

Wickhamford Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting, 13th November 2024, 11/24.

Clerk to the Council, Andrea Evans, Ty Gwyn, Church Street, Offenham, Worcs, WR11 8RW.
07591533557 email wickhamfordpc@gmail.com website: www.wickhamfordpc.co.uk

Present: Councillors, J Poulter, T Hemming, T Cumberland, R Gutteridge, N Austin and J Neal.

DC E Sims and CC L Eyre.

Clerk, A. Evans.

1. **Apologies** –

S Wride, DC E Kearsey.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

None.

3. **The meeting was adjourned for the Public Question Time.**

No members of the public attended.

4. **The Minutes of the meeting** held on the 11th September 2024 were agreed, proposed by TH, seconded by JP with a unanimous vote in favour.

5. **District / County Councillors Report**

County Councillors Report- Attached.

- Ideas/solutions for speeding along Manor Road following correspondence received from Nigel Huddleston MP were considered. Another car has hit the wall of The Manor. Cllr Eyre is going to look into road markings/signage that could be considered to warn drivers of the bend.
- TC agreed to complete Worcs CC Streetscene Consultation before closing date of 27th January 2025.

District Council:

- Event is being held on 18th November 2024 for councillors from Wickhamford, Broadway, Sedgberrow, Aston Somerville and Childswickham to meet with leader of Wychavon DC to discuss local issues.
- Cllr Sims and TH have met with Rooftop about the possibility of converting an amenity area on Manor Close to parking and improve congestion. This will require a planning pre-app from Rooftop.
- Message from Cllr Kearsey: *To update you, full council passed a unanimous motion to request the government, in the absence of revoking the decision to withdraw Winter fuel payments, delay the removal until such time as the thousands of residents eligible for Pension credit, not currently claiming it, have the opportunity to apply. We are aware the application process is complex and extremely lengthy, which has put people off applying. Within the control of what we can do in light of this cruel decision, Wychavon are making available additional resources to give support to help complete applications. If you could communicate this as much as possible please. I am sadly too*

aware of people who fall fractionally below the threshold and cannot claim. You may be aware of the way Angela Rayner has threatened Wychavon along with other planning authorities, that she will decide where the thousands and thousands of proposed houses go, within the countryside. We can do what we can do with the processes still remaining to us. It is an extremely worrying landscape for the countryside as a whole.

6. Police Report:

i. Update from www.police.uk

7. Parish Council:

- a. Play area works- Roundabout is currently out of action, awaiting a part. Grass seed will be planted to fill the gaps between plat mats and grass to improve safety. Swings posts are soon to be replaced.
- b. 'Sexual Harassment' Policy with effect from October 2024- This policy was noted and approved.
- c. 2024/25 lengthsman budget has been used-Dealt with under budget.
- d. Date changes of May 2025 and July 2025 meetings to accommodate clerk- Meeting dates are confirmed as 7th May 2025 and not 14th and 2nd July 2025 and not 9th.

8. Items for Consideration.

- a. Questionnaire ideas for village emergency planning-NA- This matter has been deferred.
- b. Sandys Arms Noticeboard and/or village noticeboard- Wychavon planning have confirmed that no planning approval would be required for a noticeboard to be re-instated on Sandys Arms, however, it would mean that both noticeboards are close together. TC agreed to have a noticeboard at Wayside, this was approved by cllrs. Clerk will get prices for January meeting.
- c. Complaint about dog fouling on playing field has been received which councillors considered together with possible solutions. There are multiple bins and signs. Club has to sweep field before any matches take place to ensure that there is no dog poo and have experience of owners letting dogs off and not watching them appropriately. Cllrs agreed that they would monitor the situation but that they would advise residents via the newsletter that if the situation does not improve that they will consider banning dogs from the playing field completely.

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9. Planning.

- a. To consider/note the following applications:

a	Case No:	W/24/01995/PIP
	Location:	62 Willersey Road, Badsey
	Proposal:	Permission in principle for 1 dwelling.
	Parish Council Decision:	No objections.
	Wychavon	Approved.

10. Finance:

- a. A list of payments to be drawn this month were approved and cheques already signed and ratified and the statement of balance of accounts 2024 approved as follows, proposed by JP and seconded by JN with a unanimous vote in favour.

Bank Account Reconciled Statement

Treasurers

Statement Number	32	Bank Statement No.	32
Statement Opening Balance	£10,906.09	Opening Date	01/10/24
Statement Closing Balance	£8,693.61	Closing Date	30/10/24
True/ Cashbook Closing Balance	£8,693.61		

Date	Cheque/ Ref.	Supplier/ Customer	Debit (£)	Credit (£)	Balance (£)
01/10/24	BACS241001BAPC	Multiple Suppliers/ Customers	3.00	7.50	10,910.59
01/10/24	BACS241001BPC	Bretforton Parish Council	0.00	35.00	10,945.59
01/10/24	BACS241001Marmax	Marmax Products	522.00	0.00	10,423.59
04/10/24	BACS241004SC	Smartcut	772.39	0.00	9,651.20
07/10/24		Andrea Evans	20.00	0.00	9,631.20
07/10/24		Andrea Evans	27.48	0.00	9,603.72
07/10/24		Andrea Evans	468.92	0.00	9,134.80
07/10/24		HMRC	117.20	0.00	9,017.60
07/10/24	BACS241001HP	HP Ink	25.49	0.00	8,992.11
22/10/24	BACS241022WCC	Worcestershire County Council	0.00	144.00	9,136.11
28/10/24		Badsey PC	74.00	0.00	9,062.11
28/10/24		Badsey PC	66.00	0.00	8,996.11
28/10/24		Andy Tyrrell	200.00	0.00	8,796.11
28/10/24		Andrea Evans	102.50	0.00	8,693.61

Wickhamford Parish Council

Expenditure transactions - payments approval list Start of year 01/04/24

No	Payment Reference	Gross	To pay Heading	Invoice date	Invoice no.	Details
1092	BACS24111 3AT	£200.00	£200.00 21300	13/11/24		Andy Tyrrell - VAS
1096 headstone	BACS24111 £2,484.00 3BG	£2,484.00	£2,484.00 21200	13/11/24		Memory Lane Memorials - repairs to
1097	BACS24111 3AT	£30.00	£30.00 21100	13/11/24		Andy Tyrrell - roundabout
1098	BACS24111 3AW	£29.24	£29.24 21700	13/11/24		Andrea Evans - monthly expenses
1099	BACS24111 3BG	£420.00	£420.00 21200	13/11/24		Susan Turner - overpayment of BG
Sub Total		£3,163.24	£3,163.24			

	£629.32	£629.32	Confidential
Total	£3,792.56	£3,792.56	

b. Budget for 2024/25 including balances as at 30th October 2024 of:

Account ending in 5168-£4963.63.

Account ending in 2068-£27676.84

Cllrs consider the budget for periods 23/24 and the first 6 months of 25/26 and looked at a breakdown of income and expenditure. The costs of lengthsman have exceeded the budget claimed from Worcs CC by almost double which includes VAS devices as well as weed spraying and road maintenance. Going forward it was agreed that this must be better monitored and that the frequency of changing the VAS locations be reduced. Although the budget may not completely cover the expense, it needs to be brought more in line.The largest costs during both periods is the assets maintenance/ repairs, this has included the purchase of a new vas and defib and repairs to play areas as well as works on some trees. Going forward the PC needs to budget for these projects. The PC has a good savings balance but cannot continue to spend from it without earmarking from income such as precept. The income fro BG is not predictable and the costs for the BG sometimes exceed the income so the precept also needs to ensure that the BG can be maintained. In summary, the PC needs to keep a closer eye on none essential expenditure and consider increasing the precept in line with rise costs at the January 2025 meeting.

c. The introduction of bank charges with effect from 14th January 2025- Lloyds Bank are introducing a charge of £4.25 per month for current accounts with effect from 14th January 2025. No other bank offers free banking so clerk will keep only the current account that attracts charges and change the others to instant access savings accounts.

11. Lengthsman:

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- a. Tasks required-

12. Items for the next Agenda

13. Date of next meeting: **Wednesday 8th January 2025- Wickhamford Memorial Hall.**

Items for the next Agenda must be received 7 days prior to the above date.

Andrea Evans

Clerk to Wickhamford Parish Council.
Meeting Closed at 8.29pm.

Signed.....Chairperson

Date.....