



Waters Upton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Waters Upton Parish Council which took place on **Wednesday 26th May 2021 at 7.30pm** in **Waters Upton Village Hall**.

PRESENT: Councillors:

H Roberts (Chairman)
E Thomas
B Rothwell
J Quin

In attendance:

Katrina Baker (Clerk)
Cllr S Bentley (Ward Member)
PCSO I Collumbell
4 Members of the public

21/0060 WELCOME

Councillor Roberts, Chairman, opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. A special welcome was extended to PCSO Collumbell and we are expecting Gary Wade, Chairman of Nova Raiders Cycling Club, to join us during the meeting.

Ivan has been with the police for 15 years and has come into this new post to offer dedicated support to the rural areas. However, the area is large in that it covers Rodington around to Sheriffhales. This is a pilot project to engage with communities and work with Parish & Town Councils to ensure there is more policing in the rural communities. It is important that details of anything 'out of the ordinary' is recorded. This information may be useful and could be the missing piece in a jigsaw relating to a nearby crime.

Please email information to ivan.collumbell@westmercia.pnn.police.uk or if you need to speak to Ivan, his mobile number is 07817 941151 – please leave a message and Ivan will return your call. However, this does not replace the appropriate use of 999 in an emergency situation, or 101 if you need to contact the safer neighbourhood team or on duty officers at the time.

PUBLIC SESSION

Orchard Close open water course – completion of the outstanding work
Orchard Close – resurfacing
Cold Hatton – A442 Traffic Regulation Scheme

These matters are included within the Agenda.

21/0061 APOLOGIES

Councillor J Griffin	Unavailable due to a previous engagement
Councillor T Revitt	Holiday

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

RESOLVED that the apologies be accepted.

21/0062 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None

21/0063 MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN May 2021

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

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 26th May 2021 be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

21/0064 MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA, FOR INFORMATION ONLY

The Chairman gave an update on matters from previous meetings that were not identified on the Agenda.

a) Orchard Close

The Clerk had contacted TWC, who were initially of the opinion that the work on the open watercourse had been completed. The Senior Officer has confirmed that this will be checked and we await a reply.

TWC has confirmed that the work to resurface Orchard Close is in the programme for this year and it is hoped it will be completed before the Winter months.

b) Catsbitch Lane

The Clerk had contacted the farmer who has agreed to investigate the drain system with the landowner in the meantime, the ditch was cleared to reduce the risk of flooding at the right of way stile in Catsbitch Lane.

c) Cyclists

Mr Gary Wade, Chairman of Nova Raiders Cycling Club, had agreed to attend this Parish Council meeting. However, it is accepted that other cycling groups also use the routes. The use of the A442 and minor roads is considered by many to be extremely dangerous. Also, the cars parking on junctions, as time keepers and supporters, causes concern for residents. Details of a recent incident will be provided, this was as three riders were racing, an ambulance and HGV could not pass – details of a cycling Code of Conduct or Complaint's Policy will be requested.

PCSO Collumbell suggested that a call is made to the police on 101 at the time of such an incident, or when visibility is obscured by parked cars.

Cyclists often frighten horses, too, as they approach quietly and the horses are spooked.

21/0065 FINANCE & AUDIT

a) Payments

The following payments, which had been circulated, were presented, it was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Councillor Thomas, that the payments be made by BACCs.

Street Light Energy	Parish Councils Act 1957 s3; Highways Act 1980 s301	£681.95
Clerk's Salary April to June	LGA 1972	£900
PAYE April to June	LGA 1972	£225

It was agreed to add the Internal Auditor Fee of £90.00 to the payments

RESOLVED that the payments, as listed be made.

b) Internal Audit

A copy of the Internal Audit Report had been circulated to all members and will appear on the website. The Internal Audit of the AGAR had also been received and circulated for information.

c) End of Year Accounts and AGAR

i) A copy of the AGAR Sections one, Annual Governance Statement, had previously been circulated, for information and it was proposed by Councillor Thomas and seconded by Councillor Rothwell that the Chairman should sign Section One, confirming the eight Accounting Statements.

ii) It was further agreed that the AGAR Section two, Accounting Statements for 2020/21 be signed by the Chairman.

All were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the AGAR be completed and signed by the Chairman. This will be forwarded to PKF Littlejohn LLP for Audit, with all the requested information including an Explanation of Variances, Bank Reconciliation and Contact Details.

d) Financial Report

The Clerk reported that the Current Account Balance at 10th June 2021 was £54,015.98. A VAT repayment of £2100.17 has been claimed.

d) Grants Policy and Application Form

A draft document for 2021/22 had been circulated and was agreed by Members, this will be available on the website.

21/0066

PLANNING

a) Planning Applications Updates

None

b) New Applications for consideration

- i) TWC/2021/0538 Land adjacent to the pumping station, Longwood
Change of Use from agricultural to operational and installation of two boreholes with associated kiosks, crane pads, access and landscaping

RESOLVED that whilst the Parish Council would not object to the proposal, the consultation response should include further mention of the detrimental effect on the condition of the Lane and the fact that the additional traffic will affect the local residents on a regular basis.

These concerns, regarding the Lane, will be communicated to Highways direct, as well as part of the Planning Application response.

- ii) TWC/2021/0571 64 Sheepbridge Cottage, Sheep Bridge
Erection of a two storey extension following demolition of a single storey building

RESOLVED that Members would have no objection to this application.

- iii) TWC/2021/0596 Moor Bank Farm, Crudginton
Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of a replacement dwelling and all associated works.
Members had received details of the concerns from a neighbour of the site, for information.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council would not object to the proposed replacement dwelling and recalled the information provided at the last meeting by the applicant. However, in order to ensure that the future of the site is regulated by planning controls, Members would request that an agricultural tie be included to ensure that this residence remains available as a farm dwelling tied to the holding.

c) Waters Upton Neighbourhood Plan

The Parish Council remains confident that the Waters Upton Neighbourhood Plan meets the needs of the community, although it is accepted that monitoring and updates will be required in the near future, taking into consideration the changes in Planning Legislation in recent times. The decisions made have been in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan.

d) Other Planning Matters

- i) The Stackyard
A meeting has been arranged with Alan and Nick Day for 28th January, this will be an opportunity for the Chairman and Clerk to discuss all the outstanding matters relating to Phase One, to receive an update on Phase Two and to raise the outstanding issues relating to the bin store and road.

The pothole at the entrance, adjacent to the village road, will be discussed too.

- ii) The Swan site
A meeting had been arranged for 22nd June, but had been postponed. It is hoped that this will be re-arranged in the next two weeks. This will be an opportunity for the Chairman and Clerk to discuss the current state of the site and to re-affirm the conditions of the ACV. It is hoped that an update will be available for the July meeting.
- iii) Old Rectory Fields
At the meeting with Days New Homes, the completion and handover of the land at Old Rectory Fields will be discussed.

21/0067 CORRESPONDENCE

Items received for information – please contact the Clerk if you wish to read any of these documents or if you require additional information.

- a) All correspondence has been shared with Members throughout the period since the last meeting. Members have not requested that any should be included on the agenda.
- b) **Information from SALC**
SALC has continued to provide weekly updates regarding a wide range of information.
- c) **Armed Forces Covenant**
It was proposed by Councillor Quin and seconded by Councillor Rothwell that Waters Upton Parish Council should sign up to the Armed Forces Covenant, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that Waters Upton Parish Council will sign up to the Armed Forces Covenant. In doing so, it will demonstrate public commitment to the Armed Forces Community by agreeing two core principles a) no member of the Armed Forces Community should face disadvantage in the provision of public and commercial services compared to any other citizen and b) in some circumstances, special treatment may be appropriate, especially for the injured or bereaved.

- d) **Boundary Commission Review**
When considering the proposed changes to the Parliamentary Boundaries there was a strong view in that we should retain the name 'The Wrekin'. The Chairman explained that it is unique and identifiable in this part of Telford & Wrekin and dates back to 1912. The Wrekin landmark can be seen from everywhere within the Constituency, even if new areas join as part of this review. There are already 3 Wellingtons and 3 Newports in the Country. Newport & Wellington would not be representative of the entire Constituency and it was agreed that the Parish Council should submit a response. Members of the public are encouraged to submit their own views, the strength of feeling is important and the Commission are keen to hear from as many people as possible.

With regards to the Ward Boundary Review, this relates to Telford & Wrekin Council, which currently has 54 Members. This will appear on the next Agenda for an update.

Any parish boundary reviews will be undertaken before the next election in 2023.

The Chairman has been invited to attend a briefing tomorrow, which is also available on You Tube.

21/0068 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

- a) **Update on Outstanding Highway Matters**

The Chairman and Clerk updated the meeting on

The A442, Cold Hatton

TWC has confirmed that new bollards are on order and they accept that the VAS (Vehicle Activated Sign) is not performing as they had envisaged. Phase III will respond to the road markings and signs. The concerns regarding overtaking (particularly those on the wrong side of the central refuges) have been passed to TWC and a request for 'No Overtaking' signs and road markings has been included

Meeson Junction, Shray Hill

Following the site visit, we are awaiting the provision of visibility mirrors, the removal of the bus stop sign and a quotation for the provision and installation of a VAS. However, one of the Speed Indicator Devices in our project is

allocated to this area.

Highway Liaison Meeting

A request has been sent to TWC for a Liaison Meeting to take place in order that the long list of outstanding highway issues can be raised and hopefully to obtain a timeline for the work to be programmed.

Community Speedwatch

The traffic monitoring has been taking place in Crudgington, Waters Upton and Great Bolas and it is hoped that the volunteer training will take place in the next few weeks.

21/0069 CLIMATE CHANGE

Councillor Roberts reminded Members of the funding available for the project to engage with the community. Volunteers are required to join the working group, from across the Parish. Councillor Thomas agreed to join the group and it is hoped that the first meeting will be able to take place early in July so that a report can come to Full Council with a project plan.

21/0070 WEST MERCIA POLICE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Members agreed that it had been good to be able to welcome PCSO Collumbell to the meeting. His enthusiasm for the role is pleasing and his commitment to support the rural areas is to be applauded. The launch of the new NW communication scheme is expected in July and hopefully this will ensure that important messages and information can be shared with residents in a timely manner.

21/0071 CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

An additional Bank Holiday has been announced in recognition of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and will move the Bank Holiday to 2nd – 5th June 2022. A beacon will be lit on the Wrekin. Guidance from the Palace is also available which suggests that Fun Days and Fetes could be on the Friday and Street Parties on the Sunday. Trooping of the Colour will take place on the Saturday. Councillor Thomas offered to assist with the organisation of Parish events.

DBS Checks

Members agreed that DBS checks should be undertaken for them in their role as local councillors.

21/0072 CLERK'S REPORT

a) Rights of Way

Councillor Griffin has been working with the Ramblers to install finger direction posts and to clear some overgrown paths.

Work to clear the path from Bolas Bridge Cottage is planned.

21/0073 REPORT FROM TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

Councillor Bentley had circulated a written report, which will be attached to the Minutes and will appear in the newsletter.

Members were concerned to hear that Crudgington School had been notified that use of the Lion (Bharat) Car Park has been withdrawn from the Walking Bus. This will result in additional vehicles at Crudgington Crossroads and outside of the School. The support of the owner over the past 10 years has been appreciated and it is hoped that a new agreement can be reached. Telford & Wrekin Council has been informed.

21/0074 PARISH MATTERS

None

21/0075 NEXT MEETING

28th July 2021

7.30pm

Full Council

Waters Upton Village Hall

The Chairman thanked Members for their important contributions to the meeting and thanked the residents for attending. There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25pm.

SignedDate

These Minutes are produced in draft form. E & OE until confirmed as a true record by Full Council at the next meeting on 28th July 2021.