

Wick and Abson Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th March 2025 at The Village Hall 7.15pm

Attendees:, Chair James Williams (JPW), Simon Alway (SA), Bronwen Dyson (BD), Cllr Anne Kinsman (AK), Gaive Golding (GG) Cllr James Baron (JB) Peter Crew (PGC).Keith Hollister (KH), Ward Councillor Marilyn Palmer, Ward Councillor Ben Stokes clerk Jo Bray-Warner, and and 7 members of the public

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

Apologies

Cllr Stuart Fowell (SF)

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 MP advised the Local Plan is now within the 6 weeks consultation period and there are 3 areas for comments to be focused, is it sound, legally compliant and are contributors satisfied with SGC's approach of duty to cooperate

Cllr MP advised the Council budget has been agreed, with a 4.99% in Council Tax and 2% ringfenced for social care

Cllr BS advised the Health and Wellbeing strategy consultation is now live for comments and would encourage all to provide feedback

Cllr BS advised the economic regeneration strategy is now available for review through SGC website.

Cllr BS advised the West of England Rural network have a survey available for completion centered around working together.

Cllr BS advised re closure of M5 21st-24th March

Cllr BS advised the mayoral election will take place 1st May 2025

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

No comments

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
Oct 24- As no action has been taken by SGC in over a year clerk has re-reported under reference no SGC-248110-T2D7
Notification received from Streetcare that they are liaising with National Grid and clerk is awaiting further update
Jan25- Cllr Stokes will reconnect with SGC for update and also undertake a personal review as to whether any work has taken place
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
Chased again 13/01/25- Advised this is on the schedule of works but timescale can be provided
2. 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

Jan 25 meeting- Cllr Palmer advised she had not received any further update and the budget consultation meetings were required to take place before any decision will be made

Clerk reached out to Cllrs Stokes & Palmer to see if there was any opportunity to leverage some of the additional government monies through WECA

4. 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
Following Sept meeting and member of the public advising re 4 dead trees- clerk has requested SGC expedite this request- chased 29/09
Chased Streetcare 13/01
Update 14/01 Streetcare confirmed Ticket has been raised but no timescales for completion, also requested SGC maintenance team to review whilst undertaking 2/3 days of work in the village.
5. 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- Streetcare has confirmed this will be actioned 27/09
Chased Streetcare 13/01 as no updates within online reporting tool or received
Update 14/01 Streetcare confirmed Ticket has been raised but no timescales for completion
6. Cllr PGC requested clerk to report again the drains on Homeapple Hill as these are blocked and causing flooding
Reported under reference SGC-247805-R2Z8
20/01/24 Advised this is on the schedule of works but timescale can be provided
7. Clerk has reported overhanging/dead trees on/near 93 Riding Barn Hill reference no 2293189
8. Cllr SF requested clerk to report the drain along the length of Naishcombe Hill. Clerk has reported via online tool requesting SGC to review asap due overflowing of drain water with the potential to cause dangerous/hazardous driving conditions
Reference SGC-258683- L4F0
9. Cllr PGC requested clerk to report loose manhole cover outside 16 High Street
Reference SGC-262074-N0G0- SGC have confirmed this is now on the schedule to be fixed, no timescale available
10. Cllr SF requested clerk to report a collapsed drain outside 72 Church rd
Reference SGC-262075-V8GO
- 11.. Cllr PGC requested clerk to report manhole cover by the Carpenters Arms just past the island, he provided a photo which has been shared with SGC- Reference SGC-262803-R3J5
12. Resident has contacted clerk to advise of an increase in dog fouling along Holbrook Lane
Clerk has reported to SGC requesting more awareness of fines etc Reference 2331107

Outstanding item from Previous meetings:

All Planning applications responded

Brockwell park

- Continued work in connection with regeneration project. Cllr SF held meeting with potential contractors for new play equipment, awaiting quotes and will be discussion at April's meeting
- PC maintenance contractor has completed works from last inspection, next quarterly inspection due Beginning 2025 (Due Mar)

Village Hall

- Nothing to report

Road Safety Campaign

- Residents meeting held 20th March

ENFORCEMENT

Cllr BD requested clerk to report the property 'Homeapple' and Homeapple Hill. The planning application was referenced Pk17/1941/f and was for Discharge of condition 6 (Landscaping) attached to planning permission PK17/1941/F. Change of Use of existing agricultural building to form 2 no. (Class B1) workshops as defined in the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended) to include associated works. It appears that this is now being used as a residential dwelling. Parish Council have requested a site visit to determine use of property.

Clerk reported to Enforcement 15/02/2025- reference COM/25/0103/COU

Update 04/03- SGC have undertaken a site visit and no evidence of using the workshops as residential has been found.
CLOSED

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. Cllr BD requested clerk to report footpath LWA/11/10 as the access does not have kissing gates or stiles and Cllr BD requested a site visit by PROW to check accessibility

Reference 18956

5. Cllr BD requested clerk to report footpath LWA/53/10 Woodcroft lane as it is severely overgrown and inaccessible. The path requires attention

Reported 09/01/25 reference 19011

6. To note and confirm Minutes from previous meetings.

Proposed as a true reflection JPW

Seconded AK

All in favour 8

Carried

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

Payee	Rationale	Amount
South Glos Council	Localism costs	£1022.44
South Glos Council	Park maintenance	£703.06
FL-Hudd-Stockham	Create Terrorism policy in connection with Martyn's Law	£50.00
Bath Contract flooring	New flooring for pre-school	£1770.00
South Glos Council	Bag Collection	£103.20
Bank Charges	Bank Charges	£8.75
HMRC	PAYE	£727.80
Wick & Abson Village Hall	Hall Hire	£165.00
A Kinsman	Reimbursement legal costs	£17.94
M Evans Builders	Bus Shelter clean	£170.00
Primrose Gardening	Quarterly maintenance report	£100.00

8. Parish Council to review and respond to Consultation for Local Plan

Following previous consultations and Wick & Abon Parish Council holding a residents meeting in Feb 2024, clerk re-circulated the submission PC provided to the 1st iteration of the consultation for Councillors to review and refresh.

Chair provided guidance and decision required by Parish Council for this agenda item. He explained that the Parish Council need to review and provide commentary as to whether the plan is:

- Legally compliant, sound and SGC have satisfied their duty of care to cooperate

Discussion held

Cllr AK commented she feels that W&A PC should take the lead from SOGS (Save our Green Spaces) as they have deployed legal assistance and PC should potentially replicate their comments.

Cllr SA commented his assumption would be the Planning Inspectorate would review the legality of the plan. SA commented W&A PC are aware of the requirement for the village to grow but in an organic manner rather than the potential of considerable housing proposals within the Eastern fringe.

Cllr GG Commented he believes the plan is not sound due to the number of houses quoted in the plan. He commented that his understanding is that Bristol City Council have not taken their allocation from central government and SGC have taken the burden. He also acknowledged the need for organic growth of the village but the overbuild proposals will significantly impact the local infrastructure which has not been considered with the plan

Cllr JPW reiterated the comment from Cllr GG that SGC have taken the burden of Bristol City Council allocation and also commented that currently and not included in the proposals are considerations for public transport links as these are almost non-existent within the Parish, he also made the comment regarding the job opportunities locally were not readily available and that this would lead to additional traffic movement for any new residents having to travel for work causing additional pressures on the road infrastructure

Cllr JB advised he believed the core infrastructure should be the highest concern especially in connection with the A420 and reiterated previous concerns re traffic volumes and general lack of consideration for infrastructure. Cllr JB also commented following the residents meeting 20th February that the public attendees had made clear to the local MP and representatives of SGC they are unhappy with the proposals of the Local Plan. Cllr JB has also been connecting with Cllr Sean Rhodes regarding W&A PC road traffic campaign and Cllr JB advised that Cllr Rhodes had acknowledged the lack of longer term highway plans.

9. Parish Council to review and consider renewal of Youth Provision contract.

Clerk pre-circulated a briefing document, outlining the contract is due for renewal May 2025. Our suppliers for the contract LPW have confirmed the cost of £5,000p.a will remain and no additional costs were to be considered. As per previous iterations PC does support the cost of hiring the village hall for this once a week provision. LPW also provided an interim report.

Clerk requested council review and consider confirming renewal of the contract.

Discussion held

Proposal JPW to renew contract at £5,000 upon due date, with Parish Council to continue to provide financial support through supporting the hiring of the village hall

Seconded KH

All in favour 8

Representatives from Village Hall committee requested clerk to remind the contractor that the hall should be left as it is found

10. Parish Council to review and respond to planning application no. P25/00367/F 67 Church Road, Wick

Clerk pre-circulated details of planning application and requested council to review to aid discussion.

Discussion held

No Comments required

11. Parish Council to review and respond to planning application no P25/00422/HH 3 Bridge Close, Wick

Clerk pre-circulated details of planning application and requested council to review to aid discussion.

Discussion held

No comments required

12. Cllr PGC to lead discussion on white lining the village hall car park.

Following request at February's meeting by Cllr PGC to obtain quotations for white lining the car park spaces at the village hall.

Chair and clerk connected with 2 contractors:

- Avium- who advised the ballpark figure to carry out these works would be £850.00 + VAT for medium lasting paint of £1150.00 + VAT for very long lasting paint

- Avon Road Mark- Set out, supply and screed hot applied thermoplastic line markings to BS EN 1436 on bitumen macadam surface. £885.00

Discussion held

Proposal by JPW to accept quote of Avon Road Markings £885.00 however from the plan the supplier has provided the disabled space is required to be moved to the rear entrance where the disable ramp is deployed- clerk to advise

13. Cllr JB to provide update re Road Safety campaign

Cllr JB thanked Parish Councillor/Ward Councillors and members of the public for their attendance at the residents meeting in Feb. He advised he had undertaken a further meeting with Cllr Rhodes with support of Cllr KH to discuss proposals. Cllr JB provided context to the meeting and one outputs is that the A420 cannot have a Zebra crossing it would require a Pedestrian crossing. Cllr JB had circulated proposals for siting to council. Cllr JB also advised he had met with Cllr JPW representatives from SGC regarding the siting of the gateway signage. Cllr JB advised discussion are still ongoing and has confirmed to continue to keep council well informed of any outputs.

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

14.1 Additional planning application P25/00564/LB- Park Hotel & Resort- various internal improvements

Clerk had pre-circulated details to Council for prior review

Discussion held

No Comment

14.2 Additional planning application (re-submission) P24/02776/F Land East of Manor rd

Clerk had pre-circulated details to Council for prior review

Discussion held

Wick and Abson Parish Council wish to object to this planning application on the following:

- By creating a new entrance way there will be destruction of ancient hedgerow with no consideration in the application of replanting equivalent within the property boundary.
- Within the plans the entrance way is being proposed at the narrowest point on the highway
- The application appears to be oversized against the declared operation and also this is development within the greenbelt.
- Within the application there is no mention of considerations for lighting/drainage and waste products produced by the operation.
- The application appears to contradict itself with regards to the accessway

Wick & Abson Parish Council would also like to query that most cider productions have a tap room and are we to expect a further application?

Wick & Abson Parish Council would also like to request an independent agricultural/commercial assessment to consider the application in relation to space for the proposed operation and the size of the development.

Wick and Abson Parish Council wish this to be included on the circulated schedule for it to be called in by Ward Councillors

Planning decisions:

P24/03008/HH 78a High Street- Erection of a single storey front extension- Refusal

P24/02438/HH 2 Naishcombe Hill- Erection of two storey side extension- an appeal has been made to the Secretary of state in respect of the refusal of application.

Following March meeting, Parish Council confirmed that would like to support Wick school with regards to a mosaic which is being installed. Cllrs GG & KH and clerk had provided suggestions.

Discussion held

Parish Council to submit all three designs to the school for review to see what can be achieved, clerk has provided to Headteacher 13/03/2025

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

15.1 Cllr AK advised the Village Hall committee had met and discussed a capital improvement plan for the village hall. Cllr AK requested an agenda item for April for a discussion to be held for Parish Council to consider an annual financial amount to be provided to VH from within the precept to support the capital programme.

15.2 Cllr GG advised that the hedgehogs have awoken from hibernation and are roaming the village and wanted to provide awareness. Also the Toads and Frogs are very active.

15.3 Cllr BD advised herself and Cllr KH had met with Dave Jones (SGC) and his team regarding a work prioritisation list council had prepared and agreed. Cllr BD provided an update and outputs of the meeting supported by Cllr KH.

15.4 Cllr BD had connected with Cotswold Warden regarding footpath LWA/61/40 Manor Rd to Oldbury Lane and part of this is impassable clerk to report to SGC PROW

Meeting closed 9.05pm