

## **WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at Wrockwardine Parish Hall at 7.30 p.m.**

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#### **Present:**

Cllr. – S.C. Rawlings - Chairman  
Cllrs. E. Dawes, Mrs. Elaine Ballantyne, K. Ballantyne,  
T. Kiernan, Mrs. Sheila Turner and Mrs Jo Savage.  
Mr. M. Goldstraw – Clerk

**Also present:** PCSO Suzy Coombs.

#### **09/78 Chairman's opening remarks**

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and hoped everyone had had a good summer break.

#### **09/78 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. M. Craik, Nadine Evans and D. Powell. The meeting received courtesy apologies from Borough Councillor Miss J. Seymour and WPC Judith McPherson.

#### **09/79 Police Report**

PCSO Suzy Coombs presented the police report and answered questions. PCSO Coombs agreed to find the number of road traffic collisions in the parish in the preceding three months and report back to the Parish Council.

**7:36 p.m. PCSO Coombs left the meeting after being thanked for her attendance.**

#### **09/80 Public Session**

There were no members of the public present.

#### **09/81 Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made.

#### **09/82 Minutes**

**The Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2009 were confirmed and signed, by the Chairman, as a true record.**

Cllr. Dawes asked why his apologies had not been recorded. The Clerk apologised to Cllr. Dawes and confirmed that he had received apologies for non attendance from Cllr. Dawes in good time prior to the July meeting but those apologies were not presented to the meeting and therefore had not been recorded.

Cllr. Ballantyne commended Council on the way it had responded to the anonymous correspondence presented to the July meeting.

**09/83 Rural Matters**

The meeting received a report of a meeting at which the Chairman, Cllr. Kiernan and the Clerk had met with officers of the Borough and Borough leader Cllr. Eade where the matter of a requested reduced speed limit in Walcot had been raised.

The meeting felt that a comment made at that meeting to the effect that 30 mph speed limits relied on adequate street lighting ought not to be accepted; a number of examples of English rural roads which were subjected to restricted speed limits without being subjected to unnecessary street lighting were cited. It was agreed that physical barriers such as pinch points were the only truly effective methods for restricting traffic speed.

Cllr. Ballantyne asked if errors and additions to the War Memorial plaques in Wrockwardine could be attended to. The meeting resolved to attend to the additions and corrections. Cllr. Ballantyne was asked to provide the Clerk with comprehensive and accurate details to allow a quote for the necessary work to be obtained.

Cllr. Elaine Ballantyne reported that the plaque at the Millennium Coppice had disappeared. Members agreed to find out more details.

**09/84 Traffic Matters**

There were no traffic matters raised.

**09/85 Audit Matters**

The Internal Auditor had noted that when declarations of interest were made it should be noted on the minutes whether they were personal or prejudicial. The meeting discussed both aspects of personal and prejudicial interest.

The Internal Auditor had noted that when Council approved pay increases for members of staff the actual monetary increase should be noted in the minutes and not just the pay scale. The meeting felt that it could not agree with this advice because personal salaries were exempt from being disclosed under the Freedom of Information Act. It was agreed that resolutions for pay increases should be kept to levels of pay scale.

**09/86 Street Lights**

The Chairman informed the meeting that Council had yet to receive a lower quote but Eon had promised to review their initial quote. The meeting resolved to ask Pirelli for a comparative quote so that alternative suppliers could be considered. The Clerk was instructed to contact Pirelli to obtain a quote of the same specification.

Cllr. Ballantyne asked if those who had been asked to give a quote could be given a deadline to respond by. The meeting agreed. It was also agreed that Pirelli should be asked to give a quote for the annual maintenance of street lights so that consideration can be given to competitive quotes at the time of the next contract renewal.

**09/87 Admaston House Trust**

Cllr. Sheila Turner gave a report on the success of the Trustees in obtaining funding for upgrading and refurbishment of the toilets at Admaston House.

Following a discussion on, and clarification of, the funding available from the Parish Council, it was noted that Council still awaited a formal request from the Trustees for project funding and could not act until such a request was received.

It was noted that there was to an Open Day at the House on September 12<sup>th</sup>. Cllr. Kiernan made a request, on behalf of the Trustees, for use of the Green and specifically for use by a commercial quad bike operator for hire on the Open Day. It was resolved to approve such a use provided that the Clerk was in receipt of a copy of a satisfactory public liability insurance certificate from the operator.

**09/88 Parish Improvements**

a) Provision of Allotments

The meeting received a report of a meeting at which the Chairman, Cllr. Kiernan and the Clerk had met with officers of the Borough and Borough leader Cllr. Eade where the matter of land offered for allotments was discussed.

The Chairman stated that Cllr. Eade had been entirely supportive of the initiative and had asked officer to facilitate an early transfer of the land to the Parish.

The meeting discussed a number of issues related to the operation of allotments. It was agreed to arrange a meeting with the Borough and with officers of the local Allotments Association to discuss how the project might be moved forward.

The Chairman asked members to give consideration to the financial implications of the project.

b) Play Areas

The Chairman reported that the ground works for the Ball Wall had been completed and delivery of the wall was now awaited.

Cllr. Kiernan informed the meeting that the Borough would have an idea of the cost of providing fencing at the Walcot play area within the next two weeks.

The meeting received confirmation that the Borough Council would be taking over the responsibility for the Squirrel Meadow play ground.

c) Footpath – Wrekin View

Cllr. Kiernan confirmed that the Borough Council would attend to the maintenance of the footpath.

e) Parish Litter Bins

The meeting received a report that the recently provided waste bin at Longyard Meadow had firstly received vociferous objections from a small number of residents and then been damaged by being daubed with a tar like paint before finally being stolen. Whoever had vandalised the bin prior to its theft had also vandalised the oak gate and the granite name stone. The Police had been informed and were undertaking investigations.

The Chairman had been disappointed by the residents' reaction and concerns and regarded the actions of whoever was behind the vandalism and theft with disgust.

**8:55 p.m. Cllr. Dawes left the meeting.**

The meeting discussed the replacement of the bin and repair of the gate and stone.

**8:58 p.m. Cllr. Dawes rejoined the meeting.**

Following discussion, where there was unanimous condemnation of the behaviour of whoever had damaged and stolen the bin along with general disappointment of the attitude of the few residents who had objected to its siting, it was resolved to replace the bin at Longyard Meadow in consultation with the Borough to ascertain if the bin could be emptied if placed within the bounds of the meadow itself.

Cllr. Ballantyne requested that when Council explains its budget and expenditure to the electorate, the extra expenditure incurred due to the theft of the bin and general vandalism of the site should be made plain.

**09/89 Correspondence**

**1. Correspondence requiring a decision**

T&WC LDF Telecoms Policy – Noted.

**2. Correspondence not requiring a decision**

CPRE Landscapes & Fieldwork Magazines. Cllr. Mrs Savage.

Ramblers Assoc. Mins and Agenda. Chairman.

CVS Newsletter. Noted.

T&WC Equality and Diversity Policy. Noted.

SALC Freedom of Information Act. Cllr. Dawes.

Safer Roads P Invitation to seminar. Noted.

**09/90 Planning Matters**

**Sugar Beet Factory Site.**

The meeting received information from Mr. Barker, Borough Planning Officer, setting out a view on how the Borough wished to deal with any planning issues which may be presented in relation to the site.

Following discussion it was agreed not to table any resolution but to allow

Cllr. Ballantyne to redraft the resolution having in mind the letter from Mr. Barker.

The meeting noted that the following planning matters had been dealt with during the summer:

**Applications**

W09/0558 Removal of 178m of hedgerow Barratts Field Walcot – This site and its creeping development continued to trouble and following consultation with a number of members the Clerk had submitted an objection from Council based upon the loss of wildlife habitat and visual amenity.

W09/0631 Erection of a materials storage building (retrospective) Respol Overlay. There had been no objections.

W09/0620 Erection of a ferric dosing kiosk; Rushmoor Sewage Treatment Works. There had been no objections.

W09/0550 Erection of a two storey front extension; Rookery Nook 4 Rushmoor Lane. There had been no objections.

W09/0538 Erection of a conservatory to rear, extension to front and alterations to garage; 18 Aldermead Close. There had been no objections.

**Permissions**

W09/0473 Erection of an agricultural storage building with creation of access road and hard standing: 10 Rushmoor Lane Bratton.

W09/0353 Erection of a steel portal framed agricultural building; Land at Cluddley Farm.

**The following planning matters were placed before the meeting:**

**Applications**

W09/0725 Erection of first floor extension and a ground floor conservatory to rear of existing dwelling: The Old Smithy 44 Elmsdale Crescent.

W09/0711 Erection of front extension to existing attached garage incorporating porch: 5 Shawbirch Road.

W09/0663 Erection of two storey side extension; 15 The Avenue.

**Permissions**

**The following permission was received:**

W09/0558 Removal of 178m of hedgerow Barratts Field Walcot.

W09/0550                      Erection of a two storey front extension; Rookery Nook  
4 Rushmoor Lane.

**Refusals**

There were no refusals.

The meeting was asked to note that the Borough Council had received notice of appeal against the condition regarding the hours of operation for planning consent removal of condition 7 from W83/0626 and removal of condition 2 from W78/0869 restricting use to A Maiden & Son only.

**09/91 Accounts for Payment**

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

**Statements 30 and 31** were tabled along with the reconciliation and were approved.

The meeting approved an additional payment:

Cheque 010320 Hedge Cutting - Leon Kingston £350.00

**09/92 Press Statement**

The Clerk agreed to send details of the meeting to the press.

**09/93 Chairman's Closing Remarks**

The Chairman thanked all for attending the meeting.

**09/77 Next Meeting**

Members were reminded that the next meeting of the Council was to be on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009 to commence at 7.30 p.m. at Admaston House.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.39 p.m.

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

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