

WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on
Thursday 23rd March 2006 at Wrockwardine parish Hall at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:

Cllr. – E. A. Cowling – (Chairman)
Cllrs., K.J.S. Ballantyne and T. Kiernan.

Mr. M. Goldstraw – Clerk

F&GP

05/80 Chairman's opening remarks

The Chairman thanked all for attending. Cllr. Ballantyne conveyed the meetings pleasure to see Cllr. Cowling back in the Chair and in improved health.

05/81 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Rawlings and Carver. Members sent their very best wishes to Cllr. Carver.

05/82 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd February 2006 were confirmed and signed, by the meeting Chairman, as a true record.

05/83 Playing Fields and Land within the Parish

Walcott and others within the Parish and Land at Whiteways Drive
Members discussed the play ground at Pemberton Road and could not see the difficulties with an immediate transfer of title. The Clerk was asked to write to the Borough to request that these matters be attended to as soon as possible.

05/84 Adoption of Street Lighting

Cllr. Kiernan informed the meeting that at the last meeting of the WAC of SALC it had been agreed that Mr. Frater (Borough Chief Exec.) would be invited to their next meeting to answer questions on the policy of the Borough. Members learned that Little Wenlock and Waters Upton Parish Councils were experiencing the same difficulties where the Borough was no longer handing street lights to legitimate Lighting Authorities.

The Clerk was asked to write to the Borough to inform them that the matter has been placed on the agenda for the June SALC meeting at which Mr. Frater has been invited to attend; in anticipation of that meeting it would be useful if we could have the rationale behind their decision to cease handing street lights to parishes. The meeting wished it to be noted that the parish was seeking to reach an agreement rather than go to law to resolve the issue.

05/85 Employees Pension Provision

Cllr. Ballantyne reminded the meeting that this matter had been placed before the F&GP Committee by Council and the task was to consider whether

Council should continue to contribute the minimum statutory contributions towards the pensions of staff or use its discretion to enhance any pensions with added contributions.

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.

The Clerk was asked to produce the necessary financial figures for the next F&GP meeting.

Cllr. Kiernan reported that he had brought to the attention of the WAC of SALC the fact that Councils were required to make some form of policy in regard to former employees in receipt of a pension being re-employed and he had been informed that official guidance from NALC was awaited.

05/86 Parish Improvements

Finger Posts

There was nothing to report.

Benches

There was nothing to report.

Members discussed the siting of the two benches that were on order.

Street Signs

There was nothing to report. Members resolved to order the required posts and fittings to support the signs that were already on order.

Bus Shelter Shawbirch Road

There was nothing to report.

Signs for Admaston Green and Longyard Meadow

The Clerk informed the meeting that the Stone Mason had the signs ready for installation but had queried the choice of colour for the wording stating that now he had visited the sites and seen the stones upon which the plaques were to be mounted, he felt that it would be ore in keeping with the setting and colour of the stone if the lettering was to be silver. It was RESOLVED that in light of the professional expertise of the Stone Mason and the advise received from him it would be more in keeping with the setting and colour of the stone if the lettering would be silver.

05/87 Next Meeting

Next meeting to be notified by the Chairman [the date of the April meeting being taken by the Annual Parish Meeting]

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.04 p.m.

Signed _____
Chairman

Date _____