

## **WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2007 at  
Admaston House at 7.30 p.m.**

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### **Present:**

Cllr. – K.J.S. Ballantyne – Chairman  
Cllrs. M. Craik, T. Kiernan, S. Rawlings and Mrs Jo Savage.  
Mr. M. Goldstraw – Clerk

Also in attendance: CSO Suzy Coombs.  
One Member of the Public [Mr. E. Dawes]

*[All Councillors present at the meeting signed their Declarations of acceptance of  
Office prior to taking their seat]*

### **07/01 Election of Chairman**

Cllr. Ballantyne took the Chair in his right as outgoing Chairman and welcomed all. He congratulated all Members of Council upon being re-elected to serve another term.

Cllr. Ballantyne called for nomination to the office of Council Chairman. Cllr. Rawlings proposed that Cllr. Ballantyne should be re-elected to serve as Chairman of Council for the forthcoming year. The proposition was seconded by Cllr. Craik.

Cllr. Ballantyne asked if there were any other nominations; there were no other nominations.

Cllr. Ballantyne called for a vote. It was RESOLVED unanimously that Cllr. Ballantyne be re-elected to the office of Chairman of Council. [Cllr. Ballantyne did not vote.]

### **07/02 Chairman to sign Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

Cllr. Ballantyne signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office (Chairman).

### **07/03 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies along with reasons for absence were received and accepted from Cllr. Powell.

Courtesy apologies were received from WPC McPherson and Borough Councillor J. Seymour.

### **07/04 Code of Conduct**

Members reviewed the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 which came into effect on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2007. The Clerk informed the meeting that they had six months to adopt the Code but there were some elements within it which could be ignored by Parish Councils. The Clerk recommended that Council adopt the Code as published but with the following elements omitted:

- a) Paragraph 7 (which refers to members having regard to advice from their Chief Financial Officer and the Monitoring Officer when coming to any

decision).

- b) The various references to executives, area committees and overview and scrutiny committees.

Cllr. Rawlings proposed that the Code be accepted as amended in the advice given by the Clerk. The proposition was seconded by Cllr. Craik. RESOLVED unanimously.

#### **07/05 Election of Vice Chairman**

Cllr. Kiernan requested that Members consider the following resolution:

*“That to allow for the participation of the whole Council, the election of Vice Chairman be deferred until after the Co-option of four Councillors to fill the vacancies arising out of the recent election.”*

The Chairman called for a seconder to the proposition. There was no immediate seconder so the Chairman agreed to second the proposition in order to facilitate the debate.

Cllr. Rawlings stated that he was concerned over the time scale. The Clerk informed the meeting that Council had to co-opt within 35 days of the Council coming into being following the election.

Cllr. Craik stated that he could see why the proposition had been put but he had a quasi-democratic objection. He felt that those Members present had been elected and therefore it was those who had put themselves forward [for election] who should have a say. He further stated that there had been an election which had been properly advertised and people had made a choice at that time whether they wanted to be a Councillor or not.

Cllr. Craik felt that it was perfectly proper for the five members present to vote a Vice Chairman into office.

Cllr. Mrs Savage felt that there was no point in waiting as she didn't know who the people were who might be co-opted. She stated that if she had been recently co-opted she would not want to be elected as Vice Chair.

The Chairman put the proposition to a vote:

For: one member (Cllr. Kiernan)

Against: three members.

The proposition was lost – three votes to one. The Chairman did not cast a vote.

The Chairman called for nominations to the Office of Vice Chairman.

Cllr. Craik proposed that Cllr. Rawlings be appointed Vice Chairman. The proposition was seconded by Cllr. Mrs Jo Savage.

There were no other nominations.

The votes were two in favour, one against and one abstention. It was therefore RESOLVED that Cllr. Rawlings be appointed Vice Chairman.

**07/06 Declaration of Interest**

The Chairman stated that, with the permission of the meeting he would take it as read that all members would renew their existing declarations but asked that members advise the Clerk if they had any new or no longer applicable declarations.

**07/07 Vacancies in the Office of Parish Councillor.**

The Chairman outlined the options available to fill the remaining vacancies on the council in accordance with Section 21(2) of the Representation of the People Act 1985. Members heard that they could either resolve to co-opt, in which case they had a time table to do so, or if Council wished to fill the vacancies by way of an election in order to satisfy the requirements for Quality Status they could resolve not to co-opt.

The meeting discussed the possible benefits of Quality Status.

Cllr. Rawlings proposed that Council resolve to co-opt. The proposition was seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Jo Savage.

It was RESOLVED unanimously that there should be co-option of councillors to fill the remaining vacancies on the council in accordance with Section 21(2) of the Representation of the People Act 1985.

The Clerk was asked to post the relevant notices throughout the parish.

**07/08 Police Report**

The Chairman presented the police statistical report on behalf of PC McPherson.

The Chairman referred to an outstanding matter which had been brought to the attention of Council by Cllr. Kiernan on behalf of Mr. Cowling. Members heard that PC McPherson was away on holiday and they agreed to defer the matter until she was available.

CSO Suzy Coombs gave a report and answered questions.

The Chairman gave a brief report on a recent meeting attended by himself, the Clerk, PC McPherson and PC Rod Lake, traffic management officer.

*8.05 p.m. after being thanked for her attendance CSO Coombs left the meeting.*

**07/09 Minutes**

The Clerk asked Members to note that he had inadvertently missed off the apologies received prior to the last meeting from Cllr. Craik. He asked members to note that the minutes should be altered to include the apologies from Cllr. Craik. **Subject to the above amendment:**

**The Minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2007 were confirmed and signed, by the Chairman, as a true record.**

**07/10 Committees / Working Groups**

F&GP - Structure and Membership

RESOLVED that the F&GP Committee should consist of the Chairman and

Vice Chairman of Council ex-officio plus Cllrs Craik, Kiernan and Savage.

Magazine Editorial Working Group

Resolved that the working group should be Cllr. Ballantyne, the Clerk and Mr. E.A. Cowling (The working group to include Mr. Cowling as a co-opted member of the public).

**07/11 Meetings of the Council**

Resolved to continue with the existing schedule of meetings.

**07/12 To consider payment of Annual Subscriptions which will become due:-**

- a) Insurance renewal
- b) Membership of SAPTC and Local Council Review
- c) Membership of SAPTC Wrekin Area Committee
- d) Membership of CPRE
- e) Membership of NTP3
- f) SLCC

Proposed by Cllr. Kiernan that the payments as listed be approved en-block. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. Craik. RESOLVED that the payments as listed be approved en-block.

**07/13 Appointment of representatives to:-**

RESOLVED that representatives should be:

- a) Wrekin Area Committee (SAPTC) – Cllr. Kiernan.
- b) Bus User Group – Cllr. Kiernan.
- c) Rural transport Partnership – Cllr. Ballantyne.
- d) Admaston House Trust – Cllr. Rawlings.\*
- e) Parish Paths Partnership – Cllr. Rawlings.
- f) Quarry Liaison Group – Cllr. Ballantyne, Cllr. Mrs. Savage. Cllr. Kiernan and the Clerk.

\* Admaston House Trust. Cllr. Craik requested that Council allow him to step down as its representative on Admaston House Trust explaining that his work and family commitments had made it very difficult for him to carry out the duty as he would wish. Council thanked Cllr. Craik for his past representation.

Cllr. Rawlings agreed to represent Council on an ad hoc basis to be reviewed when appropriate.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

There was no request for a Public Session and no matters were raised.

**07/14 NTP3**

There was no report.

**07/15 Admaston House**

a) Report from Parish Representative.  
There was no report.

b) Parish Council as Holding Trustee.  
The Chairman and Cllr. Craik agreed to meet in order to progress the matter.

c) To meeting was informed that there would be a special meeting of Council to hear a presentation from Admaston House to be held at Wrockwardine Parish Hall on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30 p.m.

**07/16 Parish Improvements**

a) Shelter (Wrockwardine Playing Fields). The meeting heard that this work had been completed.

b) Street Signs. Members discussed the correct location for the Rushmoor Lane sign and it was agreed that further advice should be sought. It was agreed to relocate the sign for Drummary Lane to one closer to the village.

c) Gates etc Longyard Meadow. The Clerk stated that he continued to chase the contractors.

d) Bus shelter (Admaston Spa). The meeting heard that this work had been completed.

Cllr. Kiernan suggested that security signage would be appropriate at the site of the bus shelter. This was referred to the F&GP Committee.

e) Silkin Way planting (Bulbs and Trees). The Chairman gave an update.

f) Grounds Maintenance (Hedge Admaston Green). Having seen the quotes (which were extremely similar) the Clerk was delegated to contact both contractors to see which could carry out the work soonest.

Cllr. Rawlings brought a number of matter relating to grounds maintenance to the attention of Council – these were referred to the F&GP Committee for action.

**07/17 Traffic Calming**

Members are asked to consider the following resolution:

*“This Council approves expenditure of up to £1000.00 [One Thousand Pounds] as a contribution to the purchase of laser speed enforcement equipment by West Mercia Constabulary in conjunction with neighbouring town and Parish Councils for use within Wrockwardine Parish.”*

Following discussion Cllr. Craik moved the proposition which was seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Savage. It was RESOLVED that this Council approves expenditure of up to £1000.00 [One Thousand Pounds] as a contribution to the purchase of laser speed enforcement equipment by West Mercia Constabulary in conjunction with neighbouring town and Parish Councils for use within Wrockwardine Parish.

## **07/18 Correspondence**

### **1. Correspondence not requiring a decision**

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| T&WC                 | Land in Wrockwardine – confirmation that they would keep a watching brief on any attempt to register public land. |
| CPRE                 | Annual Report – noted.  |
| Playing Fields Assoc | Newsletter – Cllr. Rawlings.  |
| SALC                 | Parish Pump - previously circulated.  |
| WM Regional Ass      | Magazine – Cllr. Craik.   |

### **2. Correspondence requiring a decision**

|      |   |
|------|---|
| SCC  | Local Gvt Pension scheme regulations employee contribution rates – noted. |
| BT&W | Bus User Group – next meeting 17 <sup>th</sup> July 7.pm.                 |

## **07/19 Planning Matters**

The Chairman reminded Members that planning applications are available for inspection prior to the commencement of the meeting and asked that Members who wished to question any particular application make themselves familiar with it prior to the start of the meeting in order not to unnecessarily delay the proceedings.

The Chairman gave members details of the planning application which had been submitted to the Borough dealing with the development at Bean Hill Brook explaining that although the development lay outside the parish it did affect residents of the parish so members could comment upon the application if they thought it appropriate. Members RESOLVED to note that the application had been received in another Parish.

### **Applications**

The following applications were considered:

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| W07/0505 | Erection of a first floor extension over existing garage and lounge extension to front; 41 Glovers Way.          |
| W07/0488 | Erection of detached double garage with room above to side of property; 5 Donnerville Drive.                     |
| W07/0486 | Conversion of garage/store to garage/office and partial demolition and rebuilding gable wall; Burcot Manor.      |
| W07/0489 | (Trees in conservation area) Felling of two apple trees and pruning one cherry tree The Coppins Wrockwardine.    |
| W07/0509 | Erection of single storey extension to side of dwelling and erection of conservatory to rear 61 Broomfield Road. |

There were no objections to any of the tabled applications.

### **Permissions**

The following permissions were noted:

- W07/0262                      Erection of first floor extension to existing dwelling; 25 Glovers Way.
- W07/0252                      Erection of two detached dwellings with detached garage blocks; Land adjacent to 32 Bratton Road Bratton.
- W07/0371                      Erection of detached dwelling Land adjacent to Admaston Hall Telford.

### **Refusals**

There following refusal was noted:

- W07/0302                      Erection of one detached two storey dwelling and two bungalows with associated access (outline) Land off Bostock Close Admaston.

### **07/20 Accounts for Payment**

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

[Cllr. Ballantyne did not vote]

- b) **Statements 164 [Lloyds TSB] and 3 [Bank of Scotland]** were tabled along with the reconciliation and were approved.

- c) **Audit** – Mr Nicholls was reappointed as Internal Auditor  
The meeting noted the date of the Annual Audit.

### **07/21 Press Statement**

The Chairman was delegated to produce a press release with an emphasis on the necessity for Council to co-opt members.

### **07/22 Chairman's Closing Remarks**

The Chairman informed the meeting that in his capacity as Chair of the Annual Parish Meeting he had asked the Clerk, because of what took place at this year's APM, to produce no more than the strict minimum requirements for the minutes.

Cllr. Mrs Savage stated that she had been disgusted by some of the comments made at the Annual Parish Meeting. The meeting was in agreement.

The Chairman informed the meeting that he felt it entirely proper for him to congratulate Cllr. Kiernan in his showing at the recent borough elections.

**07/23 Next Meeting**

The Chairman reminded members that the next meeting of the Council was to be Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2007 to commence at 7.30 p.m. at Wrockwardine Parish Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.09 p.m.

*Signed* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Chairman*

*Date* \_\_\_\_\_