



Chairman: Councillor Lynda Baker Oliver

WATERS UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council:
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MINUTES of the **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** of **Waters Upton** which was held in the **Village Hall, Waters Upton** on **Wednesday, 27th April 2016** at **7.30p.m.**

PRESENT: Councillor: Mrs L M Baker Oliver (Chairman)

In Attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk to the Council)
Councillor E Thomas
Councillor D Smith
Councillor J Griffin
Councillor T Revitt
Councillor B Rothwell
5 Members of the public
Councillor S Bentley, TWC

16/3097 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

All Parish Council meetings are open to the public and the Parish Council very much appreciates the time that some residents give to attend the monthly meeting – this is important and will continue to be encouraged.

16/3098 APOLOGIES

Mr H Roberts, Neighbourhood Watch
Judith Bishop, Apple Tree Nursery
Mr Ames, Crudgington School
Caroline Osborn, St Michael's Church
John Williams, St Michael's Church
Ann Reed, Art Group and Chestnut Club
West Mercia Police

16/3099 MINUTES OF THE 2015 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in 2015 had been distributed and displayed in the village noticeboards. It was proposed by Cllr Griffin and seconded by Cllr Smith, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting, held in April 2015 be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

16/3100 MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION

Cyclists

There continue to be concerns regarding the cyclists and in particular the vehicles that accompany the riders who park without regard for other road users.

Road Surfaces

Some work has been undertaken to repair the poor quality of repairs and maintenance undertaken earlier in the year. This has been pointed out to TWC and local residents think of it as a waste of their council tax money.

Speed Through Villages

This continues to be a concern and is a police matter. Unfortunately, the police do not believe it to be a priority and whilst they are short-staffed and because of cut-backs, it is unlikely that they will be seen in the rural areas on a regular basis. This should be pointed out to the new Police Commission following the election on 5th May 2016.

16/3101 BROADBAND FOR RURAL AREAS

The meeting welcomed Claire Critchell, Broadband Programme Manager, Superfast Telford and Ian Binks, Regional Partnership Director, BT West Midlands.

Claire updated everyone on the contract with funding from the Department of Culture, Media and Sports which commenced with an open market review which promises that 9300 premises will have access to Superfast Broadband by the end of 2017.

Whilst they are currently working to three phases, Claire was pleased to announce that two local 'green box' stations had been made active which had resulted in many properties in Waters Upton, Crudgington and other areas of the Great Bolas Exchange being able to access the provision rather than having to wait for Phase III.

It is unfortunate, however, that there are still some areas that do not connect via these boxes and this will result in a delay before they can access the faster speeds.

Please follow the bullet points below to ascertain the position for your particular property.

- Check the openreach website to see if your home or business can benefit from the recent fibre upgrade as part of the Superfast Telford programme here – <http://www.homeandwork.openreach.co.uk/when-can-i-get-fibre.aspx>
- If it says accepting orders then contact your Internet Service Provider (or find a new one) and upgrade to a fibre broadband package to enjoy the benefits – it doesn't happen automatically
- If you can't yet benefit, check to see if you are in the programme <http://www.superfast-telford.co.uk/whereandwhen> and register your details with us so we can keep you updated
- In the interim for those that are sub 2Mbps the national basic broadband scheme might be an option if eligible – more details can be found on our website <http://www.superfast-telford.co.uk/basicbroadband>
- If anyone has any specific questions then you can email superfast@telford.gov.uk

Ian then presented a little more information regarding the mobile provisions locally based on the fact that BT has recently purchased EE. By the end of 2017, 97% should be able to access 4G.

16/3102 CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman gave a report to the Meeting on the work throughout the year, a copy of the report is attached to the Minutes. A copy is available on request. The report will be added to the website and will be forwarded for use in a future newsletter.

16/3103 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk is pleased to be able to report that the Parish Council still has a healthy balance. The total money available at the end of March 2015 is in excess of £22,000. This is subject to the end of year adjustments for Audit purposes. We have worked within budget for 2015/16 and completed some local projects.

The budget for 2016/17 has been agreed at £23,610, raised by a precept of £17,000.

16/3104 LOCAL GROUP & ORGANISATION REPORTS

The following reports had been received:-

Apple Trees Nursery

St Michael's Church

St John's Church – Mr Ray Hughes attended to present the report

Crudgington School

Art Group

Chestnut Club

Waters Upton Village Hall

16/3105 WEST MERCIA POLICE

No report had been received, however we have been informed that information is available on their website.

Our Safer Neighbourhood Team comprises of PC Forster, who is currently seconded to another project for the force. PCSOs Julie Tennant and Zoe Bevan are based at Wellington Police Station. There are no longer local police surgeries.

16/3106 TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

Councillor Bentley had provided a written report which will be included in the Minute Book and on the website. Copies are available on request.

16/3107 PARISH MATTERS

None

16/3108 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place immediately after this Annual Parish meeting. There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.20p.m.

SignedDate