

## WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9th May 2001 at Admaston House Community Centre, Admaston at 7.30 p.m.

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**Present:** Cllr. Mrs R. Hargrave - Chairman.  
Cllrs. K.J.S. Ballantyne, A. Orrell, , V.M.E. Holt  
Mrs E.S. Jones, D. Powell and Mrs. J. Savage.  
Mr. M. Goldstraw - Clerk  
Also in attendance: One member of the public.

#### **01/70 Election of Chairman**

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and calling for nominations for the Chair.

Cllr. Holt thanked Cllr. Mrs. Hargrave for her service in the Chair over the past year, and proposed that Cllr. Mrs. Hargrave be re elected as Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Jones. Following a vote, it was resolved unanimously that Cllr. Mrs. Hargrave be re elected as Chairman.

#### **01/71 Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

The Chairman signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

#### **01/72 Election of Vice Chairman**

The Chairman proposed that Cllr. Brown continue to be Vice Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Jones. The vote was taken and it was resolved that Cllr. Brown be re elected as Vice Chairman.

#### **01/73 Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

The Vice Chairman signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

#### **01/74 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr. Rawlings and Cllr. Mrs. Carver. Members offered sympathy for the recurring health problems currently suffered by Cllr. Mrs. Carver and the Clerk was asked to convey their best wishes.  
Cllr. Mrs. Jones asked that advance apologies be presented on her behalf for the next meeting of the Council.

#### **01/75 Declaration of Interest**

No declarations were made.

#### **01/76 Committees**

Members discussed in depth the possible need for committees within the Council.

7.35 p.m. Cllr. Brown joined the meeting.

Cllr Orrell highlighted areas where the council's work load could be increased

over the coming months and reminded Members that the business of the council often continued, at present, until quite late in the evening.

Cllr. Holt expressed concern that committees would be duplicating the work of the council.

The Chairman asked members to consider the creation of committees as and when the need arose.

Cllr. Brown referred to the value of the work undertaken by Cllr. Orrell regarding transport/highway matters and urged that the council take on board his view on the need for a committee to deal with these matters.

Cllr. Orrell gave details of work undertaken and stated that the council would need to draw up positive plans on how it intended to deal with issues likely to arise.

Cllr. Powell stated that both Transport matters and Admaston House issues needed committees.

Following further discussion, Members agreed that a working group should be formed to deal with Transport/Highway matters as they arise and that membership of the group should be Cllrs. Orrell, Ballantyne, and Mrs. Savage. It was further agreed that Cllr. Orrell would monitor activities in these areas and call a meeting of the group when it was felt appropriate.

No action to be taken over the formation of a committee for Admaston House.

## **01/77 Meetings of the Council**

### **a) Meetings**

Members were presented with a list of future meetings of the Council.

Cllr. Holt moved that the dates be accepted as presented. Members agreed.

Cllr. Orrell expressed concern that there was no provision to hold meetings in the month of August which could cause difficulties in planning matters.

Cllr. Holt explained that the month of August had always been left vacant to allow for holidays and avoid meetings being inquorate. It had always been the case that planning matters during the month were dealt with under delegated powers by the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

The Clerk explained that he had been in the practice of informing Members by post of the details of all planning applications during the month of August to allow for comments or objections in good time.

Cllr. Brown stated that if a contentious matter arose, the Chairman could always call a meeting.

It was agreed that the status quo should be maintained.

Cllr. Ballantyne asked that appropriate arrangements be made for an alternative venue should Admaston House close.

### **b) Public Session**

Members gave consideration to the provision of a Public Session prior to meetings.

Following discussion, Cllr. Holt proposed that there be no Public Session and the council continues to hold meetings in the present format. Seconded by Cllr.

Mrs. Jones.

Following a vote, there were four Members in favour of the proposition and four Members against. The Chairman used her casting vote in favour of the proposition and it was resolved that there be no Public session and the council continues to hold meetings in the present format.

c) Indication of Member wishing to speak

Resolved to take no action.

d) Suitability of current meeting places as venues for meetings

Members agreed that as it was now possible to open a window at Admaston House, all venues were considered suitable.

#### **01/78 Section 137 Grants**

a) Request for annual or biannual review of Grants

It was proposed by Cllr. Orrell and seconded by Cllr. Ballantyne that the Council restrict the consideration of Grants to once or twice a year. Following discussion, this was resolved.

b) "Factoring" of Grants

Members gave consideration to the "factoring" of a small percentage of its grant budget to the Telford & Wrekin Trust. There was no will to do so and it was resolved to take no action.

#### **01/79 Annual subscriptions**

Cllr. Holt moved that the annual subscriptions as listed on the Agenda be approved on block. This was seconded by Cllr. Orrell. It was resolved that the annual subscriptions as listed on the Agenda be approved on block.

#### **01/80 Appointment of representatives to outside bodies**

a) W.A.C. (S.A.P.T.C.) - The Clerk

b) Bus User Group(s) - Rural -Cllr. Ballantyne, Urban - Cllr. Orrell.

c) Primary school - Members were unanimous in their appreciation of the work carried out as governor of St. Peter's by Mr. Oldham-Malcolm and his continuation was wholeheartedly endorsed.

d) Small Communities Liaison Group - The Clerk reported that this had been placed on the agenda at the request of the councils of Roddington and Little Wenlock but that the group had not yet been formed due to various illnesses etc. It was agreed that the Clerk report to the council as and when the group was to be formed.

e) Admaston House Trust - Cllr. Orrell stated that if the council wanted an observer to the work of the Trust, he was content to do so, but did not wish to be a Trustee.

The Chairman suggested that the council could inform the Trust that we are unable to provide a Trustee but would be content to provide an observer. This was put as a proposition by Cllr. Mrs. Jones and seconded by Cllr. Holt.

It was resolved that the council offer an observer to A.H.T.

The Chairman expressed concern over public perception of the true situation

due to recent biased reports in local press. Cllr. Orrell stated that he was not a party to either side and held an unbiased view.

The Chairman stated that it was not the wish of this council to be vindictive, indeed the council held the view that the Community Centre should be supported and it was the intention of the council to try to work with the Trust. Cllr. Powell defended the actions of the Trust and stated that the Trust had not written the articles in the press. A great deal of care had been taken to give both sides of the argument.

Cllr. Brown challenged the view that the results of the questionnaire favoured AHT and declared that it was self evident that the articles had been substantially driven by AHT.

#### **01/81 Police Report**

The Clerk was asked to request that PC Palmer get in touch with Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators.

#### **01/82 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 11th April 2001 were confirmed and signed, by the Chairman, as a true record.

Cllr. Brown thanked the Clerk for his assistance, as Clerk, whilst he (Cllr. Brown) had been in the Chair for both the Annual Parish Meeting and Council Meeting.

#### **01/83 Matters arising out of the Minutes**

##### **(a) Dog Fouling**

Members discussed the provision of signs and agreed that it would be prudent to test their effectiveness. It was agreed to order twenty signs as a trial. The Clerk agreed to ask Dawley Hamlets Parish Council, who were to order a substantial quantity of signs, if, in the interest of economy, this council could order the signs through them.

#### **01/84 Electoral Review**

Cllr. Ballantyne gave an update and answered questions fielded by Members.

Cllr. Ballantyne stated that it was unfortunate that the Unitary councillors had been unable to attend the meeting as it would have been useful to have heard their views. If they wished to make representation, it would be right to support their view.

#### **01/85 Street Light Survey**

The Clerk reported that there were a number of issues relating to street lights which the council needed to address. There was however, no accurate record of the lights in control of the council. Members agreed to assist in a Street Light inventory.

The Clerk handed to the meeting an inventory form and it was agreed that Cllrs. Brown, Ballantyne and Orrell carry out a survey of Admaston and Cllrs Holt and Mrs. Savage cover the Wrockwardine area.

### **01/86 Traffic/ Transport/ Highway Matters**

Cllr. Orrell reported that it had come to his attention that a draft report from Babtie (which had stated that it was not for the public domain) had been freely sent by T&WC to a local group. In view of the fact that this council had been party to requesting the report and had called for a public enquiry, why, he asked had this council not had a report.

The Clerk was asked to place the matter on the agenda for the next meeting and in the mean time, request a copy of any report from Babtie.

Cllr. Orrell gave details over a meeting with Bob King and Andrew Careless to discuss the footpath at Cheshire Coppice Lane. Originally they had stated that the path had not officially existed, but Cllr. Orrell was able to produce evidence after which they agreed to go back to their archives.

It was found that the path known as FP6 had never in fact actually been closed and therefore officially remains open. This is where there is a current application to put two houses. The matter was being looked into.

Cllr. Orrell was thanked for his diligence.

### **01/87 Correspondence**

Consideration was given to the following correspondence:-

1. Telford & Wrekin Council -

(a) Agenda and Minutes - noted.

(b) Hosting of Environmental Services - noted.

(c) Draft review of Air Quality Consultation - Cllr Orrell.

(d) Copy of Transport Letter Mrs Meredith - discussed in traffic matters.

(e) Foot & Mouth Update - noted.

Wrockwardine Parish

Hall Committee Annual Report - presented by Cllr. Mrs Savage - to be circulated.

Various There were various letters from the public all expressing the same concerns over Admaston House and its future, it was apparent from the identical nature of their content that they were an orchestrated campaign. The Chairman summarised the concerns expressed in the letters.

Members once again entered into the debates on Admaston House. The Clerk was asked to reply to the letters reiterating the Parish council's held view.

Telford Sea Cadets Letter of thanks for grant.

Golden Age Club Letter of thanks for grant.

Wrockwardine PCC Letter of thanks for grant.

W. Millennium Cttee Letter of thanks for grant.

C. Therapy Trust Letter of thanks for grant.

C.V.S Newsletter - Cllr. Mrs. Savage

C.P.R.E. Update - Cllr. Brown

## **01/89 Planning Matters**

### **(a) Applications**

There were no applications or permissions to be put to the council.

Cllr. Ballantyne gave a report on the council's response to the planning appeal ref: W2000/0659. A copy of the letter prepared by Cllr. Ballantyne on behalf of the Parish Council was handed to the Clerk for the record.

The Clerk, who had previously had site of the letter, thanked Cllr. Ballantyne, stating that the letter presented a well informed and reasoned argument to support this council's original view that the application should be refused. The meeting thanked Cllr. Ballantyne.

## **01/90 Accounts for Payment**

Cllr. Ballantyne, as a recipient of approved travel expenses, abstained and took no part in item 01/90 of the minutes.

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

Statement 92 was tabled along with the reconciliation and was approved.

## **01/91 Grant Applications**

All grant applications were put in abeyance due to an earlier decision of the council.

## **01/92 Reports**

Cllr. Ballantyne -

Reported that an area of the Silkin Way adjacent to Admaston Spa had reverted to little more than a rubbish tip. The Clerk was asked to point out to T&WC that they have a duty under the Environmental Protection Act to clear it up.

Cllr. Mrs. Jones -

Reported that T&WC had at long last repaired Z8 highway light. Asked if the council could request, an extension to the pavement on Shawbirch Road. Reported drainage problems on Silkin Way.  
Requested early attention to the provision of daffodil bulbs later in the season.

Cllr. Orrell -

Reported continuing problems with drains outside 46 Station Road.

Cllr. Holt -

Reported pot holes in Charlton and Wrockwardine Road. In addition, Cllr. Holt expressed concern that T&WC had still not

solved the problem of pot holes on their car park at Admaston House.

**01/93 Press Statement**

It was agreed that the Clerk report its meeting schedule for the next twelve months and its continued support of Admaston House as a venue for its meetings.

**01/94 Next Meeting**

The Chairman reminded members that the next meeting of the Council was scheduled for Wednesday, 13th June 2001 to commence at 7.30 p.m. at Wrockwardine Parish Hall, Wrockwardine.

The meeting closed at 10.25 p.m.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman