

Wick and Abson Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th September 2024 at The Village Hall 7.15pm

Attendees:, Chair James Williams (JPW), Keith Hollister (KH), Peter Crew (PGC) Gaive Golding (GG), Simon Alway (SA), Bronwen Dyson (BD), Stuart Fowell (SF) , Ward Councillor Ben Stokes clerk Jo Bray-Warner, and 6 members of the public

1. Chair to note apologies and receive/confirm declarations of interest in conjunction with Localism Act 2011.

Apologies

Cllr Anne Kinsman (AK)

Ward Councillor Marilyn Palmer

Declarations of interest

None

2. Chair to explain emergency procedures

Chair provided clarity around emergency procedures for the Village Hall in the event of evacuation

3. Updates from South Gloucestershire Council Ward Councillors

Cllr Ben Stokes advised of the following:

- There are currently a number of consultations active within South Glos inc Library Savings and Local Plan
- Advised that Children's services have been rated Good by Ofsted and commented that SGC are looking for foster carers within the local area. If anyone wishes to be considered to contact SGC direct.

4. Opportunity for the public as appropriate to address the Council.

4.1 Member of the public advised that 2 potholes require attention outside 1 The Crescent- Clerk to report

4.2 Member of the public advised that there are 4 dead trees opposite the garage in the verge at the top of Riding Barn Hill. Cllr BD advised the overgrowth, hedgerow encroaching pavements has already been reported under reference SGC-234825-R6H8 Clerk to reconnect with SGC under the same reference to advise the situation is deteriorating and requires attention

4.3 Member of the public commented regarding the speeding traffic along the High Street and advised the PC their views on visitors to Golden Valley Nature Reserve.

Chair advised regarding the situation with speeding traffic which has been minuted previously and advised the resident the PC have no jurisdiction over the Nature Reserve as this was maintained by SGC, however advised the reserve is currently closed.

5. Clerks Report

Streetcare Issues:

1. Cllr PGC advised that outside the substation on Ketches Hill, Abson the trench has collapsed and requires repair reported to Streetcare 14/07/23 await reference SGC-179114-G9Y0
SGC update 04/09- under review
Update SGC 20/11- 'We are looking into it'- clerk has chased 05/02 and requested Cllr B Stokes to support. Cllr Stokes provided update at March meeting to advise SGC have agreed to inspect the area again to assess.
Requested 27/05 for Cllr B Stokes to chase for update- Cllr B Stokes advised 13/06 no update
2. Member of the public reported a damaged/missing hazard bollard from the area near to 21-23 Milford Avenue. Clerk has reported to SGC including photos of the bollards when they were in situ.
Await reference- SGC responded 28/03 advising they 'couldn't find' the bollards. Clerk reconnected advising on the original
Photo where they are situated and requested an inspection- chased 11/04
SGC advised 22/04 SLA 10 days for inspection—chased 24/05
SGC have advised this will be fixed however no timescales provided

5. Clerk has re-reported the 'seam' of Naishcombe Hill as this appears to be getting worse and have requested an inspection ref no SGC-215794-J0L4- Ward Councillor Marilyn Palmer has been advised Naishcombe Hill is on the list to be resurfaced but no timescales can be given
6. Cllr BD requested clerk to connect with streetcare as the pavements along Riding Barn Hill are being encroached by weeds/brambles and overhanging greenery which is obstructing the pavement
Reported reference SGC-220149-F5Z9
7. Cllr GG requested clerk to report a damaged 'Welcome to Wick sign' on the A420 on entering the village
Reported reference SGC- 227784-W4B3
8. Cllr SF requested clerk report 2 Parkers Avenue for encroachment of hedge onto pavement
Reported reference 223726
9. Member of the public requested clerk to report the hedgerows along Chesley Hill stretching from property Briarwood to property Blue Lodge farm. The hedgerows now have a lot of brambles and cars are driving in the middle of the road to avoid damage, this is also dangerous to cyclists
Reported 09/08 ref SGC-234825-R6H8
10. Member of the public reported the amenity grass in The Crescent mainly around properties 2-6 is not being maintained correctly and there is an issues with weeds in the gutters and pavement
Clerk has reported directly to supervisor for Streetcare to try and gain some traction- clerk is arranging resident and Streetcare supervisor to meet
11. Cllr AK reported hedges outside 22 Milford Avenue are encroaching the pavement.
Clerk reported reference no 2239379

Outstanding item from Previous meetings:

All Planning applications responded to 12/08/2024

- **Brockwell park**
 - Continued work in connection with regeneration project
 - Clerk has reconnected with contractors for revised quotes following a spec update by Cllrs SA & SF
- **Village Hall**
- Strengthening work commences on hall 12th August with Hills Construction
- Solar Panels are to be installed End of Sept
- First Aid awareness talk- 5th Sept- posters added to notice boards and Chair has added to website. This will also be advertised by Wick FB page in the week leading up to event

ENFORCEMENT

None currently live.

Footpaths

1.Cllr BD requested clerk to report footpath no LWA/11/20- Approximately midway along this footpath there is a gate, a wooden bridge and steep wooden steps. Something is required on the surface of the bridge to prevent people slipping and hurting themselves. Some of the steep wooden steps were replaced some time ago, but the remaining ones have now collapsed, and need replacing.

Reference 18433- update from SGC 24/11 Thank you for submitting a problem using the South Gloucestershire Rights of Way Management System. Your record has been accepted and is being processed chased 12/07/24

SGC update This is in progress

2. Request re footpath LWA/43/10- The footpath is extremely waterlogged and either hardcore or sustainable materials to be installed to make this passable.

Reference 18484 chased 12/07/24

This didn't come through properly (no date so I'm following up with our new system team)but having seen the matter recently from yourselves, knowing the path fairly well myself and by the Ranger's visits over the last year or so and despite the good evidence of water puddling, this is not a site that warrants our resource for improved surfacing as the path is already gravelled. It was clearly a wet day as there was rain on the puddles. Once on the path walkers can only cross and bridge and a grassy field where they are going to get more wet feet in such weather. It is not a pavement but a rural footpath.

3. Resident has reported the footpath from Naishcombe Hill to Court View LWA/42/10 has become very uneven surface wise and is breaking up and making this very difficult to navigate especially at dusk. Also wheelchair users are advising this is also becoming impassable due to the rutting/unevenness of the path.

Reported 23/05/24 ref 18646 chased 12/07/24- No update available- showing on PROW portal as part-resolved

4. Reported footpaths LWA/41/20, LWA/41/30 & LWA/41/40 as a number of residents are finding it increasingly to be able to move their wheelie bins from their gardens to be emptied.

Reference 18792

On PROW portal this is showing as completed

CLOSED

6. To note and confirm Minutes from previous meetings.

Proposed as a true reflection JPW

Seconded SF

All in favour 7

Carried

7. Clerk to provide financial update for the Council and request cheques to be signed in accordance with bank mandate.

Payee	Rationale	Amount
Michael Evans Builders	Installation of new bench	£80.00
ADP Marketing & Promotions	First instalment re Solar panels (This will be reimbursed by grant funding)	£4000.00
Passion First Aid	First Aid awareness course	£216.00
BDO Ltd	External financial audit	£504.00
Wick Village Hall	Hall hire	£247.50
Primrose Gardening	Quarterly maintenance inspection report for park	£100.00

8. Parish Council to review outstanding requests from Commons Connect programme and provide project team an update.

Following request from Council, clerk recirculated the final plan from the commons connect project team.

The team have requested a number of further activities for the park and Holbrook Common however these will require additional activities for maintenance.

Discussion held

Cllrs provided comments to suggestions made by Commons Connect team inc proposal of seeding an area of grass at the top end of Brockwell Park and then the verge and main part of Holbrook Common.

Parish Council in agreement to continue with programme of works- clerk to advise

During the discussion Cllr PGC raised regarding the ownership of the green in Mendip View. Chair advised he have checked on Land Registry and this parcel of land is not registered.

Proposal by PGC to register the land through adverse possession

Seconded SF

All in favour 7

Clerk and Chair to take forward

9. Parish Council to review and respond to Consultation re South Glos Council Local Plan- latest revision

Clerk pre-circulated the link to the revised Local Plan for Council to review prior to the meeting. Chair had also circulated an article for pre-reading. Clerk also advised NALC are holding a session re Neighbourhood Planning in case Councillors wish to attend.

Discussion held

Wick and Abson Parish Council would like to raise regarding the implications of the intensification of the site and in particular the highway pressure this will cause at this end of the village as there is potential for high traffic volume.

10. Parish Council to consider grant request from St James Church Abson

Following agenda item 14 at August PC Extraordinary meeting, a request was sent to the group for an additional quote. The additional quote has been received at a cost of £1750.00, therefore the group wish to now request a grant application of £1750.00 to cover work within the churchyard.

Discussion held

Cllr BD provided further clarity following conversations with Abson PCC and proposed to support the request of £1750.00

Seconded KH

All in favour 5

Against 2

Carried

Clerk to raise cq and advise

11. Parish Council to review additional quotes following August's extraordinary meeting in connection with Brockwell Park pathways and resurfacing of the Village Hall car park.

Following August's extraordinary meeting and review of quotes by Cllr Alway regarding the standards of the materials etc, clerk has received the following revised quotes:

Greentrees- new quotes rec'd £20,658 plus VAT(VH) and £86,352 plus VAT (for park)

Acorn- have advised the original quotes £25,485 plus VAT (VH) and £57,429 plus VAT (for park) are still relevant and do not require any amendments

Smart Paving- After chasing clerk has not received any revised quotes for consideration

Discussion held

Cllr SA advised as Greentrees had not updated their quote against the revised requirements this was classed as invalid.

Chair provided PC with context following a meeting with a drain company for the Village hall. The hall has been affected by recent heavy rain which pools in the car park and the suggestion was made by Acorn to review the drains and clear out before any work takes place. The drain company advised that due to lack of maintenance over the years it would require more work to improve the drainage.

Chair will now connect with a drainage consultant before PC vote on the quote for the VH.

A discussion was held regarding the pathways in Brockwell park, Acorn had provided 2 quotes:

Quote 1 to make pathway from car park to play area fully accessible £14,829 plus VAT

Quote 2 for further pathways in the park

Discussion held

Proposal by JPW to accept quote 1 and start the work in the park regarding the pathways

Seconded SF

All in favour 7

Clerk to connect with Acorn to take this forward

12. Cllr SF to provide an update regarding the regeneration of Brockwell Park, review of latest inspection report and any projects which could be requested through Community payback scheme.

Cllr SF provided a verbal update to the regeneration project plan. He commented that the new Park bench had been installed and thanked the installer who was a member of the public. He also advised he was organising a working party to clear the top patio on 12th October.

Cllr GG advised he would provide details through his Open Spaces contacts regarding organising this type of working party with all the responsibilities etc.

Cllr SF requested clerk to connect with rep from MJ Church regarding a skip for the project

Clerk had also received the latest quarterly maintenance report from the maintenance contractor which highlighted a number of areas for activity inc:

Defect:	Defect:
Vegetation requires cutting back around areas of seating	Wear on chain guards

Some rot showing on log seating needs to be monitored	Split timber monitor/replace
Some grass matting lifting needs securing down	Loose handles need fixing/replacement
Self close gate not working as it should staying open	Loose handles need fixing replacement
Fence post loose in ground concrete above grass surface	Split timber, finger entrapment
Worn down Guide needs replacement	Rotting timber needs replacement
Post slightly loose in ground monitor	Splitting timber needs to be monitored
Grass matting damaged on entrance needs replacement	

The contractor also provided a quote to undertake the required works.

Discussion held.

Proposal by JPW to accept quote of £1285.00 however to remove the self close gate as this is being undertaken by Wyatts contractors alongside moving of the fence on the 21st Sept and to request the sit up station be removed rather than mended
Seconded PGC

All in favour 7

Clerk to connect with contractor

13. Clerk and Councillors to provide update as to any correspondence received since last meeting

13.1 Planning updates:

- P24/01734/PNH 20 Mendip View, Erection of single storey rear extension- Prior approval not required
- P24/01701/PNH Midway, 54 Riding Barn Hill- Erection of single storey extension- Prior approval not required
- P24/01702/CLP Midway 54 Riding Barn Hill – Installation of Hip to gable roof extension- Approve certificate of Lawfulness
- P24/01159/HH The Old Vicarage, 85 High St- Notice of appeal under S78 against refusal of a householder application

14. Councillors to provide any updates and confirm any matters for inclusion at next meeting

14.1 Cllr SF commented regarding a request seen via social media for bleed kits within the village. Chair advised that following the first aid awareness course arranged and sourced by PC, the supplier advised that in a case of an incident a bleed kit would be required within 30 seconds. He also advised that The Ambulance service cannot track and it would be difficult for PC to ensure one was accessible at all times and continuously publicised. Chair also advised he had commented that if any member of the public wished to continue the discussion to then bring back to Parish Council, as at this meeting no enquiries have been made to the clerk

Meeting close 9.15pm