



Minutes of the meeting of Waters Upton Parish Council which took place on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7.30pm** in **Waters Upton Village Hall**.

**PRESENT:** Councillors:                    B Rothwell (Chairman)  
    J Griffin  
    J Quin  
    T Revitt  
    E Thomas

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

**19/3737        WELCOME**

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

**PUBLIC SESSION**

**Footpaths through Waters Upton Village.**

The condition has deteriorated significantly since these were added to the TWC Capital Programme. We will ask for TWC to consider bringing this planned maintenance forward from 2020/21.

**Open Watercourse, Orchard Close**

Despite many broken promises, this work has still not taken place and now that Winter approaches, the conditions will worsen.

**Litter**

There are a number of problem areas, some as a result of take-away packaging, these are evident between Waters Upton and Great Bolas. However, there is also excessive litter in Sytch Lane.

**Parish Room Croft Fence**

Further discussions will take place with the neighbours.

**Swan Court Right of Way to Pinfold Croft**

Pressure needs to be added to TWC to address this unauthorised closure.

**19/3738        APOLOGIES**

Cllr H Roberts                            Holiday

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

**RESOLVED that these apologies be accepted.**

**19/3739        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

**19/3740        MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN JULY 2019**

It was proposed by Councillor Thomas and seconded by Councillor Quin, with one abstention, all were in favour and thus it was

**RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2019 be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true record.**

**19/3741 MATTERS ARISING****Kickstart**

The Clerk updated members on the successful roadshows and thanked those Parishes and Village Halls that had supported the event by attending the meetings and helping out on the day. Over the four events, more than 200 people had registered for further activities and events and a timetable will be produced offering more across all the villages in the coming weeks. Special thanks were recorded to Cllr Fawcett from Tibberton & Cherrington Parish Council, even though there was no roadshow in Tibberton, she arranged for all activities that are currently available in her village to be showcased at the events.

**Parking Outside Waters Upton Stores**

A request for no parking signs and additional bollards has been submitted to TWC. The staff will continue to mention this to offending customers.

**19/3742 FINANCE****a) Kickstart Reimbursement**

All invoices relating to the Kickstart Programme have now been paid and all money reimburses as required. There is a balance of £12.75 which will be transferred to the Parish Room Croft Fund.

**b) Payments**

It was proposed by Councillor Rothwell and seconded by Councillor Revitt that the payments be agreed as that the cheques be signed in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders.

Cheque no	Payment	Regulation	Amount
000114	Kickstart Payments	Grant Funded	£688.00
000115	Purchase of Lanyards	LGA 1972	£9.60
000116	PAYE	LGA 1972	£225.00
000117	Salary July – September	LGA 1972	£900.00
000118	Roadman, play areas, parish centre, churchyards etc (two months)	LGA 1972 S111	£1138.00
000119	Purchase of chairs for library	Grant funded	£297.00

**c) End of Year Account / Conclusion of Audit**

Although the written conclusion for publication has not yet been received, the Auditors had confirmed that there were no issues to be reported or actioned. Throughout the Audit they had noted the £10000 which was late being received from TWC for 2017/18 (received in 2018/19) and they had asked for further details of the earmarked reserves, due to the significantly higher than normal balances resulting from the fund-raising to purchase Parish Room Croft.

The Conclusion of Audit will be published when received in the near future.

**d) Grant Applications**

Members considered an application from Arthritis Care to support the provision of a side entry bus for outings. It was proposed by Councillor Revitt and seconded by Councillor Quin, all were in favour and thus it was

**RESOLVED that a grant of £25.00 be provided. The Parish Council will also include details in the next newsletter to promote the organisation in the hope that local residents may be able to benefit.**

**19/3743 PLANNING****a) Planning Applications Updates****i) 4 The Paddocks, Parish Room Croft**

Members were disappointed that the agreement to plant container grown hedging, to a height of at least one meter in a formed state for instant hedge provision had not been honoured and although there is a double row of hedging plants, it will take many years before a hedge is formed to replace that which was removed without permission and contrary to the planning conditions.

Members were keen that the Enforcement and Highways Officers are reminded that the drain pipe is still sited to the side of the adjacent footpath, it has not been relocated, but is often covered with soil and weeds. The concern remains that in the winter months, the path and road will flood and that, when icy conditions apply, the corner will be extra dangerous.

**ii) Phase II, The Stackyard**

Further meetings have taken place with a view to understand the changes which appear to have taken place since the planning permission was granted. Concerns remain regarding the sandstone walls, trees on the PC land, the addition of a large bin store and the routes of the pedestrian footpaths at the front of the site.

A planning application for Phase II could be submitted in the near future.

**b) New Applications for consideration**

Members agreed to add the erection of a greenhouse at Quint House, to their considerations despite its late arrival.

**TWC/2019/0675**

**2 The Paddocks, Parish Room Croft – Work to TPO Oak Tree**

**RESOLVED to have no objections to the proposals based on the information that this work will protect the health of the tree and therefore increase its life expectancy.**

**TWC/2018/0760**

**Reserved Matters – Dairy Crest site, Crudgington**

The Clerk and Cllr Bentley had met with Andrew Sheldon from Shropshire Homes who had made large scale plans available for the Parish Council use. Concerns remain regarding:

- The route of the fowl sewage from the site, to the Lion, WU, to River Lane and back passing Crudgington Crossroads to get to Long Lane.  
It had been confirmed, however, that the River Lane site would have to be upgraded to deal with the waste from an additional 111 houses, and commercial units.
- Pelican Crossing on A442, its location and footpath provision
- Lack of improvements to make Crudgington Crossroads safer
- School places at Crudgington, parental choice and the crossing
- Need to extend the 20mph zone to include Crudgington Crossroads
- Need more bollards and safety barriers for safe route to school
- Bus stop locations on B5062
- Section 106 funding for Crudgington School, Charlton School and Transport
- Good to see bungalows included
- Good to see affordable homes – interesting to see who will be the social landlord
- Phased development
- Expressions of interest needed on commercial units before building
- Landscape maintenance of the site, funding and provision
- Adult gym? Will need a children's play area (s) or consider the route to Crudgington Play Area – which will require upgrading

**RESOLVED to request a full meeting to have an opportunity to consider all the concerns and to request answers to the questions that remain unanswered.**

**TWC/2019/0712**

**Springfield Nursery – extension to residential property**

**RESOLVED to have no objections to the proposed extension.**

**TWC/2019/0757**

**Meeson Hall – Rooflights**

**RESOLVED to have no objections to the proposal to install rooflights.**

**RESOLVED to have no objections to the proposed greenhouse.**

**c) Other Planning Matters**

**i) 1 and 2 The Poplars, Cold Hatton**

The Inspector's inquiry will now take place on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at Meeting Point House. Members confirmed that it is their wish that the Clerk attend to speak on behalf of Waters Upton Parish Council.

**ii) Neighbourhood Development Plan Review**

Members agreed that there is a need to obtain quotations for the work required to review the Neighbourhood Plan in order that any necessary funding can be included for consideration as part of the budget process.

**19/3744**

**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) **Rural Forum**  
Members are invited to attend on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October in Waters Upton Village Hall at 7.30pm to hear the presentation regarding the Freedom To Move Strategy, proposed for the Borough.
- c) **Activities at Roden Hall**  
There is an open invitation to attend their sessions and they have a small cinema.
- d) **Information from Victim Support**
- e) **Details of the SALC AGM and 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations**  
All Members are invited. There will also be a display of memorabilia, if anyone has old photos or documents, these will be most welcome.

**19/3745**

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The number of meetings over the summer is normally quite low, and this year was no exception. I was also on holiday for part of the time.

On 21<sup>st</sup> August, together with Cllr Thomas and Cllr Bentley, I represented the Council as a meeting with planning officers from TWC and a legal advisor. We expressed our concerns over a number of recent planning related incidents, and the response of the Council to these events. We were particularly concerned that some residents seemed to feel that they could ignore planning restrictions, and that the perception was that they would not be enforced by TWC.

The Planning Officers had not fully appreciated that this was our concern, and they expressed the view that they would take the opinions of the Parish Council into account to a greater extent when considering enforcement action. They also agreed to provide the Councillors with statistics regarding enforcement complaints. This had been received by the Chairman and would be circulated.

**COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

Councillor Thomas shared more information from the meeting with the Planners and explained that they had been informed of our concerns regarding no consistency on decisions, no enforcement action when there are clear breaches, work carries on following an enforcement visit. An example was given that a planning or conservation officer advises an applicant and they work towards that advice, then the officer changes and they have a different opinion and the proposals are refused until changed to agree with the new officer recommendations.

Further concerns were extended about APT – applicants are of the opinion that when they pay for planning advice (via APT) then permission will be granted. If the same officer is then involved in the determination, there is a distinct conflict of interest.

Members remained concerned and it was agreed to take up Andy Gittins' offer for him to attend a Parish Council meeting in the near future.

**19/3746**

**CLERK'S REPORT**

**a) Grounds and Cleansing Contract**

Members remained concerned at the quality and frequency of the work undertaken in the new contract. Members of the public are complaining regularly as the villages no longer look as tidy as with the previous regime. Members considered the quotation received for the extra verge cutting in Meeson and Catsbritch Lane and

believed that this was too expensive and that other quotations should be obtained before they consider this as part of the budget process for next year.

**b) Wrekin Area Committee**

The Minutes have been circulated, for information. Members were updated on their request for WAC and SALC to consider the concerns expressed by many local councils regarding the planning department at TWC. It had been confirmed that the problems exist in other areas and therefore the meeting of the County Associations had resolved to escalate the enquiry /complaint to DCLG for comment.

**b) Waste Collections**

Members of the communities have been left annoyed and frustrated by the changes and the lack of urgency to return to collect un-collected waste. The Parish Council will express concern to TWC.

**c) River Lane**

Following the implementation of the one-way downhill of River Lane, Waters Upton, there remain two concerns. The first, there are still vehicles thinking it appropriate to travel up the lane. Registration numbers have been reported to the police for warning letters to be issued. Some local tractor drivers also use this as a short cut and this leaves excessive mud on the highway which hides the Give Way road markings at the junction with Old Rectory Fields. An article has been included in the newsletter, although some of the offending vehicles are not from the Parish. Vehicles travelling down the lane, do not always stop at the Give Way and there have been two collisions. A quotation has been received for additional highway signs to be erected on both sides of the lane to reinforce the one way and to highlight the give way. It was proposed by Cllr Revitt and seconded by Cllr Thomas that these signs be purchased and erected at a total cost of no more than £200. All were in favour and thus it was

**RESOLVED that No Entry Give Way signs be purchased and erected in River Lane, Waters Upton.**

**d) Sytch Lane – Cyclists and Litter**

An article has also been included in the newsletter highlighting the residents' concerns about the increased litter in Sytch Lane. Whilst some of this is from take away meals, from Macdonalds or KFC, there has also been incidents when cyclists from authorised group activities have thrown sweet papers, water bottles and energy drinks as they cycle. A letter will be sent to the Cyclists Association for a representative to attend a future meeting.

**19/3747**

**REPORT FROM TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL**

Highways Liaison Meetings

The notes of the last meeting are available, the next meeting will take place on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019. It is hoped that all the requests for action will have been completed, as promised, by that date.

Dairy Crest Site

Specific concerns about the proposed site for a Toucan Crossing, just 30m from the Crossroads, there will be insufficient breaking distance even at 40mph and we know that not all vehicles are travelling within the speed limit at this location.

There would be a strong resistance to further development on the school site, especially if it meant the loss of the school field and car park to the rear of the site.

If the designated school is High Ercall, a transport plan will be essential as, if this is less than 3m, TWC has no obligation to provide school transport.

Arriva 519

At a recent monitoring meeting, the statistics of use of the Saturday service were good, however the Monday to Friday timetable is running at a loss of around £80,000, this is not sustainable and work is required to find additional funding for next year.

Waste Collections

Following many calls and meetings, it is hoped that a resolution has now been agreed and that the service will return to schedule very soon.

Bolas Bridge

It was devastating to see the results of the accident which has demolished a significant piece of this historic bridge. It will be important that the Parish Council and community put up a strong case for its reconstruction and that we work towards a suitable traffic regulation order which will protect it in the future. This could include a weight restriction, or if possible, a ban on HGVs.

It was disappointing that within days the tractors and HGVs had returned to using it and have already moved the temporary barriers, once again putting other road users at risk. It is also important that all the stone is retrieved from the river, in particular the stone which includes the date.

The speed of the tractors, in particular, has been quite frightening, especially when you witness those who have not secured the bales. The Clerk has raised this concern with the Road Haulage Association.

**19/3748 WATERS UPTON PARISH CENTRE**

**a) Management Committee**

A meeting is to take place at the end of October.

**b) Community Library**

This facility is now quite well used. The new chairs have been delivered, these have been funded from the Grant. The original chairs are for sale.

**c) Fresh Milk Machine**

Taylor's Organic Milk is now available from the vending machine outside of the shop. It is available 24 hours per day and payment is by debit card only (for security reasons).

**19/3749 PARISH MATTERS**

**a) Neighbourhood Watch and SmartWater**

Sufficient Smartwater Kits were purchased to enable all residents to be part of the scheme, there are kits available for the new house residents at the reduced cost of £8.90.

**b) Crudgington SID**

The SID as you approach Crudgington is now operational.

**c) Quiet Lanes**

Details of the scheme had previously been considered, but it was agreed to look at this again with a view to Catsbitch Lane and Meeson Road.

**19/3750 NEXT MEETING**

23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019      7.30pm      Full Council      Waters Upton Village Hall

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 8.55pm.

**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 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019.*