



Minutes of the meeting of Waters Upton Parish Council which took place on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023 at 7.30pm** in **Waters Upton Village Hall**.

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

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

**23/0399 WELCOME**

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

Two additional planning applications had been received since the production of the Agenda and Members confirmed that they had had an opportunity to peruse the information and therefore would consider them at tonight's meeting.

**23/0400 PUBLIC SESSION**

The following matters were raised:

- Extra land use, adjacent to development field, Dairy Crest site
- Footpath – Pinfold Croft to Swan Court
- Land on junction of Catsbritch Lane with B5062
- Footpath outside 1 and 2 The Stackyard
- Catsbritch Lane – condition of the highway

**23/0401 APOLOGIES**

None

**23/0402 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Thomas SID Location – outside of Lower House Farm

**23/0403 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 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 January meeting be accepted and signed by the Chairman.**

**23/0404 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING**

**Drainage Issues**

TWC has arranged for contractors to undertake work to the rear of Shanti House to clear the ditch and outflow pipe in preparation for the inspection of the pipe from the A442 to the ditch. Contaminated waste was found. The fence has been reinstated by TWC.

A reminder has been sent that the pipes to the rear of Orchard Close will also need to be inspected when the inspection at this location takes place.

All road drains through Waters Upton have been cleared.

## 23/0405 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

### a) Financial Report

The balance in the Current Account is £54,807.41 which includes the following receipts:

- £1000 grant from Veolia to purchase a recycled bench for Parish Room Croft
- £2500 grant from Councillor Bentley's Pride Fund for an additional SID
- £2546.61 VAT refund

The funding for the future maintenance of The Stackyard has been received and included £5662.79 interest.

Thanks were recorded to Councillor Bentley for the grant for an additional SID.

The Clerk reported that all 2022/23 re-charges have been sent to Wrekin Housing Group and Waters Upton Stores.

## 23/0406 PLANNING

### a) Planning Applications Updates

None

### b) Planning Applications for Consideration

**TWC/2023/078 Land adjacent to Crudgington School**

**Change of use from Agricultural Land to Private Land to create car park and installation of security gates and fencing**

Members were aware of the work undertaken by the Chairman and Councillor Bentley to negotiate and bring forward an opportunity for additional land to be available to create additional parking spaces and to enable an off road route so that the children can be dropped off and picked up safely.

This is necessary due to the loss of the walking bus and the additional parking at Crudgington – the safety of the children is very important, as well as other road users.

Under normal circumstances, a change of use from agricultural land would not be supported, but the benefits of this were taken into consideration and the size of the piece of land would not be detrimental to the remaining field.

Members agreed that the area created must be in-keeping with the rural aspect of the school site and therefore the provision of gates, height of fencing and use of lighting must be appropriate.

**RESOLVED that Waters Upton Parish Council would support this application with conditions. Fencing is already in position to keep the school property secure, any additional fencing or gates for the car park area should be lower with appropriate planting in place to screen it. Any lighting should be low level solar and have the ability to be turned off during the night. The surface must be permeable.**

**TWC/2023/0113 Longswood Farm, Longswood**

**Change of Roof Materials on Main Roof (retrospective)**

**RESOLVED that the Parish Council would have no objections to the application regarding roof materials as explained in the heritage statement submitted. The work should be monitored by the Conservation Officer.**

**TWC/2023/0119 34 Great Bolas**

**Replacement garage roof (to pitched slate roof) to enable solar panels to be fitted**

**RESOLVED to support the provision of solar panels and therefore the Parish Council had no objections to the replacement roof. However, the location of the garage would need to be checked as it is situated to the rear of the adjacent property.**

### c) Waters Upton Neighbourhood Plan

TWC had confirmed that their Local Plan will be under review in the near future and this could work in our favour as both Plans would be reviewed side-by-side. Members will need to consider areas within the current Plan that may need to be re-visited. An article will be included in the next Parish Newsletter to seek the views of local residents.

Areas already identified for consideration are installation of solar panels, electric car chargers, boundaries, definition of 'infil' plots, transport, rights of way and accessibility.

**d) Other Planning Matters**

**i) The Stackyard, Waters Upton**

The transfer of land in Phase One to the Parish Council has been completed. A meeting took place with the Parochial Church Council on 31<sup>st</sup> January regarding the use of the car park. Bollards are in place and will be opened and closed by the PCC when the car park is required for church use.

A meeting had previously taken place with the residents to confirm the areas that will remain the responsibility of the Parish Council.

Phase Two is still to be completed and the handover of the Village Green area will take place soon and will include the area of bark (the other side of the sandstone wall) which will also be transferred to the Parish Council.

**ii) Green Bins and Maintenance**

The Parish Council has provided two green bins for use at The Stackyard, these will be stored in the bin area. We have enlisted the help of two volunteers, who have signed our volunteer contract in accordance with the policy in order to ensure that appropriate insurance is in place for the tasks they will undertake on behalf of the Parish Council. Our thanks and appreciation are extended to them.

**23/0407**

**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) Wrekin Area Committee**

The Minutes have been circulated for information.

**d) TW Bus User Group**

The next meeting will take place on 9<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm on zoom. Everyone is welcome to join.

**e) Rural Forum**

Please keep this date in your diaries – 8<sup>th</sup> June at High Ercall Village Hall at 7.30pm

**f) Great British Spring Clean**

A date will be agreed for us to take part in this initiative. Volunteers from the across the Parish will be invited to take part.

**g) New Bus Services – 102,103,104 and 105**

The new bus routes are launched on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February – free transport for 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> to try out the new service. Timetables are available. This is the result of a lot of work by the Ward Member and rural Parish Councils. The service is to be provided by a new travel provider who is keen to expand and enhance the service in the coming months. All comments are welcomed as it is hoped that the routes will evolve to cover as many areas as possible. The Chairman will represent the Parish Council at the launch at 2pm on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February at Newport.

**h) Dial-A-Ride and Door-to-Door**

As part of the commitment to provide transport to those in need, special arrangements can be made for those who cannot access the new bus services. For those with mobility issues or if they live more than three miles from a bus route, one to one discussions are welcomed and special provision can be arranged.

**23/0408**

**HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT**

**a) Updates**

The highways liaison meeting took place on 9<sup>th</sup> February (minutes are available on request).

### **SID Project**

The SID is currently at Crudginton and will move next to Great Bolas.  
A suitable location North of Waters Upton village has not yet been agreed.  
The additional SID (as funded by Cllr S Bentley's Pride Funding) is now on order.

### **A442 40mph zone, Waters Upton**

TWC has agreed that the 40 mph zone will start before the Sytch Lane junction as you approach Swan Bridge from the North.

#### **b) Sign Audit**

The Clerk had visited Great Bolas and Waters Upton, with a highways engineer, and identified all the signs and detailed work required – some will be replaced and others repaired. Landowners are asked to cut the hedges around signs to ensure they are visible.  
A visit to Meeson will be arranged next.

**23/0409**

### **CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP**

The outstanding project is to provide solar panels on Waters Upton Parish Centre. New quotations will be available in March for the new specification in the hope that this project can be completed in the Summer.

**23/0410**

### **PARISH PROJECTS**

#### **a) King's Coronation May 2023**

The grant application has been successful. The event will take place on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> May from 12 noon.

#### **b) Field View, Waters Upton**

Work is continuing to address the points raised in the RoSPA report, these include:

- Fencing
- Paths
- Wood stain
- Stone
- Planters

#### **c) Wooden Sculptures**

The sculptures at Waters Upton, Crudginton and Great Bolas need wood treatment and the bases may need to be replaced.

#### **d) Great Bolas Play Area**

The Chairman and Vice Chairman had visited the site recently and were impressed with the facilities and the views. A plan of action has been programmed to address the points raised in the recent RoSPA report.

**23/0411**

### **POLICE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

#### **Newsletter**

Copies have been distributed and are available on request.

#### **Speedwatch**

Thanks were extended to the volunteers taking part in current speedwatch sessions.

#### **Trespassing on fields**

The Parish Council has been informed of trespassing, by dog walkers on agricultural land adjacent to rights of way as well as other fields in the Parish. We have been asked to remind local residents and visitors to the Parish that trespassing is not allowed and the landowners will be contacting the police and dog warden to report those who do not stick to the routes of the rights of way.

**23/0412**

### **CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Chairman reported that he had received a communication which has confirmed that the timetable and programme of works for the roundabout at Crudginton Crossroads will be available soon. The Section 106 funding allocations have been amended to take on board the additional costs and to enable the surface water drainage scheme which is necessary and has to be provided as part of the works. The extended car park at Crudginton School is progressing and will be necessary as the parking at the nearby Triangle will no longer be possible.  
All the Section 106 funding from Phase One has been paid by Shropshire Homes even though Phase One has not yet

been completed. Derek Owen and Richard Foden from TWC are monitoring the provision of the outdoor gym and village green within the site which will be managed by a Management Company (and not the responsibility of the Parish Council). However, the Parish Remembrance Bench will move to the village green when completed. Waters Upton Parish Council, along with Ercall Magna and Edgmond Parish Councils, remain committed to the provision of the roundabout.

#### CLERK'S REPORT

##### a) Elections

Nomination Packs will be available from 28<sup>th</sup> March to 4<sup>th</sup> April and are available from the Electoral Commission Website or TWC Elections Team. Election Day Is 4<sup>th</sup> May with voting at Waters Upton Village Hall from 7am until 10pm. Anyone voting at the polling station will need to provide photo ID – if you do not have a bus pass, disabled blue badge, driving licence or passport with photo ID, you can apply for a certificate from TWC.

Alternatively, you may wish to apply for a postal vote (which does not require photo ID this year) – these are available until 5pm on 18<sup>th</sup> April.

The Clerk will be provided with nomination packs for those Councillors who wish to re-stand for election.

The Parish Council election counts will take place on the Friday afternoon – results may not be available until Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> May – due to the King's Coronation and Bank Holiday. Existing Councillors will remain in post until Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> May.

##### b) Waste Bin and Dog Poo Dispenser, The Stackyard

These are on order and are being provided by Councillor Bentley's Pride funding, but will be donated to the Parish Council.

##### c) Veolia Grant

Members considered the purchase of a recycled bench for Parish Room Croft. It was proposed by Councillor Quin and seconded by Councillor Revitt that this should be a picnic bench, all were in favour and thus it was

**RESOLVED that a recycled picnic bench be ordered, with funding from the Veolia Grant.**

##### d) Dog Fouling around the Parish

This issue is regularly reported to the TWC Enforcement Team and Dog Warden. Offending owners are reminded that they could receive a fixed penalty of up to £1000 for allowing a dog to foul in a public place.

#### COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

None

23/0413

#### INFORMATION FROM TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL – Councillor Stephen Bentley

The Budget Meeting at TWC takes place in March – it is disappointing that there is little money allocated for rural projects.

Thanks were extended to the rural Parish Councils and local residents who had supported his campaign to bring back a rural bus service. The new scheme starts on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February and timetables are now available. Regular journeys to Wellington & Newport will be available.

The service is a hail and ride from any location along the identified routes. This service will evolve, so everyone is asked to forward their comments on suggested changes to the routes or timetables so that TWC and the new bus company can take them into consideration.

Any residents currently not included in the routes should enquire about the Dial-A-Ride and house-to-house schemes.

The official launch is on 28<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm at Newport Interchange – everyone welcome. Travel on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February will be at no charge.

23/0414

#### PARISH MATTERS

- Details of the work at Crudgington in the adjacent field will be discussed at the meeting with Shropshire Homes in early March
- The footpath from Pinfold Croft to Swan Court is under negotiation between TWC and the landowner

- The footpath outside of The Stackyard has a rubber infrastructure, additional stone has been added and additional work has been completed by the contractors. The flexibility is required to protect the tree roots of the Lime Trees which have TPOs attached to them as instructed by the TW Tree Officer.
- The surface of Catsbitch Lane has been reported and was included in the Highways Liaison meeting – action will be required as part of the Quite Lane Designation. In the meantime potholes can be reported using the My Telford App.
- A site meeting with the landowner at the end of Catsbitch Lane / B5062 had been postponed – however, this it to be re-arranged as soon as possible.
- Concern was expressed that some people are crossing the A442 near to the crossroads and not using the pelican crossing – this is dangerous and should be discouraged
- Parents in Crudginton Fields will be encouraged to walk to Crudginton School
- Thanks were extended to the Parish Roadman for work on the drain in Sytch Lane, other drains have now been identified for similar work in Sytch Lane and Catsbitch Lane
- The bridleway to the rear of Cedar Lodge should be ‘accessible’ and appropriate gates are needed in the village and in Catsbitch Lane. However, concerns remain regarding its designation as a Bridleway and this is being taken up by local residents and potential users direct with TWC.
- Waymarkers are needed to show the route of the Right of Way from Sytch Lane to Bolas Bridge Cottage. TW will also be reminded of the need for an appropriate access gate for the route.

**23/0415**      **NEXT MEETING**  
15<sup>th</sup> March 2023                      7.30pm                      Full Council Meeting                      Waters Upton Village Hall

The Chairman thanked Members for their important contributions to this meeting which closed at 9.10pm

**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 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023.*