

WROCKWARDINE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Special Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 16th January 2002 at Admaston House Community Centre, Admaston at 8.15 p.m.

Present:

Cllr. - Mrs. R. Hargrave - Chairman.
Cllrs. K. J. S. Ballantyne, B. C. Brown, E. A. Cowling, Mrs.
E.S. Jones, A. Orrell, D. Powell, S. Rawlings and Mrs. J.
Savage.
Mr. M. Goldstraw - Clerk
Cllr. D. Blackwell (Unitary Councillor)

Guests: Mr. G. Harvey, Mr. N. Roderick and Mr. K. Price (T&WC)

Also in attendance: 50 + members of the public.

02/18 Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all present and explained that the meeting would be dealing with two separate traffic matters. The first was to receive the proposals for traffic calming on Shawbirch Road and Station Road and the rationale behind the proposals. This would be presented by Mr. Neil Roderick who would answer questions from the council.

The second would be to question Mr. Harvey on the general concerns over traffic matters within the parish. Cllr. Orrell had received recent correspondence from members of the public, had collated it and would put those concerns to the officers on behalf of both the Parish and public.

02/19 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. Mrs. M. Carver.

02/20 Declaration of Interest

Cllr. Ballantyne declared a personal, non pecuniary, non substantial interest in the matter by virtue of his residence on Shawbirch Road.

02/21 Traffic Matters

Mr. Roderick presented the maps and proposals for calming on Shawbirch Road and Station Road explaining that the project would be financed with a £25'000 planning gain. He explained that the proposals were not written in stone and there would be public consultation and full opportunity to take into account the opinions of residents. The proposals included Gateway Signage, speed roundels and coloured carpets. Two alternatives were available, one of which included a pedestrian crossing. He explained that regrettably there was no scope for pedestrian refuges owing to the narrowness of the road.

Members discussed various proposals and questioned speed statistics and traffic volumes on the road. The location of traffic surveys were challenged

and an insistence by Members to place proper traffic surveys in the vicinity of the Pheasant inn was accepted by the T&WC Officers. The overwhelming view of Members was that the positioning of speed cameras on the route was the best possible solution which was being ignored.

The meeting expressed a great deal of frustration with the failure of PC Riggs to attend despite adequate notice. The Clerk read to the Meeting a letter from PC Riggs which clearly stated that an officer would be in attendance. The letter made an attempt to give an explanation for the failure of the police to carry out the repeated requests for speed checks in the area and also offered an explanation as to why speed cameras would be impractical. The reasons stated were challenged by the Meeting as being wholly unacceptable and Cllr. Ballantyne was asked to draft a suitable reply to further the demand for adequate speed checks by speed cameras.

Mr. Harvey was asked if he would be willing to take questions from the public. He stated that he would not. The Chairman thanked the public for their interest and stated that she was grateful to Cllr. Orrell both for collating the recent concerns of the public and for all his research over a period of time.

Cllr. Orrell explained that the collation was very much that of taking peoples views rather than their questions, he explained that residents of Shawbirch Road and Station Road had been asked for their views on the proposals for those roads and these had been noted and would be addressed when the plans are discussed, but there was a far greater fear that whilst this project may be a quick pacifier for the short term, they were not the answer to the greater problems, of which Mr. Harvey was fully aware, of the area as a whole.

Mr. Harvey acknowledged that he had received a list of questions prior to the meeting and agreed that he would send the Clerk a formal reply.

his Cllr. Orrell put several very searching questions to Mr. Harvey and many of replies were challenged to the full. There was a great deal of debate but the general feeling of the meeting was one of being fobbed of with inaccurate replies.

Cllr. Brown summed up the feeling of the Meeting by stating that the area had been promised a bypass as the only realistic solution. We had not yet got it. Action was needed and it needs to be done reasonably quickly. Cllr. Browns summary was well received by the public present.

Cllr. Blackwell urged the public to make their views known to T&WC . The Chairman brought the Meeting to a close by stating that there were still a great many questions which remained unanswered but it was important that the public play their part and let Members know what their concerns were.

02/22 Press Statement

The Clerk was asked to prepare a press statement.

The meeting closed at 9.38 p.m.

Signed _____
Chairman

Date _____