



Waters Upton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Waters Upton Parish Council which took place on **Wednesday 26th January 2022 at 7.30pm** in **Waters Upton Village Hall**.

Covid Restrictions were in place in order that those attending were as safe as possible.

PRESENT: Councillors: H Roberts (Chairman)
J Quin
E Thomas
T Revitt
K Hamilton

In attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk)
Cllr S Bentley (TWC) (22/0177)
13 Members of the public
2 x PCSOs

22/0172 WELCOME

Councillor Roberts, Chairman, opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. It was good to see so many local residents in attendance.

PUBLIC SESSION

The chairman explained that the first 15 minutes of the meeting is for the public to raise any issues or questions for consideration by the Parish Council. The following matters were raised:

- a) The right of way route between Pinfold Croft and Swan Court
- b) Village Road, outside of Orchard Close Junction
- c) Rights of Way routes
- d) Speed of traffic on A442

22/0173 APOLOGIES

Cllr B Rothwell Isolation due to Covid regulations

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

RESOLVED that the apologies from Councillor Rothwell be accepted.

22/0174 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Cllr Roberts Lion Inn Planning Appeal Personal and prejudicial

22/0175 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15th DECEMBER 2021

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

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the December meeting be accepted and signed by the Chairman.

22/0176 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETINGS

The Chairman reported that a further meeting with the drainage officers from TWC had been requested and once again, no acknowledgement or response had been received. The Clerk was instructed to escalate this to a complaint, as it is increasingly embarrassing for the Parish Council to report 'no action' at every meeting.

22/0177 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

a) Payments

There were no payments for authorisation at this meeting.

Councillor Bentley arrived

b) Financial Report

The Clerk confirmed that current account has a balance of £61,144.36 which includes the agreed earmarked reserves. The precept request for 2022/23 had been confirmed.

A 'payments against budget' report will be available so that the Members can confirm the earmarked reserves in preparation for year end and auditing.

22/0178 PLANNING

a) Planning Applications Updates

TWC/2021/1114 Land at the Junction of Catsbritch Lane with B5062

This application had been refused. A number of email 'thank you' comments had been received by local residents who had been significantly concerned about the proposal. The planning officer's report is available on the telford.gov.uk website and includes useful information which may be needed in the future.

APP/C3240/W/21/3275649 Erection of two properties to the rear of the Lion Inn

This Appeal will now be dealt with as an exchange of correspondence, rather than a formal hearing.

Waters Upton Hall

The Planning Inspectorate's report is available on the telford.gov.uk website. The Inspector had upheld all the decisions of Telford & Wrekin Council.

b) Planning Applications for Consideration

TWC/2022/0016 Yew Tree Farm, Bolas Heath Restricted Byeway

RESOLVED to support the DMMO to confirm the Restricted Byeway. This is essential to ensure that the local residents have vehicular access to their properties and also access to the fields on either side of the track.

TWC/2022/0010 Rivermead, Crudgington Two-storey side extension

RESOLVED to have no objections to the proposals, but to ask the Planning Officers to take into consideration all comments received from neighbours to the property.

TWC/2022/022 Fern Hill, Cold Hatton 2 storey rear and single storey side extensions with porch and detached garage, plus amendment to the access

RESOLVED to support the principle of the proposed extensions (with conditions), although Members confirmed the need for the development to be in keeping with the rural area and to ensure that the site is big enough for such an increase in footprint. It is disappointing that a single storey bungalow is being taken out of the Parish 'stock' and the Planning Officer will be asked to take this into consideration when future applications come forward in that single storey developments are needed (and not only as affordable housing).

TWC/2022/039 5 Quarry View, Waters Upton 2 storey rear extension

RESOLVED to support the application, with conditions, due to the fact that there is no access to the rear of the property. The Parish Council will request that construction conditions and a highways order is included in order to protect neighbours and the village from unsafe practices regarding deliveries and contractors. Plans will need to be in place for skips and lorries.

c) Waters Upton Neighbourhood Plan

The Parish Council remains confident that the Neighbourhood Plan meets the needs of the community. The comments made on recent applications have been in accordance with the Plan.

d) Other Planning Matters

i) The Stackyard, Waters Upton

A scheduled meeting will need to be re-arranged in order to discuss the next steps with regards to the car park area for St Michael's Church, the water supply and the outstanding landscaping in Phase One. Until these matters are resolved, the handover to the Parish Council / Church PCC cannot be completed. During this time, the maintenance remains the responsibility of the developer.

Concerns have been raised regarding the removal of part of the sandstone wall to the rear of the Phase Two site, which is included in the 'Local Interest' register and the adjacent landowner has expressed concerns regarding presumed access over the land to the track/bridleway. A site meeting will be arranged with Andrew Careless, the Rights of Way Officer to discuss this and the offer to enable the route to be at the rear of the properties rather than through the site.

ii) Planning workshops

The dates for all the workshops have been circulated and all Members are asked to confirm which sessions they are able to attend.

22/0179

CORRESPONDENCE

a) All correspondence received for the attention of the Councillors has been circulated and no requests had been received for items to be added to this agenda.

b) Information from Shropshire Association of Local Councils

All information and News Bulletins are shared with Members and useful information and guidance is included in the publications, which include advice from NALC and other organisations.

c) Boundary Commission

TW Ward Boundaries

The deadline for comments has been extended to May 2022, this will give more time for local residents and Parish Councils to respond. Although the current proposals are with regards to the Ward Boundary, concerns have been expressed that this will lead to Parish Boundary changes in the future.

Members and the residents are encouraged to take a look on the Boundary Commission website and to study the proposed changes that will affect the Edgmond & Ercall Magna Ward. This will appear on the March agenda for consideration.

Parliamentary Boundaries

Councillor Thomas reminded everyone of the proposed changes to the Parliamentary boundaries and in particular the change of name, of this area, from The Wrekin to Wellington & Newport.

The Commission is hosting an event in Stafford if anyone would like to attend to share their view directly with representatives of the Boundary Commission.

22/0180

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

a) Updates

No updates on the numerous outstanding issues around the Parish had been received. A further request for a Highways Liaison Meeting has been sent to Dean Sergeant – hopefully this will be possible in the near future.

b) Speed Indicator Device

It is not known why there has been such a delay in implementing this scheme in our Parish. It will be raised direct with the responsible officer and within the meeting mentioned in a) above.

c) A442 Cold Hatton

The site meeting with TWC and the manufacturer of the signage will take place on 10th February. The Chairman will take the opportunity to discuss the importance of all elements of the safety scheme being in place and operational, in order that it can make the area safer for all users.

22/0181

CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP

The Chairman updated Members on the project and the options available to local residents. There will be a further opportunity for local residents to take part in this initiative and the details will appear in the next newsletter. The project has been able to support St Michael's Church and St John's Church with their LED projects.

The first feed-back form has been completed for TWC which confirmed the community involvement and the support for the churches. The next phase will be to support the Village Hall and Parish Centre. The Village Hall will have the offer to change the overhead heaters to infra-red panels which can be timed and temperature controlled.

Electric Car Charger

Thanks were extended to Councillor Bentley, for £1000 allocated towards the installation of an electric car charging point. The location of this is yet to be decided, but the money will remain earmarked.

Publicity and Promotion

Further articles will be included in the newsletter. The Chairman will also provide information to the school, to be shared with the children who will go home and speak to their parents about the importance of climate change initiatives and how they can be involved.

22/0182

PARISH PROJECTS

a) Noticeboards

Three new noticeboards and posts are on order, for Cold Hatton, Great Bolas and Crudgington. The Chairman had repaired the one at Waters Upton Village Hall and will make arrangements for the installation of the new noticeboards when they arrive. The design, size and colour are the same as the one installed at Sytch Lane.

b) Newsletter

The Chairman and Clerk will meet with the Editorial Team to discuss electronic copies and future costs. In the meantime, thanks were extended to Councillor Bentley for the £500 donation to the provision of a newsletter. The Editor has requested more help with editorial tasks and deliveries. Anyone interested is asked to contact the Newsletter Team direct.

c) Parish Room Croft

It had been very useful to have the Chairman and a Trustee of the Village Hall at the last meeting and discussions had continued. Thanks were extended to the Trustees for their understanding and to give permission for two gates to be installed between the Village Hall Car Park and Parish Room Croft. This has improved the layout of the Village Green and will make access and egress so much easier. A meeting of the Project Group will take place on 4th February 2022.

d) Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

i) Village Fete

Councillor Thomas is organising the event on Sunday 5th June. A working group meeting will be held in Mid February and anyone interested in helping will be very welcome. Thanks were extended for the funding received to date, a further application is to be submitted to TWC, along with a Road Closure request. The Closure will be from the Village Hall to the top of River Lane.

ii) Other Events

Discussions will take place with Crudgington School, the Village Hall Management Committee and the Churches.

iii) Commemorative Gifts

Members agreed that they would like to consider purchasing a gift to be presented, by the Parish Council, to all children under the age of 11. Councillor Quin agreed to investigate the options and the number of children will be established before discussing this further at the next meeting.

22/0183

POLICE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The meeting welcomed our two PCSOs. Members of the Parish Council and local residents took the opportunity to thank the PCSOs, particularly I Collumbell, for their attendance at this meeting but also for the continued visits around the Parish which are much appreciated by local residents who feel at ease knowing that these patrols are taking place. It was good to hear that we continue to have a low crime rate, however, we must remain vigilant and must encourage new residents to sign up to Smartwater. This initiative, to create the "We Don't Buy Crime" zone, has made a big difference in the Parish.

Hare Coursing continues to be a concern – if anyone sees or hears anything suspicious, it is important that this is reported on 101 immediately. If descriptions or registration numbers are available, these are also very useful.

22/0184

CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

None

CLERK'S REPORT

A village garden will be taking part in the National Open Garden Scheme in June – everyone will be invited to visit.

COUNCILLORS REPORT(S)

None

22/0185 INFORMATION FROM TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

Councillor Bentley informed the meeting that it is still relatively quiet at the Council at this time and many officers continue to work from home. This makes it more difficult to receive information, ask questions and obtain answers to the many local issues that are outstanding.

The recent Full Council meeting took place at Oakengates Theatre, with limited numbers able to attend. At this meeting, it was agreed that there will be a 1% increase on the Council Tax, ring-fenced for Adult Social Care. Steve confirmed that his £5000 Councillors Pride fund has been able to support a wide range of projects across the Ward.

22/0186 PARISH MATTERS

The Chairman explained that this is now an opportunity for the public to ask any questions relating to items that have been discussed throughout the meeting.

Members had an opportunity to bring forward items for discussion on behalf of the local residents.

- a) The route of the waste water from Crudgington Fields is to be discussed with residents at Sleaford and STW. The Clerk will contact Shropshire Home for clarification
- b) Mud on the A442, Crudgington and Waters Upton and from the Digester at Rowton - The Clerk will contact relevant contractors and landowners to remind them of their legal responsibilities.
- c) Mud and pothole - Stackyard Road – this is a private road and the responsibility of Days New Homes
- d) Speed of Traffic, A442 – The Parish Council has been working with TWC to get the 'start' of the 40mph zone moved to the Northern side of the Sytch Lane junction near to Swan Bridge. If this is possible the traffic will be slower as it reaches the junction with the Lion Inn. However, we are awaiting speed assessments which will be used by TWC when then make any recommendation. In the meantime a request will be submitted to the Road Safety Camera Partnership for speed awareness and control to be in place on this area of the A442 as soon as possible.
- e) Pinfold Croft to Swan Court – this right of way was blocked by a previous tenant and is part of the work being undertaken by the Rights of Way Team at TWC to define the route and request it be re-opened. The pedestrian route of using River Lane, is quite dangerous and this alternative route would be very useful. Evidence of over 40 years of use has been submitted to the Council.
- f) The Clerk will remind TWC of the need to repair the road outside of Orchard Close junction – this was damaged by the HGVs used when resurfacing Orchard Close.
- g) Right of Way – Waters Upton to Ercall Magna Parish at Ellerdine – this is to be discussed with Andrew Careless, Rights of Way Officer, TWC.

22/0187 NEXT MEETING

23rd February 2022

7.30pm

Full Council

Waters Upton Village Hall

The Chairman thanked Members for their important contributions to this meeting which closed at 8.45pm.

SignedDate

These Minutes are produced in draft form. E & OE until confirmed as a true record by Full Council at the next meeting on 23rd February 2022.