



Minutes of the meeting of Waters Upton Parish Council which took place on **Wednesday 23rd February 2022 at 7.30pm** in **Waters Upton Village Hall**.

PRESENT: Councillors: T Revitt (Vice Chairman)
B Rothwell
E Thomas
K Hamilton

In attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk)
Cllr S Bentley (TWC)
8 Members of the public
PCSO I Collumbell

22/0188 WELCOME

Councillor Revitt, Vice Chairman, opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

PCSO I Collumbell

Councillor Revitt thanked Ivan for attending, it is always good to see him around the rural area, this is much appreciated by the local residents.

Ivan explained about Neighbourhood Matters and encouraged people to sign up to receive the alerts and local information. It is important to identify, when registered, what type of information you wish to receive.

An arrest has recently been made and a charge followed, regarding hare coursing.

PUBLIC SESSION

The chairman explained that the first 15 minutes of the meeting is for the public to raise any issues or questions for consideration by the Parish Council. The following matters were raised:

- a) blocked road drains
- b) flooding near to the entrance to the right of way in Catsbitch Lane
- c) footpath surfaces in Waters Upton
- d) footpath outside of 1 and 2, The Stackyard

22/0189 APOLOGIES

Cllr H Roberts	Annual Holiday
Cllr J Quin	Annual Holiday

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

RESOLVED that the apologies from Councillor Roberts and Councillor Quin be accepted.

22/0190 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None

22/0191 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26th January 2022

It was proposed by Councillor Thomas 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.

22/0192 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETINGS

The Chairman had prepared a report, which had been circulated and would appear with the Minutes on the website.

The speed monitoring and recording equipment have been on the A442 outside of the Lion Inn and at Swan Bridge. The results will be used to assess the extent of the problem with speed in this area of the Parish.

22/0193 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

a) Payments

There were no payments for authorisation at this meeting. A full list of payments is available on request.

b) Financial Report

The Clerk confirmed that current account has a balance of £53,078.60 which includes the agreed earmarked reserves. The precept request for 2022/23 had been confirmed, there will be no increase on this year's precept. A 'payments against budget' report will be available at the next meeting.

22/0194 PLANNING

a) Planning Applications Updates

None

b) Planning Applications for Consideration

DMMO/2019/0006 Duke's Drive, A442 to Kynnersley Restricted Byeway

This application was submitted by the Telford Bridleways Association and is well documented and evidenced.

RESOLVED to support the DMMO to confirm the Restricted Byeway.

c) Waters Upton Neighbourhood Plan

The Parish Council remains confident that the Neighbourhood Plan meets the needs of the community. The comments made on recent applications have been in accordance with the Plan.

d) Other Planning Matters

i) The Stackyard, Waters Upton

The Chairman and Clerk had met with a representative of Days New Homes to continue the ongoing discussions regarding the completion of Phase One. This included the completion of the car park area (for the PCC), and the provision of a water supply to the church.

On completion, the Parish Council will become responsible for the landscape maintenance but until that time, it remains the responsibility of Days New Homes.

A useful meeting had taken place with the Rights of Way officers and an agreement reached regarding the route of the right of way around Phase II. This will mean that the sandstone wall to the rear of the site will be re-built and there will be no access required across the rear field. The landowner to the South of the site has agreed to enable the route to join the track, on the outside of The Stackyard site. TWC will pursue the legal order and the path will be a bridleway (as with the Track).

A meeting had taken place with TWC and the waste collectors. The smaller vehicle is now being used for The Stackyard (and Old Rectory Fields) and this enables householders to have their bins collected from the bin store at The Stackyard. Bins are now collected from the houses in Old Rectory Fields.

Concerns regarding parking on the grassed area of the site have been reported and contractors will be asked to park in the car park and to leave the access road clear.

ii) Planning workshops

Councillor Hamilton reported on the three sessions which she had attended, the Conservation Area and Permitted Development sessions were particularly useful. There are spaces available on the remaining sessions if anyone wishes to attend.

A copy of all the slides and presentations from all the sessions will be available to all PTCs for reference, following the end of the series.

22/0195

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) **Parish Agreement**
A revised document has been produced to replace the Parish Charter. The commitments are based on the customer charter and it includes clear guidelines for communication and consultation. Whilst members remain concerned at the lack of responses and the delay in responses and actions, it was agreed that the Parish Council should sign up to the new Agreement but to explain to TWC that it is hoped that the new document will bring forward improvements.

22/0196

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

- a) **Updates**
Councillor Bentley, as the Ward Member, and the Clerk had met with representatives of the Highways Department on 22nd February. This was an opportunity to ensure that all the outstanding projects and requests for action are recorded and that timescales for the work should be available. Topics discussed were:
- B5062 Meeson Junction – mirrors, visibility and removal of the bus stop
 - VAS at Crudginton – to be replaced
 - Swan Bridge – fence to the Northern side of the bridge
 - Condition of footpaths through Waters Upton village
 - Highway build-outs outside of Lower House Farm – to slow down the traffic
 - Catsbitch Lane and Meeson Road – Quiet Lanes projects
 - Replacement verge bollards from Crudginton to Shray Hill on B5062
 - Incorrect sign at the end of Kynnersley Moors
 - Request for 40mph zone to start before the Sytch Lane junction near to Swan Bridge

Notes of the meeting will be available.

- b) **Speed Indicator Device**
The officers, Matt Powell and Chris Pearson, were very apologetic that this project has not yet been brought forward and completed. The equipment is now on order and will be installed as soon as possible.
- c) **A442 Cold Hatton**
The site meeting with TWC and the manufacturer took place. An agreement was reached that the zones at the end of the side roads should be relocated further away from the A442, this would mean that the VAS would illuminate sooner on the A442 when cars are approaching. The VAS had been adjusted, to ensure that the priority was SLOW DOWN, unfortunately, the default means that it returns to Vehicles Emerging – this will be reported to the Highways team again.

22/0197

CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP

The Chairman had included a reference in the report. However, the Clerk also reported that the heating and lighting projects for St Michael's and St John's have been included, along with an agreement from the Village Hall Management Committee regarding more efficient heaters.
TWC are keen to ensure that there is close monitoring of the expenditure from the £4000 grant which we were awarded.

22/0198

PARISH PROJECTS

- a) **Noticeboards**
Three new noticeboards are on order and awaiting installation in Crudginton, Great Bolas and Cold Hatton.
- b) **Newsletter**
The Chairman and Clerk had met with the Editor. Funding from the shop and Councillor Bentley will enable the

newsletter to continue in 2022. A meeting will take place in September to discuss e-newsletters, advertisement costs and distribution for 2023.

c) Parish Room Croft

Thanks were extended to Mr L Finzi for his help to install the new gates from the Village Hall Car Park (with thanks to the Village Hall Management Committee for their understanding and support). Entrance, Exit and Disabled access signs have been purchased.

A copy of the design sketch to include the three elements of car park area, village green and play area, was available. The fencing from around the old play area will be removed and the entire area will be available for the Jubilee Fete. Planting of established hedging will take place to the rear of the site.

d) Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

i) Village Fete

Councillor Thomas will arrange a meeting in March, in the Village Hall – everyone welcome.

ii) Commemorative Coins

Councillor Quin will provide information of what is available at the next meeting.

22/0199

POLICE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

There were no questions for the PCSO.

Smartwater kits are still available at a cost of £8.50 per pack.

Ivan reminded everyone of the importance of information sharing – sometimes a description or number plate can be the missing part of a jigsaw, if you see something suspicious or out of the ordinary, please ring or email the Police with the information as soon as possible.

22/0200

CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

None

CLERK'S REPORT

The upgrade and maintenance on the play areas at Field View and Great Bolas has been completed.

COUNCILLORS REPORT(S)

None

22/0201

INFORMATION FROM TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL – Councillor Stephen Bentley

“ As we start to come out of the various forms of lock down and restrictions, TWC will continue to offer support where required to the most vulnerable within our communities. It has to be said that this is often seen to be more available in the rural areas, but I want to assure you that it is available to those who live in the more remote and rural areas of our Borough. If you know of anyone that would benefit from support, please do ask them to contact me, or confidentially let me know and I will speak to the relevant officers and support organisations.

As a Borough, we remain concerned about the provision of health support services, especially access to Drs, but also the future of the NHS with specific relevance to PRH and RSH.

Over the past week or so, we have all in some way been affected by the weather, but for areas of the Borough, and our neighbouring Boroughs and Towns too, the flooding has been catastrophic. As your Ward Members, with my colleagues, we are pressing Government for short and medium term support as well as looking for long term solutions. We send our best wishes to everyone in the worst hit areas, some are still not able to return home and many have lost possessions in the terrible floods.

As we look at this and other Borough-wide issues, we will continue to press TWC and Government for a fair deal for the rural areas. Your comments are always welcome – please do get in touch for a chat any time.

Finally, for tonight, I continue to work on local issues – these include

Road conditions

Rights of way

Footpaths

Vehicle speed and size of vehicles on rural lanes

Planning

Noise nuisance

Traffic lights used by utility companies on the A442”

22/0202 PARISH MATTERS

The Chairman explained that this is now an opportunity for the public to ask any questions relating to items that have been discussed throughout the meeting.

- Loose part of the barrier on A442 at Swan Bridge – to be reported
- When will the work to create the car park area at Parish Room Croft commence? – a meeting of the working group will take place in April and this can be discussed further at this time.

Members had an opportunity to bring forward items for discussion on behalf of the local residents and to respond to matters raised in the public session.

- The importance of the path from Pinfold Croft to Swan Court being re-opened for safety – a reminder will be sent to TWC
- With regards to the path in front of The Stackyard, the Parish Council had highlighted this to the Tree Officer who had considered a liquid pour surface, due to the tree roots of the nearby Lime Trees which have TPOs, to be an acceptable solution. This was raised with Days New Homes and the Parish Council will re-visit this at the next meeting.
- The condition of the footpath from St Michael's Church to the Village Hall was put forward as a capital project some three years + ago and the Parish Council continues to remind the Highways Department of its dangerous condition - with photos provided last December. The Parish Council will continue to pursue this important matter.
- The road drains are due to be cleared as part of the routine programme in the coming weeks, they have already visited parts of the Parish.
- The clerk will contact the landowner and farmer regarding the ditch in Catsbitch Lane.

The Parish Council will continue to pursue outstanding issues with rigour, especially as we emerge from the constraints of Covid 19 and TWC officers return to their substantive posts, many having been redeployed to assist in community support projects for a considerable time.

22/0203 NEXT MEETING

30th March 2022

7.30pm

Full Council

Waters Upton Village Hall

The Chairman thanked Members for their important contributions to this meeting which closed at 8.15pm.

SignedDate

These Minutes are produced in draft form. E & OE until confirmed as a true record by Full Council at the next meeting on 30th March 2022.