



Waters Upton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Waters Upton Parish Council which took place on **Wednesday 13th March 2019 at 7.30pm in Waters Upton Village Hall.**

PRESENT: Councillors: Mrs L M Baker Oliver (Chairman)
T Revitt
E Thomas
J Griffin
B Rothwell

In attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk)
5 Members of the public
Cllr S Bentley (TWC)

19/3652 WELCOME

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

PUBLIC SESSION

Reporter at the last meeting

It was good to have a reporter and to see some articles in the Shropshire Star. The reporter had mentioned that he was pleased to have attended our meeting and was impressed, especially with the number of members of the public in attendance.

Security Lights

It was confirmed that an article will appear in the next newsletter reminding people to lower their security lights and to set them so that they do not remain on too long. This will lessen the effects on the wildlife and reduce light pollution.

It was confirmed that the creation of a Rill and Pond in the rear garden does not require consent, however the

19/3653 APOLOGIES

Cllr D Smith Authorised Leave of Absence

RESOLVED that these apologies be accepted.

Members recorded their thanks to Mr Des Smith who has served as a Parish Councillor, representing Crudgington, for many years. Mr Smith will not be standing for election this year. Very best wishes will be extended to him and his family.

19/3654 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of the need to declare an interest in any items on the agenda and should this be pecuniary, then Members should leave the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

None.

19/3655 MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN FEBRUARY 2019

It was proposed by Councillor Revitt and seconded by Councillor Rothwell, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 27th February 2019 be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

19/3656 MATTERS ARISING

Orchard Close Headwall Project

Confirmation was received on 4th March that all the documents had been signed and agreements are now in place for the future maintenance of the system. Work will commence early in the New Year.

Street Light Contracts

The contract is in place to upgrade the street lights and we are awaiting a timetable for the work to be undertaken.

A new energy contract has been signed for 12 months. New prices will be available when the LED lights are installed and a new contract can then be negotiated.

Safe Route to School bollards

There had been no update.

A442 central refuges at Cold Hatton

We are still awaiting the details of a proposed scheme. It is possible that this will not be available until the new contract starts with Balfour Beatty.

Auto-sign at Crudgington

The sign has to be removed by a contractor for repair – it is likely to take some time before this can happen.

19/3657

FINANCE

a) Payments

Cheque No	Payment	Law / Statute	Amount
000084	Library window blinds	Grant Funded	289.00
000085	Clerk's Salary Jan – Mar 2019	LGA 1972	600.00
000086	PAYE	LGA 1972	150.00
000087	Roadman, Churchyard, play areas, Parish Centre	LGA 1972 s 101	583.00

The Payment Voucher and cheques were signed by two Councillors within the terms of the Council's Financial Regulations.

b) Financial Report

The total in the current account at 13th March 2019 was £49,592 which includes the funds raised for Parish Room Croft and the Defibrillator.

c) Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

There have been no changes received from NALC and it was therefore agreed that the current Standing Orders and Financial Records be re-affirmed for 2019/20.

19/3658

PLANNING

a) Planning Applications Updates

The residents of 3 The Paddocks would like to undertake work on the Oak Tree to the rear of their garden due to its condition. They are supportive of the Tree Preservation Order.

b) New Applications for consideration

There are no current planning applications. However TWC/2019/0201 had been received yesterday and related to 4 The Paddocks. The application form and supporting documents were inaccurate and incomplete so the Councillors resolved to defer any discussion until an amended application is received.

However, the replacement of the hedge to the front of the property is a requirement under enforcement as it should not have been removed. Therefore the Members requested that it be replanted as soon as possible before the planning application for the wall and boundary is considered. When the hedge is planted, Members, and the community, will have a better idea of the overall visual appearance before commenting on the proposals.

RESOLVED that the application will be called-in for determination by the Planning Committee, as Members on behalf of the community, believe that it is important that the background to this retrospective application is made available to the Members before they make a decision.

c) Other Planning Matters

i) Parish Room Croft

Access through the Paddocks for pedestrians and vehicles will be required at all times and this has been included in the Conveyance for Number 1.

The gates will remain secured unless the Village Hall has an event that will require additional car parking spaces.

It may be necessary to apply for Change of Use from agricultural to leisure purposes.

The Clerk had met with a representative of Play Equipment designers and a draft outline of what could be included on the site was available. Following the completion of the sale, a drop in consultation event will take place in the Village Hall so that local residents can have a say in the design and features of the site.

The play area will be a public facility and in the main suitable for younger children. The Field View area will remain for older children due to the equipment included.

ii) 4 The Paddocks, Parish Room Croft

The Clerk had discussed the hedge to the front of the property and the owner has agreed to purchase and plant native hedging in containers which will be at least 1m in height.

19/3659

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. Members have not requested that any should be included on the agenda.
- b) Pop Up Pub – 1st Birthday
The local community have asked for a celebration of the 1st anniversary on the last Friday of April.
- c) Land at The Firs, Moortown
The Clerk updated members on the site which received permission for a new access for agricultural vehicles to access the farm in December 2018. A 40m visibility splay was initially created with the removal of the native hedge. A concrete pad adjacent to the road has been installed and a track through the first field to the rear field which is to be used as a race track for auto-cross. The site is to be run by North Shropshire Grass Track Racing who are moving from Whitchurch. They will be able to hold up to 14 events on the site without a requirement for planning permission. No TEN is required if there is to be no music, entertainment or the sale of alcohol. The first event is programmed for 17th March, weather permitting. Only during the event can the noise, dust, parking, PA system etc. be monitored and if necessary, enforcement action taken.
For confirmation, the site is in Ercall Magna Parish Council but the concerns from local residents are due to their experiences with other local sites. The difficulties on these sites are controlled by the requirement for planning consent.
The extended removal of the hedge, to 100m, did not gain permission, but has been stated as necessary for visibility, even though the agricultural vehicle track would enable tractors etc to see over the hedge?
- d) Great British Spring Clean
It had been agreed that a local event will take place on 14th April. Litter picks etc. will be available at the Village Hall on Sunday 14th April at 10am. Light refreshments will be available in the village hall, either before or after your pick.
- e) Scrutiny Topics
Anyone with suggestions for topics that TWC Scrutiny Committees can investigate can send them direct to TWC or via the Clerk.

19/3660

RIGHTS OF WAY (WET3P)

- a) A meeting of the WET3P took place on 7th March 2019. As a priority, they will look to install a footbridge on the Nobridge route and a kissing gate at Bolas Bridge Cottage. The long awaited kissing

gate at Sytch Lane should be installed in the new financial year. Cllr Griffin will work with Paula Doherty from the Ramblers to install the necessary finger posts and stiles to create some identified routes in the Parish.

More volunteers to walk the routes and undertake maintenance would be appreciated.

Some maintenance work is required to open up the route to Hunters Bridge.

19/3661 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman informed the meeting of her work during the month and the meetings attended to represent the Parish Council. She had met with TWC and the Agent acting on behalf of the new owner of the Swan, with Councillor Bentley and the Clerk and was pleased to see the initial outline plans for a scheme which includes a Community Asset. Further details will be available which will include first floor residential and four other elements on the site.

COUNCILLORS REPORTS

None

19/3662 CLERK'S REPORT

a) Meetings attended

Parish Charter Monitoring Group

The PCMG has taken up the issue of planning and development raised at the WAC meeting and a review will take place with TWC following the elections. All Parish & Town Councils have been asked to provide examples where they have been concerned about the process and professionalism of the TWC Planning & Development procedures.

Telford & Wrekin Bus User Group

The main issues were the lack of timetables, both along routes and at the bus stations in Telford & Shrewsbury. Although it is good to have the Arriva 519 back in service, there are some local issues with timekeeping which Arriva are trying to address.

Parish Room Croft

Meetings with Shingler and residents have taken place. Thanks were extended for the supply of a chain and padlock for Parish Room Croft. The legal transfer is scheduled to take place at the end of March 2019.

Election Briefing

Packs have been provided to existing Councillors who wish to stand for re-election. Other information is available from elections@telford.gov.uk or from the Electoral Commission. The register of electors will be available on 26th March and nomination forms must be hand-delivered to Addenbrooke House in Telford by 4pm on April 3rd 2019. A statement of persons nominated will be available at 4pm on April 4th, at that time we will know if we are to have an election in Waters Upton Parish.

b) Mud On Road

As a result of excessive mud in Great Bolas and a failed attempt to clean the highway, road drains are blocked and this is causing additional flooding. The new highway maintenance contractors will commence a programme of work on 1st April. They have said that they will clear all 36,000 miles of road drains within the first twelve months of the contract.

c) Defibrillator

The cabinet and equipment have been delivered and will be installed outside of Waters Upton Parish Centre. This will enable 24 hour access. Local residents who are trained have offered to give a demonstration in the Village Hall at an event to be arranged following installation.

d) Field View

The repairs required by RoSPA have been completed. The play area has an older child specification and this will be kept in mind when considering the new area at Parish Room Croft.

e) Great Bolas Play Area

Members are aware that some funds were transferred to the Parish Council at the time the area was leased from TWC. This will be used to upgrade the area so that it meets the requirements of the recent RoSPA inspection. Quotations had been obtained and a first phase, to make the area safe, would cost £1300. It was proposed by

Councillor Thomas and seconded by Councillor Rothwell that the work be undertaken in the Spring. All were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the first phase of work, to make the area safe and usable, would be ordered and installed as soon as possible.

The Clerk has agreed to attend a three day training session and examination to undertake the RoSPA inspections. The cost will be shared by all parishes to reduce the costs.

f) Kickstart

A grant application has been submitted for funding (up to £5000) to set up a mobile event in the form of a roadshow, to travel to all the rural green spaces, schools and village halls offering a wide range of activities, sports, information etc. This will take place throughout the summer, one day per week at each village venue and this will be an introduction to a series of events and sessions taking place throughout the year.

g) Cemetery Car Park sign

Days New Homes is to provide a draft design for consideration.

19/3663 REPORT FROM TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

Councillor Bentley updated Members on the success of the Arriva 519 Saturday services which are being well used. Ercall Magna Parish Council will be sending out the invoices in the new financial year.

Balfour Beatty is the new highway maintenance contractor and will start on 1st April, it is hoped that many of the outstanding issues will then be addressed. This includes the A442 40mph scheme at Cold Hatton, replacement bollards at the Crudgington Safe Route to School, missing and damaged road signs, blocked and broken road drains etc.

The dog warden service will be managed by Hilbrae.

Dog fouling continues to be a problem, particularly in Catsbitch Lane, dog walkers are reminded that they can be fined £1000 for not picking up after their dogs – it is an offence.

He will attend the Moortown Race meeting and assess the noise, dust and parking issues in order to continue to work with TWC to effectively manage the site and its effects on the local communities.

It was good to attend the meeting regarding The Swan, and it is hoped that an acceptable and suitable application will come forward. The Agent had given a commitment to tidying the site and making it safe, and also to work with Swan Court residents to find a solution to the sewage problems.

The application for 4 The Paddocks is retrospective and this should not be allowed to go un-challenged as it sends out the wrong message to others. As the Parish Council has called in the application to be determined by Planning Committee, he will attend the meeting to speak on behalf of the residents to ensure that the facts regarding the breach of planning and Local / Neighbourhood Plan policies is brought to the attention of the Committee.

Councillor Bentley thanked the Parish Council and residents for their help and support throughout the year and wished it to be recorded that the Parish Councillors have achieved so much on behalf of the community and this is to be applauded.

19/3664 PARISH MATTERS

a) Neighbourhood Watch and SmartWater

Correspondence with the PCC and Inspector G Wade has brought about current information on the Neighbourhood Watch updates. However, concerns remain that front line staff answering the phones when crimes are reported are not instructed to discuss Smartwater – this would ensure that the crime details are forwarded to the relevant teams.

A meeting has been arranged for the NW co-ordinators to meet with the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Inspector Gary Wade has accepted the invitation to attend the Annual Parish Meeting in April.

b) Blocked Road Drains

There are many blocked drains around the Parish, one in particular that needs attention is at the entrance to Shop Lane, Cold Hatton – it was reported that this has not been cleared out for at least 10 years and as a consequence it has not sunk into the ground.

c) Fences

Residents are reminded that boundary fences adjacent to the highway will need planning consent if they are higher than 1m.

19/3665 NEXT MEETINGS

24 th April 2019	7.30pm	Annual Parish Meeting	Waters Upton Village Hall
8 th May 2019	7.30pm	Annual General Meeting	
	8.00pm	May monthly meeting	

The Chairman thanked Members and the public for their important contributions to the meeting. There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.38pm.

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 8th May 2019.