

WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th March 2004
at Wrockwardine Parish Hall at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:

Cllr. - K.J.S. Ballantyne - Chairman
Cllrs. E. A. Cowling, Ms. T. Kenny, D. Powell, S. Rawlings
and Mrs. J. Savage.
Mr. M. Goldstraw – Clerk

Also in attendance: Four members of the public.

04/40 Chairman's remarks

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

04/41 Co-option to the Office of Parish Councillor

The Clerk reported that there had been two applicants, a Mrs. Williams and a Mr. Kiernan.

Members, having previously been circulated with the details of each applicant, then held a ballot the result of which was:

Mrs. Williams one vote

Mr. Kiernan five votes

Mr. Kiernan being duly co-opted to the office of Parish Councillor signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was invited to take his seat by the Chairman.

Cllr. Ballantyne gave a short welcome address to Cllr. Kiernan.

04/42 Police Session

WPC McPherson presented the crime and disorder statistics to the meeting and made a correction to the figures, having omitted the statistics for the area of St. Peters' School in error.

Members discussed the figures and police response along with road traffic collisions.

PC McPherson answered questions.

7.42pm having been thanked by the Chairman, PC McPherson left the meeting.

04/43 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence along with reasons were received and accepted from Cllrs. Brown, Carver and Craik .

Courtesy apologies were received from Cllr. Miss Seymour and Cllr.

Blackwell (Borough Cllrs.) (Cllr. Blackwell having informed the Clerk that he would do all he could to attend the meeting but would arrive late.)

04/44 Declaration of Interest

Cllr. Ballantyne informed the meeting that he would take no part in the item for approval of payment to be made in which he had an expense claim

before Council.

Cllr. Powell informed the meeting that there would be a matter relating to Admaston House on which he would take no part.

7.44 pm Cllr. Blackwell joined the meeting

04/45 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 11th February 2004 were confirmed and signed, by the Chairman, as a true record.

04/46 Finance & General Purposes Committee

a) The minutes of the F&GP Committee meeting held on 26th February 2004 were received by Council.

b) Cllr. Cowling put to Council the proposition of the committee:

That in order to solve the problem of vehicles being driven onto Admaston Green and adjoining Trust land, Council should purchase and install (subject to satisfactory quotes including all materials and labour being obtained) thirty one rigid wooden bollards and one metal drop bollard. The budget allocation of the expenditure being as follows: 22 bollards plus one drop bollard along with associated installation costs to be funded from the village improvement heading and nine bollards along with associated installation costs to be funded from the section 137 Grants heading as a grant to Admaston House Trust (said bollards to be protecting Trust land) SUBJECT TO the understanding that, and agreement from, the Trust that they will IN ADDITION to the above, pay for no less than two drop bollards including all materials and labour.

Following discussion where some reservations and concerns were raised it was RESOLVED that the matter be referred back to Committee for further consideration.

On behalf of the Committee Cllr. Cowling formally withdrew the proposal.

[Cllr. Powell took no part in the above discussion]

c) Members discussed the letter from Carl Longland dated 16th December offering matched funding for parish projects. Members discussed the need for forward planning of projects. The Chairman stated that Council's current wish to see the parish finger posts refurbished could be a candidate for joint funding. Cllr. Blackwell commented that as always, decisions by the Borough would be made on affordability.

04/47 Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 9th March 2004

Prior to asking the meeting to approve the minutes as previously circulated, the Chairman brought to the attention of members a communication from Cllr. Brown asking that the minutes be amended to reflect the argument put forward at the meeting by himself against the proposal to sign up to the Parish Charter. The Chairman reminded the meeting that there is no such thing as a "Proxy Vote" and Cllr. Brown being not present could not have a say in the adoption

of these minutes. The Chairman stated that out of courtesy to Cllr. Brown, it was however correct that Members be made aware of his views. Members agreed that the minutes were an accurate, if brief, record of the resolve of the meeting and whilst acknowledging the views held by Cllr. Brown felt that if his wishes were to be acceded to, there would have to be far more detail in the minutes to also reflect that the remaining Members present were in favour of signing up to the Charter.

The Minutes of the special meeting held on 9th March 2004 were confirmed as circulated and unaltered and signed, by the Chairman, as a true record.

04/48 Traffic and Transport Matters

a) Street signage Bratton Road/Whiteways Drive/Elmsdale Crescent

Cllr. Powell reported to the meeting incidents whereby confusion had been created owing to inadequate/none existing street signage in the above areas. Following discussion it was RESOLVED that the Chairman be authorised to write to Mr. Frater, Chief Executive of the Borough Council (a resident of this parish) to inform him of the situation and to ask, or impose upon, him to bring about a speedy solution. The request to be to bring an immediate resolution to the signage problem and a suggestion as to how a long term solution to the problems with traffic may be achieved.

b) Shawbirch Road

The Chairman reported that Mr. Roderick had met the contractors on site and the time scale now promised was that the parish would receive a scheme for consideration by mid March. There would then be a consultation involving the emergency services followed by the public consultation. If there were no problems, it was envisaged that the work could start mid May and be completed by June. The Clerk confirmed that no plans had yet been received. Cllr. Blackwell agreed to chase the production of the plans.

c) Lay-by Sutton Road

Cllr. Blackwell reported that he had raised the matter with Mr. Roderick and would follow it up.

Cllr. Cowling reported that some effort had been made to fill pot holes and that he had been informed by an officer of the Borough that work would commence within the week to effect proper repairs.

d) To arrange a special meeting of Council to discuss traffic issues

Members agreed that a meeting should be called to deal specifically with traffic matter within the parish and that the meeting should be called by the Clerk and Chairman at a suitable time during the month of June or July.

The Chairman informed the meeting that he had been in communication with Mr. P. Bradley MP and that Mr. Bradley had agreed to attend a meeting of Council. It was agreed that the Chairman should invite Mr. Bradley to attend a special meeting of Council (possibly in September). Members would be asked to prepare questions for Mr. Bradley to give him advance notice. It

was agreed that the questions would not be restricted to traffic matters but could be on any issues relating to the work of the parish council.

There were no other traffic/transport matters raised.

04/49 Admaston House Report from Parish Representative

The Clerk reminded the meeting that in forwarding his apologies, Cllr. Craik (AHT Parish representative) had stated that he would do his best to arrive later. The Chairman moved that this item of business be held over until such time as Cllr. Craik was present.

04/50 Vital Villages

a) Admaston Halt

The Chairman tabled a report into the feasibility Study on Admaston Railway Station.

7.37 pm Cllr. Craik joined the meeting

Following discussion Cllr. Rawlings proposed that: This Parish Council is mindful of the material impact which the withdrawal of the Arriva No. 51 bus service is likely to have upon the Benefit/Cost analysis contained in the recent feasibility study received from the Railway Consultancy Ltd. The Council therefore authorises the Chairman to instruct the Railway Consultancy Ltd. To re-assess the study in the context of this material change in circumstances. The Chairman is authorised to negotiate a fee for this work up to £1000 of which no less than 75% shall be funded by the Countryside Agency from within the grant aid budget already approved by the Agency for this project.

In the light of this development and the support of the Countryside Agency for this further research to be conducted, this Parish Council Further resolves to substitute the 2003/2004 Grant Aid budget surplus for the instant budget in respect of the virement of the sum of money and purpose mentioned in approved minute 04/19.

b) Engraving of granite stones on land held by Council

Cllr. Brown not being present this matter was deferred.

c) Finger Posts

Cllr. Brown not being present this matter was deferred.

04/51 Playing Fields/ Play Ground Equipment Inspection

The Clerk was authorised to engage ROSPA to carry out safety inspections of the playing fields and play equipment at Wrockwardine on an annual basis.

Members discussed risk assessments.

04/52 Annual Parish Meeting

Members discussed the organisation of (and invitations to) the meeting.

04/53 Correspondence

NALC

Members Allowances – Members resolved to support the stance NALC was taking in this matter.

Gvt. Offices	Questionnaire on Renewable Energy – The Chairman in consultation with the Clerk was authorised to complete the questionnaire.
Wellington T.C.	Request to support resolution. It was resolved to support the resolution of WTC.
P. Bradley	Fuel Production and consequences – noted.
Borough of T&W	Possibly dangerous tree over Youth Shelter . The Clerk was asked to seek further information and clarification. Members resolved to delegate authority to the Chairman after consultation with the Clerk to take immediate action should the tree turn out to present an immediate danger to the public.
AHT	Application for Public Entertainments licence Admaston House Trust – there were no objections.
B. T&W	Mayors Appeal etc. The Chairman informed Members that if anyone wanted to attend any of the functions there listed he would fund there attendance out of his Chairman’s Allowance.
Pemberton Rd. Resident	Lamp post report of damage during bad weather. The Clerk informed the meeting that the MEC were aware of this, the lamp top had been removed for inspection.

The following correspondence was noted.

B of T&W	Refuse Collection – holiday arrangements
P. Bradley M.P.	Letter thanking Council for copy of newsletter
W. Mercia Police	Stop and Search awareness of powers.
SALC	Retirement of Jan Snell
SCC	Paths Partnerships
SPFA	Newsletter
C/A	Vital Villages Update
D.P.M. office	Reply Planning and Comp. Purchase Bill
D.P.M. office	Consultation Paper Local investigations into misconduct
B. T&W	Personal Safety
B. Sugar	Parish Speed Limits

04/54 Admaston House Report from Parish Representative

Cllr. Craik gave a report on the meeting of the Trust held on 1st March commenting upon the Trusts welcome of the move towards working with Council to find a solution to their problems with nuisance. Cllr. Craik was pleased to report that the Trusts’ room bookings were healthy and there were ongoing plans to further develop the use of the House by local residents. Cllr. Craik was thanked for his attendance at the Trust meeting and for

presenting his report.

04/55 Planning Matters

Members considered the following applications:

W04/0170 Conversion of outbuilding to a dwelling Wrekin Farm Cludley.

W04/0193 Erection of replacement machinery building Walcot Grange

W04/0097 Installation of rooflights to side elevation and enlargement of 1st floor window Rabure Wrockwardine.

There were no objections to the above.

W04/0109 Erection of a vertical tower diffuser and wet pulp dump British Sugar Allscott.

W04/0244 Erection of control room and a covered wet pulp dump British Sugar Allscott.

The Clerk was asked to clarify with the planning officers whether the above plans relating to the Beet Factory would lead to an increase in traffic and to inform the officers that this Council would not object to the applications providing there will be no increase in HGV traffic.

The following approvals were noted:

W03/0656 Proposed use as green waste composting facility Bratton Farm Bratton

W03/1141 Erection of conservatory to rear of 81 Broomfield Road Admaston.

W03/1423 Erection of single dwelling and detached garage Land adjacent 20 Linton Close Bratton

W04/0060 Change of use of disused Milking Parlour into a practice dance studio Gorsey Bank Farm.

There were no refusals;

Members noted the following correspondence relating to planning matters:

Notification of appeal against refusal for erection of two bungalows (outline) land at rear of 11 Allscott.

Letter informing the Parish Council that although the Borough noted its objection to the erection of a single dwelling and detached garage Land adjacent to 20 Linton Close Bratton the application was determined in favour of the applicant

9.18 pm Cllr. Ballantyne left the room for the duration of the next item of business

– *Cllr. Rawlings (Vice Chairman) took the Chair.*

04/56 Accounts for Payment

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

Statement 126 was tabled along with the reconciliation and was approved.

Additional payments approved were:

Wrekin Farm and Garden – Supply of Rock Salt for Grit Bins £60.00

The Clerk then asked the meeting to approve a contribution to the purchase of a replacement toner cartridge for the Chairman's photo copier in the knowledge that extensive use had been made of the equipment on behalf of and approved by this Council. The Clerk asked that a contribution of £56.95 from office expenses be added to a contribution of £40 from the Chairman's own Allowance to cover the net cost of a toner of £96.95. The VAT being reclaimable (£16.97) making a cheque of £113.92 for approval. RESOLVED that said expenditure be approved.

7.23 pm Cllr. Ballantyne returned to the Chair

Grants

Members considered the following grant applications:

Telford Pensioners Action Association.

RESOLVED that no grant be made.

The Samaritans

Cllr. Powell proposed that a grant of £50 be made; seconded by Cllr. Cowling.

It was RESOLVED that a grant of £50 be made to The Samaritans.

Black History Working Group

Following discussion it was RESOLVED to ask for more detailed information as to the activities/expenditure/income and aims of the group.

Members discussed the general need to gather more information about applicants and it was agreed to adopt a grant application form that had been tabled by the Clerk. The Clerk was thanked for preparing the document for consideration.

04/57 Reports

Cllr. Craik -

Asked Cllr. Blackwell for a brief report on the progress (or otherwise) of the Borough waste trials. Cllr. Blackwell gave his views.

Informed the meeting that he was in the process of drafting an article for the newsletter.

- Cllr. Powell - Reported various street light problems. Asked if an approach could be made to the Borough requesting that the bins on Admaston Green be emptied weekly.
- Cllr. Mrs. Kenny - Reported that the verges adjacent to Sunnymead Kennels were in a dreadful state owing to erosion by HGV's. Stated that she had reported the matter to Borough Officers. Also reported pot holes in the road adjacent to Meadowdale Drive.
- Cllr. Blackwell - Reported concerns of residents in Bandon Avenue over nuisance from youths.

04/58 Press Statement

The press report was delegated to the Chairman

04/59 Next Meeting

The Chairman reminded members that the next meeting of the Council was scheduled for the earlier date of Wednesday, 7th April 2004 to commence at **7.30 p.m.** at Admaston House.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.58 p.m.

Signed _____
Chairman

Date _____