

WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th July 2009 at Admaston House at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Cllr. – S.C. Rawlings - Chairman
Cllrs. Nadine Evans and Mrs Jo Savage.
Mr. M. Goldstraw – Clerk

09/60 Chairman's opening remarks

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting. The Clerk confirmed that the meeting was quorate.

09/61 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Elaine Ballantyne, K. Ballantyne and Mrs. S. Turner. The meeting received courtesy apologies from Borough Councillor Miss J. Seymour.

09/62 Police Report

The meeting received apologies from PC McPherson who was on operational duty elsewhere. There was no police report.

09/63 Public Session

There were no members of the public present.

09/64 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

09/65 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th June 2009 were confirmed and signed, by the Chairman, as a true record.

7.32 p.m. Cllr. Powell joined the meeting.

09/66 Rural Matters

a) Appointment of contractor – Parish Handyman. The Clerk reported that since, the retirement of Mr. Cowley, Mr. John Marsh had been used on an ad hoc basis. The meeting was content that Mr. Marsh continued to act as parish handyman pro-tem.

The meeting asked the Clerk to thank Mr. Cowley for his many years as contracted parish handyman.

b) Repair of metal seat at Wrockwardine Playing Fields

It was RESOLVED to contract A. Y. Fabrications to repair the metal seat.

09/67 Traffic Matters

The meeting received reports of a number of Borough matters (pot holes).

09/68 GRANTS

The Clerk reported that there was one grant application for consideration. Wrockwardine and Admaston Table Tennis Club.

Following discussion Cllr. Powell proposed that a grant of £210.00 should be awarded; seconded by Cllr. Mrs Evans it was RESOLVED.

09/69 Street Lights

The meeting received a quote from e.on for the upgrade of existing street lights from time switch to PEC control. There were 48 street lights needing upgrade.

The proposed upgrade (because of the age of the existing lanterns) was:

To remove the existing lanterns and time switch control.

Supply and install a metal sleeve to prolong the life of the column.

Supply and install a Thorn Civic 70w Lantern or a Thorn Celest 36w

PLT Lantern complete with associated control gear, DP Isolator, rewire and PEC control.

The meeting considered three options, each with differing costs.

One off replacement (per lamp).

5 or more replaced at a time at a discount of 5%

10 or more replaced at a time with a 10% discount

It was agreed that the funds for the project had already been raised through the precept and lay in the balances of Council's funds. The meeting resolved to replace all 48 of the lamps at once. It was RESOLVED to employ e.on to complete the contract subject to the Clerk and Chairman requesting that e.on consider an increased discount for the work to be completed all at once.

The Clerk confirmed that the transaction was exempt from Council's Standing Orders to obtain three quotes because it fell under provision 11.1a (iii):

for work to be executed or goods or materials to be supplied which consist of repairs to or parts for existing machinery or equipment or plant.

09/70 Admaston House Trust

Cllr. Powell gave a report on the Trust's plans to reorganise the House toilets as part of the refurbishment.

The Clerk clarified the terms of the grant to the House agreed by the Parish Council. The Clerk was asked to place the grant funding of Admaston House on the next agenda.

09/71 Parish Improvements

a) Community Orchards

The Chairman stated that there was nothing to report but confirmed that he was to meet with officers of the Borough the following day to discuss the project and would report back to the September meeting.

b) Admaston Green

The meeting discussed the possible enhancement of Admaston Green; members were urged to consider what council could do to encourage use of the field.

Cllr. Powell asked about the use of the Green by private organised events. The meeting agreed that providing permission was sought, it was likely to be granted (subject to the event being of a reasonable nature) provided the organisers held public liability insurance.

c) Play Areas and Land

Ball Wall

The Chairman informed the meeting that he and Cllr. Mrs Savage had surveyed the playing field and agreed on a suitable location for the Ball Wall. The Chairman stated that he had had a meeting with representatives from the quarry and they had agreed to facilitate all the required ground work at their own cost provided the parish undertook to dig out and prepare the area for the hard standing first. It was RESOLVED to prepare the ground first and to accept the kind offer of ground work from the quarry. The meeting thanked the quarry for their donation of material.

The meeting agreed to contract Mr. Marsh to dig out the ground.

d)Walcot Play Ground

Concerns were expressed over the safety of children who were crossing the rail line inappropriately.

8.30 p.m. Cllr. Craik joined the meeting.

At the request of Cllr. Craik, the Chairman returned to the discussion of Admaston Green. Cllr. Craik reported concerns over a fire damaged tree on the Green. The Chairman stated that the tree had been inspected and was considered to be quite robust. It was agreed to leave the tree to recover, however it was agreed that if it did not survive, or became a danger, it would be removed.

Whiteways Drive

The meeting received reports that residents of Whiteways Drive were moving children off the area; the meeting expressed concern at this report and felt that, provided there was no antisocial behaviour, children had every right to use the area for play and if there was antisocial behaviour it should be reported to the police.

d) Provision of Allotments

The meeting was informed that the Borough Council had, in principle, agreed to extend the existing allotment area in Admaston but the Allotments Association had been unwilling to take on the extra responsibility without some assistance. The meeting agreed that any additional allotment provision should be encouraged by the Parish Council and it was RESOLVED to enter into discussions to see how the Parish could facilitate and encourage the additional provision.

e) Possible partnership footpath repairs

The meeting discussed concerns over the condition of a number of footpaths in the parish – no resolution was made.

09/72 Correspondence

1. Correspondence requiring a decision

T&WC LDP Surface Water Management – Cllr. Nadine Evans.

2. Correspondence not requiring a decision

Anonymous Attendance of Members. The meeting received an anonymous letter which observed that member's attendance at some council meetings was poor. Though at first disinclined to respond to an anonymous letter, the meeting instructed the Clerk to minute, since no direct communication could be held, that at the last election there was a need to co-opt members of council because there had been a general unwillingness, by electors, to get involved. The Clerk was asked to minute that Council was grateful to all of its members for their willingness to serve and for whatever time they were able to devote to serving their community. The meeting stated that it was disappointed that there had been a lack of enthusiasm from electors to put themselves forward to serve at the time of the election. Council was always keen to receive suggestions on how it might move forward.

T&WC Public rights of way maps. Noted.

St. C H.C. Letter of thanks for grant. Noted.

PCC Letter of thanks for grant. Noted.

T&WC Rural Road Budget. The meeting requested that the Borough consider improvements to the access road to Walcot bridge and improvements to the carriageway to facilitate a safe left turn on the eastbound carriageway by The Umbrella House.

CVS Newsletter – circulated.

