It was carried.

(c) CLIMATE CHANGE

Members recalled that this item had been placed on the agenda in order to keep the option open, should there be any issue requiring an immediate decision as Climate Change was a very important subject and applied to so much more than people think.

The Chairman advised the meeting that he was more than happy to allow this subject to remain on the agenda permanently and encouraged Members to give thought as to how the Parish Council could make a contribution towards counteracting Climate Change in some way possibly by changing some of the ways the Council itself operates; possibly even changing the Council vehicle to one which was powered by electricity in the future. This was noted.

148/2024 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, but that she was able to advise everyone that road repairs were already being carried out at Holly Lane, Wharwell Lane and Fair Oaks Drive. The team would also be returning to Station Road to finish it properly following the expressions of disgust made at the last meeting as to the poor quality of the repairs. This was noted.

Repairs to the A34 from Jacobs Hall Lane past Holly Lane were shortly to be carried out which included the large hole in the road. Cllr. Mrs. Perry was unaware of the exact date this would take place. This was noted.

Cllr. Mrs. C. Whiston-Taylor advised the meeting that she had observed a number of repairs being carried out in Norton Lane but that some had been left. Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised the meeting that often repair workers from other agencies were carrying out works and not always the Highway Authority. Cllr. Mrs. Perry explained that she was only able to pass on the information she had in her possession.

Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood advised Cllr. Mrs. Perry that the information the County Council was giving out was not helping the Bus Company. Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised Cllr. Mrs. Wood that this was something which would need to be dealt with via the parties involved.

Cllr. A. J. Kelsey advised the meeting that he was very concerned that no roadworks would be taking place at the time of the Carnival Procession as it had caused chaos in previous years. Cllr. Kelsey was also concerned that they may not be granted their licence this year. Cllr. Mrs. Perry kindly offered to take this matter up with the relevant officer at the County Council. This was noted.

Cllr. J. C. Jones asked Cllr. Mrs. Perry whether any works would be carried out to pavements during the coming year. Cllr. Mrs. Perry responded that this was very unlikely as there was far too much work to be done on the highways themselves. This was noted.

149/2024 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised the meeting that she had observed from the Local Chit Chat Group that repairs were going to be carried out to the car park to Landywood Station. This in itself was an irritant as local members had not been advised of anything of the sort. Accordingly, a meeting was arranged between Local Members and Officers of South Staffordshire Council to be held at a date to suit all. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised the meeting that all the car parks in the ownership of South Staffordshire Council were to be refurbished in due course, however, works were being held back whilst decisions were made with regard to the installation of EV charging facilities. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that there were a number of funding streams available at the moment and it was felt that this was something that all members may wish to give some thought to so that the Parish Council can ensure that it doesn't miss any opportunities. Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised the meeting that Ryan Taylor had offered to attend a meeting with the Parish Council to guide them through the criteria in relation to funding.

Cllr. Mrs. Perry also explained to the Parish Council that she had now met the new Chief Inspector of South Staffordshire Local Policing Division. Chief Inspector Norbury had advised Cllr. Mrs. Perry that he was liaising with cross border services in Walsall and Cannock and Cllr. Perry requested that he also include the British Transport Police to ensure he was fully briefed in terms of certain problems relating to Great Wyrley. Chief Inspector Norbury was more than happy to do this. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Mrs. Perry for alerting Chief Inspector Norbury to the importance of this action.

150/2024 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

D DAY COMMEMORATION

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE advised the meeting that she would like to discuss the arrangements for the commemoration of the 80th Anniversary of the D Day Landings. Cllr. Mrs. Perry advised the meeting that she had now liaised with St. Andrews Church who had agreed for the use of the chairs and to provide refreshments and the new Vicar was to be asked to read the international address on the commemoration.

The Great Wyrley Community Band and the Cheslyn Hay Community Choir would be appearing at the event and the official invitation to Light the Beacon had now been received from Buckingham Palace with a timeline dictated of 9.15p.m. The timings for the event were to be confirmed closer to the time. This was noted.

151/2024 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

MILLENNIUM GREEN NOTICE BOARD

Cllr. Mrs. S. M. Wood gave the Parish Council a brief précis on the situation in this regard, including how the Millennium Green came to be. Cllr. Mrs. Wood's report included the fact that the Millennium Green had been achieved with the assistance of external funding from Vantage West Midlands and several community minded organisations and individuals. Cllr. Mrs. Wood also explained that the original Community Partnership Notice Board was found to be unsalvageable and that thoughts were now turning to a pictorial board explaining the story, similar to that displayed in the Memorial Gardens.

Cllr. Mrs. K. M. Perry MBE reminded all present that even though the Community Partnership was prepared to part fund the supply and fixture of the structure it needed to be taken account that whatever structure was decided upon for the Millennium Green it would still need to be maintained. Accordingly, Cllr. Perry requested clarification as to who would be responsible for this function as it was already established that once this matter was concluded the Community Partnership would be dissolved.

Cllr. J. C. Jones advised the meeting that it was his view that the Parish Council was now dealing with two completely different issues. Firstly, the fact that the Parish Council had already agreed that the Community Partnership Notice Board should be repaired; and that a History of the Community Partnership would be shown on one side and that the other side could be used by other organisations within the Village, but primarily Great Wyrley History Society, who had already taken on the responsibility of refurbishing the original Notice Board. However, that refurbishment had not proved possible and the Community Partnership's Notice Board was no longer in existence.

In Councillor Jones' view the second issue now related to the placement of a Pictorial Board showing the Community Partnership's involvement in the development of the Millennium Green in some position on the Millennium Green.

Cllr. Mrs. Wood had suggested that this could either be on the remaining poles which supported the original Notice Board or at some other position on Millennium Green such as the railings near to the paved area. Cllr. Mrs. Wood reiterated that whichever was chosen neither would cost the Council any money. This was noted.

Cllr. J. C. Jones asked Cllr. Mrs. Wood if the History Society was now out of the equation as the original agreement was for the History Society to take over the Board. Cllr. Mrs. Wood disagreed that this had ever been confirmed and advised the meeting that should the Parish Council decide not to allow the Pictorial Board to be erected at some position on the Millennium Green then she would not be prepared to let the original space (which still housed the supporting poles) to be lost to the Community Partnership. This was noted by Members.

Cllr. J. C. Jones asked Cllr. A. Newell if he was aware of any additional information as a member of the Great Wyrley History Society. Cllr. Newell did not have any further information on this matter. This was noted.

Following discussion the Parish Council **resolved** to defer this matter until the next meeting of the Parish Council when it would be dealt with as two separate issues. It was carried.

GREAT WYRLEY CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

Cllr. A. J. Kelsey advised the meeting that the plans for the 2024 Carnival were all going well but he was concerned that they had not, as yet, been granted the necessary licence. This was noted by Members.

152/2024 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

24/00185/FUL – CHANGE OF USE FROM DWELLINGHOUSE (C3) TO CARE HOME(C2) - EXTENSION WAS YET TO BE CONSTRUCTED BUT HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY APPROVED UNDER A SEPARATE APPLICATION AT 15 HUT HILL LANE, GREAT WYRLEY – THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD ALREADY OBJECTED TO AN APPLICATION OF THIS NATURE RELATING TO THE ADJOINING PROPERTY AND SAW NO REASON TO CHANGE ITS VIEW ON THIS APPLICATION AS THE SAME CONSTRAINTS NEEDED TO APPLY.

24/00282/FULHH /FULHH – PROPOSED EXTENSIONS DOUBLE GARAGE, PORCH, DINING ROOM BEDROOM AND ENSUITE. THE PARISH COUNCIL OBJECTED TO THIS PROPOSAL ON THE BASIS THAT IT WAS CONSIDERED TO BE OVERDEVELOPMENT AND WOULD BE OUT OF CHARACTER WITH THE EXISTING STREET SCENE.

24/00309/VAR - VARIATION OF CONDITION 7 OF PLANNING PERMISSION - 0685/98 DATED 8TH SEPTEMBER 1998 - A MORTGAGEE

EXCLUSION CLAUSE. – THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTION TO THIS APPLICATION, BUT RESERVED THE RIGHT TO SUPPORT NEIGHBOUR OBJECTIONS SHOULD THIS PROVE NECESSARY.

153/2024 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.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

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