

## **WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday  
8<sup>th</sup> September 2004 at Admaston House at 7.30 p.m.**

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### **Present:**

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

**Also in attendance:** There were during the course of the meeting between 20 to 30 members of the public in attendance.  
Shropshire Star Reporter

### **04/134 Chairman's remarks**

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting including the Mayor of Wellington Town Council who was present as a member of the public. The Chairman outlined the business of the evening and stated that as the majority of members of the public were in attendance to hear the debate on the proposals for Bean Hill Brook, and mindful of the fact that the room the council was in would not hold all those wishing to be present, it was his intention to move into a larger room as soon as it became available during the course of the evening. This was anticipated to be at around 8.15 p.m.

### **04/135 Co-option to the Office of Parish Councillor**

The Clerk informed the meeting that having followed the lawful procedure for filling a vacancy in the Office of Parish Councillor it was now known that there had been two enquiries for co-option and out of those enquiries there had been one application. The applicant being Mr. Edward John Dawes.

The Chairman formally announced that by way of being the only applicant Mr. Edward John Dawes was duly co-opted to the Office of Parish Councillor.

Cllr. Dawes signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Meeting and took his seat on Council.

### **04/136 Police Report**

Members received the Police report from PC McPherson.

Members reported incidents to PC McPherson.

Cllr. Mrs. Savage reported increasing graffiti on equipment at Wrockwardine Playing Fields. The Clerk agreed to ask Council's handyman to paint over offensive words.

Cllr. Rawlings reported concerns over vehicles travelling up Bratton Road the wrong way. PC McPherson agreed to take a look at the problem.

Members were given a positive report on the summer street sport project.

**04/137 Apologies for Absence**

Apology for absence along with reason were received and accepted from Cllrs. Carver, Craik and Ms. Kenny.  
Courtesy apologies were received from Cllr. Miss. Seymour (Borough Cllr.)  
The meeting was informed that Cllr. Blackwell (Borough Cllr.) was attending another meeting but would attend later.

**04/138 Declaration of Interest**

There were no additional declarations to note.

**04/139 Minutes**

**The Minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2004 were confirmed and signed, by the Chairman, as a true record.**

**04/140 Finance & General Purposes Committee**

Cllr. Cowling presented the minutes of the F&GP Committee which were accepted.

*The Chairman deferred items 8 (Youth Provision) and 9 (Proposed Play Area-Bean Hill) until later in the evening when a larger room became available to enable all those who wished to hear any debate to be present.*

**04/141 Budget Discussion**

The Chairman outlined the draft budget and stated that he did not wish to set the budget at this meeting, it had been placed on the agenda to give members a final opportunity to consider the budget and if there are any other items considered necessary to allow time to place suggestions before the next F&GP Committee.

Cllr. Powell asked that consideration be given by the F&GP Committee to increase the budgeted amount for grants. Cllr. Cowling agreed to put the request to the Committee. Cllr. Powell agreed to make written representation.

*Cllr. Blackwell joined the meeting at 7.45 p.m.*

**04/142 Meeting with P. Bradley M.P.**

Members were reminded that Council was to meet with Mr. Bradley M.P. on the evening of Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September. The Chairman asked for advance notice of questions to be forwarded to him in good time.

**04/143 Traffic and Transport Matters**

**a) Shawbirch Road**

The Clerk was asked to remind Mr. Roderick that he had promised work would take place shortly and to enquire about the provision of traffic survey prior to the commencement of the work.

**b) Local transport Plan**

members noted that the Plan was on file.

Cllr. Kiernan gave a report on his attendance the Bus Users Group Meeting.

**04/144 Parish Improvements**

a) Engraving of stones Admaston Green and Longyard Meadow  
The Clerk reported that he continued to chase the stone mason.

b) Finger posts  
There was no progress to report.

c) Resurfacing of football field at Wrockwardine  
The Clerk reported that the matter was being looked into by the F&GP Committee along with the ROSPA safety report and general grounds maintenance matters.

d) Parish Improvements  
Cllr. Rawlings reported that Longyard Meadow had been cut but consideration should be given to a planned regime of cutting [F&GP Committee looking into costs etc.]

**04/145 Report from Parish Representative on Admaston House Trust**

Members received a written report from Cllr. Craik. Council thanked Cllr. Craik for his report.

***8.17 The Chairman suspended Standing Orders to allow the meeting to move into a larger room for the remaining business. Standing Orders were resumed at 8.32 p.m.***

**04/146 Youth Provision**

The Chairman welcomed to the Meeting Derek Owen and Becky Lloyd (Officer of the Borough). Mr. Owen gave a presentation on the history, research, consultation and proposals for a play area at Bean Hill Brook.

Mr. Owen answered questions from members and then after having been thanked by the Chairman for the presentation, he and Miss Lloyd left the meeting at 8.59 p.m.

**04/147 Proposed Play Area Bean Hill**

The Chairman introduced the agenda item and reminded members that they had received notice of the proposition on their agenda papers. The Chairman went on to outline the rules of the debate. He stated that Cllr. Cowling would speak first giving his reasons for the proposition. After the proposition had been moved, the Chairman would go around the table allowing each member to put their own view and he would allow five minutes for each speech. Cllr. Cowling would then have the right of reply and the proposition would formally be put.

For the benefit of the public the Chairman gave a factual outline of the history of the Bean Hill Project.

Cllr. Cowling addressed the meeting and moved his proposition.

Cllr. Kiernan seconded the proposition and spoke in support.

Cllr. Rawlings spoke against the proposition.

Cllr. Powell spoke against the proposition.

Cllr. Mrs. Savage spoke against the proposition.

Cllr. Dawes stated that he wished to make no comment.

The Chairman did not take up his right to speak in the debate and turned to Cllr. Cowling to ask if he wished to exercise his right of reply.

Cllr. Cowling stated that he felt he had heard nothing he felt a need to reply to.

The Chairman read out the wording of the proposition and formally put it to the meeting:

*The Parish Council having been consulted by the Borough of Telford & Wrekin upon the proposal to develop land at Bean Hill Brook as a BMX Track/ Ball Park and having taken account of the representations of its constituents RESOLVES to oppose the development on the following grounds:*

*a) the land is clearly identified as being part of the Green Network*

*b) the Parish Council is not satisfied that its inhabitants will be properly safeguarded from the effects of noise, nuisance and unacceptable visual and amenity intrusion.*

Cllr. Kiernan asked that the vote be formally recorded by name and vote. This was agreed and the Chairman stated that he would go around the table and ask each individual member to state whether they were for the proposal or against it and time would be allowed for the Clerk to record their personal vote.

Cllr. Kiernan was asked if he was for the proposition or against it.

Cllr. Kiernan stated that he was “for”. The Chairman asked if his vote was to be recorded as for. Cllr. Kiernan stated “yes”.

Cllr. Dawes was asked if he was for the proposition or against it.

Cllr. Dawes stated that he was “against”. The Chairman asked if his vote was to be recorded as against. Cllr. Dawes stated “yes”.

Cllr. Powell was asked if he was for the proposition or against it.

Cllr. Powell stated that he was “against”. The Chairman asked if his vote was to be recorded as against. Cllr. Powell stated “yes”.

Cllr. Mrs. Savage was asked if she was for the proposition or against it.

Cllr. Mrs. Savage stated that she was “against”. The Chairman asked if her vote was to be recorded as against. Cllr. Mrs. Savage stated “yes”.

Cllr. Rawlings was asked if he was for the proposition or against it.

Cllr. Rawlings stated that he was “against”. The Chairman asked if his vote was to be recorded as against. Cllr. Rawlings stated “yes”.

Cllr. Cowling was asked if he was for the proposition or against it. Cllr. Cowling stated that he was “for”. The Chairman asked if his vote was to be recorded as for. Cllr. Cowling stated “yes”.

The Chairman turned to the Clerk. The Clerk stated that the vote presently stood at four votes against the proposition and two votes in favour of the proposition - whether or not the Chairman exercised his vote, the proposition was lost.

The Chairman stated that there was no point in using his vote and formally declared that the proposition was lost. Four votes against it and two votes for it.

Cllr. Rawlings then asked for permission to place before members a second proposition calling for a survey to be carried out to ascertain the wider views of the residents of the parish. Cllr. Rawlings stated that he was of the opinion that the development would be accepted and encouraged by the majority of the residents.

The Chairman stated that it would be in order for him to table his resolution and Cllr. Rawlings was about to speak on the matter when he was interrupted by Cllr. Dawes.

Cllr. Dawes stated that he felt he had voted wrongly and that he had been confused by the way in which the proposition had been worded. He had not meant to vote against the proposition but had meant to vote against the development.

The Chairman turned to the Clerk who stated that in his view the vote had been taken and closed. The proposition had been lost and the vote must stand because business had moved on and Council was about to consider Councillor Rawlings’ proposition .

The Chairman, stated that he was mindful that Cllr. Dawes had made a genuine mistake which could lead to an injustice and that notwithstanding the proper advice of the Clerk was inclined to put the proposition again. If the result remained the same, so be it. If the result was different, he would call upon the NALC solicitor to give a legal view.

No Members of Council objected to the Chairman’s view that the vote should be retaken nor suggested that Cllr. Dawes had done other than make a genuine mistake.

The Chairman put the vote again.

Cllr. Powell – against.

Cllr. Dawes – for.

Cllr. Kiernan – for.

Cllr. Mrs. Savage – against.

Cllr. Rawlings – against.

Cllr. Cowling – for.

The Chairman now used his vote – for.

The Chairman announced that the second taking of the vote resulted in the proposition being accepted and that therefore:

***The Parish Council having been consulted by the Borough of Telford & Wrekin upon the proposal to develop land at Bean Hill Brook as a BMX Track/ Ball Park and having taken account of the representations of its constituents RESOLVES to oppose the development on the following grounds:***

- a) the land is clearly identified as being part of the Green Network***
- b) the Parish Council is not satisfied that its inhabitants will be properly safeguarded from the effects of noise, nuisance and unacceptable visual and amenity intrusion.***

The Chairman then stated that because the result of the second taking of the vote contradicted the result of the first he would refer the whole matter to the NALC Solicitor for guidance. He stated that if the first decision was ruled to be correct then the second decision would be ultra vires.

#### **04/148 Correspondence**

##### **Correspondence requiring a decision**

B T&W	Neighbourhood Watch Signs. Resolved to spend £125 on signs.
T&W CVS Residents	Outreach grants available for organisations. Noted.
Admaston Spa	Street Lighting request. F&GP to deal with this matter during the investigative stages..

##### **The Following correspondence was noted:**

T&W CVS	AGM 7 <sup>th</sup> September Meeting Point House
T&W CVS	Annual Report & Accounts
B T&W	Telford Town Centre Consultation - thanks for contribution.
SCC	Local Transport Plan for Shropshire
AHT	Agenda & Minutes
AHT	Thanks for grant.

#### **04/149 Planning Matters**

##### **The following applications were considered:**

2 x Tree Preservation Orders Land off Spa Crescent Admaston

Licence application Neighbourhood Watch sign Pemberton Road.  
The Clerk informed the meeting that he had spoken to both Babbie (the applicant) and the Borough to point out to them that the footway lighting in this and similar licence applications actually belong to the Parish Council and therefore the Borough can not lawfully grant such licences and applications should come to the Parish Council.

W04/0992      Erection of single storey archive store and two storey office extension and fire escape. Cluddley Depot, Cluddley.

##### **The following Permissions were noted.**

W04/0606      Erection of carport with storage above and extension to kitchen. The Gables, Bratton Road, Telford.

#### **04/150 Accounts for Payment**

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

**Statement 131** was tabled along with the reconciliation and was approved.

#### **04/151 Press Statement**

A press reporter had been present throughout the meeting.

#### **04/152 Next Meeting**

The Chairman reminded members that the next meeting of the Council was scheduled Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> October 2004 to commence at **7.30 p.m.** at Wrockwardine Parish Hall.

#### **SCHEDULE 12A LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining item of business which is confidential and may disclose exempt information

#### **04/153 Update on possible injunctive proceedings**

Cllr. Ballantyne reported that although correspondence had been exchanged there was still no substantive progress to report.

#### **04/154 NALC/SLCC salary recommendations (Clerk)**

Cllr. Cowling placed before the meeting the recommendation as made by the F&GP Committee that:  
The National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services has reached

agreement on rates of pay applicable from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2004. Consequently the National Association of Local Councils and the Society of Local Council Clerks jointly recommend that the salary scales of all full and part time clerks be adjusted in accordance with the new spinal column points (SCP), staff supplements and London weighting allowance.

Further:

The National Joint Council for Local Government Services has reached agreement on the rates of car allowances payable from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2004.

The F&GP Committee recommends to Council that the rates of pay from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2004 along with the recommended rates of car allowances also payable from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2004 as set out in the agreement reached by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services and endorsed by both the National Association of Local Councils and the Society of Local Council Clerks be formally adopted.

Further: That the Clerk be formally appointed to the pay scale set out in Spinal Column Point 17 [Seventeen] on the NJC National Salary Pay Scales for Local Council Clerks with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2004.

**RESOLVED** that that the rates of pay from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2004 along with the recommended rates of car allowances also payable from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2004 as set out in the agreement reached by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services and endorsed by both the National Association of Local Councils and the Society of Local Council Clerks be formally adopted.

Further **RESOLVED**: That the Clerk be formally appointed to the pay scale set out in Spinal Column Point 17 [Seventeen] on the NJC National Salary Pay Scales for Local Council Clerks with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2004.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.35 p.m.

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

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