

WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Thursday
22nd April 2004 at Admaston House at 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Cllr. – Cllr. E.A. Cowling – Chairman

Cllrs. K.J.S. Ballantyne and S. Rawlings.

Mr. M. Goldstraw – Clerk

Also in attendance: Cllr. Powell

One member of the public.

Cllr. Powell made it clear to all present that he was attending in his capacity as Secretary to Admaston House Trust.

F&GP

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

04/17 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. Ms. T. Kenny and Cllr. C. Carver and along with reasons and were accepted by the Committee.

04/18 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25th March 2004 were confirmed and signed, by the Chairman, as a true record.

04/19 Budget Considerations

a) Street Lighting/Footway Lighting

Cllr. Ballantyne reported concerns over possibly inadequate lighting provision in the car park that services the two rows of “new” terraced houses (Brandon

Avenue / Giles Close area). Members did not know if the lack of lighting was an oversight on behalf of the planners/developers or a deliberate omission.

Cllr. Ballantyne informed the meeting that a preliminary enquiry of the views of residents had found that some wanted the area to be lit whilst others did not.

Members agreed that the cost of any provision would be too great for the Parish Council and it was thought that the liability (should lighting be requested) could still lie with either English Partnerships or the original developers. Members discussed the type of lighting which may be required.

Cllr. Ballantyne suggested that a short questionnaire be given to each of the affected households to ascertain the majority view. If the majority did not want lighting to be provided that would be the end of the matter. If the majority requested that some provision be made then the Parish Council could forward any request to those whom it was thought had a liability to provide such lighting and press for a solution.

Cllr. Rawlings proposed that the Clerk and Cllr. Ballantyne carry out such a survey to include post paid reply envelopes for the return of the questionnaire.

Seconded by Cllr. Cowling the proposition was RESOLVED.

04/20 Review of Council Insurance

Members reviewed the Council's insurance policy heading by heading.

The following matters were thought to require action:

Fences and Gates

It was RESOLVED that additional cover in the sum of £500 for the replacement or repair of all fences and gates on Council Land should be recommended to Council, such cover not being available under the current policy.

Playground Equipment

Members felt that as there was no provision in the current budget for a rolling programme of replacement for playground equipment the matter should be placed on the agenda for the budget considerations of the year 2005/6 to be discussed at the September F&GP meeting.

Youth Shelter

The Clerk pointed out that the new youth shelter was not insured. Members were content for the time being that the structure of the shelter was substantial enough to make damage very unlikely. It was felt that for the future, a sum of money should be allocated for ongoing repair/ maintenance (Budget consideration for September meeting).

Libel and Slander

There being no cover for libel and slander; Cllr. Ballantyne stated that in his view the risk of any action for libel and slander was minimal given that it was the strict policy of Council that only the Chairman and Clerk have the authority to formally represent Council. Members RESOLVED to take no action.

04/21 Risk Assessment

The Clerk was asked to ensure that all contractors carrying out work for Council had their own risk assessment procedures in place.

The Clerk informed the meeting that the Council's insurers had now produced booklets on various topics related to risk assessment. The meeting asked the Clerk to request the appropriate leaflets to assist in the programme of risk assessment.

Members discussed the Youth Shelter and possible risks.

04/22 Next Meeting

Members agreed that the next meeting should be Thursday 27th May 2004 at

Admaston House Community Centre at 7.30 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.26 p.m.

Signed _____

Date _____

Chairman