

WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 14th July 2010 at Wrockwardine Parish Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Cllr. – S.C. Rawlings - Chairman
Cllrs. Elaine Ballantyne, K. Ballantyne, E. Dawes, Nadine
Evans, D. Powell, Mrs Jo Savage and Sheila Turner.

Mr. M. Goldstraw – Clerk

Also present: PCSO Suzy Coombs and PCSO Lynn Prosser
Borough Cllr. Miss J. Seymour
Three residents of the parish.

10/44 Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.
The Chairman informed the meeting of the death of respected former Council member Mrs. Margaret Carver. Members expressed their sadness at the news and conveyed their condolences to the family.

10/45 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Kiernan.

The meeting received courtesy apologies from PC McPherson.

10/46 Police Report

PCSO Suzy Coombs presented the police report and answered questions.

7:39p.m. after being thanked for their attendance the PCSOs left the meeting.

10/47 Public Session

Mrs Hall, resident of Wrockwardine, asked what progress had been made towards the provision of a footpath on Station Road, Wrockwardine. The Chairman reported on the steps Council had taken.

Mr. Orrell, resident of Admaston, referring to the PC's attempts to obtain traffic data, presented a schedule of historic traffic data extracted from a number of census' all of which covered a 24 hour period. Council expressed their gratitude.

Mr. Orrell urged Council to investigate the ownership of the land previously set aside for the Admaston Bypass. The meeting briefly discussed the land and its possible uses. Mr. Orrell asked Council to be mindful of any impact future use of the former sugar beet factory site would have on the transport infrastructure.

10/48 Declaration of Interest

No additional declarations were made.

10/49 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th June 2010 were confirmed and signed, by the Chairman, as a true record.

10/50 Finance & General Purposes Committee

The meeting received the minutes of the meeting held on 30th June 2010. The following recommendations were considered:

Local Nature Reserve

To recommend to Council that it lends support to the concept of the proposed Nature Reserve but to make it clear that Council would not be content for the land recently acquired for allotments/orchard/ open space to be included in the designated site.

Following discussion it was resolved not to accept the recommendation of the F&GP Committee and to refer the matter back with a request that Committee consider if there is any statutory or practical impediment to the Local Nature Reserve being accepted in whole, including the recently acquired land.

Allotments

The meeting accepted all recommendations of the F&GP Committee subject to any amendments which may be necessary as a result of the debate to be had under item 8 of the agenda (Allotments).

10/51 Allotments

a) To consider the formation of an Allotments Committee and to appoint an interim Chair.

Following discussion Cllr. Nadine Evans proposed that an Allotments Committee be formed, said Committee to be a proper Committee of Council and as such fully subject to Council's Standing Orders and Audit procedures. Seconded by Cllr. Mrs Jo Savage it was RESOLVED.

The Chairman proposed that Cllr. Craik be appointed as interim Chair of the Allotments Committee. Seconded by Cllr. Ballantyne.

The meeting agreed to appoint two further members of the Committee in addition to Cllr. Rawlings who would serve ex officio as Chair of Council. Following discussion, Cllrs Mrs Sheila Turner and Nadine Evans were appointed to serve on the Committee.

It was agreed that the remaining members of the Committee should be co-opted from allotment holders and the number who should serve on the Committee should be determined by the Committee itself subject to approval by Council.

b) To consider an allocated budget for the Allotments Committee.
It was agreed that for the time being all costs of the Committee should be vired from the existing reserves of Council.

c) It was RESOLVED to join the National Society of Allotments and Leisure Gardens at a cost of £55 plus VAT per annum (Local Authority Membership).

Cllr. Ballantyne being mindful of the new Committee implications on the time of the Clerk proposed that Council should resolve to approve and fully fund any additional duties carried out by the Clerk in his capacity as Clerk to the Allotments Committee as instructed by the Parish Council: Seconded by Cllr. Mrs Elaine Ballantyne, it was RESOLVED.

10/52 Accounts for Payment

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

Statement 41 was tabled along with the reconciliation and was approved.

The meeting approved the following additional payments:

npower Ltd.	000431	£1037.72
Leon Kingston	000432	£65.00

Internal Audit

The following matters were discussed:

Fidelity Guarantee

Following discussion the meeting agreed that it was content with the present level of Fidelity Guarantee Insurance.

Asset Register

The Internal Auditor had noted that the Council's land holdings were shown as having a "nil" value. The meeting agreed that every piece of land in the custody of Council, whether owned freehold or leasehold, had no value as an asset because it could not be disposed of (even the freehold land had conditions of ownership that it remained in the ownership of the Council as public open space). Far from being an asset, the meeting agreed that in actual fact these land holdings could more properly be considered a liability.

Cllr. Ballantyne proposed that, solely in order to satisfy the audit, a value of 1pence could be placed on each of the land holdings: Seconded by Cllr.

Dawes it was RESOLVED.

Annual Governance Statement (Section 2 of the Annual Return)

The meeting re-visited the Annual Governance Statement. All points were confirmed as being the same as recorded and signed at the May meeting and the Clerk was instructed to minute the fact that Council did not need to revise its opinion as stated in minute 10/20.

10/53 Grants

The following grant applications were considered:

Mark's Pit Stop

Cllr. Powell proposed that a grant of £200 be made: Seconded by Cllr. Elaine Ballantyne it was RESOLVED.

Donnington Sports & Social ABC

Cllr. Dawes proposed that a grant of £50 be made. Seconded by Cllr. Powell it was RESOLVED. The Clerk was asked to record that there were four in favour of the proposition, one against and one abstention (Cllr. K. Ballantyne).

10/54 Budget 2011/12

Members were asked to consider any projects which would affect the budget for the forthcoming year. The meeting was reminded of the current financial climate.

10/55 Rural Matters

Rural Housing Needs Survey

The meeting heard that the survey was scheduled to be circulated in the "autumn".

10/56 Traffic Matters

a) Pedestrian Crossing Admaston

The Clerk reported that he had not yet received a response from Stuart Freeman but had received a copy of an email to Mr. Freeman from Nick Kitchen setting out Mr. Kitchen's response to the Parish Councils request for action.

Mr. Kitchen's points were discussed and it was agreed that Council still felt that the public had difficulty seeing the lights on the approach to the crossing. It was also noted that the crossing itself was badly in need of repainting. The meeting felt that a raised crossing might be a solution as the location was a 30 mph limit on a school route. The meeting could not understand why other crossings in similar locations had the benefit of build outs and speed camera signs. The Clerk was asked to put these points to the Borough along with a new request for a crossing on Shawbirch Road.

b) Proposal to commission independent interpretation of traffic data

The Clerk was asked to contact CA Traffic to obtain a specific quote to translate the data.

c) Provision of gateway features at entrances to Parish

There was nothing to report.

10/57 Newsletter

The meeting received the newsletter and Members agreed on its voluntary distribution.

10/58 Admaston House

Cllr. Sheila Turner gave a report on the Trust AGM.

10/59 Parish Improvements

To consider the acquisition of land forming the route of the proposed (proposal abandoned) bypass route for public open space.

The meeting discussed the possible acquisition and noted Mr. Orrell's comments given previously in the Public Session. The Chairman cautioned that with land acquisition always came the expense of maintaining and managing.

Cllr. Ballantyne suggested that Members voice their initial thoughts and then go away to think about it and come back in September to discuss the matter in full. The meeting accepted the suggestion and a discussion was then held.

Whiteways Drive

The Clerk reported that he had received assurance from Borough Officers that the possible acquisition of land at Whiteways Drive was still subject to the Borough establishing present ownership of the land.

10/60 Correspondence

1. Correspondence requiring a decision

T&WC

Suggestions for the Scrutiny work programme. It was suggested that the Committee could look at the time scales it gives for consultations. The Scrutiny letter was received after the June meeting of council and had a response date requirement before the July meeting of Council! Cllr. Miss Seymour stated that the response date was flexible.

Janette Hill & Co Solicitors

The Clerk reported that prior to the meeting he had dealt with correspondence from Janette Hill & Co (letter of claim against insurance alleging negligence) in regard to an incident which was had allegedly taken place in "Wrockwardine Parish Council Centre". The Clerk had, on behalf of Council, refused to accept any liability in the matter and informed the solicitor that Wrockwardine Parish Council owned no property where a function could be held. Mssrs Hill & Co had been informed that their client had most likely attended a function at Wrockwardine Wood & Trench Parish Council Centre.

2. Correspondence not requiring a decision

ALC

Parish Pump

10/61 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

- TWC/2010/0275 Hague House, Allscott, Shropshire, TF6 5EB Erection of single storey rear extension. There were no objections.
- TWC/2010/0287 The Old Cottage, Wrockwardine, Telford, Shropshire, TF6 5DG Replacement of rear patio door with new bi-folding door. There were no objections.
- TWC/2010/0278 Land off, Long Lane, Crudgington, Shropshire, TF6 6HD Erection of a single storey timber stable block and new ménage. There were no objections.
- TWC/2010/0318 Wrockwardine Farm, Wrockwardine. Internal and external alterations to Grade II listed building. Concerns were expressed over the nature of the work (bathroom). The Clerk was asked to contact the Planning Officer.
- TWC/2010/0323 Agropharm Ltd. Overley Hill Overley. Erection of two storey extension to provide mixing and packaging area. There were no objections.
- TWC/2010/0336 Teal House Allscott. Ground floor extension & first floor conversion to garage. There were no objections.

No permissions or refusals were received.

The meeting noted that the Borough Council had received notice of an appeal against refusal of permission (W2006/1012) for erection of a single storey rear extension including Juliet balcony above 30 Dulwich Grange Bratton.

It was also noted that the Borough Council had received notice of an appeal against refusal of permission (W2009/0920) for erection of a detached two storey dormer bungalow on land adjacent to Hollytree House Allscott.

Cllr. Ballantyne proposed that further planning matters be delegated to the Chairman and Clerk during the August recess. Seconded by Cllr. Elaine Ballantyne it was RESOLVED.

10/62 Press Statement

The Clerk was asked to provide a press statement.

10/63 Chairman's Closing Remarks

The Chairman thanked all for attending.

10/64 Next Meeting

Members were reminded that the next meeting of the Council was to be on Wednesday 8th September 2010 to commence at 7:30 p.m. at Admaston House.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:56 p.m.

Signed _____
Chairman

Date _____