

WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday
12th January 2005 at Admaston House at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:

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

Also in attendance: Four members of the public.

05/01 Chairman's remarks

The Chairman welcomed all present and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

05/02 Police Report

PC McPherson was not present, there was no police report to present to the meeting.

05/03 Apologies for Absence

The Clerk presented to the meeting a request from Cllr. Rawlings for permission to take three months leave of absence from Council duties. The reasons for the request was explained in the letter from Cllr. Rawlings.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** to accept the reasons behind the request and to grant a three month leave of absence to Cllr. Rawlings.

Apologies along with reasons for absence were received and accepted from Cllr. Craik [who had explained that he was delayed due to professional commitments but would make every endeavour to join the meeting latter in the evening] and Cllr. Mrs Savage.

Courtesy apologies were received from Borough Councillors D. Blackwell and Miss J. Seymour.

05/04 Declaration of Interest

Cllr. Carver informed the meeting that having noted there was a planning application for a property in Cluddley he would take no part in that particular item of business.

Cllr. Cowling declared that he had an interest in matters relating to a payment to E&J Print – the Clerk informed the meeting that although this payment was before Council for signatures on the cheque it had received full approval from Council at the previous meeting.

05/05 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2004 were confirmed and signed, by the Chairman, as a true record.

05/06 Finance & General Purposes Committee

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16th December were received.

05/07 Proposed Play Area – Bean Hill

The Chairman brought to the attention of members a recent meeting hosted by the Borough where a discussion on the Bean Hill Project took place. He stated that it had been brought to his attention that a number of Councillors had attended that meeting and although most had attended simply as members of the public, it had been reported to him that Cllr. Powell had sat around the table as a full participant and even tabled a proposition which was accepted and resolved.

Cllr. Powell stated that he had attended the meeting under the impression that he was entitled to do so as a member of a steering committee and that he had felt that he was attending as a representative of Council rather than a member of the public.

The Chairman stated that his understanding of the current status of the project was that the whole project was suspended (awaiting a decision of Council on how to proceed following receipt of legal advice from NALC) and that it had been clear to all Members that they could only attend any outside meetings relating to Bean Hill as members of the public; this was why, at the previous meeting, Standing Orders were suspended to allow Cllr. Rawlings to give a report on a meeting he had attended as an ordinary member of the public. It was made clear that Cllr. Rawlings, although originally an official Council appointee to the Working Group, was not able to attend as a Councillor because the matter was, for Council, suspended. The Chairman regretted that Cllr. Powell had not understood this point.

7.40 p.m. The Chairman suspended Standing Orders to allow Cllr. Powell to give a report on his attendance at the meeting.

Cllr. Powell gave a report of the meeting and reiterated that he had thought that he was able to enter into serious discussions on behalf of Council.

Cllr. Kiernan, who had attended the meeting as a member of the public gave a report stating that it had become obvious that because there would be a requirement to remove and divert overhead electrical cables for safety reasons the project had become potentially so expensive as to be outside the financial scope of the partners.

Cllr. Cowling wished it to be noted that he had also attended as a member of the public and that, as a member of the public he had not been allowed to speak at the meeting or participate in any way.

7.50 pm The Chairman reinstated Standing Orders

Cllr. Kiernan informed the meeting that although it appeared that the site at Bean Hill was not viable the Borough was intent on seeking other sites for the project. Therefore it would be important for Council to be a part of any debate not related to the Bean Hill site. Cllr. Kiernan proposed that any future steering

group/working group should consist of the Chairman and Vice Chairman only. Seconded by Cllr. Cowling.

The Chairman expressed his concern that owing to the confusion of Cllr. Powell as to what his status at the meeting was Council was in some difficulty, perhaps even embarrassed and may be accused of double standards. The Chairman repeated that Council had made no decision in the matter of the proposed Bean Hill development and was awaiting advice from NALC: Council had no policy – therefore it cannot have its representatives advocating any view. He reported that he had spoken to Cllr. Tomlinson (Borough Cllr.) who had confirmed that, essentially, the Bean Hill Development was finished. There remained however, a number of matters still likely to be of importance to this Parish.

Cllr. Powell stated that he had been with the Bean Hill project from the outset and felt that he could bring a good deal of experience to any new steering group; he tabled an amendment to the proposition – that the steering group/working group also include himself. Seconded by Cllr. Carver; there were two votes in favour of the proposition and four votes against. The amended proposition was lost.

The Chairman put the original proposition which had been put by Cllr. Kiernan and seconded by Cllr. Cowling; that any future steering group/working group should consist of the Chairman and Vice Chairman only. There were five votes in favour and one against. It was **RESOLVED** that any future steering group/working group should consist of the Chairman and Vice Chairman only.

05/08 Traffic and Transport Matters

a) Shawbirch Road

The Clerk informed the meeting that he had received correspondence from Mr. Roderick apologising for the delays and stating that that the traffic calming work would begin on 31st January 2005.

b) Correspondence from P. Bradley M.P.

The Clerk asked members for diary dates in order that he could attempt to arrange a meeting with Mr. Harris.

05/09 Parish Improvements

a) Finger posts

Cllr. Ms. Kenny reported that the Borough had confirmed that they would repair the damaged signs and that they had requested that the Parish clean and paint the remaining ones. The Borough had given permission to the Parish to add any finials where necessary.

Members felt that this was a satisfactory result and it was **RESOLVED** to contract the Council handyman to clean and paint those signs in need of such treatment and to place the investigation of costs of new finials back to the F&GP Committee.

Cllr. Ms. Kenny was thanked for her work in progressing the project.

b) Awards For All grant – Wrockwardine Playing Field.

There was nothing to report. The Chairman outlined his strategy for press publicity of the project.

c) Wallcot Playground.

The Clerk gave a report on the informal discussions with officers of the Borough with a view to acquiring ownership of the land. The meeting heard that the preliminary indications were that the Borough would be receptive to a formal approach.

It was RESOLVED that a formal approach be made and that negotiations should be carried out by the Clerk, Cllr. Kenny and the Chairman who would report back to Council for any decisions to be made.

Members agreed that agenda item Report from Parish Representative on Admaston House Trust should be deferred until Cllr. Craik joined the meeting.

05/10 Grant application from Wrockwardine PCC

a) It was RESOLVED not to consider a grant from Wrockwardine PCC as an exception to the norm and that the application should be held over to be considered along with all other grants at the next official grants discussion in March.

b) The grant application from Wrockwardine PCC was not considered due to the previous resolution of Council.

05/11 Annual Parish Meeting - Venue etc.

Members agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting should be held on a separate evening to the Parish Council Meeting. Although Members would have preferred to have booked Admaston House for APM because it was held at Wrockwardine the previous year, it was not possible to do so because the room was fully booked. Therefore it was agreed to hold the APM at Wrockwardine Parish Hall on Tuesday 26th April at 7.30 pm (provided the room could be booked). The Clerk was asked to check that the Parish Hall was available on that date.

8.23 pm Cllr. Craik joined the meeting.

05/12 Correspondence

Correspondence requiring a decision

NALC	Draft Financial Regulations – Members agreed that the matter should be looked at by the F&GP Committee.
Dovecote Grange	Request to place brown direction sign on lamp post. It was agreed that this request could not be considered until it had been confirmed to Council that the applicant had received the appropriate Planning Consent (if required) from the Borough.
NALC	Freedom of Information Act – referred to the F&GP

Committee.

The Following correspondence was noted:

BT&W Notification of road closure (temporary) - Glade Way
BT&W Budget Meeting.
BT&W Bus User Group Meeting 22/2/05

05/13 Report from Parish Representative on Admaston House Trust

Cllr. Craik gave a report of the Admaston House Trust meeting where the Trustees had thanked the Parish Council for the grant which enabled them to fit a gate to the car park [Members noted that the gates had now been installed] and had apologised for the delay and misunderstanding.

The Clerk read to Council a letter from the Chairman of the Trust setting out the above.

Members held a discussion about why the gate, although now fitted, was never locked. Cllr. Powell stated that there were some difficulties to be overcome but he would refer the matter back to the Trust for an answer.

The Chairman asked Cllr. Powell to ascertain if the Trustees were considering employing a security firm.

05/014 Planning Matters

The following application was considered:

W04/1494 Erection of two storey side extension 16 Dalefields Drive. There were no objections.

W04/1495 Conversion of existing barn to holiday let Barn at Wrekin Farm Cluddley. There were no objections.

W04/1532 Erection of two storey side extension 4 Burnell Road Admaston. There were no objections.

W04/1538 Erection of two storey side extension Allscott Mill. There were no objections.

W04/1549 Erection of agricultural machinery workshop Wallcot Grange. There were no objections.

W04/1583 Change of use of land for siting of eight steel containers for the storage of beds, mattresses etc. The Farm, Berwick House Long Lane. There were no objections.

Cllr. Cowling asked about a large building which had been erected at Duncott Mill possibly without planning consent. The Clerk was asked to refer the matter to the enforcement officer.

Permissions

1. To receive the following permissions:
 - W04/0999 (reserved) Erection of detached dwelling and creation of a new vehicular access Land adjacent to Donnerville Farmhouse Wellington Road.
 - W04/1376 Demolition of Garage Meadowcroft Wrockwardine (conservation consent).
 - W04/1384 Erection of single storey rear extension 2 Giles Close.
 - W04/1265 Kitchen and dining room extension and conservatory Four Seasons Allscott.
 - W04/1209 Vehicle wash etc – Wrekin Farmers Ltd.
 - W04/1356 Erection of Conservatory 24 and 30 Donnerville Gardens Admaston.
 - W04/1293 Erection of single storey extension 12 Woodford Green Shawbirch.

There were no Refusals

05/15 Accounts for Payment

The Clerk informed the meeting that owing to the fact that his house had been broken into prior to Christmas and his wallet containing postage receipts had been stolen a statement and declaration had been made in order to claim back petty cash expenditure. It was RESOLVED to accept the presented statement as a receipt for expenditure.

In addition to the tabled payments it was RESOLVED to approve the following additional invoice for payment:

Central Networks - street light refurbishment – cheque number 000859
£3000 VAT £525 Total £3525.00

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

Statement 134 was tabled along with the reconciliation and was approved. The Clerk explained that statement 135 had not been received from the bank therefore all reconciliations were based upon the previous statement but nevertheless all balances were correct.

05/16 Press Statement

The press statement was delegated to the Chairman.

05/17 Chairman's Closing Remarks

The Chairman thanked all for attending the meeting.

05/18 Next Meeting

The Chairman reminded members that the next meeting of the Council was scheduled Wednesday, 9th February 2005 to commence at 7.30 p.m. at Wrockwardine Parish Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.47 p.m.

Signed _____
Chairman

Date _____