

WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 14th March 2007 at
Admaston House at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:

Cllr. – K.J.S. Ballantyne – Meeting Chairman
Cllrs. M. J. Craik, E. Dawes, T. Kiernan, D. Powell,
and Mrs. J. Savage.
Mr. M. Goldstraw – Clerk

Also in attendance: CSO Suzy Coombs
Mr. A. Bingham.

06/166 Chairman's opening remarks

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

06/167 Apologies for Absence

Apologies along with reasons for absence were received and accepted from
Cllrs. Cowling, Carver and Kenny.

The Clerk reported that, prior to the last meeting of Council, Cllr. Cowling had
made a timely attempt to apologise for his non attendance by sending a fax to
the Clerk. The fax however never reached the Clerk and therefore apologies
were not presented in good time. The Clerk asked the meeting to accept the
fact that that due to circumstances which were no fault of Cllr. Cowling
apologies had not been presented at that meeting; this was accepted.

Courtesy apologies were received from Cllr. D. Blackwell (Borough
Councillor) and the Clerk reported that Cllr. Seymour had indicated that
due to an earlier meeting she might attend late.

06/168 Declaration of Interest

Cllr. Powell informed the meeting that he would not take part in two matters
relating to Admaston House and stated that he would withdraw from the room
at the appropriate time.

06/169 Police Report

The Chairman, with the consent of the meeting, deferred the police report until
such time as PC McPherson joined the meeting.

PUBLIC SESSION

[Standing Orders suspended for the duration of the Public Session and reinstated at its
conclusion]

The Chairman, noting that agenda item 9c applied to Admaston House, asked Mr.
Bingham if he wished to raise any matters within the public session. Mr. Bingham
asked if he might be permitted to address Council prior to item 9c being dealt with;

the meeting agreed that Mr. Bingham could do so.

There were no matters raised within the Public Session.

06/170 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14th February 2007 were confirmed and signed, by the Chairman, as a true record.

06/171 Annual Parish Meeting

a) To note the date and venue

Members noted that the Annual Parish Meeting was to be held on Thursday April 26th at 7:45 p.m. at Wrockwardine Parish Hall. The Clerk provided proof that notice of the meeting had been placed on the parish notice boards.

7:33p.m. PC McPherson joined the meeting.

The Chairman ruled that Council should move to the Police Report and return to the matter of the Annual General Meeting immediately after.

06/172 Police Report

PC McPherson presented the police crime statistics for the previous month and answered questions.

7:42 p.m. Cllr. S. Rawlings joined the meeting.

7:43 p.m. Cllr. Miss J. Seymour entered the room.

Cllr. Mrs Savage reported incidents at Gorsey Bank Wrockwardine. Members discussed possible preventative measures.

The Chairman asked PC McPherson if she wished to comment on the report presented to a previous meeting by Cllr. Cowling. PC McPherson stated that most of the information in the letter presented by Cllr. Cowling had been inaccurate. The Chairman was by the Officer asked if he wished her to address the issues with Cllr. Cowling in person or if he wished her to give a full reply to Council. The Chairman stated that he would give the matter some thought.

PC McPherson went on to report the possibility of the acquisition and use of a hand held speed camera (gun) for local use. Members were given the results of recent speed checks in the parish. PC McPherson agreed to carry out speed checks at weekends.

Members discussed speeding traffic.

7:51 p.m. after being thanked by the Chairman the officers left the meeting.

06/173 Annual Parish Meeting

b) Conduct of the Meeting

Members confirmed prior receipt of a letter from Susan Kembrey, Borough Monitoring Officer, bringing to the attention of Council a complaint from a resident over the conduct of the Annual Parish Meeting along with a response to that letter from the Clerk of that meeting.

The Chairman stated that, despite the fact that he takes great care to point out to those who attend the APM that it is not a Parish Council Meeting, people still confuse the two and mistakenly believe that they are attending a meeting of the Council. Cllr. Ballantyne stated that he did not have to Chair the meeting unless he was present – he did not have to turn up to the meeting and the Clerk had no need to act as its secretary. No Annual Parish Meeting had the power to instruct a Parish Council to do anything.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Monitoring Officer had agreed with the point made by the Clerk to the APM that the Monitoring Officer has no role in the proceedings of the APM but in any case the officer was entirely satisfied with the circumstances in which the meeting was closed and that sufficient opportunity was given to allow questions to be asked.

The Chairman reminded all that if anyone had a question they wished to put before the Parish Council, that question should be put to the Parish Council.

The Chairman went on to inform the meeting that Ms Kembrey was entirely satisfied that there had been no impropriety; the Clerk had not misled her colleague earlier in the year. Further; Ms Kembrey had also been satisfied that there was no requirement for the Parish Council to produce its accounts to the Annual Parish Meeting.

Cllr Rawlings proposed that:

This Parish Council is wholly satisfied that its Clerk and Chairman, acting in their respective delegated courtesy roles at the 2006 Annual Parish Meeting, acted with complete propriety and integrity and that this Council considers there to be no substance to the complaints made to the Borough Council arising from that meeting.

The proposition was seconded by Cllr. Kiernan. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously.

06/174 Bean Hill – football posts

The Chairman reported that the Borough Council had conceded that planning permission would be required and that as a result of this a full consultation would take place as part of the process. The Chairman hoped that by April there would be some details available but if not, the matter would be for a new Council to consider.

06/175 NTP3

There was no report.

06/176 Admaston House

a) Report from Parish Representative

There was no report.

b) Parish Council as Holding Trustee

There was no progress to report.

c) To consider a request from the Trustees to make a presentation to Council.

Standing Orders were suspended to allow Mr. Bingham to address the meeting and were immediately reinstated following the conclusion of his address.

Mr. bingham addressed the meeting on the plans of the Trust to extend the building and gave details of a proposed application for Lottery Funding. Mr. Bingham asked members to consider allowing the Trustees to make a substantial representation to Council in regard to the Lottery Funding.

Following the reinstatement of Standing Orders it was RESOLVED that the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman calls a special meeting to allow the Trust to make representation to Council.

[Cllr. Powell took no part in the discussion]

06/177 Parish Improvements

a) Shelter (Wrockwardine Playing Fields)

The Clerk reported that the contractor had been instructed but that there was no progress to report.

b) Street Signs

The Clerk reported that there was still a degree of uncertainty as to where the Rushmoor Lane sign might be correctly placed but the matter was in hand.

c) Gates etc. Longyard Meadow

There was no progress to report.

d) Bus Shelter Admaston Spa

The Chairman took Members through all the issues which had affected the successful completion of the project. Members discussed all the costs which had been incurred. It was agreed that there was no particular person who was at fault for the delays and additional costs and that the project had been the subject of a number of small, but not insignificant, setbacks. It was RESOLVED to continue the project to completion.

e) Silkin Way Planting (Bulbs and Trees)

The Chairman gave details of plans by the Borough to provide planting within the parish consisting of shrubs, bulbs and trees. The Borough had plans to provide £10'000 in labour (not exclusively within the parish of

Wrockwardine) in the next financial year in the vicinity of the Silkin Way and at an area opposite Admaston Green. Members heard that the Borough have a budget for labour but had asked if parishes could provide materials.

The Chairman suggested that the parish council could provide sufficient funds to ensure that thousands of bulbs along with midland hawthorn and gorse could be planted (along with the possible removal of some overgrown bramble).

Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Rawlings that £750 be allocated from the current parish improvement budget and that a further £750 could be allocated from the same budget heading next year, making a total provision towards materials for the project of £1500. Seconded by Cllr. Mrs Savage it was RESOLVED.

f) Grounds Maintenance Wrockwardine (Triangle Oak and opposite MMII coppice)

Cllr. Kiernan informed the meeting that someone or some authority had already replaced the dead tree at the triangle (The Avenue Wrockwardine).

Members discussed the possible reinstatement of land opposite the MMII coppice. The Clerk presented a number of quotes for the work.

Following discussion it was RESOLVED to take no action but to investigate the possibilities further. A site meeting was agreed between Cllr. Kiernan and Cllr. Rawlings.

Members discussed the hole in the hedge at Admaston Green – it was agreed that the matter was in hand.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to investigate why the Borough had never taken up the request that a TPO be made on the oak tree situated in the area et aside to be Admaston Forest.

Members discussed the possible provision of stone to prevent inappropriate use of areas of Gorsey Bank. Following discussion it was decided that the ownership of the area had not been certain. The Clerk was asked to check if the Borough Highways dept. claimed ownership of the land in question.

06/178 Grants

The meeting was informed that out of a budget of three thousand pounds set aside for grants in the year, Council had to date spent two thousand and fifty pounds leaving a balance of nine hundred and fifty pounds.

Members discussed the following grants:

Wrockwardine Golden Age Club.

Cllr. Mrs Savage expressed concern that the grant was to fund a coach to collect members of the Golden Age Club from Wellington to bring them to the club meetings in Wrockwardine. It was plain from the application that the coach was not for residents of the parish. The meeting heard that there were now only 20 members but only two of those members were from Wrockwardine village (it was not known if there were any Admaston members of the club).

8:56 p.m. Cllr. Powell left the room.

Members discussed their powers and responsibilities and the Clerk gave advice on the process of thought which should be given to grant applications.

Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Mrs Savage that Council did not make a grant to the Wrockwardine Golden Age Club as it was felt that the proceeds of the grant would not sufficiently benefit the residents of the Parish of Wrockwardine. Seconded by Cllr. Dawes it was RESOLVED.

Little Chicks Pre-School

A request for grant funding in the sum of £800 had been received. Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Mrs Savage that a grant of £300 be made. Seconded by Cllr. Rawlings it was RESOLVED.

Admaston House Trust

Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Rawlings that a grant of £650 be made. Seconded by Cllr. Kiernan it was RESOLVED.

9:09 p.m. Cllr. Powell rejoined the meeting.

06/179 Correspondence

1. Correspondence not requiring a decision

CPRE	Voice magazine
T&WC	From New Town to modern city.
Ramblers Assoc	Mins & Agenda
T&WCVS	Newslines

2. Correspondence requiring a decision

Harper Adams	Course details – no action.
Enstone Johnstone	Quarry Liaison Meeting – date to be determined.

06/180 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.

Applications

The following applications were considered:

- W07/0252 Erection of two detached dwellings with detached garage block Land adjacent to 32 Bratton Road Bratton.
- W07/0262 Erection of first floor extension to existing dwelling 25 Glovers Way.

There were no objections to any of the tabled applications.

Permissions

The following permissions were noted:

- W06/1504 Erection of steel framed storage building Repsol Overley.
- W06/1539 Erection of two side and one rear extension to existing dwelling Overley Hill Cottage Overley.
- W07/0030 Erection of conservatory to rear of property and retrospective permission for garden shed 11 Burnell Road Admaston.
- W07/0032 Erection of two storey side extension 10 Meadow Drive Walcott.

Refusals

- W06/1520 Erection of potato store Barratts Field Duncote Mill.
- W07/0038 (Listed) Demolition of existing outbuilding, alterations to existing garage and erection of a single storey rear extension 14 Wrockwardine.
- W07/0039 Demolition of existing outbuilding alterations to existing garage and erection of a single storey rear extension 14 Wrockwardine.

06/181 Accounts for Payment

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

[It was noted that the Chairman authorised a final payment for the financial year in hand to made out of his Chairman's Allowance in the sum of £5.20, this being the remaining balance for his allowance]

b) **Statement 162** was tabled along with the reconciliation and was approved.

c) Bank of Scotland

1) Having satisfied itself that an authorised account in the name of Wrockwardine Parish Council had been opened with the Bank of Scotland, it was RESOLVED to transfer all the funds from the account of the same name held with Lloyds TSB to the account with the Bank of Scotland by the following method:

- i) to authorise the payment of those cheques presented to this meeting and to ensure that they are the last to be drawn upon the Lloyds TSB account.

- ii) to authorise the immediate transfer of £40'000 [Fourty Thousand Pounds] to be achieved by making out a cheque payable to Wrockwardine Parish Council drawn on the Lloyds TSB account and requiring the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to promptly deposit it into the Bank of Scotland account.

- iii) provided that the Clerk and Responsible Officer is certain that the transfer of funds referred to in (ii) above has been achieved (i.e. that the cheque has cleared and the BOS account is in funds) to RESOLVE that all future payments be made by way of cheques drawn on the Bank of Scotland account.

- iv) as soon as the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer is certain that all cheques drawn upon the Lloyds TSB account have cleared, Wrockwardine Parish Council will authorise a final cheque in the sum of the funds remaining in the TSB account (if there are any remaining funds), drawn on that account and made payable to Wrockwardine Parish Council and to instruct the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to promptly deposit it into the Bank of Scotland Account.

- v) as soon afterwards as is convenient to close the Lloyds TSB account.

- vi) to require the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to furnish the Council with a full and appropriate audit trail of all the required transactions as soon as possible after the completion of the exercise.

2) Resolved to immediately instruct Telford & Wrekin Council to amend the precept warrant it has already received to reflect the new bank details of council thereby ensuring that the two precept payments which are due in the forthcoming financial year are received into the council's Bank of Scotland account.

06/182 Press Statement

The Chairman was delegated to produce a press release.

06/183 Chairman's Closing Remarks

The Chairman thanked all for attending and invited Cllr. Miss Seymour to give

her report. Cllr. Miss Seymour presented her report.

06/184 Next Meeting

The Chairman reminded members that the next meeting of the Council was scheduled for Wednesday 4th April 2007 to commence at 7.30 p.m. at Wrockwardine Parish Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:30 p.m.

Signed _____
Chairman

Date _____