

## WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2004  
at Admaston House at 7.30 p.m.

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**Present:**

Cllr. - K.J.S. Ballantyne - Chairman  
Cllrs. C. Carver, E. A. Cowling, M. Craik, D. Powell,  
S. Rawlings and Mrs. J. Savage.  
Mr. M. Goldstraw – Clerk

**Also in attendance:** Two members of the public.

**04/60 Chairman's remarks**

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.  
The Chairman took the opportunity to hand out PC McPherson's report stating that she was unable to attend the meeting. Members also received a leaflet outlining personal safety.

**04/61 Police Session**

There being no police officer present, no police session was held.

**04/62 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence along with reasons were received and accepted from Cllr. T. Kiernon and Cllr. Ms. T. Kenny. The Clerk asked the meeting to accept the apologies of Cllr. Brown who would attend the meeting late. Courtesy apologies were received from Cllr. Miss Seymour and Cllr. Blackwell (Borough Cllrs.)

**04/63 Declaration of Interest**

Cllr. Cowling informed the meeting that he would withdraw from the room for item 13c.

**04/64 Minutes**

The Clerk informed the meeting that the minutes previously circulated had since been amended as follows [and the amended version was put for approval]:

Item 04/48 d) "It was agreed that the Chairman should invite Mr. Bradley to attend a *special* meeting of Council ...."

Item 04/53 (page 5 Borough of T&W) "delegated authority to the Chairman after consultation with the Clerk to take immediate action ...."

Cllr. Craik asked if "Bandon Avenue" (page 8) could be correctly recorded as "Brandon Avenue".

**Subject to the above:**

**The Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2004 were confirmed and signed, by the Chairman, as a true record.**

**04/65 Finance & General Purposes Committee**

a) The minutes of the F&GP Committee meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2004 were received by Council.

b) Cllr. Cowling put to Council the propositions of the committee:

1) That: *Council look favourably upon any grant application from the Trust to fund a gate and bollards (to be placed at suitable points upon Trust property yet to be decided by the Trust) to restrict access to other parts of Trust property and prevent unauthorised access to Trust Land.*

The Chairman cautioned that to support the resolution at this stage would be binding on a future council when any application came before it.

Members agreed to note the resolution of the Committee but adjourn any decision or further discussion until such time as a formal application for grant funding is put, by the Trust, before Council. In the mean time, the meeting felt that it was in order for Council to express support in principle to the Trust in the way it intended to deal with the current problem.

2) That: *Subject to amendments recorded in 04/12 F&GP minutes, the Standing Orders be recommended to Council.*

It was RESOLVED that the amended Standing Orders be formally adopted by Council.

c) Cllr. Cowling asked that the recommendation of the Committee that Cllr. Ms. Kenny be appointed to serve on the Finance & General Purposes Committee be accepted. The Clerk confirmed, in the absence of Cllr. Kenny, that she had expressed a willingness to serve on the Committee. It was RESOLVED that Cllr. Ms. T. Kenny be appointed to serve on the F&GP Committee.

**04/66 Traffic and Transport Matters**

**a) Street signage Bratton Road/Whiteways Drive/Elmsdale Crescent**

The meeting was informed that there had been no progress in the matter to report.

**b) Shawbirch Road**

The Chairman informed the meeting that the plans were in hand and were available for inspection. The plans would now be looked at by the delegated committee and appropriate action taken. The Committee would report back to Council at the first opportunity.

**c) Lay-by Sutton Road**

Members discussed the dropped curbs in Sutton Road. Cllr. Cowling reported that the Borough had repaired some of the pot holes.

**04/67 Admaston House Report from Parish Representative**

Cllr. Craik gave a full report of the Trustees meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> April.

**04/68 Vital Villages**

a) Admaston Halt

The Chairman informed the meeting that he had not yet had a reply from the consultants with an updated report.

Members agreed to defer discussion of items b and c (engraving of stones and finger posts) until Cllr. Brown was present.

The Chairman informed the meeting, as a matter of general information, that a member of the public had written to him asking for an explanation of the rise in Precept and he would reply personally giving a full explanation. The meeting was reminded that there would be a full explanation of Council's funding and spending plans included in the next edition of the Newsletter.

***8.16 p.m. Cllr. B. Brown joined the meeting***

The Chairman further explained that in order to keep the public informed as to the precept and spending plans there would be a need to increase the usual eight page newsletter to one of twelve pages. This would mean an increase in cost which had not been allowed for in the budget. Members agreed that it had been an oversight not to allow for extra pages explaining budgets and precepts at the appropriate time of each year. Cllr. Cowling proposed that the sum of £500 be vires from reserves to cover any shortfall in the budgeted amount. Seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Savage – It was RESOLVED that the sum of £500 be vires from reserves to cover any shortfall in the budgeted amount.

b) Engraving of granite stones at Long Yard Meadow and Admaston Green  
Cllr. Brown informed the meeting that he had obtained quotes of £300 for the work which would be well below the £500 set aside. Members discussed the possibility of including the Royal Cipher along with the year 2002 as the stones were placed to commemorate the Jubilee (EIIR 2002).

It was resolved that an order could be placed to include EIIR 2002 provided the extra cost did not make the total cost exceed a sum of 10% above the £500 already allocated.

c) Finger Posts

Cllr. Brown gave a comprehensive condition report, stating that there were already six finials already in existence, five more could usefully be added. He stated that the cost of finials was approx. £100 each (excluding fitting).

Cleaning would be required at four sites. Five new directional arms are needed. At one site, the original cast iron finger post is still in situ and could be restored at a cost.

Total outlay would be for a maximum of nine new directional finger posts

(plus lettering) at £60 each. Cllr. Brown held the view that there was a minimum need for five new arms. One post needed painting completely and two entirely new posts would be needed.

Cllr. Brown stated that he felt the project was worthwhile and that he would like to see it completed.

Members discussed the possibility of funding along with the necessary permission from the Borough whose property the signs were. It was felt that an initial approach should be made to the Borough to ask how much the project would cost and how much (if any) funding would be required from the Parish. Cllr. Ballantyne stated that it would first be necessary to obtain the consent of the Highway Authority.

Cllr. Brown proposed that in principle Council accepts a recommendation to approach the Borough for their consent to either do the work (ourselves) or for the Parish to contribute (as per the Charter) on a two to one basis – i.e. that the Parish negotiate with the Borough. Seconded by Cllr. Craik, it was RESOLVED.

#### **04/69 Annual Parish Meeting**

The Clerk confirmed that all notices etc. had been placed.

#### **04/70 Correspondence**

Siobhan Reedy

Trees Admaston Green- Ms. Reedy had recommended that no action be taken with the tree itself but that as a matter of safety the bench should be moved. Members agreed to attend to the matter as soon as the ground allowed heavy equipment to be upon it.

T&WC

Footpath 7 extinguishment order. The meeting was most concerned that the Borough had proceeded with the order despite the recommendation of Council to formally adopt the alternative route either prior to or at the same time as extinguishing the old. The situation now was that there was no lawful route in existence. It was RESOLVED to formally object to the closure.

Newport TC

Response or otherwise from the Borough to communications. RESOLVED to support the efforts of Newport Town Council to gain adequate responses from the Borough.

Peter Bradley MP

The Chairman informed the meeting that Mr. Bradley had confirmed that he would be willing to attend a special meeting with Councillors – a date of 10<sup>th</sup> September was agreed subject to Mr. Bradley being available. The Chairman asked Members to give notice of questions they intend to ask in good time prior to the meeting.

Winross Hacker Young      Notification of Audit date 30<sup>th</sup> June. The Clerk informed the meeting that preparation of the accounts was in hand.

The following correspondence was noted.

Cllr. Blackwell	Update re: Admaston Shops Layby
Cllr. Blackwell	Update – reports
WM Constabulary	Building Safer Communities
Samaritans	Letter of thanks for Grant
T&W CVS	Newsletter
Allianz Cornhill	Reserving the right to amend policy following outcome of possible claim
CPRE	Rural Matters
W’Mercia Courts	Reorganisation of Rural Benches

#### **04/71 Planning Matters**

Members considered the following applications:

- W04/0315      Demolition of existing bungalow, erection of two dwellings and alteration to existing vehicular/pedestrian access Ennerdale Allscott.
  
- W04/0317      Erection of a lean-to extension to existing animal feed warehouse British Sugar.
  
- W04/0336      Erection of single storey extension and conservatory to rear of 7 Shawburch Road Admaston.
  
- W04/0349      Provision of hard standing for Anglers Wellington Carriage Company - Quassu, Long Lane

There were no objections

The following approvals were noted:

- W04/0097      Installation of two rooflights to side elevation and enlargement of 1<sup>st</sup> floor window Rabure Wrockwardine.
  
- W03/1139      Erection of first floor extension 7 Meadow Drive Walcott
  
- W04/0079      Erection of Conservatory to rear of 32 Dulwich Grange Bratton.
  
- W04/0109      Erection of vertical diffuser tower British Sugar.
  
- W04/0244      Erection of control room British Sugar

The following refusal was noted:

W04/0076 Erection of a detached garage with alterations to vehicular access. 50 Crowdale Road Shawbirch.

Members noted the following correspondence relating to planning matters:

Notification of appeal against refusal for erection of two bungalows (outline) land at rear of 11 Allscott.

Notification of appeal against refusal of erection of two bungalows at rear of 11 Allscott. Members noted that their original objections had been against backland development, impact of permission on existing listed building (second oldest building in the parish) and access. Members agreed to submit a further submission to the Planning Inspector. (Original application W03/0686)

Notification of appeal against refusal for access onto a classified road 6 Cluddley.

[Cllrs. Carver and Mrs. Savage took no part in the discussion on the access at 6 Cluddley]

The Clerk was asked to re-state to the inspector the position of Council (it was the parish which first brought to the attention of the enforcement officer the use of this access).

#### **04/72 Accounts for Payment**

**Receipts & Payments - It was RESOLVED - that these be approved and paid as tabled.**

**Statement 127** was tabled along with the reconciliation and was approved.

The Clerk then asked for the payment of his annual salary to be made monthly (i.e. divided by 12) as he could see no logic in the way the salary had been made in eleven payments. It was agreed that the Clerk's salary should be paid monthly.

Cllr. Craik reminded the meeting that Council's current account no longer paid any interest at all. He asked if Council would give formal approval for the opening of a savings account to be run in tandem with the present current account AND that when the account is open, the Clerk be given authority to transfer money ONLY between the accounts to allow best use of funds in relation to the earning of interest.

Seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Savage. The above was RESOLVED.

The Clerk agreed to obtain the necessary paperwork.

#### **Purchase of Letter Headed Paper and Compliments Slips**

**[Cllr. Cowling left the room and took no part in the discussion or vote]**

The meeting heard that quotes had been obtained for quantities of letter headed paper and compliments slips. Coton Print had quoted £235 plus VAT for 1000 letterheads, with additional costs of £40 plus VAT for the art work involved. An alternative quote had been obtained from E & J Print (who were not aware of the quote from Coton Print) and this had been submitted at £185 for 1000 including artwork plus £45 for 500 compliments slips.

The Clerk explained that he had brought the matter to the attention of Council for formal decision simply because Cllr. Cowling had a declared interest in E & J Print. Members were asked to make any decision based entirely on cost considerations.

Cllr. Mrs. Savage proposed that the work be given to E & J Print. Seconded by Cllr. Brown. It was RESOLVED that the contract be given to E& J Print at the price quoted.

***Cllr. Cowling re-joined the meeting***

**04/73 Reports**

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Cllr. Powell -      | Reiterated concerns over various street light in the remit of the Borough.   |
| Cllr. Mrs. Savage - | Reported pot holes in Drummary Lane along with verge erosion.<br><br>Members discussed the frustrations with the lack of budgets sufficient enough to allow the Borough to attend to these issues.                 |
| Cllr. Craik -       | Reiterated concerns with condition of wall in Drummary Lane.   |
| Cllr. Carver -      | Reported problems with flooding opposite the cemetery.   |
| Cllr. Brown -       | Informed the meeting that he had noted that Shifnal had had success in persuading their District Council to instigate a lorry ban during the evening hours. The Clerk was asked to contact Shifnal PC for details. |

**04/74 Press Statement**

The press report was delegated to the Chairman

**04/59 Next Meeting**

The Chairman reminded members that the next meeting of the Council was

scheduled Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> May 2004 to commence at **7.30 p.m.** at Wrockwardine Parish Hall.

**SCHEDULE 12A LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining item of business which is confidential and may disclose exempt information

Possible injunctive proceedings

The Chairman informed the meeting that he had written to Messrs Wace Morgan Solicitors in response to the threat of possible proceedings, as asked, but had received no reply to date.

The meeting thanked the Chairman for his work in this matter.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.07 p.m.

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

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