

## **WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2004  
at Admaston House at 7.30 p.m.**

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**Present:**

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

**Also in attendance:** WPC Judith McPherson  
One member of the public.

**04/01 Chairman's remarks**

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and wished all present a very Happy New Year.

**04/02 Police Session**

WPC McPherson presented basic crime statistics to the Meeting. Cllr. Craik stated that he and Cllr. Powell had agreed that the format in which the statistics had been presented was acceptable and a request had been made to provide the statistics on a monthly basis.

The Chairman asked WPC McPherson if the presentation of the statistics on a monthly basis would be practical and not add to her work load unduly. WPC McPherson confirmed that it would be possible to produce the statistics but requested that they were not made publicly available in the form presented. WPC McPherson made it quite clear that should Council wish to publish any of the information provided, she could only consent if the information was provided by her in an approved format on the correctly headed paper after first being approved by her supervising officer.

Members discussed the statistics presented to them. Members agreed that a feature of the next newsletter would be the encouragement of public to be more vigilant and report all incidents to the police.

Members discussed the form of address WPC McPherson preferred. WPC McPherson stated that it was now thought proper within the police force to dispense with the "W" of Woman Police Officer and simply to state PC as in Police Officer. However, she had no objection whatsoever to the continued use of WPC. The Clerk informed the meeting that as he used the initials PC occasionally to indicate Parish Council, it would be less confusing to Members if the initials WPC continued to be used for the officer.

***There being no remaining police business to discuss, WPC McPherson was thanked for her attendance and left the meeting at 7.45 p.m.***

**04/03 Apologies for Absence**

Courtesy apologies were received from Cllr. Miss Seymour (Borough Cllr.)

**04/05 Declaration of Interest**

Cllr. Ballantyne informed the meeting that he would take no part in the approval of payment to be made as he had an expense claim before Council and there was a matter relating to the CPRE (Planning) which he would not vote upon.

**04/06 Minutes**

Members requested that the following minutes be amended to more accurately reflect the meeting:

Page 4 delete "salt" and replace with "fuel" and in Planning Applications, the first application should state "There were no objections" and the second application should have the words "There were no objections" should be deleted. **SUBJECT to the above alterations;**

**The Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2003 were confirmed and signed, by the Chairman, as a true record.**

**04/07 Vacancy in the Office of Parish Councillor**

The Chairman formally announced that following the expiry of the statutory 14 days of the date of public advertisement, it had become known by the Parish Council that no Poll had been demanded. This meant that Council would proceed to fill the vacancy by co-option. The Clerk was asked to post the relevant notices, applications to be received by 1<sup>st</sup> March 2004.

**04/08 Finance & General Purposes Committee**

The Clerk was asked to arrange a suitable date.

**04/09 Parish Charter**

The Clerk reported that Mrs. Baker had difficulty in attending a meeting with Wrockwardine PC as the dates coincided with those of Waters Upton PC of which she is Clerk. Members agreed that it would be proper to ask Mrs. Baker to attend Council on a date which would be suitable to her even if it meant calling of a special meeting. It was resolved to hold a special meeting to deal specifically with the proposed Parish Charter.

**04/10 Visit to RAF Shawbury**

The Chairman gave details of the site tour invitation received from RAF Shawbury on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February at 4.30 p.m. Members were asked to confirm if they were able to attend as soon as possible.

**04/11 Traffic and Transport Matters**

The Clerk stated that there had been no information on the proposals for calming on Shawbirch Road received from Mr. Roderick.

Cllr. Ballantyne reported on his correspondence with the management of British Sugar in regard to their possible production of road fuel. Members discussed the implications of increases in commercial traffic and the Chairman was asked to continue to mention the increasing need for a relief road in any correspondence. Members asked the Chairman to raise the matter of speeding British Sugar lorries when talking to their management.

**04/12 Admaston House Report from Parish Representative**

There being no Parish Representative, the Chairman invited Cllr. Powell to present a brief report on the activities of the Trust. Cllr. Powell reported the Trustees concerns over the misbehaviour of youths in the area of the House and the proliferation of litter.

Cllr. Rawlings gave details of a meeting held with Trustees, residents and police officers. Members discussed the police report.

Cllr. Powell indicated that the Trustees may need the financial assistance of Council to solve some of the issues raised by the police. The Chairman stated that if the Trust needed assistance, they must formally apply. The Clerk was asked to place Admaston House on the agenda for the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

**04/13 Vital Villages**

a) Admaston Halt

The Chairman informed the meeting that although he did not have the final report on Admaston Halt (which would be circulated to all Members upon receipt), he had details of the findings. Members were informed that the findings indicated that owing to the previous removal of the platform and therefore the added cost of replacement the Halt would not be financially viable. This did not mean that the project itself is not viable if the cost of platforms is dealt with by other means. Cllr. Ballantyne felt that the report would leave Members with the option to pursue the project as a more long term project subject to obtaining funding for the platform. Members discussed the possibilities of funding and felt that there would be a positive response from the local Member of Parliament, Cllr. Phil Davies as Chair of West Mercia Transport Authority and even Government.

Cllr. Craik asked Members to continue to pursue the project and required funding as a “political” necessity.

b) Partnership Meeting with Parishes

Members discussed the report from Cllr. Craik, previously circulated and the introduction to Parishes of Community Support Officers.

The Clerk was asked to write to WPC McPherson reiterating the indications given by Sgt. Franks at the Partnership Meeting that Community Support Officers would be available to all parishes equally.

c) Finger Posts

Cllr. Brown reported that he had contacted Alan Reynolds of the Highways Authority who had stated quite plainly that the Borough would not help with the expense of the project but were insisting on the specifications of the posts. Having taken that into account, Cllr. Brown went on to inform the meeting that Mr. Reynolds would not admit that the Borough had responsibility for the posts!

Members discussed the required specification for the posts. Cllrs. Brown and Ballantyne agreed to carry out a survey of the posts to determine the work required.

The Chairman reminded Members that there was a proposition on the table from the Borough (held over until the matter of the Parish Charter had been resolved) whereby they had suggested adding £1 to every £2 put forward by parishes for essential work.

**04/14 Correspondence**

Cowley Garden Services	Quote for the routine inspection and maintenance of parish bus shelters at £16 per visit. The Clerk was asked to clarify whether the sum was per shelter or per all shelters on one trip. The Clerk replied that he had raised the matter with Mr. Cowley who had confirmed that the quote was for all the shelters, not each. Members RESOLVED to accept the quote.
Borough of T&W	Budget Funding Proposal – Members resolved to hold any decision on the proposal over until such time as the Parish Charter was decided.
CPRE	(Cllr. Rawlings took the Chair for this item of business) Request to support objections to proposals in the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Bill. RESOLVED to support the points put forward by the CPRE. Clerk to write to the Minister.
Raby Saw Mills	Members discussed the offer tabled by the saw mill. Cllr. Craik proposed that Council offered £100 in full and final settlement of the matter. Seconded by Cllr. Rawlings, the proposal was defeated 3 votes for 5 votes against. Cllr. Kenny proposed that Council write to reject the offer tabled and refuse to pay anything, giving full reasons for the refusal. Seconded by Cllr. Cowling. Resolved 5 votes for, 3 against.
Borough of T&W	Extinguishment Order footpath 7. Members

were most concerned that the footpath was to be extinguished without prior (or same time) creation of the alternative. Although this may not lead to any actual inconvenience as the alternative was in place, the alternative was not yet a lawfully defined path. Therefore the extinguishment alone could lead to walkers using the alternative unlawfully. RESOLVED to object to the order until such time as the replacement path is lawfully created.

Members noted the following correspondence:

Community Safety Partnership - Personal Safety for Women – The Clerk was asked to obtain copies for all Members.

Wroxeter & Uppington PC - Bus shelter Bluebell Crossroads.

Borough of T&WC Reduction of Lime Trees The Avenue Wrockwardine. Members noted the recommendations for immediate work by the Borough Officer. The Clerk was asked to ascertain what consultation/expert advice had the Borough taken to arrive at the decision to carry out the work.

Borough of T&WC Secondary Schools Admissions Policy – Cllr. Craik.

#### **04/15 Planning Matters**

Members considered the following applications:

W03/1501 Temporary site office, compound and parking (retrospective) Bratton Hall Farm (Wimpy Developments) Bratton  
The Clerk was asked to write to the Borough requesting that conditions of any permission be that there is a definite time limit to the permission and that all equipment, temporary buildings and associated materials be removed by the deadline and the site fully returned to its previous use.

W03/1423 Erection of single dwelling and detached garage Land adjacent 20 Linton Close Bratton. RESOLVED to object due to loss of residential amenity and mature tree. (Cllr. Carver abstained)

W03/1436 Erection of first storey extension over existing garage and conservatory to rear 67 Crowdale Road Admaston.

The following approvals were noted:

- W03/1286 Erection of porch and two storey rear extension 7 Rushmoor Lane.
- W03/1292 Change of use of existing mobile home to office and rest room. Sunnymead Walcott.
- W03/1317 Erection of two dwellings (outline) land off Bratton Road/ Cheshire Coppice Lane Admaston.
- W03/1039 (Outline) Erection of one dwelling and new access to Donnerville Farmhouse Wellington Road Admaston.
- W03/1276 Erection of detached five bedroom dwelling with triple garage etc. Plot One Bratton Road Bratton.
- W03/1251 Two storey extension 85 Glovers Way Shawbirch.

#### **04/16 Accounts for Payment**

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

In addition to the tabled payments, Members approved the reimbursement of expenses to Cllr. Ballantyne in the sum of **£21.90**

Due to the previous decision [recorded in minute 04/14] the payment to Raby Saw Mills was not approved and the Clerk defaced the cheque.

**Statement 124** was tabled along with the reconciliation and was approved.

The Clerk reported that he and Cllr. Savage had attended the Yorkshire Bank only to be informed that the anticipated account would not be offered, the alternative being a business account which would incur charges. The Clerk stated that even though the presently held account with Lloyds TSB offered no interest payments, it would not be prudent to substitute it with one which incurred costs. The Clerk asked that Members be content with the status quo until such time as a suitable alternative could be found. Members agreed.

#### **04/17 Reports**

- Cllr. Brown - Requested that the engraving of granite stones be added to the next agenda.
- Cllr. Carver - Asked that previous requests made to the Borough to solve the difficulties of Heavy Vehicles arriving at low bridges without first seeing warning signs, thereby having to make

dangerous manoeuvres to reverse and turn around, be put to them again.

Cllr. Cowling -

Reported an accident whereby an elderly pedestrian had fallen over at the shops in Admaston due to the appallingly neglected condition of the footpaths. Clerk to remind Mr. Roderick of his promise that action would be taken months ago.

The Clerk was asked to check with the Planning Enforcement Officer whether the roof line of the swimming pool at Roseberry House was within the approved specification.

Cllr. Rawlings -

Reported that the new grit bins had been placed in situ. The Clerk thanked Cllr. Rawlings for his voluntary assistance in placing the bins.

Cllr. Mrs. Savage -

Commented that the Borough had yet to attend to matters raised at the last meeting.

Cllr. Craik -

Shared the previously reported concerns over the shops footpath and commented that the lighting was abysmal. Reported concerns over the state of the wall at Drury Lane (mortar looks as if it is practically none existent).

#### **04/18 Press Statement**

The press report was delegated to the Chairman.

#### **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

#### **04/19 Clerks report on working hours required to undertake duties**

The Clerk presented a report on working practises and hours worked.

The Chairman stated that there were ever increasing burdens presented to the Clerk as Council became more and more active in its duties to the public.

The Clerk was asked to leave the meeting while members reviewed the working hours and remuneration required to properly carry out the duties required by Council.

*[The remainder of the minute appertaining to this item of business and recorded in italics is taken from the notes made by the Chairman at the time]*

*Following discussion, Cllr. Brown proposed that the required working hours*

*of the Clerk be increased to 20 hours per week at a rate of £7.86 per hour to compare with Dawley Hamlets Parish Council. Seconded by Cllr. Kenny.*

*The following amendment was put by Cllr. Craik that the required working hours of the Clerk be increased to 20 hours per week at a rate of £7.50 per hour. Seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Savage, the amendment was put.*

***RESOLVED that the required working hours of the Clerk be increased to 20 hours per week at a rate of £7.50 per hour. (six votes for, one against with one abstention)***

The Clerk returned to the meeting and having been informed of the decision asked for clarification as to when the amended terms were to take place. Following brief discussion, Members confirmed that it was their intention that the resolution should take effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2004.

Members resolved to cover the increase resulting from the above decision by a vire of funds of £1800 from the £3300 set aside for Admaston Halt. The additional £500 being already allowed for in the budgets of the Council.

**04/20 Next Meeting**

The Chairman reminded members that the next meeting of the Council was scheduled for Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2004 to commence at **7.30 p.m.** at Admaston House.

The meeting closed at 10.34 p.m.

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

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