

WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th November 2002
at Admaston House, Admaston at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:

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

Also in attendance: Two members of the public.

Cllr. D. Blackwell and Cllr. J. Seymour (Borough
Councillors)

02/153 Chairman's remarks

The Chairman reminded Members that Plans and Correspondence had been available for perusal from 7.00 p.m. It was recognised by the Chair that it would not always be possible for Members to arrive prior to the meeting in order to view documents but they were none the less made available in the hope that time would be saved during the meeting proper. Time would of course be allowed during the meeting if it were appropriate.

The Chairman brought to the attention of Council his view that Parish Councils were facing increasingly complex matters and it was increasingly apparent that T&WC seemed to be selective in the level of involvement it gave to the Parish Council. There was a perception that the PC was not being involved/consulted in certain processes. There were matters, such as the "by-pass" where the PC had failed, despite copious efforts, to make progress. Members were asked to give consideration to the PC seeking legal advice on any such issues that may arise in the future.

7.35 p.m. Cllr. Mrs. J. Watts joined the meeting.

The Chairman continued stating he felt that the PC does not necessarily have the time or the expertise to cope with the tactics of the larger authority when it is opposed to their views. There had recently been issues, which the PC had tackled, where it (the PC) had taken a view that it felt was for the greater good of the Parish but had seen these views endangered by minority one interest groups. It was difficult to see why minority groups should restrict progress in the village; if there are such groups the greater good should be the principle.

02/154 Police Session

Apologies were received from PC Mcpherson.

Cllr. Orrell reported an incident where a cyclist on Station Road had nearly been hit by a lorry. PC Mcpherson had been informed. Members agreed to write to her formally to request some action be taken to prevent vehicles

parking outside St.Christopher's Hall.

Cllr. Mrs. Savage also reported problems with sugar beet lorries intimidating pedestrians.

Cllr. Brown requested that as a matter of procedure, members of the public who report incidents which are a matter for the police should be given the telephone number of PC Mcpherson so that they may report the incident directly and immediately.

Cllr. Mrs. Savage reported that the telephone box in Wrockwardine had been sprayed with graffiti and the 30-mph sign had been sprayed to read 80 mph.

Cllr. Powell asked Council to appeal to the government to enact legislation to ban large fireworks. Members discussed the matter. Resolved to take no action.

Cllr. Ballantyne, referring to traffic problems in the parish, suggested that in addition to giving the telephone number of the Beat Manager to complainants, members should also pass on the number for Messrs. Roderick and Harvey of T&WC. This, it was felt, would give them the opportunity to experience some of the difficulties and frustrations first hand.

02/155 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies - all Members were present.

02/156 Declaration of Interest

In addition to standing declarations, Cllr. Orrell informed the meeting that he had been a party to a petition to T&WC re. Traffic.

Cllr. Rawlings declared that he owned land adjacent to the site at Station Road, which the council was hoping to acquire.

Cllr. Mrs. Watts and Cllr. Mrs. Savage informed the meeting (formally) that they were members of the Wrockwardine Millennium Committee.

02/157 Minutes

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

02/158 Matters arising out of the Minutes

Bank Signatories

The Chairman signed a certified copy of the minutes recording the resolved to appoint new signatories. The Clerk explained that despite being told by the bank (when he had attended them with the minute books) that the minutes were not required, they had subsequently requested them. It was hoped that upon receipt of the certified copy, all the requirements would be met and the new signatories accepted.

Lamp at Maidens Goods Yard

Cllr. Cowling thanked Cllr. Blackwell for resolving the matter.

Overgrown garden – Wrockwardine

Cllr. Blackwell gave a progress report.

Drain – David's Bank

Cllr. Blackwell reported that the matter was being looked into.

The Chairman stated that the Parish Council had received many reports over the years and had been happy to do so, however the majority of the “complaints” were within the remit of T&WC and the PC was merely passing on the problem to them. Many of the problems take some time to deal with and the perception could be that it was the Parish Council that had been remiss. The Chairman asked the meeting how it felt about passing those reports that were the responsibility of T&WC directly to them without waiting for the next PC meeting.

Cllr. Blackwell informed the meeting that there were commonly available lists of T&WC officers telephone numbers. Cllr. Brown requested that the PC should be the second port of call for matters appertaining to T&WC not the first. Members agreed.

Cllr. Training

Cllr. Cowling reported that he had attended the training and had found it to be most informative. He thanked the Chairman and Members for the opportunity to attend.

Sewage Works

Members reported continued incidences of foul smells emanating from the sewage works. Cllr. Blackwell replied that the works had promised T&WC that they had invested in some changes to the tank covers and the matter was carefully controlled. They are observing best practice.

02/159 Play Provision within the Parish

The Chairman referred to Cllr. Orrell's report, which had been circulated with the agenda and asked Members for their comments.

Cllr. Rawlings gave a summary of the report and the matter was discussed.

[Cllr. Ballantyne informed the meeting that the house of his father backed onto the area at Whiteways Drive]

Cllr. Orrell proposed that Council formally withdraws from their request for formal play provision at Whiteways Drive and approves in principle the action plan, which had been viewed by all Members. Seconded by Cllr. Rawlings.

Cllr. Ballantyne proposed an amendment that the above proposition should be subject to Council being satisfied that EP execute a Deed of Gift in favour of T&WC maintaining the play area as open space into perpetuity. Cllr. Cowling seconded the amendment.

It was **resolved unanimously That this Council formally withdraws its**

request for formal play provision for young children at the site in Whiteways Drive SUBJECT TO this Council being satisfied that English Partnerships will and does execute a Deed Of Gift in favour of The Borough of Telford & Wrekin Council maintaining the play area as open space into perpetuity.

Cllr. Rawlings further proposed that: **This Parish Council agrees in principle with the “Action Plan” outlined for Youth Facilities in the Admaston/Dothill/Shawbirch area and authorises the working party to collaborate with T&WC and EP on the priorities for such facilities.**

Seconded by Cllr. Cowling, **Resolved unanimously to accept the proposal.**

The Chairman thanked the working party for their hard work on behalf of the Parish.

[The “Action Plan” is attached to and is a part of the Minutes]

02/160 Freedom of Information Act

Members agreed that owing to the complexity of the matter a special meeting should be held on January 15th at 7.30 p.m. at Admaston House.

02/161 Traffic/ Transport/ Highway Matters

Shawbirch Road

The clerk reported that although officers of T&WC had agreed to a site meeting to discuss the possible calming of Shawbirch Road, it had not yet been possible to co-ordinate dates.

Cllr. Orrell gave a report on the petition by residents.

Bus Shelters

Cllr. Ballantyne reported that T&WC had still not satisfactorily concluded work on the shelter at Admaston. Dianne Whittingham had taken the matter up with the contractors but had been unsuccessful. The Borough Members were asked to follow up and ensure the work was completed.

Cllr. Ballantyne stated that he was still awaiting quotes from contractors for the other five shelters.

It was anticipated that replacement of the shelter (demolished in an accident) on the old A5 would be in the region of £4.5 k . The usage of the shelter was discussed and Members agreed that the shelter was little used. It was **resolved not to replace the shelter until such time as demand improved.**

Cllr. Ballantyne spoke of the possible renovation of the remaining shelters. The Clerk gave details of design and cost of brick built shelters in other parishes. Cllr. Orrell asked if there was a time limit to the offered grant funding and was told that the limit was March 2004.

Voucher Scheme

Cllr. Ballantyne reported that the Rural Transport Users Group had discussed the scheme and asked if Members had given the matter any consideration.

Cllr. Orrell had concerns over administrative difficulties. Cllr. Ballantyne cited the success of schemes administered by other parishes in the area but conceded that the administration of any scheme by this parish would need to be finalised properly prior to any scheme being adopted.

Cllr. Mrs. Savage felt that the scheme would be most welcome in the village of Wrockwardine.

Members discussed the possible funding and costs of the scheme and Cllr. Mrs. Jones was reassured that the parish could withdraw any scheme at any time. It was agreed that Cllr. Orrell helps Cllr. Ballantyne to draw up a business plan for a possible scheme to be presented to Council at a future date for discussion.

02/162 Proposed Trial of Postal Voting

The Chairman gave a report on the proposal by T&WC to apply for permission from the Secretary of state to operate the next elections entirely by postal vote. Following a vote there were five members in favour and five against.

02/163 Land at Station Road

The Clerk reported that EP had been unable to satisfy Council that there was unrestricted access to the site. However EP had stated that an EP officer would be able to swear a statutory declaration as to the use of the access road since their acquisition of the property in 1974 but they would not be prepared to provide or pay for any title indemnity insurance.

Members agreed to accept such a declaration and the Clerk was asked to suggest to EP that this council would not expect to pay for such a statutory declaration.

02/164 Correspondence

Consideration was given to the following correspondence:-

1. Telford & Wrekin Council -

- a) T&W Partnership Report – noted.
- b) Civic Service, Sunday 24th November – noted.

Johnstone Roadstone Ltd Invitation to tour Quarry – Members were pleased to accept the invitation. The Chairman agreed to take the matter up with the quarry manager.

W'dine Millennium Ctee Request to fund legal costs of proposed footpath in Wrockwardine. Cllr. Orrell stated that he had indication from NTP3 that the request to provide a footpath could be taken on by T&WC. Following discussion, it was agreed that the matter should be referred to Bob King of

NTP3 for his attention.

Com Cll of Salop

Protecting Your Future – noted.

CPRE

Shropshire Landscapes and Voice – noted

C/A

Consultation on preliminary review of research – Cllr. Ballantyne.

SPFA

Annual Report – noted.

02/165

Planning Matters

(a) Applications

To consider the following applications:

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| W02/1211 | Demolition of existing dwelling and garage and erection of a two storey dwelling and double garage. 19 Charlton, Shropshire. There were no objections. |
| W02/1201 | Proposed extension of existing kitchen and erection of loose horse box and stabling. Allscott Manor, Allscott, Shropshire. There were no objections. |
| W02/1185 | Change of use from a residential dwelling to a four place registered children's home. Bratton Farm House Bratton. Members resolved to object to the proposal. It was considered that the change of use would be commercial (indeed it was felt that the existing use of the house was also contrary to permitted use). Further, the application was contrary to H19 of the local plan. |
| W02/1151 | Erection of conservatory to rear of property 40 Station Road, Admaston. |
| W02/1140 | Proposed single storey kitchen/utility extension. 5 Shawbirch Road, Admaston. |
| W02/1128 | Erection of an extension to form garden room. Meadow Croft, Wrockwardine. |
| W02/1131 | Proposed 2 storey side extension and conservatory to rear: 46 Glovers way, Shawbirch. |

Permissions

The following permissions were noted:

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| W02/1020 | Erection of first floor extension over existing garage and utility room to rear 52 Crowdale Road. |
| W02/1019 | Proposed single storey extension to form utility room: Charnwood, 25 Shawbirch Road. |

W02/0809 Alteration to residential unit and workshop with replacement, repair, addition of windows, door and rooflights, Charlton Farm Barns.

02/166 Accounts for Payment

[Cllr. Ballantyne took no part in the debate]

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

Statement 109 was tabled along with the reconciliation and was approved.

Budget and Precept

Cllr. Orrell outlined the finances of the council and presented a draft proposal. Members were asked to clarify some of their plans for the future to enable Cllr. Orrell to finalise a proposed budget. It was agreed that a proposal would be circulated prior to the next meeting ready for debate.

02/167 Reports

- Cllr. Powell - Reported vandalism at Admaston House and pot holes in Burnell Road which required attention.
- Cllr. Mrs. Carver - Stated that she had reported all matters, which had been brought to her attention to the Clerk as, and when she became aware of them and they had been attended to.
- Cllr. Mrs. Savage - Reported problems with HGV's reversing and asked for the matter to be placed on the next agenda.
- Cllr. Mrs. Jones - Reported a faulty highway light Z9.
- Cllr. Rawlings - Asked the Clerk to chase the order of a Grit Bin for Bratton Road.
- Cllr. Mrs. Watts - Informed the meeting that she had reported a broken curb at Wrekin View to T&WC who had replaced it only to have it broken again immediately by a refuse truck. The Clerk was asked to chase the order of a litterbin.

02/168 Press Statement

The Clerk was asked to provide a Press Report.

02/169 Next Meeting

The Chairman reminded members that the next meeting of the Council was scheduled for Wednesday, 11th December 2002 to commence at 7.30 p.m. at Wrockwardine Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 10.36 p.m.

Signed _____
Chairman

Date _____