

Wormington Parish Meeting Minutes

7 pm Monday 23rd February 2026 at St Katharine Church, Wormington.

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

Apologies: MR, CF, KR, GC, BS, E& JE.

Previous Meeting: The previous minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2025 were approved and signed. Matters Arising: - National Gas, Solar Farm Extension; Hedges around Open Space; Housing Survey; Telephone Kiosk and Village Hall are all items on the agenda for further discussion.

Raised Issues/ White Paper Proposals – H&CP raised an issue about the security lights on Sven’s business and the Chairman agreed to contact to request that they are positioned away from the nearby houses. The Telephone Kiosk officially now belongs to the Parish Meeting. The Clerk gave an update on the White Paper on Devolution – The proposed Unitary body is Gloucestershire as a whole (although it is exceeding the recommended 500,000 total population which would mean Tewkesbury, Cheltenham, Cotswolds and Forrester of Dean Councils being amalgamated. A period of resident consultation will take place (not sure what format) and the Government intends to make a decision by July 2026. With local elections in May 2027 for a “shadow Unitary Body” Councillors being elected and then transferring to the full Unitary body in 2028. This will mean fewer Councillors representing residents. Councillor Agg did raise the question there may be a boundary review?

Housing Survey – Tim Gwilliam GRCC Out of the 57 properties, 18 replied which is higher than normal average. 1 person was identified as needing affordable housing (50% of market rate i.e. £750/month) which is well above the reach of people on minimum wages. The survey showed no evidence that we have to do anything although Tim did warn the Government’s policy is to build. If you are seen to be a proactive Parish that is seen in a good light with the Housing Inspectorate. If the Parish did become aware of any future need it is best to talk with GRCC in the first instance.

National Gas Compressor Project NS highlighted to the meeting that the Compressor building will be 21m tall and well above the screening treeline and will be seen for miles around. (NS showed a visual model as to the height). Broadway Tower is 20m high and the Compressor Building will be the tallest industrial building in Gloucestershire, even taller than the recycling plant on the M5.

Councillor Agg stated that the view of Cotswolds National Landscape (former Cotswolds ANOB) will be important and has volunteered to raise the issue with them tomorrow in her meeting with them (both the height and colour of the building). The only leverage we have with National Gas is in the Planning Application and encourage us to contact CNL and Council Highways before the Planning Application goes in. The Chairman suggested the subcommittee meets very soon to move these areas forward. The Clerk will also contact Anj Patel at Tewkesbury Borough Council to discuss CIL (Construction Infrastructure Levy) or Section 106 monies to benefit the Community amenities. Councillor Agg acknowledged a need for temporary speed restriction during the construction phase and look at alternative routes round the village due to the increased volume of traffic and look at the possibility of reinstatement of roads in the village.

Update on Planning Applications -Solar Farm Extension, The Chairman contacted the consultant responsible for planning application to ask that we are notified when work is about to start.

Black Sheds Application – this has been approved, Councillor Agg has requested a traffic statistics report and at the very least request consistent 40 mph signage at the junction on all roads.

National Gas Office Block – still awaiting decision.

Dumbleton Mill – decision is expected by March 2nd and both Wormington & Dumbleton Parish Councils have supported that project.

Finance Update: The Clerk reported that we will have just over £6,000 in the bank by the end of March (financial year end). He stated the payments out (all previously agreed at previous meetings). Next year's 2026/27 Precept request is £7,550 up from £7,200.

Update on Village Hall/Facility: The Clerk gave an update on the Letter to the Secretary of State which was sent on 21st November 2025. We had heard from the Department that they have received the request and hope to give an answer by the end of March. The Clerk stated that he had been busy with fundraising activity and has made a claim to National Gas for £10,000 which we hope to hear by the end of March, and £5,000 to Summerfield Trust who previously gave to the original village hall, then requested the money back when informed it had not been built – hope to hear mid-March. An application was made to the National Lottery and the Clerk was pleased to announce that he had recently received notification of the maximum grant of £20,000 has been awarded.

The Chairman & MW had a meeting with Bond (manufacturer of the marquee) and had a tour of the factory and they were impressed with knowledge and understanding of our needs.

The Chairman highlighted the new fencing that had been put in and hedging will be put in next week, MR to dig trench this week. The Chairman also suggested additional mixed hedging to replace current hedging which is full of Ivy. We may need to take down a couple of trees which are dead – Councillor Agg did suggest we include that in our planning application.

Ian Povey has been appointed our lead in the planning application process and can start 6th March and we also need an Ecology survey completed. We will discuss tree replacement with the surveyor.

AOB: The Clerk reminded dog owners to pick their dog mess particularly on the track to Dumbleton Mill. He will erect a Dog Poo Bag Box on the fence.

Village Green, we have received several concerns regarding the eroding of the Village Green. After discussions with MR the Chairman has approached NS to see about installing kerbstones to demarcate the boundary and protect the village green.

Potholes – The Chairman reported the pothole outside his house has been repaired and to report any potholes greater than 7.5cm deep on www.fixmystreet.com website. It is recommended that photos and What3Words location are given when reporting potholes. As there is so much surface water at the moment the potholes are only temporarily being fixed.

Councillor Agg also asked that anyone can report Trash Screens on drains are reported as this stops rainwater draining and causing local flooding.

The Clerk asked for any volunteers to regularly monitor the River Isbourne and join the Safe Avon team (details will be provided) to monitor pollution within the river. The Chairman volunteered.

Please note that the Chairman and Clerk are using new email addresses as Gmail is not considered a secure platform:-

Chair@wormingtonparish.org.uk

Clerk@wormingtonparish.org.uk

Next Meeting: AGM - TBA 7pm St Katharine Church.

Meeting closed at 8.35pm.