

WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th June 2003 at
Wrockwardine Parish Hall at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:

Cllr. B. C. Brown - Chairman
Cllrs. K.J.S. Ballantyne, A. E. Cowling, A. Orrell, D. Powell, S.
Rawlings, and Mrs. J. Savage and Mrs. J. Watts
Mr. M. Goldstraw - Clerk

Also in attendance: Two members of the public.
Cllr. J. Seymour (Borough Councillor)

03/83 Chairman's remarks

The Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting.

03/84 Police Session

No police officer was present; members were informed that WPC McPherson had forwarded her apologies.

The Clerk brought to the attention of Members a Road Closure Order, which was to take effect at The Avenue, Wrockwardine on 28th June for the purpose of the Annual Fete.

03/85 Apologies for Absence

All Members were present. Courtesy apologies were received from Cllr. D. Blackwell, Borough Councillor.

03/86 Declaration of Interest

Cllr. Orrell asked that it be noted that he wished to declare an interest in all traffic matters relating to Station Road to the extent that he was a resident of said road.

03/87 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2003 were confirmed and signed, by the Chairman, as a true record.

03/88 Co-option of two Members of Council

The Clerk reported that following the close of the deadline set by Council for applications, there were four candidates for the two seats. The details of candidates having been circulated prior to the meeting, Members discussed the procedure to be adopted.

Cllr. Ballantyne proposed that; being aware of the details of all candidates, Members should go away, consider the applicants and return their votes to the Clerk within a week, on a first past the post basis. Seconded by Cllr. Cowling, the proposition was **resolved**.

Members agreed that there should be no canvassing or contact made between members or candidates on the matter before the co-option is complete.

03/89 Bus Shelter Routine Maintenance

The Clerk requested permission to instigate a programme of routine maintenance of all existing bus shelters as an interim measure whilst awaiting the eventual gradual replacement. Works to be carried out to the wooden shelters was to be cutting down of bramble, weeding and then a coat of preservative wood stain. Members agreed that the shelters were in need of attention and it was **resolved** that the Clerk should instruct the handyman to undertake the maintenance.

Cllr. Ballantyne asked Members to consider/clarify their intentions as to the damaged shelter (now in storage) which was on the B5061 at Overly. Members discussed the possibility of refurbishing the shelter and moving it to Wrekin View Wrockwardine. Cllr. Ballantyne informed the meeting that a new shelter would cost in the region of £4-5k . Members discussed the funding options along with the usage of the shelter at Overly. The Clerk informed the meeting that since the shelter at Overly had been removed, there had been no requests for its reinstatement.

Cllr. Ballantyne proposed that Council resolve to remove the shelter from the B5061 and relocate it in Wrekin View Wrockwardine. Cllr. Ballantyne stated that he would make representation to T&WC for funding with the Parish Council setting aside up to £250 out of its budget if costs go above the £1k, which was envisaged, would come from T&WC. Seconded by Cllr. Cowling, it was **resolved that the shelter should be relocated from the B5061 to Wrekin View with £250 set aside from the budget to cover costs in the event that said costs were above the £1k which was envisaged would come from T&WC.** [Two Members abstained from the vote.]

03/90 Youth Shelter

Cllr. Rawlings gave Members a report which updated the meeting on the Progress of the Working Group. The Group had requested an indication from Council as to the choice of colour and preferred location. Members were content that the shelter be located on Admaston Green.

Cllr. Orrell proposed that Council accept that the Working Group is empowered to decide the type of shelter, including seats and bins as discussed along with the position of the shelter. Seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Watts, it was **resolved.**

Cllr. Orrell extended his personal thanks to Cllr. Rawlings for his work with the youngsters of the Parish. The Meeting endorsed the thanks.

03/91 Flag Code

Cllr. Cowling proposed that: The Wrockwardine Parish Council is concerned that T&W Borough Council continue to fly each day the European Flag on its centre flag pole with their Council's emblems on each side in contravention of

the National Protocol on the flying of flags.

The Department of Culture, Media and Sport and the Flag Institute advise that the European flag should only be flown with the National Flag as well and the Union Flag should be flown on the centre or higher of the flagpoles; the Union flag, therefore, takes precedence.

This Parish Council therefore calls upon the Borough Council forthwith to conform to the National Protocol on all occasions and end its apparent contempt for the Union flag of Great Britain.

The proposition having been seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Watts was **resolved**.

03/92 Traffic and Transport Matters

The Clerk reported that Council was still awaiting a reply from T&WC to the letter about the Local Plan. Cllr. Ballantyne felt that the matter was not getting very far and that the public was sick and tired of the Borough's procrastination. He felt that things needed to be moving forward to some sort of action to focus the minds of the Highways Authority. He asked Members to consider forming a working group to co-ordinate some form of lawful action.

The Chairman informed the meeting that he had contacted businesses on the main routes to request a meeting in the hope that haulage contractors would be sympathetic to the aims of Council and join in the campaign to find a solution.

Cllr. Ballantyne stated that he was concerned that if Council did not make an attempt to co-ordinate the public, they would take matters in their own hands.

Cllr. Orrell reminded the meeting of the formalities of the future Local Plan. Council had no duty to alert T&WC of any impending problems and the Parish Council was on top of the procedure and was ready to react at the appropriate time.

Cllr. Ballantyne stated that had attempted to draw to the attention of the Parish Council the serious feelings of the public in this matter. The parishioners, he reported, "are sick to death of their problems being ignored by T&WC".

03/93 Land at Station Road

The Clerk reminded the meeting that the land acquired from E.P. at Station Road was, by status, agricultural land and the condition of the gift from E.P. was that it should be used as public open space. It was therefore necessary to apply for planning permission for a change of use. As a Local Authority, the Parish Council would receive a discount from T&WC on the application fee. The Clerk requested permission to incur the expenditure.

Members **resolved** that the application should be undertaken and approved the associated costs. [Cllr. Orrell abstained from voting having advised Council that this land was originally earmarked for the western end of Admaston by-

pass and that he had originally abstained from the vote for the purchase of the land]

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Rawlings for voluntarily cutting the grass on the Station Road site and informed Members that Leaton Quarry had donated large granite stones for Admaston Green and Station Road.

Members discussed a possible name for the land at Station Road. It was agreed that an appropriate name should be taken from the owners noted upon ancient tithe maps of the land.

The meeting heard that Mr. Johnson, the fencing contractor, would shortly begin work but had anticipated a months delay (birds nesting).

03/94 Parish Plans

Cllr. Ballantyne requested that the matter be put over until the next meeting. This was agreed.

03/95 Admaston House

Cllr. Cowling drew Members attention to a suspicion that Admaston House had (allegedly) decided that they would not now entirely resurface the car park but instead patch it. Cllr. Cowling reminded the meeting that the £4k grant from Council had been to resurface the car park and had been approved following a request by the Trust who had submitted quotes for complete resurfacing. Cllr. Cowling requested that Council demand that the full £4k be returned as the Trust had failed to use the money as promised.

Following discussion, it was **resolved** that a letter should be sent post haste to the Trust making it clear that the grant must be used entirely and only for the purpose of resurfacing the car park in its entirety and for no other purpose. If the Trust did not use the money in such a way, Council would expect its immediate return.

Cllr. Ballantyne asked if a Member of Council would be prepared to stand as Parish Representative on the Trust Cllr. Cowling volunteered and the meeting approved.

9. 16 p.m. Cllr. Miss Seymour left the meeting.

03/96 Vital Villages

Admaston Station

Cllr. Ballantyne presented a report on the Admaston station feasibility study and requested that: Cllr. Ballantyne be authorised to sign all and any necessary documents, other than any documents approving payment to be made, for and on behalf of the Council in furtherance of the approved feasibility study of Admaston Railway Station.

Seconded by Cllr. Cowling, it was **resolved**.

The Chairman signed the application for grant funding towards the cost of the

studies.

Parish Logo

Members agreed that the request should be placed in the first edition of the Parish Newsletter.

Newsletter

Members discussed quotes that had been received for the printing of the newsletter. The quotes were £685, £671, £507 and £750. Members preferred the contractor quoting £750 but felt that the quote could be renegotiated to £671 (possibly). The Meeting agreed that the quote could be accepted after renegotiations and authority to accept was delegated to the Clerk after consultation with the Chairman.

03/97 Correspondence

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| T&WC | Reply to letter re Traffic matters – dealt with earlier in meeting. |
| Jordan's Solicitors | Application by Guy Charles Jenner (Plough Inn) for a Justices Licence. There were no objections to the application. The Clerk was asked to write to the Clerk to the Justices pointing out that most often, these kinds of notices were received by Council too late for the matter to be discussed in good time for a response to reach the hearing. |
| St. Peters Church | Grant application. Members considered a request by the PCC to assist in the funding of grounds maintenance and lighting of the church. Cllr. Cowling proposed that a grant of £1300 be made, to be split 50/50 between maintenance and lighting. Seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Watts, it was resolved . |
| St. Peters Church | Members considered a second application from the PCC to provide much needed funds for remedial maintenance to the fabric of the building and stained glass windows. Members resolved to take no action for the present time but to request further information from the PCC. |
| W'dine MM Cttee | Members considered a request from the Millennium Committee (Wrockwardine) for a grant towards the production of their fund raising calendar. Cllr. Orrell proposed that a grant of £50 be allowed. Seconded by Cllr. Ballantyne, it was resolved that a grant of £50 be made. |
| Wrekin Jnrs | Members discussed a request from Wrekin Juniors Football Team to use the football pitch along with a request for the pitch to be improved. The Clerk was |

asked to investigate the cost of putting the pitch into a good standard.

SALC	Standards Board Seminar 19/6/03 – noted.
CPRE	Transport Campaign Group – noted.
Mr. J. Overall	Request for support over a future application for development at land at Charlton. Members agreed that it would not be proper to consider a representation by the applicant for a planning application without having first considered any such application without prejudice.
C/A	Good Councillors Guide – Cllr. Rawlings.

03/98 Planning Matters

Members considered the following applications:

W03/0525	Erection of a single storey extension and conservatory to rear Spinners Court Shawbirch. There were no objections.
W03/0568	Erection of two storey rear extension. 28 Shawbirch Road, Admaston. There were no objections.
W03/0370	Proposed extension to mineral extraction and amendment to existing conditions (W88/0206). Leaton Quarry, Leaton. There were no objections.

Members noted the following permissions:

W03/0432	Proposed two storey side extension 3 Aldermead Close Admaston.
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03/99 Accounts for Payment

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

Statement 117 was tabled along with the reconciliation and was approved.

Accounts for the year ending 31/3/03

The Clerk presented the completed accounts for the approval of Council.

Cllr. Orrell presented to the meeting an analysis of the accounts and proposed that the years accounts as prepared by the Clerk be accepted for forwarding to the Internal Auditor. Seconded by Cllr. Rawlings, it was **resolved to accept the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2003 as prepared by the Clerk (Responsible Financial Officer).**

Members went through the Audit submission and were content that the form

could be signed as correct, by the Chairman, on behalf of Members. The Chairman signed the audit submission.

Members approved payment to Mr. Powell, handyman, for cementing in place the rubbish bin.

03/100 Reports

- Cllr. Mrs. Savage - Reported that the bridge over the Bean Brook needing repair.
- Cllr. Orrell - Reported on his attendance at the SALC Wrekin Area Committee meeting. He was concerned with the process and discussion and asked Council to review his report more fully at the next meeting.
- Cllr. Cowling - Stated that he was concerned that Council does not have a reporter from the Shropshire star in attendance at meetings and Press reports were rarely reported. The Clerk stated that the Star always had copies of the agenda in good time to allow a reporter to attend. It was noted that Cllr. Ballantyne had received more success with the Journal.

03/101 Press Statement

The Clerk was asked to copy the letter re flag etiquette to the newspaper.

03/102 Next Meeting

The Chairman reminded members that the next meeting of the Council was scheduled for Wednesday, 9th July 2003 to commence at **7.30 p.m.** at Admaston House

The meeting closed at 10.40 p.m.

Signed _____
Chairman

Date _____