

PARISH OF WROCKWARDINE
Annual Parish Meeting

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 27th April 2006
at Admaston House at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:

Cllr. - K.J.S. Ballantyne – Chairman of the Parish Meeting
Mr. M. Goldstraw – Clerk to the Parish Meeting

Also in attendance: Over thirty members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed all to the 2006 Annual Parish Meeting.

Mr Orrell interrupted to ask if the meeting had been lawfully convened stating that he had not seen a public notice.

The Clerk confirmed that he had placed the relevant notices on the Parish Notice board in good time but could not with any certainty confirm how long they had remained unmolested.

The Chairman confirmed that the notices had been so placed and that the meeting was therefore lawfully convened.

The Chairman then gave a brief outline of the purpose of and requirement (in law) for an Annual Parish meeting and reminded all present that this was not, as was sometimes mistakenly thought, a meeting of the Parish Council but a meeting of the Parish.

The Chairman informed those present that as a convenience to the speakers he would, with the indulgence of those present, not wait until the end of the meeting to take questions but would allow questions after each topic on the agenda.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Craik and Cllr. Carver and PC McPherson.

2. Minutes of the Previous Annual Parish Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Savage, seconded by Cllr. Rawlings it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as a true record.

3. Presentation of the Annual Report of the Parish Council

Cllr. Ballantyne presented his report as Chairman of the Parish Council. He thanked all of the Councillors for their work and commitment to the Council during the past twelve months.

Cllr. Ballantyne thanked the Clerk for his help and advice during the last 12 months along with all the work he had put in behind the scenes.

The Chairman asked those present if they had any questions.

Mr. Orrell asked why the Parish accounts had not been made available to the meeting as they had in the past.

Mr. Goldstraw informed the meeting that he was not entirely sure what Mr. Orrell meant as the Annual Parish Meeting had no accounts to present and, with the exception of those accounts presented by the Clerk of Wrockwardine & Tiddicross Charities, which had been presented to this meeting by their Clerk for the past few years, there had not been any “Parish” accounts presented to any Annual Parish Meeting.

Mr. Orrell stated that he meant the accounts of the Parish Council, he waved a copy of the NALC booklet “Standing Orders and Chairmanship” for Parish Councils and stated that Standing Orders demand that accounts should be presented to the meeting. He asked why the accounts had not been presented.

Mr. Goldstraw stated that that the Parish Council had adopted Standing Orders and that Standing Orders do dictate that the accounts of the Parish Council should be presented to its meeting annually but this was not a Parish Council meeting. To the best of his knowledge this meeting, the Annual Parish Meeting, had never adopted any Standing Orders, nor was there a requirement for it to do so. The Annual Parish Meeting was conducted in accord with a NALC guidance note entitled “the Conduct of Parish Meetings”.

Cllr. Ballantyne stated that had Mr. Orrell asked for the accounts to be made available (given notice) it would have been more helpful.

Mr. Goldstraw informed the meeting that as this was not a Parish Council meeting there was no obligation on the Parish Council to present its accounts.

Mr. Goldstraw went to great lengths to point out that the accounts of the Parish Council were freely available to all electors of the Parish upon request and would be made available at any time to anyone who wanted them. Mr. Goldstraw reminded everyone of his contact details but asked all to be aware that the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2006 were not yet completed but should anyone contact him, they would be furnished with the relevant information as soon as it was available; in the mean time, previous years accounts were available immediately should anyone request them.

4. Report from the Parish Councils representative on the Board of Governors of St Peter’s Primary School

There was no report.

5. Borough Councillor’s Report

Cllr. Miss Seymour gave a “Borough” report and afterwards answered questions on the reversal of the Borough’s car park charging policy; the role of the Scrutiny Board; Health Trusts.

Cllr. Blackwell then gave his “Borough” report and afterwards answered questions on speeding vehicles (speed cameras); pot hole repairs Sutton Road Leaton Quarry; Traffic issues arising from the Sugar Beet factory.

The Chairman thanked Cllrs. Blackwell and Miss Seymour for their very detailed reports and for answering questions.

**6. Report from Local Organisations
Wrockwardine & Tiddicross Charities**

Mr. Goldstraw presented the accounts for Wrockwardine & Tiddicross Charities on behalf of the Trustees.

Wrockwardine Parish Hall

There was no report.

Admaston House Trust

Cllr. Powell gave a report and answered questions about Admaston House Trust.

7. Local Police Report

The Chairman presented the Police Report on behalf of PC McPherson.

8. Resolutions

Cllr. Powell stated that he wished to place a resolution before the meeting.

Cllr. Cowling asked if a resolution could be put to the meeting without notice in such a way.

The Chairman stated that although the required notice had not been given, if the meeting wished to accept receipt of the resolution he would be content. The meeting accepted receipt of the resolution.

Cllr. Powell outlined the reasons for the resolution which was based on the proposed provision of a youth facility at Admaston and the decision of the Parish Council to support the initiative.

A discussion was held on the proposed provision of youth facilities (cycle track and multi use games area) in Admaston.

Following the discussion the resolution was put:

In view of the strong opposition of Ringers Lane Allotments Club, Admaston Juniors Football Club and the residents of Burnell Road to the proposed siting of a cycle track and Multi Use Games Area on Ringers Lane football field, this Wrockwardine Parish Meeting resolves to request Wrockwardine Parish Council to consider once again the option proposed by officers of the Borough of Telford & Wrekin to site the facilities on Admaston Green, particularly since the dimensions are considerably less than those presented to the Council when making the decision to reject the option [of Admaston Green]

It was RESOLVED. [The Clerk was asked to record that Cllr. Dawes voted against the resolution and there were four abstentions]

The meeting then effectively peacefully disintegrated with the majority of those present breaking off into small discussion groups. The Chairman attempted to bring the meeting back to order but there was little or no response. Many of those present began to move away or leave the meeting and those who remained focused on the meeting could not hear the Chair.

After several attempts to re focus the attention of those present onto the agenda the Chairman decided that as the meeting had run its course and there was in effect nothing remaining on the agenda (questions having been taken at each opportunity instead of at the end) he had no option but to close the meeting.

The Chairman brought the meeting to a formal close at 9.44 p.m.

Signed.....
Chairman of the Meeting

Date.....