

WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday
9th February 2005 at Wrockwardine Parish Hall at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:

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

Also in attendance: Two members of the public.
Cllr. D. Blackwell (Borough Councillor)

05/19 Chairman's remarks

The Chairman welcomed all present.

05/20 Election of Pro-Tem Vice Chairman

The Chairman asked members to consider the appointment of a pro-tem vice chairman during the approved absence of Cllr. Rawlings. Cllr. Carver nominated Cllr. Kiernan to serve as Pro-Tem Vice Chairman. Seconded by Cllr. Cowling it was RESOLVED that Cllr. Kiernan be elected to serve as Pro-Tem Vice Chairman.

05/21 Police Report

PC McPherson was not present. The Chairman handed to members the latest report from the Officer.

Members discussed current police matters within the Parish.

05/22 Apologies for Absence

Apologies along with reasons for absence were received and accepted from Cllr. Ms. Kenny, Cllr. Dawes and Cllr. Rawlings (approved absence).
Courtesy apologies were received from Borough Councillor Miss J. Seymour.

05/23 Declaration of Interest

There were no additional declarations to be recorded.

05/24 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12th January 2005 were confirmed and signed, by the Chairman, as a true record.

05/25 Finance & General Purposes Committee

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20th January 2005 were received.

Freedom of Information Act

Cllr. Cowling presented the minutes to the meeting and asked Members to resolve to accept the recommendation of the Committee that Council be deemed to competent to comply with the terms of the act and that the

procedures of Council complied with the act. It was RESOLVED.

Conditions of Employment (Conditions of Service for the Clerk)

Cllr. Cowling confirmed that he had read through the Clerks contract of employment and discussed the matter with the Clerk. Members resolved to accept the recommended contract.

Quality Parish Council's and Qualifications of the Clerk

Council RESOLVED to fund 50% of the cost the required course to update the qualifications of the Clerk as a matched contribution with Dawley Hamlets Parish Council.

05/26 Grass Tenders

The Clerk gave members details of each tender considered by the F&GP Committee, there being four tenders in total, and explained that Committee had favoured the second lowest tender having taken into consideration that the tender had displayed a detailed knowledge of the site and had gone into great detail how the job would be tackled in such a way as to facilitate the best use of each site.

The Chairman outlined the way in which Council is required to deal with tenders and outlined in detail each tender and the thoughts of the Committee set against each one.

Cllr. Cowling proposed that the tender submitted in the sum of £1670 be accepted. Seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Savage it was RESOLVED.

Following the resolution, the Chairman revealed that the successful contractor was to be JW & SC Rawlings.

7.56 p.m. Cllr. Miss Seymour joined the meeting.

05/27 Financial Regulations of Council

The Clerk outlined all the differences between the previously adopted Financial Regulations and the new proposed draft. Members went through each clause one by one and made a number of adjustments. Subject to the adjustments which were recorded by the Clerk it was RESOLVED to accept and adopt the new Financial Regulations.

05/28 Proposed Play Area – Bean Hill

Proposed by the Chairman that: "This Council, being mindful of the advice from the Legal Officer at the National Association of Local Councils and of the report from the Beanhill Steering Group that insufficient funds are available to develop the Beanhill Valley site and that therefore alternative sites are to be investigated, RESOLVES to make no decision in the matter before it."

Seconded by Cllr. Cowling it was RESOLVED.

05/29 Proposed redevelopment of Community Facilities

Cllr. Cowling placed before the meeting a paper setting out proposals for redevelopment of Community facilities. Cllr. Craik refuted the accuracy of certain statements within the presented document.

In view of the representations made by Cllr. Craik, Cllr. Cowling withdrew the statements within the document but asked that Council considered the general terms of his report.

Council RESOLVED to disregard the document presented to the meeting by Cllr. Cowling in its entirety and asked Cllr. Cowling to place before the meeting a brief verbal summary of his proposals.

Cllr. Cowling asked if it would be possible to approach the Admaston House Trust and its landlords the Borough with a proposal that a new Community facility be built on the Borough owned land across the road from the House and that the House be surrendered back to the Borough to sold in order to finance the new build.

8.41 p.m. PC McPherson joined the meeting.

Cllr. Craik proposed that Council take the matter forward for discussion. Seconded by Cllr. Mrs Savage it was RESOLVED that Clerk should write to the Trust and the Borough to table the suggestion and ask for their views.

8.45 p.m. The Chairman opened a Police Session

Members reported parish policing matters to PC McPherson and Cllr. Craik and the Officer agreed to get together to decide upon an acceptable format for the Police Report at the Annual Parish Meeting.

9.01 p.m. PC McPherson left the meeting

05/30 Report from Parish Representative on Admaston House Trust

Cllr. Craik gave a report of the Admaston House Trust meeting.

Members expressed concerns that to date no efforts had been made to use the gate which had been purchased with a contribution from the Parish. Cllr. Craik was asked to pass on this concern to the Trust.

05/31 Traffic and Transport Matters

a) Shawbirch Road

Members discussed the progress of the Traffic calming and the Chairman reported that he had responded to correspondence from residents.

9.15 p.m. Cllr. Powell left the meeting

b) Correspondence from P. Bradley M.P.

The Clerk reported that he had spoken to Mr. Harris who had agreed to meet at the home of the Chairman at a suitable date.

c) High Arcal Junction - proposed alterations.

The Clerk reported that he had contacted Mr. Roderick to ask why a traffic island had not been considered in these proposals and had received the reply that it was simply a matter of cost. Members were aware that the work had begun on the morning of the meeting.

9.20 p.m. Cllr. Powell rejoined the meeting.

Cllr. Blackwell gave details of his correspondence with the Borough in this matter and indicated that he had expressed a preference for a “no right turn” as a safe and logical way to solve the traffic problems at this junction.

The Clerk reported that during the month he had reason to contact the Borough on two occasions relating to traffic matters in addition to the above; the first because contractors had blocked a section of road outside the Blacksmiths shop at Wrockwardine and the second because the road outside the church was covered with mud deposited from vehicles from Vicarage Farm. In both instances the Borough had responded positively.

05/32 Parish Improvements

a) Finger posts

The Clerk reported that the parish handyman had agreed to attend to the leaning and painting of the existing finger posts.

b) Awards For All grant – Wrockwardine Playing Field.

The Clerk reported that Awards for All had granted an extension to the project until September.

c) Wallcot Playground.

There was nothing to report.

d) Lighting in the Parish - possible adoption of lights in Dulwich Grange.

The Chairman reported that a request had been received to place a neighbourhood watch sign on a lamp post in Dulwich Grange however the lamp posts were not in the ownership of the Parish Council.

Members RESOLVED to commence negotiations with the Borough to adopt the footway lighting in Dulwich Grange.

05/33 Annual Parish Meeting - Venue etc.

Venue and date confirmed as Wrockwardine Parish Hall 26/4/05.

05/34 Correspondence

Correspondence requiring a decision

BT&W	Transport Partnership Conference – Cllr. Craik.
Co-Op Bank	Bank Mandate - to be signed at the close of the meeting.
Dovecote Grange	Request to place brown direction sign on lamp post. It was agreed that Council could not give permission for such a sign until such time as the applicant had shown

	that the property had the appropriate planning permission.
CPRE	Membership renewal – agreed.
BT&W	Town Centre Control Guidance – noted.
BT&W	Parish Plans/Rural Transport Strategy. – noted.
Jacobs Babbie	Neighbourhood Watch sign licence application dealt with previously.
BT&W	Consultation Draft Waste Strategy – noted.

05/35 Planning Matters

The following application was considered:

W05/0017	Erection of agricultural potato store Barratts Field Duncote Farm Walcot. It was agreed that a request should to the Borough should be made that a section 106 agreement should be entered into to ensure that the building should remain for agricultural use or be dismantled to ensure that it does not become a further industrial development.
W05/0075	Erection of detached dwelling and garage and formation of new vehicle access (Outline) Land at Rushmoor Lane. Members expressed concerns over access and excessive traffic generation on what is already a busy HGV route.
W05/0059	Erection of conservatory to front elevation The Mill House Walcot. Concerns were expressed over the effect the development would have on the appearance of the front elevation of the building circa 18 th c.

Tree Preservation Order Land off Admaston Spa. Noted.

Permissions

1. The following permissions were received:

W04/1538	Erection of two storey side extension Allscott Mill Allscott.
W04/1494	Erection of two storey side extension 16 Dalefield Road Admaston.

There were no Refusals

05/36 Accounts for Payment

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

Statement 136 was tabled along with the reconciliation and was approved.

Co-Operative Bank Account

The Clerk asked all authorised signatories to remain behind after the meeting to sign the mandate.

Report that magazine printers will now be changed.

The Chairman reported that for reasons of efficiency and cost consideration was being given to changing the printers of the magazine to a more local firm. Members were content.

05/37 Matters arising from Audit

i) Increase in Fidelity Insurance

Members approved an increase in the level of Fidelity Insurance carried by Council to comply with audit requirements.

ii) Council approval of Risk Assessment.

RESOLVED to accept the risk assessment as presented.

05/38 Press Statement

The press statement was delegated to the Chairman.

05/39 Chairman's Closing Remarks

The Chairman invited Borough Members to give a report.

Cllr. Miss Seymour gave an update on the progress of the Wrekin bid.

Cllr. Blackwell answered questions put by Members on the perceived future of the Sugar Beet factory.

The Chairman thanked all for attending the meeting.

05/40 Next Meeting

The Chairman reminded members that the next meeting of the Council was scheduled Wednesday, 9th March 2005 to commence at 7.30 p.m. at Admaston House.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.

Signed _____
Chairman

Date _____