

## **Wormington Parish Meeting AGM Minutes**

7 pm Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at St Katharine Church, Wormington.

**Present:** Neil Piercy (Chairman); Simon Browning (Clerk); Councillor Cheryl Agg; plus 26 residents

Apologies: CP, MR, D & BC, MW, C& FF & MR.

**Minutes of AGM** held on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025 were approved on 14 July 2025.

### **Election of Neil Piercy as Chairman and Simon Browning as Clerk**

Proposed TR, Seconded MR - Unanimous vote of election.

### **Adoption of 2025/26 Financial Statements:**

Proposed PD, Seconded AP – Unanimous vote to adopt the finance reports.

End of AGM

## **Wormington Parish Meeting Minutes**

Minutes of the previous meetings held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 and the EGM held on 13<sup>th</sup> March were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

**Update on National Gas Planning Application** – The Chairman reiterated that the village recognises the need for the Compressor replacement to reduce the carbon output but not in the manner National Gas are proposing.

The Clerk gave an update on the planning process so far. Cotswolds National Landscape have submitted a 13-page objection. The Clerk highlighted passages from the submission namely that case law supports that any structure close to the ANOB will be considered relevant if and when the Inspector takes CNL views into account.

CNL “Echoing the views expressed by residents and Parish Councils” queried the height of the building and how it could “be of comparable height of the existing development”. CNL “is concerned that the proposal does not enhance the natural beauty of the CNL and it’s setting that being leaving its natural beauty in better than its pre-development condition.”

Under it’s four-page appendix, CNL has requested National Gas to comply with certain conditions. It ends by saying “If the relevant authority makes a decision that engages the duty and it cannot demonstrate that it has done all it reasonably can to further the statutory purpose of conserving and enhancing natural beauty as part of the decision, that decision will be open to legal challenge.”

Gloucestershire Highways. The clerk met three officials from the department and raised all the concerns of the residents. They have recommended refusal of the application on the grounds that the local highway network cannot safely accommodate the forecasted construction traffic. The Highway Authority’s view that the routes through Sedgeberrow,

Aston Sommerville and Wormington are inherently unsuitable for increased daily HGV movements. The only possible route is via A44 and Broadway down the B4632 into Meadow Lane. This route lies within Worcestershire and that authority has been informed and should be formally invited to consider the proposed route.

Wychavon District Council have also submitted a report which basically requests that Planning Officer takes careful consideration of the landscape and the views of CNL and the traffic impacts on the local highway network.

Councillor Agg indicated that with the objection/refusal from CNL and Highways are the two main players holds considerable sway. This is a process. National Gas would likely to appeal if it is refused permission and either it will work with the Planning Officer to try and agree a workable solution or it could eventually appeal to the Inspector. Either way, time is not on National Gas hands as it has a tight deadline of 2030 to complete the work and comply with the Cleaner Air Statutory Regulations.

GC was concerned that when Severn Trent put in the big boulders on the Isbourne banks they reported the grade II listed bridge is cracked. The Bridge has been subsequently surveyed. Gloucestershire Highways Authority have requested a report of a survey carried out last year on the bridge.

NS was concerned of where the passing places in Meadow Lane were to be installed. The Highways Authority have requested National Gas of their proposed locations of the passing places and we can ask for them to be reinstated or removed after the construction period.

KR expressed concern around the National Gas site being a strategic installation.

**Update on Planning Applications:** Dumbledon Mill restoration plans were approved a few days after the last Parish Meeting. The clerk also shared the news that the Black Sheds industrial development is now not going ahead. Councillor Agg said the funds from the developer to improve the junction is no longer available and will have to be found from Council funds. She is determined to improved the safety of that notorious black spot.

**Update on Semi-Permanent Marquee:** The Clerk confirmed that the Secretary of State had given permission to change the status of the Open Space to Pleasure Ground. The SoS “notes that the appropriation will enable Wormington Parish Meeting to erect a substantial semi-permanent marquee on the land which will be used by the local community for social events in the village.”

We are currently reviewing the ecology report and we are nearly ready for the planning application to be submitted.

The Chairman wanted to clarify the position that WPM owns the land but WVS is to own the building as they are fundraising. There will be a legal document to lease the land from WPM to WVS. These arrangements were put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

**AOB:** The Clerk informed the meeting that an article on the village will appear in the Spring edition of Tewkesbury Borough News.

Councillor Agg gave an update on the White Paper in that three options were presented:-

Whole of Gloucestershire; Split between East and West Gloucestershire and a Greater Gloucester City and Greater Gloucestershire. Further options are being looked at for Tewkesbury Borough in joining with either Bristol to the south or join Herefordshire and Worcestershire to the north. The role of the Parish Councils will become more important as there will be no district/borough councils moving forward.

Councillor Agg congratulated the Meeting in the support of their officers and creating such a great community.

Next Meeting: TBA 7pm St Katharine Church.

Meeting closed at 7.50pm.