

## **WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2010 at  
Admaston House at 7.30 p.m.**

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**Present:**

Cllr. – S.C. Rawlings - Chairman  
Cllrs. Mrs. Elaine Ballantyne, K. Ballantyne, E. Dawes, T.  
Kiernan, Mrs Jo Savage and Mrs. S. Turner.  
Mr. M. Goldstraw – Clerk

**Also present:** CSO Suzy Coombs  
Six members of the public.

**09/172 Chairman's opening remarks**

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

**09/173 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. D. Powell, M. Craik and  
Mrs N. Evans.

The meeting received courtesy apologies from Borough Councillor  
Miss J. Seymour and PC McPherson.

**09/174 Police Report**

CSO Suzy Coombs presented the police report and answered questions.  
The Chairman asked for details of speed camera use in the parish and CSO  
Coombs provided details.

***7.36 p.m. CSO Coombs left the meeting after being thanked by the Chairman for  
her attendance.***

**09/175 Public Session**

Mr. D. Bevis stated that it was nice to see the parish newsletter and he had  
attended the meeting to respond to the article about the proposed use of the  
Silkin way as a bridle way. He stated that he had spoken to many people who  
were against horses using the path and went on to outline his view of the  
adverse effects such a use would have. He related an incident where a horse had  
run loose because it had been frightened by a dog.

Mr. G. Franks echoed the concerns and stated that there were also concerns  
over the gates which had appeared, seemingly without consultation, and had  
made the path almost impossible to use by disabled people. He gave details of  
his personal experiences whereby a member of his family could not now go to  
school via the footpath and now needed to be transported by car.

Cllr. Mrs Savage stated that she had been approached by a number of residents  
who had similar concerns over disabled access to the footpath.

There was a general complaint about horse prints on the football field.

Those members of the public who were present asked who had carried out the (Silkin Way) usage census and questioned its validity.

The Chairman thanked them for their views and asked if they would make them known whenever the final consultation with the Borough was to take place.

Mr and Mrs Hall of Wrockwardine had noted the news of a new footpath at Bratton and asked the parish council to consider the merit of providing a footpath on Station Road Wrockwardine to assist those walking from Wrockwardine to Admaston to avoid contact with traffic. The meeting agreed to present the idea to the Borough Traffic Officer. Mr and Mrs Hall were thanked for their suggestion.

The Chairman thanked all the members of the public for their contribution.

**09/176 Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations.

**09/177 Minutes**

**The Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010 were confirmed and signed, by the Chairman, as a true record.**

**09/178 Rural Matters**

**Rural Housing Needs**

The meeting heard that Fiona Stewart, Borough Housing Policy and Enabling Officer had agreed to attend the April meeting of council.

**Rural Roads Forum**

There was nothing to report.

**09/179 Traffic Matters**

**Traffic Statistics**

The Clerk informed the meeting that the raw traffic data had been asked for but not yet received. The Clerk was asked to allow sufficient time for a response as set down in the Parish Charter and if the data had not then been received make a formal complaint.

Cllr. Ballantyne suggested that, if the data is not received in a reasonable time, a request under the FOI Act be made.

**Rumble Strips on B5063**

The meeting heard that the officer had agreed to meet with the Chairman and Clerk to discuss the proposal.

**09/180 Admaston House Trust**

Cllr. Mrs Turner presented her report on the activities of the Trust.

**09/181 Parish Improvements**

a) Provision of Allotments

The Clerk reported that the Borough legal officer was taking instructions on the request for a longer lease than had been placed in the draft.

The Chairman reported that the planting of trees in the proposed community orchard had begun with 20 or 30 trees being planted by Mr. Jevons (Borough Officer).

b) Playgrounds at Walcot and Burnell Road/Pemberton Road.

The Chairman gave a report on the improvements to the playgrounds. The meeting heard that a public meeting had been advertised to allow the public to have their say on the Pemberton Road play area but unfortunately no member of the public had attended.

The meeting heard that the residents of Walcot were keen to see the timber equipment and had requested an open area to allow running and ball games.

The Chairman conveyed the views of the Borough Officer on the reason why bark mulch had been chosen and outlined, briefly, the cost of alternatives. A brief outline of the Pemberton Road redevelopment was presented to the meeting.

The meeting expressed a desire to have more details of the Pemberton Road site.

The meeting discussed the proposals. It was agreed (4 votes in favour, 3 against) that the Clerk and Chairman should contact the Borough to ascertain whether the funding would be in jeopardy if the decision was deferred until March and, if not, bring the proposals back to the meeting. If the Clerk and Chairman were persuaded that the funds were in jeopardy then a decision could be delegated to the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Cllr. Kiernan stated that he felt there was some urgency and that he did not wish to see the funds lost. He stated that he had been working on the refurbishment of the playgrounds for seven years.

Cllr. Ballantyne reminded the meeting that, although the request for refurbishment of the Pemberton Road playground had come initially from Cllr. Kiernan's grand children and had been supported by him, the initiative had been taken forward by the Parish Council and it was the parish, under his Chairmanship, who had been working hard to secure the future development of the site.

Cllr. Kiernan criticised the Borough stating that the Borough had done nothing for seven years. It was acknowledged that Cllr. Kiernan had recently chased, on behalf of the parish council, the Borough initiative to redevelop the site(s) under the Playbuilder Funding Grant.

## **09/182 Correspondence**

### **1. Correspondence requiring a decision**

Enstone	Agreement to hold liaison meeting on 25 <sup>th</sup> February and afterwards a public meeting in the Parish Hall at Wrockwardine.
St. Peters PCC	Request for funding – agreed to place the matter on the next agenda.
T&WC	Bus User Group Meeting 23/2/10 – noted.
Ironbridge Brass Band	Request for funding for Ironbridge Brass band Festival – declined.

### **2. Correspondence not requiring a decision**

Ramblers Assoc	AGM Papers.
SALC	Constitution.
T&WC	Making Ends Meet Booklet.
T&WC	Pothole Buster Campaign.
ICO	Confirmation of registration with Information Commissioner under the Data Protection Act.

Borough Cllr Kiernan

Letter expressing concern over article in the Newsletter. The meeting received a letter of concern from Cllr. Kiernan, who had written in his office as Borough Councillor, over the content of an article in the newsletter relating to the theft of the litter bin at Longyard Meadow. The Clerk reminded the meeting that the article had been written, by a member of the Parish Council (a Parish Councillor), at the request of the Parish Council with the instruction that it should be robustly critical of the culprits. The article had been approved by the parish council and was therefore an act of the parish council and not of any individual. It was acknowledged that Cllr. Kiernan had not been present when the newsletter was presented to Council for acceptance and distribution.

Cllr. Kiernan stated that he had not asked for the bin to be placed outside Longyard Meadow.

Cllr. Ballantyne raised a point of order stating that the matter had not been placed on the agenda for discussion.

Cllr. Kiernan maintained that the article had been a misrepresentation of the facts.

The Chairman took the point of order, halted the discussion and after ascertaining from the Clerk and other members of council that there had been no other concerns received about the article from either councillors or the public it was agreed that the matter should be placed on the next agenda.

The Clerk advised the meeting that:

1) All correspondence should be appropriately addressed. If the Clerk receives a begging letter from a charity at his home address addressed to him personally and asking for a donation, he is perfectly entitled to treat it, because it is addressed to him personally, in any way he chooses. It would not be proper for him to bring any such letter personally addressed to himself to the attention of Council.

2) If any member is unsatisfied with any action of the Parish Council or any parish councillor then the best course of action is to place that matter on the agenda for the next meeting. The Clerk, when asked for an explanation of any council business or any councillor's behaviour can only; a) provide the facts; b) acknowledge the concern and; c) bring the concern to the attention of the parish council. The Clerk can not explain the rationale behind decisions of council or the behaviour of one member; only the fact that a decision has been made and what that decision is. It is not proper to attempt to engage the Clerk in a debate or argument on the conduct of council or an individual councillor when the remedy lies in bringing the concern to the attention of council. When any concern is put to the Clerk he will simply acknowledge it and promise to bring that concern to the attention of Council. Except under very limited circumstances the Clerk does not act as an individual but only under instruction from Council. Council means the whole of Council by decision or resolution and not just one member.

## **09/183 Planning Matters**

### **Applications**

To following applications were received:

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|----------|--|
| W10/0015 | Felling of 1 alder tree and reduction of 1 walnut tree; Land adjacent to The Stables Wrockwardine. There were no objections.   |
| W10/0024 | Erection of 3 bedroomed detached dwelling with detached garage; 1 Walton Cottages Bratton Road. There were no objections.      |
| W10/0028 | Demolition of existing poultry building and erection of new poultry building; The Farm Charlton. There were no objections.     |
| W10/0041 | Erection of single storey rear extension and alteration to existing roof; 4 The Gables Station Road. There were no objections. |

### **Permissions**

The following permissions were received:

- W09/0958 Erection of conservatory to rear: 19 Burnell Road.
- W09/0780 Conversion of farm buildings into 8 dwellings and associated alterations - amended plans – Farm Buildings Aston Hall Farm.
- W09/0781 Listed consent for W09/0780

### **Refusals**

The following refusals were received:

- W09/1012 Erection of single storey rear extension and balcony: 30 Dulwich Grange.
- W09/0967 Erection of two storey side extension: 58 Glovers Way.

**8.52 p.m. Cllr. Craik joined the meeting.**

### **09/184 Accounts for Payment**

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

**Statement 36** was tabled along with the reconciliation and was approved.

### **09/185 Press Statement**

The Clerk agreed to send details of the meeting to the press.

### **09/186 Chairman's Closing Remarks**

The Chairman thanked all for attending and wished all a safe journey home.

### **09/187 Next Meeting**

Members were reminded that the next meeting of the Council was to be on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2010 to commence at 7.30 p.m. at Wrockwardine Parish Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:56 p.m.

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

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