

**FLYFORD FLAVELL, GRAFTON FLYFORD &
NORTH PIDDLER PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting held by ZOOM,
on Tuesday 23rd March 2021**

Present P Wakeman S Densham C Bennett
 D Waide (Chairman) J East R Davey
 A Short

Cllr L Robinson, Cllr R Adams

Mark Broughton-Taylor attended as clerk

2. Declaration of Interest:

None

3. Public Participation:

A member of the public noted that the 2nd February minutes had not yet been posted on the website.

Members of the public attended to find out the latest situation concerning the village green. The council was asked if it would be possible to make some preliminary enquiries with the Public Loans Board in case the Legacy Grant was turned down. The clerk said that this was possible.

A general concern was raised concerning the state of the footpaths at the present time. Further discussion took place under item 10.

4. Minutes of the 19th January and 2nd February 2021

Minutes of the ZOOM meetings held on 19th January and 2nd February 2021 were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Proposed: Pauline Wakeman Seconded: Sadie Densham All in favour

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

No matters arising

6. Correspondence:

None.

7. Local Police Officer and Community Support Officer:

A report had been received by email shortly before the meeting:

"I have tried to review the incidents for the Parish for the last couple of months and can only find one report from the 7th March reporting the theft of lead from the back of a vehicle.

We have had a small number of thefts from sheds in the surrounding area of Kington and Dormston. There has also been a couple of incidents regarding lamping where a number of people have been spoken to and reported.

If the PC have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the team.

Regards,

Julie"

8. Broadband

The clerk reported that the all the outstanding vouchers had now been validated but there was still 1 person who had not fulfilled the obligation to sign up to the FTTP service with BT for a year. However, he thought that this was simply a matter of time and that it would be sorted out soon.

9. Neighbourhood Watch

The stickers for the bins have been distributed. There were a number short for Church Lane and it was agreed to buy more to cover the rest of Flyford Flavell and some of the outlying areas. Thanks were expressed to Jane Hand for undertaking this work.

Proposed David Waide Seconded Sadie Densham All in favour

It was also noted that there may be 10% discount for house insurance for N W areas.

10. Footpaths Officer

The situation concerning the ratification of the Footpath Officer's appointment by Worcester County Council had not moved forward. The clerk was asked to write and see if there was anything that could be done to speed things up.

The footpaths officer nevertheless offered the following unofficial report:

It was noted that according to the WCC interactive map there were 50 outstanding issues in the parish which had been reported but not actioned. There was only one matter labelled for action and that was the steps to the south of New Hill.

It was reported that residents had volunteered to lay some hard chippings to the footpath off Church Lane. The chippings would cost £70.00 and the parish council was asked to cover the cost. It was agreed to pass this request up to WCC in the first instance to see if it could be covered from their budget. If not the parish council will consider the matter again.

11. Website and Communications

Ceri gave a report on progress concerning the website. The slides of her presentation are attached to the minutes as an addendum. In brief, Ceri thanked members for their feedback. The website now synchronises with the links on WCC and Wychavon sites. Most of the changes required to comply with the new government standard for accessibility have been completed and there is a new look to the site. The remaining amendments are in hand. Ceri considered that there were still some improvements that could be made to upgrade its usability and the selection of information that was available to interest more people. The feedback was still being reviewed and improvements would continue to be made.

Three propositions were put forward depending on the level of investment that the parish council wished to make. It was agreed to implement the 'Bronze' quotation for £280 in the first instance.

A discussion then ensued concerning the need for a Facebook Page to supplement the Flyford Flavell page and the other information streams in the locality. Ceri volunteered to set this up and maintain the page.

A proposal was made to cover these points

1st David Waide

2nd John East

All in favour

9. District and County Councillors

LATEST UPDATE from Wychavon re opening of the Civic Centre.

Until we get further information, we are not planning on having staff return to the office in significant numbers until after 21 June when it is proposed all legal limits on social contact are dropped.

Similarly, our buildings will remain closed to councillors and council meetings will continue to be held virtually until we get an update from the Government on what the regulations and arrangements will be in the future.

We do intend to reopen our reception at the Civic Centre in Pershore for pre-booked urgent face to face appointments from 12 April, when non-essential retail reopens. Although libraries can reopen from that date it will still be with social distancing restrictions in place so we will keep the reopening of our hubs in Droitwich and Evesham under review and await further guidance.

The full reopening of our reception may have to wait until staff return to the office but again, we will keep this under review.

Business Support

The Government confirmed this week the Local Restrictions Grant Business Support funding would be extended until end of March. We will be given additional funding to cover this.

We will now start distributing another 6 weeks of payments automatically to businesses across the district. So far under this scheme we have distributed £10.6m to those companies who were

forced to close and £1.4m to companies who have been severely affected by the pandemic. Business support payments for all schemes distributed by us now total more than £44million.

We await further details of support for businesses in next week's budget.

We have also paid out over £105,000 to people who have lost income whilst isolating by way of an individual financial support payment of £500.

Lockdown easing - step one

The first step of the Prime Minister's lockdown easing roadmap begins on 8 March when schools will be allowed to reopen.

The Government has published a blog explaining what you can expect.

[Read students returning to school and college, what you need to know.](#)

Please make sure when dropping children off that you keep 2 metres from others – if you can't imagine a bath or sofa between you and the other person you are probably too close.

Please follow any other guidance you are given by your school and avoid gathering in groups on the street to talk to others, as tempting as it may be after so long apart from each other. Although the risk of passing the virus on is lower outside, the risk is not zero. Let's not give this virus any chance to spread.

Dr Kathryn Cobain, Director of Public Health for Worcestershire, has published a video message to parents on [how to keep safe on the school run.](#)

You will also be able to enjoy recreation or exercise outside with your household/support bubble or on your own with one other person.

The next phase of step 1 takes place on 29 March when either two households will be allowed to meet up outdoors or groups up to a maximum of six people (the Rule of 6). People from other households must still socially distance. Outdoors includes private gardens. Indoor mixing is still not allowed.

Read the full details of the [lockdown easing roadmap](#) including changes proposed in later months. All this depends on certain tests and criteria being met including keeping the infection rate low.

Apply for a winter fuel grant

Through our partner Act on Energy, you may be able to get help with paying your fuel bills.

[Find out who qualifies for help, and how to claim, on the Act on Energy website.](#)

If this does not apply to you then the Government has produced [a guide for people struggling to pay essential bills](#) because of the pandemic.

Elections and Covid-19

On 6 May, elections will take place for the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner and Worcestershire County Council.

Efforts are being made to make sure people can vote in person on the day in a safe way. This includes putting in Covid-19 Secure measures at polling stations, such as one-way systems and sanitising common touchpoints regularly.

If you wish to vote in person on polling day then you will be asked to take simple safety measures such as bringing your own pen or pencil. You will also need to wear a face covering inside the polling station and maintain social distancing.

Polling cards will be going out in the next couple of weeks. There may be changes to some polling stations so please check your card carefully.

You may decide you would rather stay at home on this occasion. If so, you do not have to lose your voice. You can apply to vote by post or to send someone to vote on your behalf, known as voting by proxy.

The deadline for postal votes for this election is 5pm on 20 April and 27 April for proxy votes. If you are thinking of voting in this way, then we strongly recommend you apply early.

You can find out more about [how to vote in 2021 elections](#) on our website.

Census 2021 - lookout for your invite

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This year's Census took place on 21 March and for the first time will be mainly online. There are a few days grace for response.

Households will shortly receive a letter through the post containing a unique online code. This can then be entered into the dedicated website allowing you to fill in the survey.

It is important you take part. Not only is it a legal requirement and failure to fill it in could result in a fine, but it is also used by the Government, the NHS and councils and other organisations to decide on future funding allocations and the need for new investment (new schools, roads, hospitals etc).

Here are some interesting facts from the last Census carried out in 2011:

- 116,944 people lived in Wychavon
- There were 972 nurses and 11 of you were boat and ship builders and repairers
- 14.9% of people (8,750) worked mainly at or from home while 4,527 of you walked to work

- Poland (1,624 residents) was the top country of birth other than the UK
- Polish was the most popular language other than English or Welsh, spoken by 1,584 of you
- Wychavon was made up of 179 different ethnicities
- There were 1,747 families with 3 or more dependent children

Find out more at www.census.gov.uk

Consultation on SWDP Review sustainability appraisal;

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A public consultation has started on an important document supporting the development of new homes across South Worcestershire over the next two decades>

The sustainability appraisal sets out how sites and policies in the revised South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) balance economic and social factors with protecting the environment, which is officially referred to as sustainable development principles.;

"Where it is not possible to meet sustainable development principles, the sustainability appraisal explains how the impacts can either be lessened or achieved with certain changes.

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>The document was first published in autumn 2019 alongside the preferred sites for development in the revised SWDP. In response to the thousands of comments received to that consultation, and to take into account the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, the sustainability appraisal has now been updated and is out for consultation again.>

The consultation runs from 1 March to 19 April and people can have their say by visiting www.swdevelopmentplan.org where they can read the document in full and respond to the online survey

The consultation is not considering proposed sites for development or policies in the revised SWDP. Comments submitted on these subjects will not be considered.

A further round of consultation on the plan overall is expected to start in October 2021 when the first draft of the revised SWDP is published. It will then be submitted to the Secretary of State in February 2022 for independent public examination, which is expected to take place later that year.

Cllr Lucy Hodgson, Chair of the SWDP Joint Advisory Panel, said: “ The updated sustainability appraisal is an important document which shows how we will

meet the requirements for new housing and economic development, while balancing our responsibilities to the environment and helping to tackle climate change.

">www.swdevelopmentplan.org

The revised SWDP sets out how a Government requirement to build another 14,000 new homes across Malvern Hills District, Worcester City and Wychavon District by 2041 will be met. This is on top of the need for 28,400 new homes by 2030, more than half of which have already been built, set out in the current plan.

County Councillor Report

It was noted that a grant of £400 had been made to the Three Parishes Hall. The clerk thanked Rob for this assistance.

It was understood that a preliminary road report would be issued very soon.

Concerns were raised about the chaotic parking in Flyford Flavell during school drop off and pick up times. Cllr Adams suggested that the clerk contact the traffic wardens in Pershore for assistance.

10. Flyford Green

The Legacy Fund application has now been made and we are waiting to hear. The advisory panel will meet on April 26th to make their recommendations. These will be forwarded to the Executive Board who will ratify the decisions on 12th May.

It was noted that John Broderick has now planted the Christmas Tree and it was agreed to send a letter of thanks.

Work on the raised beds should recommence after the easing of lockdown on March 29th.

It was reported that some of the large stones around the Calor Gas area were breaking away. It was agreed that the lengthsman should investigate and clear up any debris.

An offer of assistance has been received from a local resident who is a landscape architect.

It was reported that the Flyford Flavell pond was now in need of some upkeep.

The clerk explained that conflicting advice had been received concerning the management of the pond and Worcestershire Wildlife Trust had recommended that it was not touched. It was agreed that this was possibly not appropriate for the pond in this location and the clerk was asked to seek further advice and report back.

The clerk was also asked to progress the matter of ownership.

11. Three Parishes Hall:

The clerk reported on progress on the refurbishment at the Three Parishes Hall. Work was more or less on schedule for completion in April as scheduled. However, Community First has now advised that village halls should not open until May 17th

12. Transport Plan:

The clerk reported that there had been a satisfactory response to the public consultation. There had been a number of detailed responses and there had been strong support for the proposals. It was agreed that the clerk would update the report in the light of the public response and then draw up a final draft for adoption at the next meeting.

14. Neighbourhood Plan

Councillors were reminded of the public meeting to take place on Zoom on 31st March at 7.30pm. The chairman will be assisted by Sadie Densham in presenting the options for a plan. It was agreed that unless enough people attended to form a core group the plan would not progress.

Planning Applications**To report approvals**

Mr & Mrs Lang
The Barn Church Farm
Church Lane
Flyford Flavell

20/02495/FUL

Conversion of agricultural barn to use as holiday lets

To formulate comment

Mr Barnes and Ms Moon
Forest View
Grafton Flyford
WR7 4PJ

21/00205/FUL

Replacement dwelling

The parish council resolved that it had no objection to this application but agreed to recommend that a condition requiring an Environmental Construction Management Plan be included in any approval.

To report comments

Hilltop Farm
Old Hill

20/02435/S106

Flyford Flavell

Application under S106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to discharge the requirements relating to legal agreements dated 11th August 1989 associated with planning permission W/88/0179/) and legal agreements dated 19th April 1995 associated with planning permission W/94/1074

The clerk reported that he had been required to submit a comment concerning this application between meetings. The could approved the comment as follows:

The Parish Council objects to the lifting of the S52 agreement on this site. Comments from neighbours are noted and the points raised broadly supported. Whilst accepting that planning policy has changed in the ensuing years and infill development is generally supported by the SWDP the Parish Council does not agree that this is a reason to remove the S52 restriction. The restriction was made to prevent over development of a sensitive, central location of the village. The Parish Council does not consider that any material change has taken place in this part of the village and the purpose of the S52 is still pertinent today. The Parish Council urges the planning authority to uphold the values of careful and considered development which are manifest in this agreement and to refuse the application.

15. Highways/Footpaths

The clerk reported that the lengthsman was progressing with his services.

16. Treasurer's Report:

Present Balances

The fourth quarter dividend will be 3.74p

Balances

Deposit Acc.	£51,260.08
Current Acc.	£17,096.89
TOTAL	£68,356.97

General Fund	£10,533.30
Appeal Fund	£1,570.00
Grafton Society	£1,500.00
Village Green	£10,771.60

Total raised by the Village Green Committee to date: £1,864.40

17. AOB

It was agreed to revert to the original date for the next meeting which is 18th May.

18. Dates of Next Meetings: 18th May 2021

AGM 18th May 2021
 13th July
 14th September
 16th November

Signed:

Date:

Addendum. –