



Minutes of the meeting of Waters Upton Parish Council which took place on **Wednesday 20th December 2023 at 7.30pm** in **Waters Upton Village Hall**.

PRESENT: Councillors:

- H Roberts
- J Quin
- K Hamilton
- E Thomas
- T Revitt

In attendance:

- Katrina Baker (Clerk)
- 8 Members of the Public
- PCSO Zoe Bevan
- Councillor S Bentley (TWC)

23/0113 WELCOME

The Chairman extended a warm welcome to members and the public and thanked everyone for attending. Councillor Roberts thanked those who attend meetings regularly throughout the year, this is much appreciated by the Councillors.

Councillor Roberts also thanked Councillors Quin and Hamilton for their support and leadership throughout the period of his vacation.

23/0114 PUBLIC SESSION

The following matters were raised:

- Middle Lane – blocked gulley, by Wier Farm, Cold Hatton
- Flooding – Bolas Bridge Cottage
- Lack of ditches – results in roads flooding

WEST MERCIA POLICE

PCSO Bevan gave a short November round-up including details of a rural initiative where no issues were identified. There will be another in January – other teams are drafted in to assist. A horse trailer has recently been reported as stolen, with CCTV footage available, but no suspect identified as yet.

Another role undertaken by PCSOs is to advise on crime prevention.

Councillor Bentley enquired about an accident outside of the school which resulted in a death, this would be the fifth in recent months. Zoe confirmed that this is an on-going enquiry and therefore details are not available. She also confirmed that they can only do speed surveys when 2 or 3 officers are available and as she and Ivan work opposite shifts this is not often possible. The Parish Council will contact Inspector Sanders to request more speed checks and enforcement and will discuss with TWC details of how the 20mph zone can be enforced.

23/0115 APOLOGIES

None

VACANCY

One vacancy exists, anyone interested in applying should contact the Clerk for details of how to apply. Any applications should be received by 19th January for consideration at the next meeting.

23/0116 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None

23/0117 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22nd NOVEMBER 2023

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

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

23/0118 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING

None.

23/0119 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE**a) Financial Reports**

- a) Minutes of the Finance & Governance Meeting had been circulated for information
- b) Payments

Expenditure	Statute	VAT	Total
Christmas Float	Misc Provisions Act	180.00	1080.00
Disposable glasses	Misc Provisions Act	5.25	31.49
Storm Drain Jetting and CCTV	LGA 1972 s 101	58.00	348.00
Hall Hire – Carols around the Tree	Misc Provisions Act		16.00

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

RESOLVED that the payments as listed by agreed.

b) Financial Position

The current account balance is £45,578.77 as at 1st December 2023, with the £45,000 investment receiving £194.67 interest in November.

c) Finance & Governance Committee

A further meeting will take place early in January.

Councillor S Bentley left the meeting as he is a Member of the TW Planning Committee.

23/0120 PLANNING**a) Planning Updates**

- i) TWC/2023/0841 Land South of The Mount
The Parish Councillors were pleased to hear that this application had been fully refused. This is a good outcome and the Neighbourhood Plan policies had assisted in the outcome.

b) Planning Applications for Consideration

- i) **TWC/2023/0598 Land between 20 and 21 Waters Upton, including 24 Erection of 4 dwellings, with boundary and drainage information**

This application represents an amended proposal and has taken into consideration most of the comments submitted by the Parish Council previously. The Parish Council welcomes the inclusion of bungalows, as identified within the WUNP. However, a request would be included for the fourth dwelling to also be a bungalow.

The access from the A442 remains a concern, but the inclusion of sufficient parking spaces and turning areas is welcomed. This can be supported by the reduction in speed on the A442, as agreed by TW Highways Officers which will see the 40mph start from the Rowton junction and reduce to 30mph as Swan Bridge. The 30mph will be welcomed past River Lane, this development and through to the roundabout to be created at Crudgington. This will assist to make the A442 Bharat junction and Crudgington School much safer.

The Parish Council also welcomes the proposal to deal with the sewerage using a pumped system to a gravity fed system and into an established main drain.

In accordance with the views of the Parish Council, consideration should also be given to water permeable drives and parking areas, installation of solar panels and car chargers and the inclusion of appropriate landscaping with native species to ensure an ecological setting.

The Parish Council will include in its response a message of thanks to the landowner, developer and agent for their proactive approach and for listening and responding to previous comments.

RESOLVED that Waters Upton Parish Council would support this application, with conditions that address and confirm the comments made above. It will also be included that Permitted Development Rights be removed to protect the site from inappropriate additional development or amendments.

- ii) **TWC/2023/0898 Shray Hill Farm**
Installation of a Sustainable Drainage System

RESOLVED to fully support this application as an example of good practice.

c) Waters Upton Neighbourhood Plan

- i) The Parish Council continues to monitor the Neighbourhood Plan for effectiveness and its policies are used in the determination of planning applications.
- ii) The Steering Group Meeting held on 6th December was well attended with many positive points raised which will assist in strengthening the current policies. A revised document will be produced and circulated for comments and will be shared with TWC for their initial views.

d) Other Planning Matters

i) Enforcement Matters

A meeting will be arranged for the Enforcement Officers to attend with representatives of rural parish councils in the hope of being able to understand the delays which are consistent across the rural areas of the Borough.

ii) Local Plan Review – Consultation

The consultation period has been extended to end of January and a drop-in session at the Village Hall will be arranged for local residents to be able to visit and discuss the proposals with TW officers and then share their thoughts with the parish councillors.

23/0121

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.

23/0122

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

a) Updates

There are many outstanding matters and it remains frustrating that there appears to be little or no action by TWC and the contractors. These include:

Mirrors at Shray Hill

Reliability of the rural bus, particularly the transportation of school children

Potholes and significant highway issues

Crudgington bus Shelter

Waters Upton A442 bus stop and shelter

b) Flooding

There are significant flooding issues in Waters Upton and Meeson, plus other areas – it was agreed to invite highway officers to a meeting where the adjacent landowners can also attend. A site visit may also be useful to identify road drain locations and issues.

- c) **Missing Signs**
There has been no response to the questions asked as to why TWC expects the Parish Council to fund replacement signs.
- d) **SID Project**
The new sockets are in place at Cold Hatton, the Clerk will check regarding the location in Waters Upton

23/0123

WEST MERCIA POLICE

- a) Rural PCSO Report
This item has been recorded within the public session.

- b) Rural Parish Vehicle
A meeting with the rural parishes will take place early in January with particular emphasis on the make and model of the vehicle.

23/0124

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- a) Christmas Events
The Float and Carols on the Green were successful and many favourable comments had been received. Members will consider adding funding to the budget for 2024/25.
- b) Letter of thanks
The Parish Council would write to thank Mr Ames for his support whilst Headteacher at Crudgington School and to wish him well in his new post. The school continues to be very successful and the Parish Council looks forward to working with the new Headteacher.

CLERK'S REPORT

Work is currently being undertaken on the play areas at Waters Upton and Great Bolas in accordance with the recent RoSPA Inspections.

COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

Councillor Quin had represented the Parish Council at an event regarding Emergency Planning. It will be important for us to identify first aiders, vulnerable residents etc. and to have emergency procedures in place in case of any unexpected event. These must be available and in place immediately and will be in place locally until the emergency services take over. The next event is on 26th January at The Shirehall from 10am until 3pm.

23/0125

INFORMATION FROM TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL – Councillor Stephen Bentley

Councillor Stephen Bentley has been representing the community on the following topics: Secondary School Transport, Rural Bus Provision and Bus Shelters, Condition of the Highways, Planning Applications and enquiries, Local Plan Review and the Swan ACV.

23/0126

PARISH MATTERS

Nothing further.

23/0127

NEXT MEETING

24th January 2024 7.30pm Waters Upton Village Hall

The Chairman thanked Members for their important contributions and closed the meeting at 8.15pm. Everyone was invited to join the Councillors for light refreshments. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

SignedDate

These Minutes are produced in draft form. E & OE until confirmed as a true record by Full Council at the next meeting on 24th January 2024