



Minutes of the meeting of Waters Upton Parish Council which took place on **Wednesday 25th October 2023 at 7.30pm** in **Waters Upton Village Hall**.

PRESENT: Councillors: J Quin (Vice Chairman)
K Hamilton
E Thomas

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

23/0081 WELCOME

The Acting Chairman extended a warm welcome to members and the public and thanked everyone for attending. Councillor Quin acknowledged the difficulties experienced by some across the country due to Storm Babet saying 'Our thoughts are with all families and businesses affected by the storms'.

23/0082 PUBLIC SESSION

The following matters were raised:
Flooding – B5062, opposite Station House, Crudgington

23/0083 APOLOGIES

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

RESOLVED that the apologies, as listed, be accepted.

PCSO I Collumbell
PC McNally

VACANCY

- a) One application had been received, from T Revitt – copies had been circulated to members for consideration.
- b) No further information was added to the application
- c) Members had no questions for the applicant

Mr Revitt left the room

- d) it was proposed by Councillor Hamilton, seconded by Councillor Thomas, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that T Revitt be co-opted back onto Waters Upton Parish Council

- e) Councillor Revitt read and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office, this was witnessed by the Clerk as the Proper Officer of the Council.
A new DPI will be completed and published.
- f) Following the recent resignation of Mr C Ensor, another vacancy now exists. This will be advertised and anyone who meets the criteria and is interested in the position is encouraged to send in a personal statement by 17th November for consideration at the next meeting.

The Chairman extended thanks to Mr Ensor for his work on the Council, albeit for a limited period since his election in May.

23/0084 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None

23/0085 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27th SEPTEMBER 2023

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

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

23/0086 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING

a) Remembrance Sunday

The Parish Council will be represented by Councillor Quin at the service at St Michael's, Waters Upton on Sunday 12th November.

b) Defective Drainage, A442

A meeting had taken place with the Parish Centre Management Committee and Telford & Wrekin Council regarding a proposed temporary solution to the environmental issues at the Southern end of the village. A follow-on meeting, to receive more information and answers, had been postponed on 20th October, due to the severe weather conditions – this has been re-arranged for 27th October.

23/0087 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

a) Financial Reports

a) Payments

There were no payments for authorisation

b) The Current Account has £50,988.74 following receipt of the 2nd precept payment

c) The interest received on the CCLA was £184.20 for September.

23/0088 PLANNING

a) Planning Updates

i) End of Catsbitch Lane / B5062

The structures have been removed from the site – the Parish Council has been informed that it will be offered for sale in the near future. It is important that prospective purchasers realise that it is unsuitable for residential use.

ii) The Stackyard, Phase II

There is no date identified for the completion and handover of the Green to the Parish Council at this time. Solicitors are still in negotiation regarding the properties in Phase II and the developer. It is still hoped that the land near to the village road can be included in the transfer.

b) Planning Applications for Consideration

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

**i) TWC/2023/0727 Hilltop, 32 Stars Lane, Cold Hatton
First Floor Side Extension**

Members had considered the information provided and had no objections to the proposals.

RESOLVED that Waters Upton Parish Council would support this application.

Councillor Bentley returned to the meeting

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 next meeting regarding the review of the Neighbourhood Plan will take place in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 6th December 2023 at 7pm. All residents in the Parish are encouraged to attend. The Neighbourhood Plan can be emailed direct and it is hoped that a Word Version can be available to enabled editing.

d) Other Planning Matters

i) Enforcement Matters

It is increasingly frustrating that Telford & Wrekin Council Enforcement Officers do not provide updates on request and it appears that little work is being done to move forward some enforcement issues that have been on-going for extended periods of time in the Parish.

It is understood that visits to Moorbank Farm have taken place, but a further request for an update will be sent to the Senior Enforcement Officer with a request for an update on The Poplars, too.

The Parish Council has received copy correspondence relating to a complaint against STAR Racing at Crudgington. This is to be dealt with by Environmental Health Officers in relation to noise.

ii) Local Plan Review – Consultation

The consultation on the TW Local Plan for the period 2031 – 2040 commenced today and everyone is encouraged to take a look at its contents. It is a long detailed document but within it, there are some proposed site allocations. Two are within our Parish (75 in Waters Upton and 20 in Crudgington) but there are others with much larger numbers that will also have an effect on our residents due to the sites chosen and the infrastructure.

The proposed extensive developments at Shawburch, Allscott and some at Edgmond could have a huge impact on the B5062 and A442. Consideration must also be given to infrastructure, health care, sewerage, public transport, education etc.

This will, no doubt, be discussed as part of the Neighbourhood Plan review, but as this is very early stages of the consultation, it will be necessary to hold further meetings to share information and gather views.

iii) Community Governance Review

This will appear on the November Agenda for consideration. Whilst members believed that there is no requirement to change the Parish Boundary, further consideration will be given to the number of Councillors as it is important to have representation from across the Parish.

23/0089

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 now take place on Zoom on Friday, 3rd November – anyone wishing to attend, should request the link.

c) Wrekin Area Committee AGM

This meeting will take place on zoom on 13th November at 7pm. There will be a presentation on the Community Governance Review by officers of TWC.

d) Lack of Responses from TWC

A complaint will be submitted, via the Parish Agreement, due to the lack of responses to important communications to various departments within TWC. These include

Enforcement	Council Tax Review	Section 106 Funding
Drainage	Highways	Sign Audit

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT**a) Updates****The Sign Audit**

No reply has been received to ascertain why TWC now require the Parish Council to fund replacement signs.

The Solar VAS, Crudgington

TWC has agreed to replace this sign.

Shray Hill Visibility Mirrors

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

Quiet Lanes Scheme

TWC has previously agreed that Meeson Road and Catsbritch Lane are suitable to be designated as Quiet Lanes, however the criteria has changed in recent years and TWC has confirmed that it will be upgrading other Quiet Lane Schemes in the Borough and this will be the right time to bring these two projects forward, too.

b) Secondary School Transport

Whilst there has been some improvements, there remain unanswered questions regarding safeguarding – Councillor Bentley is representing the families and a meeting with safeguarding officers has been arranged.

The bus stop at Crudgington School works ok in the mornings, but parents remain concerned about the walk from Crudgington, especially when the nights are darker.

The company, Chase Rider, remain unreliable and it is hoped that TWC will be insisting that this is improved.

c) 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. A meeting regarding bus stops and bus shelters in the Parish is to take place on 6th November.

The recent announcement that significant funding will be available to TWC and Shropshire Council to improve passenger transport will bring about more discussions around the need for a Saturday Service to Shrewsbury and Newport.

d) Speedwatch Sessions

More dates and times are to be confirmed.

e) A442 Cycle Route – Crudgington to Shawburch

TWC has acknowledged this enquiry

f) B5062 Carriageway Hydroblasting

The night-time closures had been received and works will continue from Cotwall to Cherrington.

However, there has been concerns that some residents had not been informed. Access to properties has been retained throughout.

PARISH PROJECTS**a) Christmas 2023**

Carols around the Christmas Tree will take place on 15th December on the Village Green in Waters Upton with refreshments. There will be a raffle for Hope House.

A Christmas Float will travel around the villages on Monday, 11th December from 5.30pm.

WEST MERCIA POLICE

The Chairman read a short report which had been received which confirmed that everything has been ok in Waters Upton Parish area for the last month. There have, however, been a number of agricultural thefts around Newport and wider Shropshire. Some equipment from out of area had been found hidden at Cherrington and Caynton. Residents are asked to be aware and to report anything suspicious.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Councillors Quin and Hamilton (as acting Chairman and Vice Chairman) had joined Councillor Bentley and the Clerk on a visit to Crudgington Fields. The site has a nice layout and rural 'feel' with lots of space and green areas included.

A detailed picture of the traffic roundabout was available and a discussion took place regarding the work, both within the site and for when the work moves out and will then affect the A442 and B5062. Shropshire Homes will arrange an event in the Village Hall for residents to hear about the plans, traffic control and timescales. This is likely to be in the New Year.

It is also hoped that the Memorial Bench will move to the Village Green area, near to the outdoor gym and play area, in the near future.

Correspondence had been received relating to land at the end of Catsbitch Lane, Moorbank Farm, Hydroblasting and Quiet Lanes, all have been included within tonight's meeting.

CLERK'S REPORT

a) Dog Fouling

The use of CCTV has resulted in some reports being forwarded to the Dog Warden.

b) NHS Trust – Transformation Programme

This had been very interesting -, a copy of the presentation is available on request.

COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

None.

23/0094 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
- Drainage and sewerage issues – Pear Tree Development
- Local Plan Review

23/0095 PARISH MATTERS

None

23/0096 NEXT MEETING

22 nd November	7.30pm	Full Council	WUVH
6 th December	7.00pm	WUNP Review	WUVH
20 th December	7.30pm	Full Council	WUVH
Followed by light refreshments – all welcome			

The Chairman thanked Members for their important contributions and closed the meeting at 8pm.

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 22nd November 2023.