

## WIRKSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

### Notes of a Meeting of the Environment & Town Working Party held 7 February 2022

*The working party meeting will be held to the same standard as a committee but any decision taken at a working party meeting does not constitute a lawful decision of Council - the Council has resolved to meet as a working party to allow meetings to continue using Zoom to ensure all Councillors are able to participate even if they do not feel able to attend face to face meetings.*

*All delegated decisions will be reported in line with guidelines for Open and Accountable Government (Openness of Local Government Bodies 2014)*

ET21/91      **Present**  
**Cllr A Jordan (Chairman), Cllr S Barker, Cllr M Bennett, Cllr M Casselden, Cllr A Clamp, Cllr A Pollock, Cllr J Stockell and Cllr P Taylor**

**In attendance:**  
**S Gratton (Officer) & Paul Jennings (Town Clerk)**

ET21/92      **Apologies for Absence: None**

ET21/93      **Variation in Order of Business:**

**To take item 15 Queens Jubilee immediately after Open Forum.**

ET21/94      **Members' Pecuniary Interests in Agenda Items:**  
None declared

ET21/95      **Queens Jubilee**  
D Cllr M Ratcliffe has shared further information regarding support for activities linked to this national celebration.  
<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/news/entry/1976-celebrate-her-majesty-the-queen%E2%80%99s-platinum-jubilee>

**REC that the Council support the Well Dressing weekend (which will be encouraging the theme of the Jubilee). That support is provided to assist the Parish Picnic to be held at St Mary's including providing BM&W Band (or similar) on community square/church walk paved area. The Council to liaise with Carnival Committee over erection of bunting for the period 28/5-5/6 (Well Dressing Weekend to Jubilee Weekend). The Jubilee weekend also coincides with Farmers Market and they are to be contacted to ask if they will encourage consider encouraging food stalls in the market gardens area etc.. to support the parish picnic.**

ET21/96      **Drainage in Wirksworth**  
Proposal to establish a working party to systematically identify and review issues of drainage in and around Wirksworth, particularly in the light of increased rainfall and climate change. Further factors include the way that one side of the town sits on Edale Shales,

which are notorious for land slips as well as the flooding at Hannage Brook, and the reports regarding flooding that came as objections to a planning application at Miller's Green.

**REC that Cllr Barker (chair), Cllr Bennett & Cllr Pollock delegated to create a working party to investigate and identify town concerns over the existing water/drainage and then to escalate to the appropriate authorities in order seek action to mitigate the issues.**

ET21/97

**Council Tax charged on long term empty homes**

DDDC are consulting on a proposal to increase Council Tax. From 1 April 2020 Councils have had the power to triple the Council Tax on homes empty for five to 10 years and, from 1 April 2021, quadruple it for those that are empty for more than a decade. DDDC already charge double Council Tax on homes that have been empty for more than two years. Empty homes are defined as those that are unoccupied and substantially unfurnished.

<https://www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk/your-Council/have-your-say/consultations/current-consultations/3497-empty-homes-premium-consultation>

**REC that the Council support any measure that encourages housing to be brought back into use as promptly as possible.**

ET21/98

**Footpath**

A representative of Derbyshire Dales Ramblers has reported new palisade fencing on perimeter of Middle Peak Quarry alongside permissive path.

**REC that the Council write to Tarmac, thank them for installing the fence and also ask if consideration would be given to planting hedge along the perimeter to reduce the visual impact of the fence (that is visible from across the valley including Bolehill). That the Council also suggest that they would welcome developing stronger communication links with Tarmac similar to the successful Quarry Liaison Group that existed when the quarry was operational.**

ET21/99

**Memorial Bench**

The location has now been clarified, and the proposed site is on a slim grass verge on the roadside of Breamfields.

**REC that family representative be contacted advise in the opinion of the Town Council that the location presents significant safety issues and would be unlikely to prove acceptable to DCC Highways (who will provide the licence to site an object on the highway). Cllr Barker and Cllr Bennett have agreed to meet on site with representatives of the family to identify if there are more suitable sites along Breamfield Rd.**

ET21/100

**Tree Survey**

A tree survey (negative reporting basis) of all Town Council owned/leased land can be undertaken at a cost of £1250 +vat.

**REC that works be undertaken.**

ET21/101 **20 Mph Speed Limits / 20s Plenty Campaign**  
To consider amendments to original area and proposal by Cllr Brown in 2015 for reduced speed limits in the town and to consider how the matter might be progressed in light of the 20s Plenty campaign.

**REC that the Council support a change from 30 to 20mph in all built up areas of the town and that the District and County Councillor representatives be advised of the Council position. That the Council support the creation of a community campaign and delegate Cllr Bennett and Cllr Taylor to liaise with local community groups to progress the matter.**

ET21/102 **Town Footpath Maintenance**  
Reports received of lots of mud on Harrison Drive bridge.

**REC that the matter be brought back to a future Council meeting, to allow Councillors time to determine what actions might be taken to tackle the wider issue of footway and footpaths within the town. That the Councils concerns of the current state of footpaths be flagged to C Cllr Murphy.**

ET21/103 **Railway Liaison**  
A resident has contacted the Council with a further complaint about the Railways activities.

**REC that Cllr Barker and Cllr Jordan to meet with same representatives at EVR who had previously met with DDDC Environmental Health officers in 2021.**

ET21/104 **Measured Building Survey**  
As part of the Town Council's carbon reduction program, a full survey of the Town Hall is required, 3 quotes have now been received.

**REC that the Council proceed with the survey using Mapmatic. Clerk to identify from which budget line the survey work might be funded.**

ET21/105 **Meadows**  
Following completion of stage 2 of the consultation, an outline document has been drafted summarising the findings. Cllr Clamp, Cllr Pollock and Cllr Taylor have agreed a brief based upon the results to guide the 3 shortlisted designers.

**REC that consultation summary be published and that Cllrs report back once the submission from the shortlisted designers has been reviewed.**

**ET21/106 Planning Applications received**

1	21/01545/FUL	Single storey rear extension, extension and alterations to roof, external cladding and replacement windows to dwelling Glenaskin 6 Summer Lane Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4EB
WTC - No comment, However Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore supports any development or change that seeks to reduce the carbon footprint		
2	21/01555/LBAL T	Proposed addition of lead cowls over windows to prevent water ingress Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust 1 - 3 Greenhill Wirksworth Matlock Derbyshire DE4 4EN
WTC - No comment, However Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore supports any development or change that seeks to reduce the carbon footprint		
3	T/22/00002/TPO	Felling of 1no. sycamore tree Agricola House 4 Church Street Wirksworth Matlock Derbyshire DE4 4EY
WTC - No comment, However Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore supports any development or change that seeks to reduce the carbon footprint		
4	21/01520/FUL	Erection of shed to front (retrospective) and replacement boundary fence to side 9 Swaines Meadow Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4EW
WTC - No comment, However Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore supports any development or change that seeks to reduce the carbon footprint		
5	21/01526/FUL	Installation of air source heat pump, installation of 2no. rooflights and replacement windows to front 30 The Dale Wirksworth Derbyshire DE4 4EJ
WTC - No comment, However Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore supports any development or change that seeks to reduce the carbon footprint		
6	22/00014/FUL	Erection of an agricultural storage building Land Rear Of 6 Rise End Middleton By Wirksworth Matlock Derbyshire
WTC - No comment, However Wirksworth Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency and therefore supports any development or change that seeks to reduce the carbon footprint		

**REC to receive the recent delegated planning decisions of this Council.**

**ET21/107 Planning Decisions & Appeals**

(decisions are only to be reported where the Town Council have objected to application.)

21/00927/FUL APP/P1045/D/21/3289721	New Front Door at 43 St John Street, Wirksworth, Derbyshire, DE4 4DS
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*The meeting closed at 8.10pm*

Chairman