

WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 14th May 2003 at
Admaston House, Admaston at 7.00 p.m.**

Present:

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

Also in attendance: Six members of the public.
Cllr. D. Blackwell (Borough Councillor)

All Members signed their Declarations of acceptance of Office prior to the commencement of the meeting.

03/62 Chairman's remarks

The Chairman welcomed all present to the first meeting of the first meeting of Council following the elections.

The Chairman asked members to note that he had long served the Council and although now re-elected for a new term was considering standing down from the office of Parish Councillor in the summer. He would, he stated, continue to serve Council to the best of his ability until then.

03/63 Election of Chairman

Cllr. Brown called for nominations for Chairmanship of Council.

Cllr. Orrell remarked that the Chairman's announcement of his possible future resignation had taken everyone by surprise but (in the hope that he would reconsider and continue to serve) would none the less still like to propose him for the Chair.

Cllr. Orrell proposed that Cllr. Brown be elected to serve as Chairman of Council. Seconded by Cllr. Ballantyne, there being no other nominations, it was RESOLVED that Cllr. Brown be Chairman of Council.

03/64 Chairman to sign Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr. Brown signed the Declaration of acceptance of the Office of Chairman.

03/65 Election of Vice Chairman

The Chairman called for nominations for Vice Chairman of Council.

Cllr. Powell proposed that Cllr. Ballantyne be elected to serve as Vice Chairman of Council. Seconded by Cllr. Rawlings, there being no other nominations, it was RESOLVED that Cllr. Ballantyne be Vice Chairman of Council.

03/66 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. Mrs. J. Watts and Cllr. E. A. Cowling. Courtesy apologies were received from Cllr. Miss J. Seymour (Borough Councillor).

03/67 Declaration of Interest

Cllr. Orrell informed the meeting that he had an interest in the matter of the planning application for St.Christophers Hall that was restricted to that of his residence in an adjacent property.

Cllr. Ballantyne informed the meeting that he had an expense claim which was to be put before Council. In addition, he drew to the attention of the meeting the fact that he lived next door to one of the applicants (planning permission).

Cllr. Ballantyne renewed his declarations which had stood previously and added the information that he acted as Chair to the local CPRE group.

Cllr. Powell reminded members that he acted as secretary to Admaston House Trust.

03/68 Police Report

The Clerk informed the meeting that WPC McPherson had forwarded her apologies.

03/69 Co-option of two Members of Council

The Clerk informed the Meeting that there had been eight Members re-elected unopposed to Council and this obviously meant that there were two vacancies to be filled by co-option.

It was agreed that Members would do their best to encourage local electors to apply for the vacancies and the Clerk was asked to place notices in the parish. Members agreed to set the deadline for applications as the next meeting of Council on Wednesday 11th June.

03/70 Committees/Working Groups

Members agreed that the following Working Groups, along with their respective Membership, should continue:

Jubilee Working Group, Transport Working Group, Newsletter Group, Youth Project and Street Lighting Working Group.

03/71 Meetings of Council

It was agreed that Council should continue to meet on the second Wednesday of each month with the exception of August with the meetings alternating between Admaston House and Wrockwardine Parish Hall.

03/72 Annual Subscriptions

Members agreed to the payment of the following annual subscriptions which will become due during the year:

Insurance renewal, SAPTC, SAPTC WAC, CPRE.

The Clerk asked Members to set time aside to review the present insurance policy.

03/73 Appointment of Representatives to outside bodies.

Wrekin Area Committee (SAPTC) – The Clerk explained that he would normally be pleased to represent Council on this committee but was unable to do so at the next meeting. Cllr. Orrell agreed to attend the next meeting on behalf of Council.

Rural Transport Committee – Cllr. Ballantyne

Urban Transport Committee – Cllr. Orrell

St.Peters Primary School – Members agreed to let the present nominee remain.

Small Communities Liaison Group – in abeyance.

Admaston House Trust – Cllr. Orrell informed the meeting that he wished to stand down. It was agreed to leave the appointment unfilled for the present.

Cllr. Powell informed the meeting that Council could if it wished appoint a Trustee to AHT if it wished.

Parish Paths Partnerships – Members thanked Cllr. Orrell for his achievements in this committee. Cllr. Orrell was asked to serve again and agreed.

03/74 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th April 2003 were confirmed and signed, by the Chairman, as a true record.

03/75 Traffic and Transport Matters

Cllr. Orrell updated the meeting on matters relating to Maidens yard. The Clerk was asked to investigate the terms of the Operators Licence for the site.

Members discussed the fees in relation to the questionnaire carried out on the possibility of re-opening the Railway Halt at Admaston along with the formalities of reclaiming the fees from the Countryside Agency. Cllr. Ballantyne agreed to contact Dianne Whittingham (T&WC) to obtain the necessary forms to enable the Clerk to reclaim the fees.

8.27 p.m. Chairman suspended Standing Orders to allow the members of the public present to make representations (on traffic matters) to Members.

Members heard that residents of Charlton were suffering from the consequences of recent traffic work and the re-routing of Kidderminster Sugar Beet traffic. Many vehicles were so large they could not get under the low bridge and were having to reverse back through Charlton. There had been a noticeable increase in HGV traffic through the hamlet with the result that the verges were being eroded and life in general was becoming most difficult for residents.

The Chairman gave a brief outline of Council's endeavours to bring all parties together to find a solution. Members were informed that residents had written to Gerry Harvey and Peter Bradley MP.

The Chairman informed the public present that all they had said had been noted by Members and Council would continue to press for a solution.

8.46 p.m. Standing Orders were reinstated.

Cllr. Ballantyne presented a report of the findings of the Admaston Halt

survey, the results of which showed that support for such a scheme was strong and recommending that Council should move to a feasibility study. Cllr. Ballantyne assured Council that he had made an application for £10k grant from the Countryside Agency subject to Council's approval.

Cllr. Orrell commented upon the structure of the grants and informed Members that if the fees were paid out of the present years funding, it would have to be set against the reserves.

Cllr. Ballantyne proposed that Council make up to £3333.00 including any under spend for this year on the survey and authorise himself to proceed with the negotiations with the Countryside Agency. Seconded by Cllr. Powell, the proposition was resolved.

9.10 p.m. The Chairman moved to item 17 on the Agenda (Planning Matters) and suspended Standing Orders to allow the public to address Members.

The Meeting heard objections to the proposal to develop land at the rear of St. Christopher's Hall.

9.27 p.m. Standing Orders were re-instated.

03/76 Planning Matters

Members considered the following applications:

W03/0379 Proposed residential development (outline) land at rear of St.Christophers Hall.
It was resolved to object to the application.

W03/0432 Proposed two storey side extension 3 Aldermead Close Admaston. There were no objections.

W03/0425 Erection of a pitched roof, 2, 4 Sutton Road Admaston. The Clerk was asked to request that the roof be constructed of small grey plain tiles (not concrete pantiles) at as lower pitch as possible. Members felt that if this request was ignored, the roof would be very intrusive to the whole of Admaston.

W03/0473 Erection of single storey side extension Roseberry Allscott. There were no objections.

Members noted the following permissions:

W03/0242 Erection of conservatory to rear 52 Burnell Road

W03/0216 Erection of conservatory Stream Cottage Wrockwardine Bank.

W03/1069 Listed building consent conversion of buildings etc. Church Farm.

W03/1068 Planning consent conversion of buildings etc.
Church Farm.

03/77 Vital Villages

a) Parish Logo

Members agreed to take no action

b) Newsletter

Cllr. Ballantyne gave a report on the progress of the newsletter funding and asked Members to accept the offer of funding from the Countryside agency and authorise him to sign the application papers on behalf of Council.

Cllr. Orrell proposed Council accept the C/A offer of funding and authorise

Cllr. Ballantyne to sign on behalf of Council. Seconded by Cllr. Rawlings, it was resolved.

Cllr. Ballantyne asked members to provide editorial contributions.

03/78 Station Road

Members discussed the problem of weeds on the newly acquired land. Cllr.

Rawlings informed the meeting that he could deal with the matter on a voluntary basis with the approval of Council.

Members resolved to allow Cllr. Rawlings to deal with the weeds on the site. [Cllr. Ballantyne voted against].

The Chairman informed the meeting that Leaton Quarry had agreed to donate two large pieces of granite for use as monumental stones on the sites of Admaston Green and the land at Station Road.

Members discussed the possible cost of carving inscriptions on the stones. The Clerk agreed to obtain quotes as and when the stones were in situ.

03/79 Correspondence

Admaston House Request for permission to place a soak hole on Admaston Green to deal with excess water on the car park. Members agreed to allow a soak hole on the land provided AHT remain responsible for all costs that arise.

AHT	Admaston House News
SPFA	Play Equipment & Annual Inspections
SALC	Meeting for new Councillors
St Peters Primary	Copy of letter to Schools Safety Officer in response to Councils letter re. Footpaths.
W MM Com	Request to build a BMX track. Members were concerned over the safety of this and declined to give permission.
MCC	Consultation paper Petty Sessional division
C/A	Parish Plans Guidance – Cllr. Ballantyne asked for the matter to be placed on the next agenda.

03/80 Accounts for Payment

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

Statement 116 was tabled along with the reconciliation and was approved.

[Cllr. Ballantyne took no part in the proceedings relating to the accounts]

Members were informed that the date of Audit was set as 2nd July 2003 and accounts would be available to Council for approval at the next meeting.

03/81 Reports

Cllr Powell - Informed the meeting that Admaston House car park would be closed on the following Monday to allow for tree felling.

Cllr. Mrs. Savage - Reported pot holes in Wrockwardine. Informed the meeting that the benches were almost ready.

Cllr. Orrell - Commented upon the way T&WC deal with complaints over pot holes in relation to insurance claims for damage. Informed the meeting that Council has requested a further meeting with officers of T&WC to try to progress the relief road matter. Expressed concern a recent article in Local Council Review which praised Parish Councils for “reclaiming Powers” stating that this was little more than a ploy by larger authorities to deploy double taxation.

Cllr. Rawlings - Gave a report on the progress of Youth Shelters.

Cllr. Ballantyne - Reported police matters. Requested that Cllr. Orrell mention to Bob King the overgrown nature of the footpath at Bratton Village.

03/82 Next Meeting

The Chairman reminded members that the next meeting of the Council was scheduled for Wednesday, 11th June 2003 to commence at **7.30 p.m.** at Wrockwardine Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 10.45 p.m.

Signed _____
Chairman

Date _____