



WATERS UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor Lynda Baker Oliver

Clerk to the Council:
Katrina Baker MBE
The Oaklands, Waters Upton, Telford TF6 6NP
Telephone 01952 541939 or 07813788094
E mail: watersuptonpc@btinternet.com
www.watersupton.org.uk

Minutes of the meeting of Waters Upton Parish Council which took place on **Wednesday 25th January 2017** at 7.30p.m. in Waters Upton Village Hall.

PRESENT: Councillors: Mrs L M Baker Oliver
Mrs E Thomas
J Griffin
T Revitt
B Rothwell
D Smith

In attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk)
4 Members of the public

17/3237 WELCOME

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs Baker Oliver, opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

PUBLIC SESSION

Dog fouling

This continues to be a problem around the Parish but particular examples have been found in the three lanes at Cold Hatton.

Additional signs will be displayed and the Clerk will write to local dog walkers that have been identified and will enclose a pack of dog poo bags which are still available for.

Police visits

The community would welcome more police visits in and around the Parish and the Clerk will ascertain if a local police surgery can take place in the Parish Centre.

17/3238 APOLOGIES

Councillor S Bentley, TWC Member

17/3239 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of the need to declare their interests in any matters appearing on the agenda. Should a personal or prejudicial interest be declared, the member should leave the room and take no part in the decision on the subject.

Councillor Mrs Thomas Planning Application – Mill House

Acquaintance

Councillor B Rothwell Planning Applications – Mill House & Meeson Hall

Local Resident

17/3240 MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN DECEMBER 2016

With the amendment of the reference to the last meeting reading November, it was proposed by Councillor Revitt and seconded by Councillor J Griffin that the Minutes of the December meeting be accepted and agreed as a true record. All were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the December meeting be signed as a true record.
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17/3241 MATTERS ARISING

None

17/3242 FINANCE

a) **Payments**

Payments, in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the Parish Council were agreed and signed by two Members of the Council.

Payment	Cheque No	Amount
Roadman, churchyard and parish centre	302118	£331.00
Parish Centre - reimbursement	302119	839.76
Treatment works	302120 (replacement cheque)	96.00

b) **Budget Consideration 2017/18**

A draft budget had been provided to Members before the meeting, and the Clerk confirmed the financial position on each of the budget headings.

After consideration it was proposed by Councillor T Revitt and seconded by Councillor B Rothwell, all were in favour and it was unanimously agreed that there would be no increase in the precept for 2017/18.

RESOLVED that the budget for 2017 / 2018 would be £27,470, and a precept of £23,610. This takes into consideration that there will be no Council Tax Support Grant available this year.

c) **Grant Application**

Members had received a grant application from KOSHA, Keep Our Shropshire History Alive. This charity had been set up to raise £32,000 to keep the Shropshire Regimental Museum running since the withdrawal of the grant from MOD. It was proposed by Councillor T Revitt and seconded by Councillor B Rothwell that the Parish Council should allocated £100 from the 2017/18 grant budget for this worthwhile cause. All were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that Waters Upton Parish Council would donate £100 in April 2017 to KOSHA.

Members were interested to learn more about the museum and its work and how the £32,000 per year will be spent. Further information will be requested.

17/3243 **PLANNING**

a) **Planning Applications Updates**

Councillor Mrs E Thomas and Councillor B Rothwell declared an interest

TWC/2016/0902 The Mill House, Great Bolas

Following further communications to the Chairman and to the Clerk from local residents, the Chairman and Clerk had met with the Planning Officer at TWC to become appraised of the detail of the application. It was obvious that this application has caused much emotion, but Mr Gittins assured the Parish Council that all comments received had been taken into consideration. There was no recommendation available at the meeting, but it was confirmed that regardless of the outcome of the Planning Application, a licence and consent will be required from the Caravan and Camping Club for the site to be registered. The Parish Council had advised the neighbours that they may want to ensure that the CCC is aware of the information that have obtained.

b) **New Applications for Consideration**

Councillor Rothwell declared an interest, as a resident of Meeson

TWC/2016/1168/1171 Meeson Hall, Meeson

The Council has received further applications for the renewal of planning consent to convert outbuildings at the rear of Meeson Hall.

RESOLVED that Waters Upton Parish Council would have no objections to the proposals.

c) **Other Planning Matters**

TW Local Plan

The Local Plan Examination Hearing has been rescheduled for two weeks from 30th January 2017. The Examiner had produced some questions based on his work to thoroughly

investigate the proposed Plan and the process of gathering evidence. The rural allocation of houses will be questioned as Matter 3 on Wednesday 1st February 2017.

Development on land adjacent to the Cemetery, Waters Upton

Further to the Clerk's enquiry regarding the current position reference the One-way system for River Lane and the provision of the community assets relating to the site, it had been agreed that a meeting will take place with the Planning Officer and Developer. The Chairman and Clerk will attend this meeting to represent the Parish Council.

17/3244 CORRESPONDENCE

Items received for information – please contact the Clerk if you wish to read any of these documents or if you require additional information.

- a) All correspondence has been shared with Members throughout the period since the last meeting
- b) Sytch Lane blocked road drains – work has been completed to clear these drains
TWC has confirmed that it is working through a programme to visit all road drains in the rural area in the coming weeks.
- c) Thanks were extended to Sue Finzi for her work to continue to remind Royal Mail of the need for a post box in Cold Hatton. They had previously agreed to relocate the box from the Seven Stars site, but as yet this has not taken place.
- d) The Clerk had not been able to get a commitment from TWC to fund the light repair needed in Upton Stones, she continues to work with EON to address this problem.

17/3245 RIGHTS OF WAY (WET3P)

The work as agreed will be undertaken in January / February and will include the installation of the kissing gate at Sytch Lane and work on the footway markers near to Hunter's Bridge. It is essential to get the way markers up to date, particularly in Meeson, in order that the accurate route of the right of way can be confirmed. There will be some repair work also needed on Hunter's Bridge.

17/3246 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported that a short, medium and long term plan was being progressed regarding the B5062 following the meeting with highway officers and the police.

Final communication with Jonathon Eatough has brought the matter of complaints regarding the planning process and applications in our Parish which were evident in 2015 to a conclusion with both parties agreeing that lessons had been learned and concluded that the complaint was now closed.

17/3247 CLERK'S REPORT

- a) The Parish Forum took place on 12th January and Parish & Town Councils heard the TWC plan for the budget for 2017/18.
- b) The TW Bus User Group met on 18th January and it had been confirmed that TWC had allocated £10,000 to the North Shropshire Wheelers as a contribution to the new bus route that had been introduced for our area.
- c) Wrekin Area Committee met on 19th January, the Minutes have been circulated for information.
- d) Thanks had been extended to Simon Tranter for his assistance to clear the edges of the footpath from Sytch Lane to Cold Hatton. It is important that this is recognised as an informal path, not suitable for horses. Dog fouling is not acceptable on this path and users are reminded that they must pick up after their dog otherwise they could face a fine of up to £1000.

17/3248 PLAY AREA MAINTENANCE

Members will recall that they have responsibility for the safety on the sites at Waters Upton and Great Bolas and for the maintenance of the areas. Both areas are in need of additional bark. Waters Upton will need cushion bark to fill in, there are no safety issues with the equipment and the bark area edges are still in place. However, Great Bolas needs to have the barked areas redefined. This can be achieved with wooden edging but this is more formal than the site has had in the past and will be a large size project due to the positioning of the concrete which holds the equipment. A new system is available, SOCCS. Members are asked to visit the play area before the next meeting, a design will then be available with a detailed quotation and a sample of the material that can be used.

17/3249 REPORT FROM TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

Councillor Bentley had sent in a report regarding road drains. He had negotiated that a jetter visits the Parish very soon to undertake necessary work on all road drains. Members and the public are asked to identify all problem drains in order that none are missed. A regular programme of maintenance of the drains will follow.

17/3250 PARISH MATTERS

a) Neighbourhood Watch

Huw Roberts, one of the Co-ordinators, updated Members and the public on the growing concerns regarding rural crime and the lack of police support. It was agreed that the Parish Council would request a meeting with the Safer Neighbourhood Team for our Parish in order that we can establish the details and statistics that are available. It is disappointing that no feed-back is ever available. A special village meeting is to take place on 31st January for local residents to share their thoughts and ideas.

A Community Action Day will take place in April and the support of the community is essential for this to be successful.

b) Overgrown Hedges

All local landowners and residents are asked to ensure that their hedges are cut back in order that there is no obstruction or visibility issue.

There are some warning signs that are not visible because of overgrown hedges and in places traffic is forced into the middle of the road which causes dangers.

c) Road signs

A list of signs that need replacing or re-positioning will be put together for use by TWC.

d) Central areas in A442 at Cold Hatton

The Clerk will enquire if the two remaining areas of the old style will be replaced soon.

17/3251 NEXT MEETING

22nd February 2017

7.30pm

Monthly Meeting

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25pm.

Signed**Date**

These Minutes are produced in draft form. E & OE until confirmed as a true record by Full Council at the next meeting on 22nd February 2017.