



## Waters Upton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Waters Upton Parish Council which took place on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 7.30pm** in **Waters Upton Village Hall**.

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

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

### 21/0109 WELCOME

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

### PUBLIC SESSION

This item was taken at the end of the meeting.

### 21/0110 APOLOGIES

Councillor T Revitt Family Commitments

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

**RESOLVED that the apologies of Cllr Revitt be accepted.**

Councillor S Bentley Attending a TWC meeting

### 21/0111 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Cllr Thomas applied for a dispensation in order to take part in the discussion regarding planning application TWC/2021/1039. This was granted in order that a decision can be taken – otherwise the Council would not have been quorate.

Cllr Quin	TWC/2021/1039	Personal and Pecuniary	Applicant
Cllr Roberts	TWC/2021/0717	Personal and Pecuniary	Neighbour

### 21/0112 VACANCY FOR A PARISH COUNCILLOR

Telford & Wrekin Council has confirmed that following the advertisement of the vacancy, no election has been called. This means that the vacancy will now be advertised for co-option. Anyone interested in the position should forward a personal statement to the Clerk by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November for consideration at the next meeting.

### 21/0113 MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN SEPTEMBER 2021

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

**RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021 be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true record.**

**21/0114 MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA, FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

The Chairman gave an update on matters from previous meetings that were not identified on the Agenda.

**a) Orchard Close**

It is disappointing that no action has been taken since the meeting with officers. The Chairman said that if no response was received to the most recent reminder, then this matter will be escalated as a complaint through the Parish Charter.

**b) Access to the ditch to the rear of The Lion Inn Car Park**

This matter would also be referred if no action is taken in the near future.

**c) The Swan Site**

The Chairman and Clerk had met with the owner of the site, and his financial adviser. This was not a productive meeting as we were informed that the Swan would only be available, as an Asset of Community Value, at a considerable cost. The provision of an ACV is part of the planning consent and therefore the owner would need to take this into consideration. It is also a condition that the ACV must be made available before the residential units on the site can be occupied or sold / let.

Within the meeting, we were informed that the Parish Council should notify the owner direct of any concerns regarding the site. In accordance with this details of the health & safety concerns had been forwarded and also sent to Environmental Health officers at TWC.

**21/0115 FINANCE & AUDIT**

**a) Payments**

The following payments, which had been circulated, were presented, it was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Councillor Rothwell, that the payments be made by BACCs.

Fire Alarm Maintenance – Parish Council	LGA 1972	£233.58
DBS checks	LGA 1972	£45.00

**RESOLVED that the payments, as listed be made.**

**c) Financial Report**

The Clerk reported that the Current Account Balance on the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021 was £62,157.70.

**d) Finance & Governance**

Minutes of the Finance & Governance Meeting had been circulated for information.

**i) Code of Conduct**

Waters Upton Parish Council had adopted the revised Code of Conduct and a summary had been produced as an easy to access copy for reference purposes.

**ii) Vision and Priorities**

The Parish Council's Vision is

**To improve the quality of life for the residents and visitors to Waters Upton Parish and to work with partners and the community to create a safe,, sustainable, welcoming and neighbourly place to live, work and visit.**

The Council's Priorities are

- **To ensure that community safety is top of our priorities**
- **To enhance the locality**
- **To work in partnership with groups and organisations of all ages and abilities to ensure best value and to encourage that health and well-being is fostered throughout the Parish**
- **To provide a Community Library and to support the Community Shop and Post Office and to work with local businesses to enhance the services and facilities available within the Parish**

- To ensure that any Asset of Community Value (ACV) and all assets are provided for the benefit of the community
- To foster good communication links with the community and partners
- To ensure that we keep the Climate Change agenda in mind when considering all aspects of our work
- To ensure that the Waters Upton Neighbourhood Development Plan is current and effective.

**e) Earmarked Reserves**

Following the completion of the External Audit, the Members have reallocated funds to specific Parish Projects, a revised budget is now available.

21/0116

**PLANNING**

**a) Planning Applications Updates**

Decision notices are available at telford.gov.uk and copies are circulated to all Members.

Councillor J Quin declared a personal and pecuniary interest in application TWC/2021/1039

Councillor E Thomas received a dispensation to enable her to take part in a discussion regarding

TWC/2021/1039 having declared a personal and pecuniary interest in the application. This was granted, only to enable a decision to be made as the Council needed to be quorate.

Councillor H Roberts declared a personal and pecuniary interest in application TWC/2021/0717

**b) New Applications for consideration**

**i) TWC/2021/1039 35 The Malthouse, Waters Upton**

Installation of 13 windows in a Listed Building

*Councillor Quin declared an interest and left the meeting*

**RESOLVED that the Parish Council would have no objection to the proposals. This work should be supported in order to support our Climate Change Agenda.**

*Councillor Quin returned to the meeting and Councillor Roberts left the meeting.*

*Councillor Rothwell continued as Chairman*

**ii) TWC/2021/0717 Land to the rear of The Lion, Waters Upton**

Amended Plans and Drainage information

Members confirmed that there remained unanswered questions regarding the definition of infill and backland. Members were aware that TWC is the Planning Authority and that they would make their decision based on the NPPF and TW Local Plan, whilst taking into consideration the WU Neighbourhood Development Plan. This is not an Exception Site and offers no community gain, although one dwelling has meant that more parking will be available in order to support the sustainability and viability of the restaurant.

**RESOLVED that the Parish Council would make no further comments on the proposals but acknowledged that the applicants had tried to address some of the points raised within the previous determination to refuse planning permission.**

**c) Waters Upton Neighbourhood Development Plan**

The Parish Council remains confident that the Waters Upton Neighbourhood Plan meets the needs of the community, although it is accepted that monitoring and updates will be required in the near future, taking into consideration the changes in Planning Legislation in recent times.

The comments made on recent planning applications have been in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan.

**d) Other Planning Matters**

**i) The Stackyard**

Further meetings have taken place with Days New Homes, where ongoing matters continue to be included on the Agenda for updates.

- Landscape Maintenance – this remains the responsibility of Days New Homes. They have been reminded about the greens spaces, car park area and path, lime trees and the right of way.

- First Phase – it is disappointing that the first phase has not been completed
- The Car Park land will not transfer to the Parish Council / PCC at this time. There is outstanding work to be done to complete the area, in the meantime it is used during the working day by employees working on Phase II but it cannot be made available for public use.
- Phase II is progressing well and is on target for completion mid-2022.
- Following an enquiry regarding the four Lime Trees to the front of the site, these all remain the responsibility of Days New Homes, as the landowner. Advice has been obtained from the Arboricultural Officer at TWC who has confirmed that the work to the base of all four trees should be undertaken at the appropriate time of year (Spring). No further work is required to the trees which are subject of a Tree Preservation Order.

Telford & Wrekin Council has confirmed that Permitted Development Rights were removed from the site as part of the Planning Consent and therefore permission is required for any structural / boundary proposals. No permission was required for a temporary fence has been erected at Number One. All applications to TWC as the Planning Authority will be considered in line with the relevant policies and planning conditions relevant to the site.

## **21/0117 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) Information from SALC**  
SALC has continued to provide weekly updates regarding a wide range of information. Members are encouraged to peruse the information and any matters they wish to raise can be included on an agenda for discussion. The AGM will take place, via zoom, on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2021, all members are invited to attend.
- c) Swan Bridge**  
Local residents have offered congratulations to TWC and the Contractors on the work to repair the Bridge and for the traffic control which has succeeded in keeping the traffic on the A442 flowing throughout the day. Many have also commented on the location of the start of the 40mph zone. It is believed that the new (temporary) location should be made permanent and that it should not move back to by The Swan entrance to River Lane.
- d) TWC Play, Recreation and Open Space Consultation**  
All Members are asked to complete the consultation. The importance of green and open spaces and appropriate play and recreational areas, particularly in rural areas should be included. Following this there will be a public consultation.
- e) TWC Festival of Remembrance**  
All members are invited to this event at Oakengates Theatre.

## **21/0118 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT**

- a) Update on Outstanding Highway Matters**  
There are a number of outstanding highways matters, all of which have been raised by the Parish Council. A request for a Highways Liaison Meeting has been sent, which will give the Parish Council an opportunity to discuss, with the new Highways Officer, all the outstanding highway matters.
- b) Community Speedwatch**  
The Chairman gave an update on the speedwatch sessions held to date. There have been 7 and the police have contacted drivers who had been caught driving in excess of the speed limit. Other volunteers are welcome, new DBS forms are available and an evening training session will be arranged with the Police.
- c) A442 Swan Bridge**  
The Parish Council had written to all Sytch Lane residents to ask for support in its request for the temporary 40mph limit start to be made permanent. There had only been two supporting communications. The Police responded to say that it is Highways Issue. However, the Parish Council remains clear in its opinion that the current position aids to slow down the traffic to make it safer for pedestrians over the Swan Bridge. It also means that the traffic has slowed down before the Sytch Lane and River Lane junctions. TWC should be reminded of the

changes since it was first sited. The area at The Swan is no longer the most appropriate location. The additional houses at Swan Court and Old Rectory Fields create more traffic at this junction, along with all traffic now travelling down River Lane.

**RESOLVED that the Parish Council would continue to request that the start of the 40mph zone remains to the North of the Swan Bridge / Sytch Lane junction.**

**21/0119 CLIMATE CHANGE**

The Chairman reported on the initial meeting of the Parish Climate Change Group which was productive and has discussed an initial plan to promote and support Carbon Neutrality. The Parish Council has match-funded the £4000 grant to support further local initiatives. The next meeting will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

**21/0120 WEST MERCIA POLICE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH  
Newsletter**

A copy has been distributed to Members, it will appear on the website and copies are available on request.

**Neighbourhood Alerts**

All local residents are encouraged to sign up to receive the Neighbourhood Alerts. The link is <https://www.neighbourhoodalert.co.uk>

**Security and Safety / Public Engagements**

The Police have provided advice on lone-working and particularly for people in public office such as the Clerk and Councillors. It is important to carry a mobile phone and to ensure that you have told someone where you are going and when you are due back. A discussion continued about various forms of 'abuse' and it was

**RESOLVED that Waters Upton Parish Council would have a Zero Tolerance of Abuse in any form.**

**Trick or Treat**

A police poster is available to inform 'visitors' whether trick or treat visits are welcome.

**21/0121 CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Chairman had attended the Helicopter Liaison Group meeting and shared information regarding the different helicopters being used. Night flying continues although less often. There are more complaints around the Nescliffe area, due to housing developments and more people working from home. Details of flying zones are available on the RAF Shawbury Website. There are 82 undeclared sites for special troops and extraction events.

Councillor Roberts had also attended Climate Change workshops which are useful. Everyone is encouraged to calculate their own carbon footprint, there are many free websites to assist, some of which have useful tips to help in reducing the amount of tonnes used.

**21/0122 CLERK'S REPORT**

Crudgington Grass Track Racing

Concerns had been expressed to TWC following the recent events where the noise from the racing and associated matters had affected people's enjoyment of their properties. TWC has contacted the Committee to re-affirm the conditions of the planning consent and to request a meeting prior to next season.

**COUNCILLOR'S RPEORT**

None

**21/0123 PARISH ROOM CROFT**

Following initial meetings, Derek Owen, the TWC Planning and Open Space officer, has agreed to consider the site and offer advice on suitable layout to meet the requirement of the three elements of the Planning Consent. A further meeting will be arranged when more information is available.

**21/0124 REPORT FROM TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL**

Councillor Bentley had sent his apologies, he is attending a meeting at TWC. Much of the work recently has been in connection with the safe route to school routes at Crudgington and High Erccall. Also mud on the road, overgrown hedges, condition of the highways and footpaths. It is hoped that discussions will take place soon regarding Crudgington Crossroads.

**21/0125 PUBLIC SESSION**

The following matters were raised:

- The use of Parish Room Croft for events at The Village Hall
- The importance of public transport in the rural areas
- The use of outside lights (climate change agenda)

**21/0126 PARISH MATTERS**

**Neighbourhood Watch**

Details relating to Fireworks and the Law have been published.

Neighbourhood Alters have requested that the Crime & Community Survey be completed. The link is

[www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CL72YGJ](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CL72YGJ)

**Other Matters**

The importance of understanding Listed Buildings in rural areas – TWC should be more aware.

The conflict between police advice regarding dusk to dawn lighting and its effect on the climate, night skies and wildlife.

**21/0127 NEXT MEETING**

24<sup>th</sup> November 2021

7.30pm

Full Council

Waters Upton Village Hall

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 8.50pm.

**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 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021.*