



Waters Upton Parish Council

MINUTES of the **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** of **Waters Upton** which was held in Waters Upton Village Hall on **Wednesday, 26th April 2023** at **7.30p.m.**

PRESENT: Councillor: H Roberts (Chairman)

In Attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk to the Council)
Councillor J Quin
Councillor K Hamilton
Councillor S Bentley, TWC
Mr & Mrs L Finzi
Mr & Mrs M Osborn
PC R McNally
PCSO I Collumbell
Mrs J Roman (Waters Upton Newsletter)
Dawn Bell (Hope House Children's Hospices)
Eden Taylor (Morelock Speed Indicator Devices)

23/0001 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Chairman, Councillor H Roberts, opened the meeting, thanking members of the public for attending and explaining that this meeting is a meeting of residents of the Parish, and not a Parish Council Meeting. However, some Councillors were in attendance.

23/0002 APOLOGIES

Councillor E Thomas
Councillor T Revitt
R Hughes, St John's Church
A Ames, Crudgington School
J Williams, Waters Upton Village Hall

23/0003 MINUTES OF THE 2022 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in April 2022 had been distributed and displayed in the village noticeboards. The Minutes had previously been agreed as accurate and the Chairman signed them.

Matters arising from the Minutes in 2022 included:

Speed of Traffic through Waters Upton village – a site for the SID socket is to be confirmed with TWC.

The Stackyard development – Phase one has been completed and Phase two is nearing completion. The car park area is managed by the Church Parochial Church Council.

Problem drains – further work is required at Orchard Close and to the rear of Shanti House – this is being dealt with by TWC.

23/0004 HOPE HOUSE CHILDREN'S HOSPICES

The meeting welcomed Dawn Bell, the Fundraising Officer for the Hospices who gave a presentation on their work. The demand for their service is increasing – there were 1950 children with life-threatening conditions using the facilities in 2018 and this year this has been recorded as 4000 (to date).

Information was available regarding the Snowflake Suite – a very important part of the support the dedicated staff and volunteers can give to families at the most difficult time in their lives.

The Chairman presented two cheques, the first for £84.00 – funds raised at Carols on Green in December and the second for £1500 – funds allocated by Waters Upton Parish Council to support the wonderful work that they do.

Funds raised at the upcoming Coronation Event will also be donated to Hope House and we have signed up to the Let's Eat Cake event, which will be promoted on the day.

23/0005 WEST MERCIA POLICE

The meeting welcomed PC Rob McNally, and PCSO Ivan Collumbell, and Rob updated the meeting on some current local matters. However, we do remain a low-crime area and this is a result of our We Don't Buy Crime campaign and the effective use of the What's App Neighbourhood Watch messaging system. All local residents are invited to join the group.

The residents are reminded to 'ring-in' any suspicious activity, make a note of dates and times, registration numbers and descriptions – you never know when this might be the missing piece in a jigsaw.

The Inspector is committed to continuing to support the rural areas and there is a commitment to visiting all victims of rural crime – there will be a continued visual presence. The policing teams across Shropshire are sharing intelligence and linking crimes and this is proving useful and successful. There have been some significant recent arrests. Images from RING doorbells is also useful.

23/0006 MORELOCK SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES

The Chairman welcome Eden Taylor who showed a SID and the various messages that it can show. As well as raising the awareness of speed, the important factor is that the machine is recording data, which can be invaluable, especially when asking the Police and Highway Authority to take action on speeding vehicles.

The best use of a SID is when it is moved around a Parish and can be seen in different locations at different times – the shock factor for drivers makes them more effective. They also record the data when the screen is not illuminated, this enables a comparison between when the machine is showing speeds and when it is not.

23/0007 CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman read his report to the meeting on the work throughout the year, a copy of the report is attached to the Minutes and is available on request. The report will be added to the website and will be forwarded for use in a future newsletter.

23/0008 FINANCIAL REPORT

Waters Upton Parish Council started the financial year with a health current account balance of £52011.73. We have been fortunate to have received some grant funding throughout the year for specific projects in addition to the precept of £25,060.00.

Also, the Parish Council has received the Section 106 funding from Days New Homes – this has been invested with CCLA. The interest on the Parish Centre account was £263.95.

Although the accounts are currently with the Auditor, the balance at the end of the financial year, in the current account was £50,081.84 and £15,996.08 with the Nationwide Building Society. However, a significant amount of the balance is included in the Council's Earmarked Reserves.

The Council set its budget for 2023/24 at £41,205 and by using an additional £10,000 from general reserves, raised a precept of £31,205 which resulted in an increase of £5.88 per year (44p per month) on a Band D Property.

23/0009 TWC REPORT

No report was available due to the period of purdah.

23/0010 LOCAL GROUP & ORGANISATION REPORTS

St Michael’s Church	A copy of the report will appear on the website, when received.
St John’s Church	A copy of the report received from the PCC will appear on the website.
Crudgington School	Mr Ames will provide a report to a future Parish Council meeting.
Waters Upton Village Hall	A copy of the report will appear on the website.
Neighbourhood Watch	A copy of the report will appear on the website.
Wrekin Area of SALC	A copy of the report will appear on the website.
TW Bus User Group	A copy of the report will appear on the website.
Helicopter Liaison Group	A copy of the report will appear on the website.
WU Newsletter	A copy of the report will appear on the website.

The Parish Council had offered a financial grant to assist with the funding for 2022/23 and have included an annual grant into the budget to support its production for 2023/24 as we use this to liaise with all residents across the Parish. The newsletter will be available electronically in the future and local residents are encouraged to sign up to receive an e-newsletter to reduce the printing costs.

Thanks were extended to the Editorial Team – the newsletter is much appreciated by the residents in the Parish.

23/0011 CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III

Details of the event that will take place on Monday, 8th May 2023 are now available and everyone is invited to attend this free event. This will commence at 12 noon on the Village Green, adjacent to the Village Hall.

23/0012 PARISH MATTERS

There is a vacancy on the Parish Council as the election on 4th May was uncontested due to insufficient nominations. The normal process for co-option will apply. Anyone interested in being considered for the vacancy must submit a personal statement by Friday, 23rd June. The Parish Councillors will consider the applications received and resolve to co-opt to fill the vacancy.

23/0013 NEXT MEETING

17 th May 2023	7.30pm	Annual General Meeting
	8.15pm (approx)	First Full Council meeting of the new Council

SignedDate