



Minutes of the meeting of Waters Upton Parish Council which took place on **Wednesday 27th September 2023 at 7.30pm** in **Waters Upton Village Hall**.

PRESENT: Councillors: H Roberts (Chairman)
K Hamilton
J Quin
C Ensor

In attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk)
10 Members of the Public
Councillor S Bentley (TWC)

23/0065 WELCOME

The Chairman extended a warm welcome to members and the public and thanked everyone for attending.

23/0066 PUBLIC SESSION

The following matters were raised:

- 40 mph from Rowton Junction
- The bus stop on the A442 – move to outside of The Beeches
- Right of Way – Swan Court to Pinfold Croft
- Sewerage evident in the road drains, Waters Upton Village
- Request for a cycle route from Crudgington to Shawbirch
- Overgrown footpath – Sytch Lane to Cold Hatton
- Crudgington Roundabout update

23/0067 APOLOGIES

Councillor E Thomas	Maternity Leave	Accepted
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Members wished to send their best wishes to Councillor Thomas and family and congratulate them on the recent birth of Baby Wilf.

VACANCY

If no election is called, the vacancy can be filled by co-option at the October Full Council Meeting. Anyone interested in the position can contact the Clerk for further information or submit a personal statement by 20th October.

23/0068 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Councillor Roberts	Open ditch, rear of Bharat Car Park
Councillor Roberts	Planning Application TWC/2023/0321

23/0069 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26th JULY 2023

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

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the July meeting be accepted and signed by the Chairman.
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23/0070 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING

Councillor Roberts declared an interest

Defective Drainage, A442

TWC has recently informed the Parish Centre Management Committee that it has a proposal for them to consider. A meeting will take place with the Drainage Officer and further information will be brought to the Parish Council as soon as it is available.

The delay in resolving this situation is unacceptable.

Crudgington Fields

The Parish Councillors will have an opportunity to visit the site in the near future and details of the progress with the roundabout will be requested.

23/0071

FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

a) Minutes

The Minutes of the Finance & Governance Meeting, held on 20th September had been circulated.

Following receipt of some explanation relating to the Council Tax queries, a further meeting has taken place and additional questions will now be forwarded to TWC. These relate in particular to the costs for the police and fire authority and the relevance of the statement regarding 2% increased for Adult Social Care.

b) Recommendations

It was proposed by Councillor Hamilton and seconded by Councillor Quin that the Earmarked Reserves as listed be agreed and included to form part of the budget through 2023/24 and into 2024/25.

It was also proposed that funding be allocated, from reserves, for the provision of a Christmas Float which will visit areas of the Parish with Santa and his helpers.

RESOLVED that the Earmarked Reserves be allocated and that up to £1000 be allocated for the Christmas Float.

c) Financial Reports

a) External Audit Report

There were no actions or recommendations required.

b) Payments

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

RESOLVED that the following payments be made.

External Audit Fee	LGA 1972 s115	£420.00
July – September Salary	LGA 1972 s112	£1099.24
July – September PAYE	LGA 1972 S112	£274.60
Bus Shelter Clean	LGA 1972 s111	£25.00

- c) The balance in the Current Account was £37,449 and £45,000 is invested in the CCLA which receives interest into the Current Account. The latest receipt was £194.91

23/0072

PLANNING

a) Planning Applications Updates

Land at the rear of Quarry View, Waters Upton

Concerns remain regarding the drainage from the site. The latest plans show this will go to a foul drain outside of the Pear Tree development and then to the foul drain outside of the Bharat. As it has now been established that these are not foul drains, TWC will discuss with the applicant that alternative drainage arrangements will be required.

b) Planning Applications for Consideration

Councillor Roberts declared a personal interest as a neighbour to the site and left the meeting.

Councillor Bentley left the meeting, as a Member of the TW Planning Committee

- i) **TWC/2023/0321** **2 Detached Houses, with garages and parking to the rear of Shanti House (Amended Plans)**

Members had considered the information provided and noted that the boundary had been amended. Other than the boundary, there did not appear to be any other amendments and therefore the comments made to the original application were still relevant.

Whilst it was accepted that one house has permission granted on appeal, a second house would have an additional effect on parking.

Members were also aware that a scheme for the foul drainage has not yet been agreed and the recent issues in this part of the village are a serious concern.

RESOLVED that the original objections would be re-submitted, along with a reminder that the seriousness of the defective drainage system in this part of the village needs to be resolved before further permissions are granted. It was therefore agreed to request that this application be deferred until a solution is agreed.

Councillor Roberts returned to the meeting

- ii) **TWC/2023/0554** **30 Fields Lodge, Crudgington Green**
Side, front and rear extensions, porch, roof alterations and a brick skin

Members considered the proposals and although this is a significant development, the site and plot are extensive and the work will improve the property. It is good to see the use of renewable and appropriate materials. A question was raised regarding the possible inclusion of solar panels

RESOLVED that Waters Upton Parish Council would have no objections to this application.

- iii) **TWC/2023/0684** **2, The Terrill Cottages**
two storey rear and single storey side extension, porch and windows

Members agreed that the design proposals are appropriate for the cottage. However, it is necessary to question that there is no drainage scheme included and the Drainage Officer has made no comment. Keeping in mind the significant problems experienced throughout the village with sewerage, it is important that a scheme is submitted before the application is determined.

RESOLVED that Waters Upton Parish Council would insist on an adequate drainage scheme being included in the application before it can be considered.

c) Waters Upton Neighbourhood Plan

- a) The Parish Council continues to monitor the Neighbourhood Plan for effectiveness and its policies are used in the determination of planning applications.
- b) A meeting regarding the review of the Neighbourhood Plan will take place in the Village Hall on 7th December 2023 at 7pm. All welcome.

d) Other Planning Matters

i) Enforcement Matters

Members were extremely disappointed that no action has been taken, or responses received, regarding the outstanding Enforcement Issues in the Parish.

23/0073

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.
The AGM will take place on 3rd November 2023 at The Wroxeter Hotel.

- c) **Community Governance Review**
The initial consultation has commenced. Details can be found on the TW website and on the Parish Council Website. This is an opportunity for all residents to consider if the Parish Boundary remains appropriate and the number of Councillors. This will appear on the October agenda for Members to consider.
- d) **Remembrance Sunday**
Councillor Quin will represent the Parish Council and lay a wreath at one of the services in the Parish. Details of the times have been requested, but not yet received.
- e) **TWC Tourism Survey – Members are encouraged to respond direct to TWC**
- f) **MMCT Conference – Councillor Ensor has been invited to represent the parish at this event in November.**

23/0074

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

a) Updates

The Sign Audit

Since the completion of the plan and details, TWC responded to say that if the parish council wanted to go ahead, then they would have to fund the signs and installation. This audit was at the request of TWC, four years ago, and therefore this has been challenged.

Shray Hill Mirrors

The mirrors, promised for Shray Hill, are on order and this project is being supported by UPL.

b) Secondary School Transport

Parents were informed, late in July, that the dedicated secondary school bus would no longer be running and the children would be issued with a bus pass for the new rural 103 / 104 buses. Whilst this caused some concern, the new timetable using Chase Rider commenced in September. There has been nothing but problems most days. The bus is unreliable and children have been left stranded. There is a safe-guarding concern and parents, children and Charlton School have submitted complaints to TWC. Councillor Bentley is representing the families and has appeared on Midlands TV and BBC Radio Shropshire to highlight the concerns.

c) A442 Safety Bollards

Two recent incidents have resulted in bollards being pushed out of the ground. This highlighted the concerns regarding school children using this path to and from school. The bollards have been replaced, however, this issue has been raised in a meeting with the Assistant Police & Crime Commissioner, where Councillor Bentley highlighted the concerns regarding the speed on the A442 in the parish and has commenced dialogue about a possible speed reduction scheme.

d) Swan Court to Pinfold Croft

The TW Rights of Way team have promised to move forward with this issue. It ties in with the relocation of the bus stop on the A442 and enables a safe pedestrian route from the village.

e) Rural Bus Service and Bus Shelter

Despite the recent issues with the 103 and 104, when combined with the school transport provision, local residents are pleased to have a rural bus service and it is well used. There are plans for a new bus shelter at Crudgington. Anyone wishing to attend the TW Bus User Group meetings, please contact the Clerk and invitations will be provided.

23/0075

PARISH PROJECTS

a) Christmas 2023

Carols around the Christmas Tree will take place on 15th December with refreshments. A Christmas Float will travel around the villages – details are to be confirmed.

b) Parish Room Croft

The Chairman and Clerk had met with an officer from TWC to discuss natural play for the site. It was pleasing to

hear that the fencing is adequate for the site and an internal fence will not be required. We await plans before a public consultation is arranged.

23/0076 WEST MERCIA POLICE

No report had been received and there has not been a recent newsletter.

When discussed the priorities for the charter, Members agreed that the provision of a vehicle for the rural areas was essential in order that the SNT can be seen, once again, around the area – this was much appreciated and has been missed in recent weeks when visits have been reduced.

23/0077 CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

Councillor Roberts had attended a number of meetings with TW officers regarding current issues and projects. He had also attended the recent Chairman's meeting, with the Chairmen from Parish & Town Councils across Shropshire.

CLERK'S REPORT

a) Defibrillator Training

A session had taken place in the village hall, we now have 15 more local residents who are trained to use the defibrillator. The equipment has had new pads.

b) Dog Fouling

This remains a serious issue. A number of complaints have been received from residents in Crudgington Fields, this has resulted in a CCTV being positioned, in the hope that TWC Enforcement Team can recognise a dog walker who does not pick up after their dog – this is an offence and carries a fine.

COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Members have been invited to attend the series of planning and development training and information sessions. Copies of the slides will be available to use as a reference document. A training register is available.

23/0078 INFORMATION FROM TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL – Councillor Stephen Bentley

Councillor Stephen Bentley has been representing the community on the following topics:

- Meeting with the Assistance Police & Crime Commissioner regarding funding for a scheme on the A442
- Secondary School Transport
- Rural Bus Provision and Bus Shelters
- Poor landscape maintenance – TWC / Idverde
- Potholes and poor road conditions
- Unreadable signage
- Drainage and sewerage issues – Pear Tree Development

23/0079 PARISH MATTERS

a) Solar Slow Down Sign as you approach Crudgington was repaired but was faulty again within a few days and has not been repaired or replaced for over 3 years. It should be removed if not going to be repaired and maybe the Parish Council can use the post for the SID as part of the mobile project?

b) Orchard Close

Despite an assurance that a camera would be deployed to check out the drain in May of this year and information that the Parish Council will be able to see the footage, no further action has been taken. This will be raised with the Director.

23/0080 NEXT MEETING

25th October 2023

7.30pm

Waters Upton Village Hall

The Chairman thanked Members for their important contributions to this meeting and the local residents for their thoughts and views on local matters.

SignedDate

These Minutes are produced in draft form. E & OE until confirmed as a true record by Full Council at the next meeting on 25th October 2023.