

WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th December 2000
at Wrockwardine Parish Hall, Wrockwardine at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:

Cllr. Mrs. R. Hargrave - Chairman
Cllrs. K.J.S. Ballantyne, Mrs. E.S. Jones,
A. Orrell, D. Powell, S. Rawlings and Mrs. J. Savage.
Mr. M. Goldstraw - Clerk

Also in attendance: One member of the public (Mr. C.H. Whittingham)

171/00 Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all present to what was to be the last meeting of the year and, to those who subscribed to the view, the last meeting of the second Millennium.

172/00 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. Mrs. Carver and Cllr. Holt.
The meeting was informed that Cllr. Holt was currently undergoing surgery.
The Chairman and all members expressed a desire to send their best wishes for a speedy recovery to Cllr. Holt, along with the warmest of seasonable greetings.

173/00 Declaration of Interest

No declarations were made.

174/00 Police Report

Apologies were received from PC Palmer.
The Clerk referred to a letter received from PC Riggs in reply to traffic matters raised by the council and Cllr. Ballantyne. It was agreed that the reply was not entirely satisfactory and it would be more beneficial to invite PC Riggs to a meeting of the council at a suitable time.

175/00 Minutes

Cllr. Ballantyne reminded the meeting that the information given as to the percentage of grants available for bus shelters was 75% grant, with 25% funding required of the council or any other group. The minutes therefore should be amended to show this fact. This was agreed by all those present at the previous meeting.

Subject to this, It was: **Resolved - that the minutes of the meeting held on 8th November 2000 be confirmed and signed by the chairman.**

176/00 Matters arising out of the Minutes

(a) Rural Transport

Cllr. Mrs. Savage informed the meeting that the residents of Wrockwardine had not yet got together to discuss the issues.

A number of problems which had arisen since Mrs. Whittingham's visit were brought to the attention of the council and Cllr. Ballantyne agreed to take them up with the Rural Bus Users Group.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Ballantyne for attending the meetings of the group and for the information which he was able to bring to council.

(b) Police Report

Cllr. Orrell expressed concern that at a recent site meeting between a resident of Elmsdale Crescent and an officer of T&WC along with PC Riggs, the recommended solution to the problem was the suggestion that the resident parks their vehicle half on and half off the pavement. This, shortly after the council had written to PC Riggs requesting that action be taken to prevent vehicles parking on pavements, was (as well as contrary to the law) not a proper or permanent solution.

177/00 Rights of Way Project

Members discussed the merits of joining such a scheme along with the associated costs. A number of members expressed dissatisfaction over previous dealings with both T&WC and Mr. King in R.O.W. matters. Cllr. Orrell stated that the parish had no problems with footpaths as such, only the broken promises of T.D.C and its successors. He went on to suggest that the council talk to the six members of the project to find out what value they gain from membership.

Cllr. Mrs. Savage stated that there was now a special need to be vigilant owing to the newly acquired status of Wrockwardine as a Conservation Area.

The Chairman, whilst expressing reservations and citing previous fruitless dealings with Mr. King, agreed that the matter deserved further exploration. This was agreed and the clerk was asked to find out the date(s) of the next N.T.T.O.W. Project. Cllr. Rawlings and Cllr. Orrell agreed to attend and report back to the council.

It was **resolved to take no action on this matter until a further report had been received.**

178/00 Admaston House

Cllr. Ballantyne gave a report on the meeting held between the Trustees and Councillors, stating that it was not the intention of the group to continually trouble the parent bodies after each meeting, but to come back with a consolidated report after two or three meetings. Cllr. Ballantyne answered a number of questions put by members and concluded by stating that there were no proposals at this stage but the group would continue to meet and report back at the appropriate time.

8.07 p.m. Cllr. Brown joined the meeting.

179/00 Budget and Precept

Members discussed the budget and precept referring to information on expenditure provided by the clerk.

The outstanding liability for playing field equipment was discussed along with possible future projects including N.T.R.O.W., Admaston House, bus shelters, street lighting and play equipment.

Cllr. Brown asked for a reserve sum to be allocated to Admaston House as a “worse case scenario” fund.

Cllr. Ballantyne gave details of possible legal fees should the council go to Judicial review over the Town Green application. He further counselled that it would be wise to leave the precept at its current level given that T&WC were currently looking to off load some responsibilities onto parishes. Examples were given by Cllr. Ballantyne who stated that funding was unlikely to come along with such devolved responsibility. If this council needed to fund such projects, it would be difficult to raise the precept once it had been reduced. Reference was made to Cllr. Browns report(made at an earlier meeting) from the N.A.L.C. AGM, at which N.A.L.C. had accused parish councils of not using the powers which were available to them sufficiently enough to benefit their parishes.

Cllr. Powell spoke of the possible requirements of Admaston House at what could be short notice if T&WC chose to divest itself of the responsibility and asked that some provision be made (he declined, as an interested party to discuss figures).

Cllr. Mrs. Jones proposed that the precept be set at the present level of twenty two thousand pounds.

Cllr. Orrell cautioned that if the precept was set at the current level, there would be a surplus of approx. £35k which would need to be justified to the auditors. The clerk in response stated that there were a number of extra ordinary items of anticipated expenditure which would allow justification for audit but members would have to approve a carefully drafted budget.

Cllr. Brown stated that if the council was to take on more responsibility and/or devolved services, there may be a need to ask the clerk to increase his hours (or get assistance) to cope with the volume of work.

The Chairman drew the discussion to a close and put the proposition of Cllr. Mrs. Jones to the meeting asking for a seconder. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. Ballantyne.

There were no amendments to the proposition. It was -

Resolved that the precept be set at the present level of twenty two thousand pounds.

180/00 Joint Structure Plan

The clerk gave details of the forthcoming Examination in Public (EiP) at Shirehall and stated that there was no provision in the joint structure plan to allow improvements in the transport infrastructure. It is the intention of the council, subject to its approval of the report drafted by Cllr. Orrell, to present the report to the EiP and request that the structure plan be amended to allow the possibility of improving the infrastructure to be once more under consideration.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Orrell for his efforts in drafting the report. Cllr. Ballantyne further thanked Cllr. Orrell and gave a number of constructive (possible) amendments and additions which were gratefully accepted Cllr. Orrell.

The matter was further discussed and it was:

Resolved to formally adopt the draft report presented by Cllr. Orrell as the council's representation to the EiP.

181/00 Correspondence

Consideration was given to the following correspondence:-

1. Telford & Wrekin Council -

- (a) Draft Register of Electors - circulated.
- (b) Snow Liaison Officer - Mr. Simon Savage to be appointed subject to his approval.
- (c) Traffic Management Issues Admaston - Members raised a number of issues in dissatisfaction at this response. The clerk was asked to write enquiring what action was to be taken in enforcing the speed limits in Admaston.

Cllr. Mrs. Jones asked that the requested repainting of the white lines at Admaston cross roads be raised once more. The Chairman asked if, at the same time, T&WC be reminded that the pot holes adjacent to the shops in Admaston were not getting any better.

- (d) Mins and agenda, meeting 18th December - noted.
- (e) Political Modernisation - Cllr. Ballantyne gave a report of the meeting attended on behalf of the parish. It was agreed that the council response should be that it would not give a view on which political structure T&W should adopt, but would wish to be involved in the scrutiny committees.

T&WC C.V.S.

Newsletter - Circulated (Cllr. Mrs. Savage)

D.E.T.R.

Our Countryside White Paper - Cllr. Ballantyne to review.

PC Riggs

Traffic Admaston - dealt with previously.

Allscott Action Group

Report on meeting - noted.

Peter Bradley MP

Rural Speed Limits - noted. Members expressed

SCC	concerns over lack of resources for enforcement.
Babtie	Transport News - Cllr. Ballantyne. Transport Study - Members heard that the Clerk and Cllr. Orrell had attended a meeting with an officer of Babtie to put the view of the parish and explain why the parish had called for a survey.
English Partnerships	Reply to the councils response to application for residential development in Admaston - it was agreed that the matter be more fully discussed as an agenda item on the next meeting. In the mean time, a response to be forwarded by the clerk in consultation with Cllr.Orrell.

182/00 Planning Matters

(a) Applications

- W00/0998 E.P., Construction of new access road, land off Bratton Road, Bratton. It was agreed that the response to this application should be to point out to E.P. that a more acceptable overall solution would be to fully open the access at the north and close the route to the south and diverting all traffic through this new access.
- W00/0985 Construction of a lagoon for storage of agricultural fertilisers, Walcott Grange, Walcott. Resolved to express concern over additional heavy traffic which would result from this development.

(b) Permissions

The following permissions were noted by the council:-

- W00/0866 Construction of indoor swimming pool, Redwood House, Allscott.
- W00/0934 Single storey extension to replace lean to, Ivy Cottage, Long Lane.
- W00/0805 Listed building consent - change of use to B1 business use, Bratton Farm Buildings, Bratton Farm, Shawbirch.
- W00/0804 Permitted development - change of use to B1 business use, Bratton Farm Buildings, Bratton Farm, Shawbirch.
- W00/0904 Erection of conservatory - The Bucks Head, Long Lane.

183/00 Accounts for Payment

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

Statement 87 was tabled along with the reconciliation and was approved.

184/00 Parish Pump

Cllr. Ballantyne asked the clerk to provide a copy of the West Mercia Police Report. The clerk agreed to have the video available for the next meeting.

185/00 Grant Applications

Members were asked to give consideration to the matter of provision of daffodil bulbs in Wrockwardine to be granted to Wrockwardine Millennium Committee. It was proposed by Cllr. Brown and seconded by Cllr. Powell that £50 be granted for the provision of daffodil bulbs. It was **resolved that £50 be granted to WMC for the provision of daffodil bulbs.**

Members gave consideration to a grant request from T&WC Chairs appeal for Hope House Hospice. It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Jones and seconded by Cllr. Ballantyne that £100 be granted to the Chair's Charity Appeal. It was **resolved that £100 be granted to the Chair's Charity Appeal.**

Members gave consideration to a grant request from Shropshire and Mid Wales Hospice. It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Savage and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Jones that £100 be granted to the Shropshire and Mid Wales Hospice. It was **resolved that £100 be granted to the Shropshire and Mid Wales Hospice.**

186/00 Reports

- Cllr. Rawlings - Reported pot holes at Allscott Bank and outside the fertiliser works. The one outside the works being particularly deep and dangerous.
- Cllr. Mrs. Savage - Reported more pot holes at Blacksmiths Lane and the bridge. reported that the caravan was still in place in Wrockwardine.
- Cllr. Orrell - Had received complaints from residents about dog fouling in Admaston. A request was made for signs and more bins. Clerk to contact Dog Warden.
- Cllr. Brown - Apologised for his late arrival. Pointed out that his comments on the previous months minutes (166/00) had not been a personal attack on this council but had in fact been a report of comments made at the NALC AGM. Members confirmed that the comments had been accepted in that spirit.
- Cllr. Powell - Reinforced concerns over pot holes in the parish.

187/00 Press Statement

The Clerk was asked to report that the council had held its precept at last years level, along with the concerns over dog fouling and the grants approved.

188/00 Next Meeting

The Chairman reminded members that the next meeting of the Council was scheduled for Wednesday, 10th January 2001 to commence at 7.30 p.m. at Admaston House Community Centre, Admaston.
All members were wished a very happy Christmas.

The meeting closed at 9.56 p.m.

Signed _____
Chairman

Date _____