



## Waters Upton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Waters Upton Parish Council which took place on **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors:                      B Rothwell (Chairman)  
    E Thomas  
    H Roberts  
    J Quin

**In attendance:**                              Katrina Baker (Clerk)  
    Cllr S Bentley (Ward Member)  
    6 Members of the public  
    Press

**20/3831      WELCOME**

The Chairman, Councillor Rothwell, opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. This is the first zoom meeting for this Parish Council. The Chairman explained how the meeting would be hosted.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Arrangements for a Parish Litter Pick (already on the Agenda)  
Dog poo bags

**20/3832      APOLOGIES**

Councillor J Griffin	Leave of Absence	Approved
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**RESOLVED that the apologies be accepted.**

Councillor T Revitt	Apologies received after the meeting
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**20/3833      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.

**20/3834      MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN FEBRUARY 2020**

It was proposed by Councillor Quin and seconded by Councillor Roberts, all were in favour and thus it was

**RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020 be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true record.**

**20/3835      MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA, FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

**a)          Orchard Close**

This work has been further delayed, as with many other projects, this is due to the redeployment of officers to assist with community support work because of Covid-19.

**b)          Anaerobic Digester**

There have been no further complaints to the Parish Council regarding the noise. There has been no further contact from J Brennan – an invitation to a future meeting will be available, when work re-starts.

c) **Field View Play Area Fence**

The work to erect a new boundary fence has been completed. Additional work is being undertaken, whilst the area is 'closed'.

d) **Upton Stones**

The work to upgrade Upton Stones so that it can be adopted by the Highways Authority has been completed. This has included highway and footway repairs, replacement kerbs, resurfacing of the lay-by, raising drains and replacing two street lights. The work will be inspected by TWC before adoption. The bollards, as requested, on the corner of Upton Stones, have not been included due to a lack of funds. A quotation for their installation has been requested for PC consideration.

**20/3836 SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

The Parish Council has continued to function and fulfil its statutory duties due to the Members's resolution to implement the Scheme of Delegation. The Local Authorities and Police & Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 came into force on 4<sup>th</sup> April and apply to all authority meetings up to 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

These regulations now enable us to hold meetings remotely, on any date and at any time. There is no requirement for an Annual Parish Meeting in 2020. All appointments made by our Authority (Chairman, VC, Committee etc) will continue in post until the next Annual Meeting (May 2021) unless the Council resolves to hold an AGM before this date. The requirement to enable press and public to attend can be satisfied remotely by using Zoom or Teams. Members declaring an interest, can leave the meeting by entering the waiting room, and returning later.

Similarly, the Regulations have given local authorities greater flexibility for the deadline by which the Annual Governance Statement and AGAR, to be extended to the end of November, if needed. Under the new regulations, there is no requirement for a common period for the exercise of public rights. There is still a need for a 30 working day period, but it no longer has to include the first two weeks of July.

**20/3837 FINANCE**

a) **Payments**

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

Cheque no	Payment	Regulation	Amount
000160	PPE equipment, face masks etc	Coronavirus 2020	£76.04
000161	Clerk's Salary	LGA 1972	£900.00
000162	PAYE	LGA 1972	£225.00
000163	2 x large skip hire	LGA1972 s111	£252.00
000164	SALC Affiliation Fees	LGA 1972	£388.74
000165	Insurance	LGA 1972	£821.03

85% of the Insurance Costs of the Parish Centre are invoiced to Wrekin Housing Trust and Waters Upton Stores.

b) **Receipts**

A grant from the Police & Crime Commissioner for PPE equipment  
A grant from the Police & Crime Commissioner towards the rural SIDs partnership  
Donations to the play ground fund have been significantly affected by Covid-19

c) **Internal Audit Report**

A copy of the Independent Internal Audit report had been circulated to Members and will appear, with other relevant documents, on the website.

d) **End of Year Accounts**

A copy of the end of year accounts had been circulated and would appear on the website, for your information.

**d) Governance Statement**

Members considered all the points within the Governance Statement and responded 'Yes' to all the elements.

**e) Accounting Statements**

It was proposed by Councillor Roberts and seconded by Councillor Quin that the Accounting statements be agreed and signed by the Chairman. All were in favour and thus it was

**RESOLVED that the End of Year Accounts and AGAR be agreed and signed by the Chairman.**

Members agreed the dates for the Exercise of Public Rights – these will appear on the noticeboard and website.

**f) Grant Application**

It was proposed by Councillor Thomas and seconded by Councillor Quin that £150 be allocated to support the TWC Kindness Project. This is providing kindles to residential homes, hospital wards and some young people to support them in isolation or if they are lonely or vulnerable. All were in favour and thus it was

**RESOLVED that Waters Upton Parish Council grants £150 to the TWC campaign.**

20/3838

**PLANNING**

**a) Planning Applications Updates**

**i) Old Rectory Fields**

The legal transfer has been completed and a copy of the Land Registry Title is available. No further information has been received.

**ii) TWC/2020/0284 Beechfield, Bolas Heath**

Permission had been refused

**iii) TWC/2020/0339 Site of Pear Tree House**

Permission had been granted

**iv) TWC/2020/0405 2 Sleapford**

Permission granted

**b) New Applications for consideration**

**TWC/2020/0476 Pumping Station, Longwood**

Installation of a Chlorination Kiosk

The Chairman thanked members for their comments. As STW will be using the private lane, with HGVs over an extended period of time, the Parish Council response should include a request for them to assist in filling in the potholes and improving the lane surface, as a community gain for the local residents who will be disrupted during the works.

**RESOLVED that Waters Upton Parish Council has no objections to the proposed kiosk, but would request that TWC consider improving the condition of the lane surface.**

**c) Waters Upton Neighbourhood Plan**

Members considered the Waters Upton Neighbourhood Plan and its importance in the determination of planning applications in the Parish. As part of the monitoring and review, the Parish Council confirmed that the WUNP continues to meet the needs of the Parish at this time.

**d) Other Planning Matters**

**i) The Swan site, Waters Upton**

After a significant delay, the Parish Council had contacted the owner to enquire if he had a timeline for the work to provide the Community Asset as part of his development of the site. After just days, local residents had noticed For Sale signs had re-appeared on the building. It is important that prospective buyers realise that there is a ACV on the site as this will affect the price. The current advertised price of £400,000 is unrealistic.

Members agreed that a meeting should be arranged to enable members of the community to discuss the site, as a community project. A date, in around 2 weeks, will be advertised.

## 20/3839 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) Great Britain Spring Clean Events

It was agreed to arrange a series of tasks as part of Great Britain Spring Clean on 25<sup>th</sup> July, starting at 10am. Groups of 2 or 3 can work together to litter-pick, clean signs, remove overgrown hedges from signs etc.

Thanks were also recorded to Diane and Jeanette for their regular litter picks in Catsbitch Lane. We are aware of other ‘volunteers’ and we are very grateful to them all.

### c) Speed Camera

A speed camera had been erected on a tall pole, outside of Village Hall. TWC nor the police had knowledge of its existence. It is hoped that the recordings will assist in supporting a project to slow down the traffic as it travels through the village.

## 20/3840 CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

A copy had been circulated and would appear on the website and in the next newsletter.

## COUNCILLORS REPORTS

None

## 20/3841 CLERK’S REPORT

Work has continued and I have kept in touch with the Chairman and Vice Chairman, and other Members throughout the period since your last meeting.

We have continued to offer a service to the community and have undertaken maintenance tasks wherever possible. The Parish Council has continued to respond to planning application consultations and three recent determinations are listed within the Agenda.

The Parish Council has engaged the services of a legal representative with regards to a request to change the lease on The Flat above Waters Upton Stores. The initial communication from them to the applicant confirmed that all costs are to be met by the applicant, so at this moment in time, there will be no costs to Waters Upton Parish Council. When details are received, this will appear on an agenda for discussion by the Parish Council.

Work continued to progress the Section 106 with the owner of the Swan site, but it soon became clear that he was not interested in honouring the provision of the Community Asset. TWC negotiated the ‘conditions’ as a Section 106 was not achievable.

The ‘for sale’ signs have been erected on the building recently and the details are available – the asking price is unrealistic, based on the requirement for a Community Asset to be provided as part of the scheme.

Crudginton School Headmaster has confirmed the decisions of the Governors with respect of a ‘return to school’ proposal, which has now been shared with parents.

It is a legal requirement to report the Council’s Remuneration Scheme – I can confirm that no Councillor claimed remuneration during 2019/20.

The library, at Waters Upton Parish Centre, has been well used and much appreciated during the recent months.

## 20/3842 REPORT FROM TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

Councillor Stephen Bentley, one of the Ward Members for Edgmond and Ercall Magna reported the following:

- There have been no meetings since the outbreak of Covid-19, although an Annual Mayor-Making took place virtually with a limited number of Councillors able to attend.
- In addition to the wonderful work done by the NHS staff, care staff and volunteers, Cllr Bentley recorded his thanks to the work of TWC officers – the support project and schemes put into place have been outstanding.
- Current planning issues include The Stackyard, landscaping plans and The Swan ACV. A meeting to discuss these further is required.

## 20/3843 WEST MERCIA POLICE REPORT

Members were disappointed to receive the ‘report’ from WMP which stated that there was nothing to report. As there had been an incident in the Parish with a significant police attendance, resulting in an arrest – Members believed that a report should have been made available to us.

20/3844

**PARISH MATTERS**

**a) Neighbourhood Watch and SmartWater**

Huw Roberts, NW Co-ordinator, confirmed that the use of the Neighbourhood Watch App is excellent when used appropriately. It is important that it is only used for emergency situations. The recent incident resulted in an arrest due to information shared on the WU NW App.

Thanks were extended to everyone involved, including the police, who had attended within 7 minutes.

Over 20 residents turned out during the night to help with a search and as an update, the 'footprint' found in sand does match the trainers of the person arrested.

**b) Speeding Vehicles**

It is important to note car registration numbers of offending vehicles which are witnessed as driving at unacceptable speeds and without care. These can be reported to WMP via email or telephone.

Details are available at westmercia.co.uk.

**c) Community Support Programme**

The Parish Isolation Support Group has done an amazing job to help keep people at home and therefore safe and well. Thanks were extended to all the volunteers who have help with deliveries and collections, walked dogs or just phone to ask how some is. The community has come together to help and support each other.

Thanks were extended to everyone from Waters Upton Stores. They facility has been much appreciated, the selection and stock available have enabled families to remain home and not have to leave the village. This essential support has been much appreciated by many.

20/3845

**NEXT MEETING**

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2020

7.30pm

Full Council

Via Zoom (or WUVH)

The Chairman thanked Members for their important contributions to the meeting and thanked the residents for attending. There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.22pm.

**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 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2020.*