

## **WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2006 at Admaston House at 7.30 p.m.**

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**Present:**

Cllr. – E. A. Cowling – (Chairman)  
Cllrs. M. Craik and T. Kiernan.

Mr. M. Goldstraw – Clerk

**F&GP**

**06/01 Election of Chairman**

Cllr. Cowling asked for nominations:

It was proposed by Cllr. Kiernan that Cllr. Cowling be re-elected to serve as Committee Chairman for the forthcoming year. Seconded by Cllr. Craik, there being no other nominations it was RESOLVED that Cllr. Cowling be re-elected to serve as Committee Chairman for the forthcoming year.

**06/02 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Carver.

**06/03 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2006 were confirmed and signed, by the meeting Chairman, as a true record.

*7.39 p.m. Cllr. Ballantyne joined the meeting.*

**06/04 Playing Fields and Land within the Parish**

a) Playing Fields at Walcott and others within the parish

The Clerk reported that he had spoken to John Stevens who had confirmed that the playgrounds would not be handed to the parish until the whole conveyancing “mopping up exercise” had been completed for all the outstanding matters relating to all the playgrounds in the Borough. Mr. Stevens had stated that the conveyancing was being supervised by Mr. Richard Evans but there was no progress to report. Mr. Stevens had confirmed that when the conveyancing difficulties had been resolved he would be happy to submit a report to members of the Borough recommending that the playgrounds be devolved to the parish council.

b) The Clerk reported that following the recently received confirmation from the Borough that they were not in possession of the land at Whiteways Drive, he had spoken to Mr. Nick Ashcroft, Managing Surveyor English Partnerships, who had stated that the land must therefore still be in the possession of the developers. Mr. Ashcroft had also conveyed the rather disappointing news that his board of directors had stated that they would not be content to hand the other tracts of land on the line of the now defunct bypass to the parish council but would instead eventually be passing them on as a Community Related Asset to the Borough (previous indications by Mr. Ashcroft, April 2005, had

led the Parish Council to believe that he had recommended to his board that this land be handed to the PC; it was in fact his original suggestion, prior to which the PC was unaware that this land would be made available as a CRO).

The Clerk was instructed to write to Mr. Ashcroft to request that in light of the fact that development has now finished at Whiteways Drive, English Partnerships enforce its agreement with the developers that upon completion of the development the land set aside as a CRO at Whiteways Drive be now handed to the Borough Council. [This would then allow the parish to negotiate transfer of that land from the Borough to the PC]

The Clerk was also instructed to request that when the other tracts of land in the line of the now defunct bypass are handed to the Borough as a CRO, the land is simultaneously conveyed to the Parish Council in a tripartite agreement between E.P., BT&W and Wrockwardine Parish Council. Clerk to inform E.P. that the parish has already resolved to take on the extra land as a CRO and had made the appropriate budget provisions.

#### **06/05 Employees Pension Provision**

The meeting reminded itself that the previous committee recommendation (minute 05/85) had still to be put to Council.

*[Cllr. Ballantyne felt that it may be appropriate to recommend to Council that an increase of 1% in the Council's contribution be made; such a contribution would likely have a minimal effect on the accounts of Council but could have a significant effect on any future pension provision for employees.]*

#### **06/06 Budget 2007/8**

Cllr. Ballantyne informed the meeting that he had asked for this item to be placed on the agenda to give members a chance to give the matter some thought. He referred to the Parish Development Plan being in its second year and felt that it might be useful if council could have a steer from the F&GP committee and at the same time allow all members of council to put forward ideas for future projects and expenditure. The Clerk provided details of the previous budget figures and the year end accounts and it was agreed that at the next meeting members of council should be invited to give the next budget some thought.

#### **06/07 Parish Improvements**

##### **Finger Posts**

There was nothing to report.

##### **Benches**

The meeting was informed that the two benches for Longyard Meadow were ready for installation. Clerk to liaise with Cllr. Rawlings to establish the siting of the benches.

Members were appraised of the scheme to create a wild flower meadow at Longyard Meadow and it was agreed that the extra work should be undertaken

under the Parish Improvements budget.

The Clerk informed the meeting that he had been discussing the provision of disabled access to Longyard meadow with a colleague who had suggested that a more economical solution (as apposed to a full and wide kissing gate which allowed disabled access) would be to install a standard kissing gate but provide a padlock with a radar key for the existing gate. The Clerk was asked to obtain a revised quote with this scheme in mind.

Committee agreed to ask Council to consider the installation of a wooden entrance gate to the meadow along with an oak finger post marking its location.

### **Street Signs**

The Clerk confirmed that he had been in touch with the supplier and they had assured him that the signs were “in the queue”.

The Clerk was asked to obtain a quote for the replacement of the missing sign at “Broomfield Road”.

### **Bus Shelter Shawbirch Road**

There was nothing to report.

The Clerk brought to the attention of the meeting the lack of a formal agreement for the clearing of rubbish on Admaston Green and the emptying of rubbish bins; there being no agreement, the Clerk was unable to take any action when the bins were not emptied.

The Clerk was asked to obtain quotes for the provision of a Euro-bin and twice weekly litter picking on the green with the litter bins being emptied into the Euro-bins frequently. Cllr. Craik agreed to ask Admaston House Trust if the Euro-bin could be placed on their land adjacent to their own bin.

The Clerk was asked to ensure that a suitable Christmas tree was ordered (20 to 30 foot Norwegian Spruce).

Members discussed the provision of the War Memorial.

### **06/08 Next Meeting**

**Next meeting to be Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2006 Wrockwardine Parish Hall at 7.30 p.m.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.49 p.m.

*Signed* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Chairman*

*Date* \_\_\_\_\_