

Minutes of the meeting of Great Wolford Parish Council held Tuesday 22 March 2022 at 7.30 pm in Great Wolford Church

**Present: Lynn Mathias (Chair, LM), Christopher Wolverson (CW), Jennifer Green (JG), Keith Murphy (KM), Lynn Bryan (LB), Sue Finlay (clerk)**

**Jo Barker (WCC, JB), Sarah Whalley Hoggins (SDC, SWH)**

2022:10      *Apologies:* None.

2022:11      Declaration of interests: None.

2022:12      *Approval of the minutes of the last meeting:* Approved.

2022:13      *Matters arising:*

(a) *Update on Four Shires Stone Farm:* This is an ongoing problem. As the meeting commenced KM had been sent a photo taken of a very large fire at the site (taken at 7.30), together with a photo of the preparation of the fire, taken on 21/03. JB and SWH went to view the fire for themselves, but reported that at 8.00 it had begun to die down, although there was a chemical smell.

The owner is now advertising for a skip hire driver and appears to be running an unlicensed skip hire/waste disposal business from the site. JB reported that WCC, together with West Oxfordshire and Gloucester councils are all aware of the situation and had the matter in hand, although it was a finely balanced legal situation, now in the hands of enforcement. This department are very short staffed at the moment due to reorganization so progress is very slow.

(b) *Tree planting:* LM and JG had purchased two cherry trees, which had been planted at the weekend before by Nick and Sue Rew, near the post box. LM said she had enquired about having a plaque made to mark the occasion.

There had also been an offer from Wolford Woods to site some trees there, it was accessible by public footpath but difficult to walk to. KM asked if there was a possibility of planting in a field near to a public footpath, but it was pointed out that any tree sited like this would need substantial tree guards.

(c) *Verge at Ingram Close:* JB reported that she had not received a response form Orbit as yet.

(d) *Proposed amalgamation of GWPC and LWPM:* LM reported that the survey results had shown support for a joint council. It was queried whether Little Wolford (LW) would be willing to supply two councillors. This was something not in the control of the council and could only be dealt with if it arose, although it was hoped there would be more enthusiasm for a position as councillor which involve shared responsibility, as opposed to Chair of a parish meeting, which meant everything rested on one person's

shoulders. It was felt an agenda should be prepared for the joint meeting on 31 March (Appendix I). It was suggested that Helen chair the meeting.

(e) *Speeding*: The safety neighbourhood team had not responded yet about speed training. JB suggested contacting Phillip Seccombe direct. It was agreed that the community constable be invited to the next meeting [KM to do]

*20s Plenty*: RCW had attended a Zoom meeting on this. He felt parked cars could be the cheapest form of traffic calming. JB said it would cost about £6000 to have the speed limit changed. It was agreed to review this at the next meeting.

**2022:14**      **Planning:**

*New*

22/00347/FUL, Mr B. Wrench, Jackdaws Roost, Great Wolford, Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 5NQ, Proposed alterations and single storey extensions to existing dwelling to include conversion of existing carport into habitable accommodation. [Commented upon].

*Ongoing*

21/03924/FUL, Mr + Mrs T. Zielinski, 1 The Ridgeway, Great Wolford, CV36 5NN. Proposed single-storey extensions, alterations to drive and entrance gates. Members of the PC had made a site visit to the property. The owner was present and commented that the purpose was to provide extra space for his expanding family and would involve landscaping the surrounding area. LM asked the clerk to enter a comment of 'No objection,' but with the comment that the council felt it would be better if the solar panels went on the south-facing main house, rather than the west-facing extension, as they would be less intrusive and more efficient.

21/03234/COUQ, Barn Adjacent To Wolford Lodge Great Wolford Road Moreton-in-Marsh. Proposed change of use of agricultural barn to single residential dwelling [withdrawn].

21/02181/FUL, Mr W. Coates, land adjacent to Four Shires Stone Farm, conversion to a travellers site with static and touring caravans. (West Oxon CC): [No information on any appeal found by 02/03/22.]

**2022:15**      **Finance:** No comments. Approved.

(a) *Expenditure since last meeting:*

18/02/2022	Chris Dyer	Website exp.	151.95	8,974.05
23/02/2022	Community Heartbeat Trust	VETS fees	80	8,894.05
23/12/2022	Lynn Mathias	Merger expenses	19.5	8,874.55
01/03/2022	Sue Finlay	Clerks salary & exp.	222.19	8,652.36
07/03/2022	Fosseway Nursery	Jubilee trees via LM	147.45	8,504.91

(b) *Appointment of Ann Mckenna as internal auditor for 2021-22*: Approved; Mrs McKenna has agreed to do this for a donation of £40 to be made to the PCC.

(c) *Request by Robert Graham (RG) for donation towards cost of green bin:* RG had asked for a donation again for an additional bin that was used for the waste products of mowing the village areas. A sum of £21 was proposed [LM; 2, JG; Approved]

(d) *Warwickshire Search and Rescue; donation and possible hub:* LM will contact James van Helden re the Village Hall being used as a Warwickshire Search and Rescue hub as it was really the only possible location within the villages of Great and Little Wolford.

(e) *Village Defibrillator* – a cascading system of volunteers had been set up so that in an Emergency they could be called to take the defibrillator to the victim and assist with CPR. The volunteers had just done a course on the defibrillators use with Paul Riley which was extremely helpful and it is hoped that Paul will give a similar course to anyone in the village who was interested, date to be agreed after the AGM

**2022:16 Any other business:**

*Jubilee:* The trees had been planted and Jubilee mugs ordered. One mug would be provided free to every child 16 and under in the village and the rest would be offered for sale to residents. A floral display was being arranged in the Church. A street party was being coordinated by James van Helden on the basis of bring your own food and a pudding to share, plus a pay bar. Two bouncy castle would be hired. CW said Insurance had to be sorted still. The clerk agreed to check the Village insurance to see if it would be covered. It was estimated that the cost would be £1000–1500, £1000 to be paid by the PC and the rest covered by the village fund. JB said that council funding was available towards celebrations. Every house had received a letter about it and 16 households had replied. There were orders for 6 mugs for children and 16 for adults so far. 45 had confirmed they would attend the street party and there had been 11 offers of help.

*Proposed new boundaries:* JB reported that the boundaries for GW would remain unchanged.

*Great Wolford Parish Council's response to the Levelling Up White Paper:*

*Formal adoption of LGA Code of Conduct:* Carried forward to next meeting, together with risk assessment (31/03?)

**2022:17 Councillors reports:** JB reported that she had been busy with the proposed WCC/SDC merger and the Local Plan Review. SWH reported that the council were to address the issue of Self-build planning applications, where a land agent applies for a number of plots for self-build on a piece of land, but were not required to make any payments under Section 106, so there would be no benefit to the local community, i.e. support for schools, infrastructure, etc. The council feel the problem is getting out of hand and want to have some firm rules in place.

JB reported that households will be given a food waste caddy to go out with green waste. She also pointed out that household can now have an additional blue bin at a charge of £40 p.a. She also pointed out that it was permissible to put out an extra box of recycling FoC.

The Fox and Hounds is becoming an issue as it had been reported that the kitchen had been stripped out. Enforcement have now become involved.

**2022:18** *Issues raised by members of the public:* None attended.

**2022:19** *Date of next Parish Council Meeting and AGM/APA:* These meetings were arranged for 10 May (tbc) at 7 p.m.

#### Appendix I

1. Justification for a merger.
2. Questionnaire outcome.
3. New name: Wolford Parish Council was the most popular choice.
4. The way forward: This will be to request a Community Governance Review (CGR) by SDC, who will have 12 months to do this.
5. Meeting location.