

WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on
Thursday 20th October 2005 at Wrockwardine Parish Hall at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:

Cllr. – E. A. Cowling Committee Chairman
Cllrs. K.J.S. Ballantyne, C. Carver and T. Kiernan.
Mr. M. Goldstraw – Clerk

F&GP

05/43 Chairman's opening remarks

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

05/44 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Rawlings and Craik.

05/45 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd September 2005 were confirmed and signed, by the Chairman, as a true record.

05/46 Playing Fields

a) Walcott and others within the Parish

The Clerk informed the meeting that he had again contacted John Stevens (Borough Officer) asking if progress could be made in the acquisition by the Parish of playgrounds within it and had received the reply "Leave this with me, as there are a number of channels that I need to pursue. I will get back to you as I hopefully progress things."

b) Wrockwardine Playing Fields

Members agreed that Cllr. Carver should represent Council in any publicity photograph with the newly provided play equipment. The Clerk was delegated to agree any press statement with Mrs. Watts.

The Clerk reported that two pieces of the new play equipment had regrettably been vandalised. He had contacted the suppliers and reminded them that they had assured Council that the equipment was robust enough to withstand vandalism. The Clerk had suggested to them that the equipment may not have been fit for purpose.

05/47 Land within the Parish

The Clerk reported that he had contacted the Borough Legal dept. to enquire as to progress but had so far received no response.

Cllr. Ballantyne reported that had held discussions with the Rev. Jill Goodwin over the possibility of the siting of the war memorial in a more accessible

place. The Committee resolved to recommend to Council that such a project should be supported.

05/48 Parish Improvements

Finger Posts

The Clerk confirmed that he and Cllr. Rawlings were in the process of producing a schedule of work for replacing/supplying the finials. The Clerk had received some prices and was awaiting others. Cllr. Rawlings not being present, the Clerk asked Committee to defer any discussion until such time as he and Cllr. Rawlings had completed the schedule. The meeting was content.

Benches

Committee discussed possible sites for the two benches which were on order. It was agreed to put the matter to Council.

Street Signs

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05/49 Bank Account

The Clerk reported that there had been no success with the Co-op Bank but he had been in contact with the Bank of Scotland who promised an “easy join service to take the hassle out of switching banks”. Unlike the present bank which provided no interest on deposits, the Bank of Scotland offered competitive rates of interest. Members agreed to recommend to Council that it switches its account to the BOS if possible.

05/50 Next Meeting

Prior to closing the meeting the Chairman allowed Cllr. Ballantyne to bring a matter of concern to the attention of Committee.

Cllr. Ballantyne was concerned that the Borough was attempting to renege on the promised traffic scheme and retain the money which was initially promised to the Parish for traffic calming. It was requested that Council write to the Borough to state that Council expects a scheme to be implemented and in the absence of a workable chicane the Borough are expected to come up with an alternative method of calming on Shawbirch Road.

In regard to the zebra crossing, Cllr. Ballantyne reported that he had received a letter from Mr. Maiden informing him that his HGV drivers had experience dangerous lack of visibility with the beacons and that they were also considered to be too high. In addition to this concern, Members also felt that the hedge had over grown the footpath and the highway authority had an obligation to ensure that the footpath remained clear of obstruction. It was also noted that the request for down-lighters to illuminate the crossing had been ignored, as had the request for adequate signing to indicate to motorists that a

new crossing was in place.

The Clerk was asked to bring all these points to the attention of the Borough.

Members agreed that the next meeting should be Thursday 24th November 2005 at Admaston House at 7.15 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.23 p.m.

Signed _____
Chairman

Date _____