



Minutes of the meeting of Waters Upton Parish Council which took place on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 7.30pm** in **Waters Upton Village Hall.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: H Roberts (Chairman)  
T Revitt  
J Quin

**In attendance:** Cllr E Thomas (via what's app)  
Katrina Baker (Clerk)  
Cllr S Bentley (Ward Member)  
5 Members of the public  
Gary Wade, Chairman of Nova Raiders

#### **21/0076 WELCOME**

Councillor Roberts, Chairman, opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.  
A special welcome was extended to Gary Wade, Chairman of Nova Raiders.

#### **NOVA RAIDERS**

Nova Raiders, based in Newport, is one of a number of local Cycling Groups that use the A442, B5062/3 and village roads and lanes for time trials and road racing. Gary had accepted an invitation to attend so that there was an opportunity to understand more about this sport and in particular the use of the local roads around the Parish.

Nova Raiders have been formed for around 11 years and fund-raise for local charities, raising over £110,000 in the last 10 years. They are sponsored by Joules Brewery and therefore use certain premises during their sport events which are not races but events where they raise funds for charity. Nova Raiders wear burgundy, black and white shirts, they have around 225 members and they ride most days. The numbers attending each outing vary and the routes also change depending on who and when.

Gary explained that his main aim is to keep the riders safe, and the other road users / residents and there is a Code of Conduct which covers good practice guides for Club rides. Of course, riders can also ride as individuals or groups, and therefore not as part of an organised event.

There are certain behaviours that are not acceptable, foul language is one of them but he can only deal with it if he is made aware, as soon as possible with details of the rider number, date, time and place. He will contact the rider / group of riders and discuss the complaint which can be sent in via their website.

There are two types of event, most of the ones using local routes are time-trials and not road racing – which is appropriate as it means there are no large groups which can cause congestion and sometimes block the roads. Road racing has accredited marshalls, but those stewarding the time trials are not necessarily accredited and they do not have any authority to stop the traffic. Cyclists should give way to other vehicular traffic on the highway.

When asked about 'Why use roads around here?' Gary replied in that there are some good roads (A442 for example) suitable for riding. Each route is risk-assessed and the police are notified of the date, time and route.

Gary agreed to contact Dave Fletcher, who should be able to provide a calendar of events, this may assist local residents. He did admit that this area is used far more than others.

It was confirmed that night-riding will continue and that lights must be on both the back and front of the bicycle.

Gary also informed the meeting of the abuse and threats that riders receive from other road-users and residents, which is totally unacceptable. He values the opportunity to attend meetings, such as this, to discuss face to face the issues and concerns by the community and the riders.

Other cycle groups use the routes and the Parish Council will attempt to establish contact with them to have similar discussions in order to raise awareness of the concerns raised regarding the various aspects of a cycle event. These include cars parked at junctions, riders with no indication, manners and foul language. There is a governing body and the Parish Council will contact them to express any future concerns.

Members, and the public, thanked Gary for taking time to attend the meeting and offer information which has been very useful.

#### **PUBLIC SESSION**

- Cemetery Maintenance – this is the responsibility of the Parochial Church Council
- Noisy generator pump for irrigation – this was as a result of a fault and thanks were extended to the farmer for their quick action to collect the replacement part and undertake the repair. The farmer, who is not from Waters Upton, has offered his sincere apologies to all residents who were affected by the excessive noise.
- Grass cutting, Parish Room Croft – following removal of the stones and levelling the area will be cut with a mower rather than a strimmer

**21/0077**

#### **APOLOGIES**

Councillor J Griffin	No reason given
Councillor B Rothwell	Isolation
Councillor E Thomas	Isolation (attended on What's App)

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

<b>RESOLVED that the apologies of Cllrs Rothwell and Thomas be accepted.</b>
--

**21/0078**

#### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were no Declarations of Interest referring to matters on the Agenda.

The Clerk reported that she had received a request for a Dispensation from Cllr Roberts with regards to Planning Application TWC/2021/0717. This has been granted, due to the numbers attending the meeting, and Cllr Roberts would have an opportunity to speak regarding the proposal, but not take part in any decision. Councillor Thomas would take part via What's App. Councillor Revitt would act as Chairman for this agenda item.

**21/0079**

#### **MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN JUNE 2021**

It was proposed by Councillor Quin and seconded by Councillor Roberts, with one abstention, all were in favour and thus it was

<b>RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021 be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true record.</b>
--

**21/0080**

#### **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  
TWC Officers continue to respond to say that the work has been completed. Details of the work programme are available showing that this is not the case. A meeting with the two drainage officers has been requested.
- b) Access to the ditch to the rear of The Lion Inn Car Park  
At the meeting, mentioned in 21/0080a), the situation regarding the outlet pipe from the Village and the need for regular access and maintenance will be discussed with the drainage officers.
- c) Catsbitch Lane  
Thanks were extended to the farmer who rents the land off Catsbitch Lane, for the work undertaken to clear out the deep ditch and expose the drainage pipes. It is hoped that this will significantly improve the flooding – it may be necessary for similar work to take place at other locations in the Lane. The Parish Council will assist with additional maintenance around the style and ditch area as the entrance to the public right of way route which is well used.

**21/0081 FINANCE & AUDIT****a) Payments**

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

Street Light Maintenance	Parish Councils Act 1957 s3; Highways Act 1980 s301	£210.32
Website licence, support and domain	LGA 1972	£306.89
Parish Roadman, Churchyard, Green spaces etc. with additional work including Pinfold Croft, Field View and Sytch Lane	LGA 1972 s 101	£1015.00
Accounts Package	LGA 1972	£276.00
Cartwrights Skip Hire for Field View and Parish Room Croft	LGA 9172	£420.00

**RESOLVED that the payments, as listed be made.**

**b) Financial Report**

The Clerk reported that the Current Account Balance at the end of June 2021 was £51,590.66.

**c) External Audit**

SALC had forwarded an apology from PKF Littlejohn for the delay in completing the audits for 2020/21.

**21/0082 PLANNING****a) Planning Applications Updates**

Decision notices are available at [telford.gov.uk](http://telford.gov.uk) and copies are circulated to all Members

**b) New Applications for consideration****i) TWC/2021/0656 Lisbon House, Bolas Heath**

Erection of a two storey side and rear extension, front extension and single storey front extension

**RESOLVED that the Parish Council would have no objection to the proposed extensions.**

**ii) TWC/2021/0707 9 Waters Upton**

Erection of a two storey side extension to replace the conservatory

**RESOLVED that the Parish Council would support this application.**

**iii) TWC/2021/0717 Site of the Lion Inn**

Outline permission for the erection of one dwelling with all matters reserved

*Councillor Roberts had a Dispensation to speak on this application, but to take no part in the decision.*

*Councillor Revitt took over as Chairman of the meeting*

Members commented that they were surprised to have received another application following the detail included in the previous emphatic refusal on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Members were aware of the full report of the Planning Officer for that application TWC/2020/1101 and believed that all the reasons included for that decision remain applicable to this application. On behalf of the local residents, the Parish Councillors confirmed that they do not believe this to be an infill site and that the fundamental issues

relating to this proposed dwelling are no different. There remains no identified need for further housing and the proposals remains contrary to the Local Plan, Waters Upton Neighbourhood Plan and the NPPF.

**RESOLVED that Waters Upton Parish Council could not support this application, whilst representing the community, and would respond to confirm that the reasons for the refusal of the previous application (TWC/2020/1101) remain the reasons why this application should not be granted permission.**

*Councillor Roberts resumed the role of Chairman*

**c) Waters Upton Neighbourhood Development 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 comments made have been in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan.

**d) Other Planning Matters**

**i) The Stackyard**

The Chairman updated Members on the current position regarding the completion of Phase One and the implications of Phase Two, particularly the bin store, church car park, landscape maintenance and the roadway. It had been confirmed by Days New Homes that they have full responsibility for the entire site and therefore they will be undertaking the landscape maintenance. It has been confirmed that the refuse lorry should be collecting the bins from the bin store so there is no requirement for residents to leave the bins on the roadway or near to the village highway. Days are going to confirm this with them and it has been confirmed that the refuse lorry can drive or reverse to the bin store. This will particularly important on completion of phase two, where there will be significantly more bins for collection.

The Parish Council and Parochial Church Council are keen to have use of the car park area as soon as possible for church services and gatherings and this is not possible until Phase One is handed over as part of the legal agreement. A further meeting has been requested.

**ii) The Swan site**

Since the cancellation of the previously agreed meeting, there have been several unsuccessful attempts to identify a date and time. This meeting is very important to establish the current position regarding the provision of the Asset of Community Value and to discuss the timescale for its provision. The developer is aware that no one can rent, buy or live in any of the properties on the site, until the ACV is made available.

Further concerns have been expressed about the dangerous condition of the site. This has been reported to Environmental Health, but it was agreed that the Health & Safety Executive should also be made aware.

**21/0083 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) Swan Bridge**

An initial call had been received from TWC to inform the Parish Council that work to repair the Bridge was under consideration. It was surprising to find that TWC was considering removing a footpath from the Bridge, but the Clerk had made it clear that this would meet with strong opposition as it is a vital pedestrian and cycle route linking Cold Hatton and Sytch Lane to Waters Upton for church, shop, library, post office and school as well as an essential link for rights of way.

The Clerk had also reminded them of the need for the 40mph zone to commence before the Sytch Lane junction when travelling from the North.

A request was received for the footpath area to be maintained as it is unsightly and visibility is poor.

**d) TWC Bus Survey**

An online survey, and hard copies, are available and everyone is encouraged to respond to the survey which closes on Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> July. This is an opportunity to ensure that the needs of the rural area are not forgotten.

**e) Loss of the Car Park for the Walking Bus**

The Parish Council has been approached by the Chairman of the PTA and Governors for the Parish Council and Ward Member to assist in the negotiation for a new agreement to be in place for the use of the Car Park in order that many of the children attending Crudgington School can have a safe route to the school and at home time. This does not affect the business, as the car park is used by 6 – 8 vehicles for half an hour twice a day when the business is not open. Members hoped that the owner would be willing to negotiate a new agreement in time for the start of the Autumn Term.

**21/0084 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT**

**a) Update on Outstanding Highway Matters**

The Chairman was supported in his view that it is very disappointing that despite a number of reminders, no responses had been received from TWC regarding the numerous outstanding highway issues in the Parish.

Members agreed that the Chairman and Clerk should request a Highways Liaison Meeting with the officers as this may be a better way of obtaining up to date information and details of outstanding matters.

**b) Community Speedwatch**

The first volunteers have now been trained by West Mercia Police and we have been allocated our equipment which includes the signage, hi viz jackets and the speed gun. There are six sites allocated across the Parish and details of the scheme have been shared with the volunteers who will be on site at various times on different days in an attempt to slow down traffic. Drivers caught by the speed gun travelling in excess of the speed limit at that location will receive a communication from the police. Anyone exceeding 50mph will receive an automatic penalty.

**21/0085 CLIMATE CHANGE**

A group of 5 local residents will come together to plan a scheme to promote good practice and to assist the village hall, church and shop to benefit from the implementation of simple changes that will save money and contribute towards carbon neutrality in 2030.

**21/0086 WEST MERCIA POLICE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

Members continue to be grateful for the provision of a rural support officer as it is reassuring to see PCSO Collumbell in the Parish on a regular basis. Everyone is encouraged to take notice of anything 'out of the ordinary' – a description, number plate etc. can be the link to a crime locally. These can be forwarded to the police by email or telephone. However, if you are a witness to a possible crime, at the time, please continue to ring 999.

**21/0087 CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**21/0088 CLERK'S REPORT**

**a) Sytch Lane**

Thanks were recorded to the resident who is maintaining the grassed area at the North of the Lane, this is very much appreciated and it looks really attractive. TWC will not allow the positioning of boulders to prevent parking, but they would not object to small wooden posts. Details of where they would be sited and cost will be obtained for further consideration.

**b) Parish Room Croft**

A group has been established to work with Derek Owen, TWC to bring forward a proposal for Parish Room Croft. A meeting will be arranged during the summer holiday.

**c) STAR Racing, Crudgington**

Residents are disappointed that no report has been received from the Enforcement Officer who visited to check that all the conditions of the planning consent are being met.

### **Moortown Grass Track Racing**

The racing times for Moortown are different to Crudgington due to the fact that Moortown operates under the 28 day rule and does not have planning consent and conditions applied. However, it has been confirmed that they are acting in accordance with their licence.

#### **21/0089 REPORT FROM TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL**

Councillor Bentley has been representing local residents with personal issues and the Ward on some more strategic matters which will include Crudgington Crossroads. There are two legal matters under investigation at this time, but details cannot be shared due to GDPR until they have been resolved.

#### **21/0090 PARISH MATTERS**

##### **Severn Trent**

The Chairman suggested that an FOI enquiry be submitted regarding the number of repairs carried out to the service pipeline that runs down the A442. Each repair requires traffic light signals which cause further delays to drivers and inconvenience. There must come a time when it is cheaper and more cost effective to replace the pipe in its entirety.

#### **21/0091 NEXT MEETING**

22<sup>nd</sup> September 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 8.55pm.

**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 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021.*