



Minutes of the meeting of Waters Upton Parish Council which took place on **Wednesday 15th March 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)
10 Members of the Public
Councillor S Bentley (TWC)

23/0416 WELCOME

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

23/0417 PUBLIC SESSION

The following matters were raised:

- Shropshire Homes – site in the adjacent field
- Dog fouling and bags left on the right of way at The Stackyard
- Dog fouling on the A442 school route and near Pear Tree House
- Litter
- Planning application – rear of Quarry View, Waters Upton
- Sewer connections on the A442
- A442 speed and Speed Indicator Devices

23/0418 APOLOGIES

None

23/0419 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Roberts Ditch to the rear of Bharat Car Park

23/0420 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22nd FEBRUARY 2023

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

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

23/0421 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING

Defective Drainage

The contractors had visited the site to the rear of Bharat Car Park and used a camera to investigate the route from the A442. Contractors placed a camera down the drainage system from the A442 to the open ditch and confirmed that contamination exists. However, it was also confirmed that this contamination does not originate from Shanti House, Bharat or the treatment works in Upton Stones. Due to the sensitive nature of the information, the minutes contain limited information.

The issues to the rear of Orchard Close have been waiting for an investigation for over four years, this is still on the TW agenda.

The Parish Council has requested plans showing storm water and sewage routes throughout the village to assist in future consideration of planning applications.

23/0422 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

a) Financial Report

The balance in the Current Account is £60,182.12.

The funding for the future maintenance of The Stackyard has been received and included £5662.79 interest. Members confirmed that this should be invested in an Interest Account with CCLA.

b) Payments

A list of accounts for payment had been circulated to members for their information. It was proposed by Councillor Revitt and seconded by Councillor Hamilton that these be paid in accordance with the Parish Council financial regulations. All were in favour.

	Gallup Commercial Weed Control	LGA 1972 s 111	£209.99
	Decking Oil Wood Preserver	LGA 1972 s111	£79.99
	Dog Poo Bag Dispenser	From Cllrs Pride Fund	£138.84
	Recycled Benches	From Veolia Grant	£1194.00
	Clerks Salary – January to March 23	LGA 1972 s 112	£1099.24
	PAYE – January to March 23	LGA 1972 s 112	£274.60

23/0423 PLANNING

a) Planning Applications Updates

- i) TWC/2023/0011 Land South of The Mount, Cold Hatton
Application withdrawn

- ii) Crudgington Fields Shropshire Homes had confirmed that the area created in the adjacent field is to be used for site security and storage. Following completion of the development, this will return to agricultural land. Details relating to a water connection to the area will be requested.

- iii) Crudgington Fields – Road names

A number of suggestions had been received and these will be forward to Telford & Wrekin Council for them to consider and share with Royal Mail.

The Parish Council would like them to consider:

Burgess Close
Morlais Way
Des Smith Drive

Other suggestions included:

Clover Way
Willow Tern
Tern Close

RESOLVED that the three preferred names will be forwarded with the reasons for selection being included.

b) Planning Applications for Consideration

TWC/2023/0598 Land between 20 and 24 Waters Upton

Erection of four dwellings and associated works. Amended plans and descriptions

The following issues have not been addressed since the original application:

- Poor visibility from the access, insufficient splay
- Speed on the A442 must be reduced to 30mph
- Four properties is overdevelopment of the site, two would be preferred with three as a maximum and all should be single storey. This will enable larger gardens and more parking spaces
- Inappropriate designs, not in keeping with the street scene
- Must avoid parking on the A442
- Too much tarmac within the development
- Better landscaping needed and retention of the historic hedges.
- Sustainability not included – insulation, solar panels, EV chargers, heat source pumps etc

It has been noted that the proposed drainage scheme is not achievable and inappropriate at this location due to the local issues identified. Water pressure in the vicinity remains low.

RESOLVED that Waters Upton Parish Council cannot support this application and Members would ask the Planning Officer to suggest that it is withdrawn so that a proper sewage scheme can be designed and submitted before further consultation takes place.

c) Waters Upton Neighbourhood Plan

An article will be included in the newsletter to raise awareness of the Neighbourhood Plan and to inform residents that a review will be commencing in the Summer.

d) Other Planning Matters

i) Enforcement Matters

Councillor Stephen Bentley had arranged a meeting with senior officers from Planning and Enforcement and Councillor Roberts had also attended the meeting, which was very useful and an opportunity to gain updates on many outstanding matters and to offer further information.

Due to the sensitive nature of some of the information, the Minutes will be limited.

Sites included:

The Swan, Waters Upton

The Poplars, Cold Hatton

Waters Upton Hall

Catsbritch Lane

ii) Land South of The Mount, 11 Shop Lane

The caravan on this site has permission as a Holiday Let and the waste water is to be collected in a cassette system. However, at the time of the recent planning application, photos were provided where pipes entered the ground but an enforcement visit confirmed that there is no foul drainage system evident. The Enforcement Officer will continue to investigate the site to ensure that there is no contamination of the local watercourse.

23/0424

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) TW Bus User Group

The minutes of the last meeting will be circulated.

d) Great British Spring Clean

The Parish event will take place on 15th April from 10am until 12noon, with all litter collected being collected by TWC on the following Monday from the Village Hall Car Park. It is hoped that volunteers from across the Parish will take part, with refreshments being available in the village hall following the event.

23/0425

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

a) Updates

It is disappointing that no updates have yet been received. Answers will be gathered for the next meeting.

SID Project

The SID has been very successful in Crudginton and has now moved to Great Bolas.

Details of the data collected is available on request.

Councillor Stephen Bentley has purchased a second SID which will mean that each site has the equipment in position more often.

23/0426

CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP

The outstanding project is to provide solar panels on Waters Upton Parish Centre. A third quotation has been received from a local company and is very competitive and within budget.

Whilst a small grant is available from the original £4000 grant from Telford & Wrekin Council, Waters Upton Stores will fund the difference.

The MD of the company will visit the Centre and confirm the design, specification and connection and this will be followed by a meeting of the Parish Centre Management Committee.

23/0427

PARISH PROJECTS

a) Field View, Waters Upton

The only outstanding work is to re-stone the paths. We are waiting delivery of the stone so that the area can be completed and re-opened.

b) King's Coronation

Arrangements for the event on Monday, 8th May, are progressing. Volunteers will be welcome. An event plan will be circulated, for information.

c) Parish Room Croft

Confirmation of the ownership and maintenance responsibility of the boundary fences and hedges has been received. The gates have been completed and clearly identify the access and egress, for vehicles and pedestrians. Shropshire Homes have offered some top soil, to be used to level the site near to the entrance.

Information has been received from TWC reference the Play Area Grant – a meeting of the Discussion Group will be arranged to discuss the next steps. The car park areas have been identified.

23/0428

POLICE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

PCSO

Apologies had been received from PCSO Collumbell who had confirmed that there are no current issues of concern in the Parish.

Speedwatch

Thanks were extended to the volunteers taking part in recent speedwatch sessions. Letters have been sent to those identified as travelling over the speed limit. A further training session will be arranged when more people put their names forward to help.

23/0429

CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman had represented the Council at a TW Bus User Group meeting on 9th March, which was very positive. The company, Chase Rider, appears to wish to be as flexible as possible to enable as much use as possible. All comments and suggestions are welcome so that they can be included in the ongoing review and monitoring. A request has been submitted for the route to include Sytch Lane and Great Bolas.

It was suggested that a short (quicker) route to PRH be available.

CLERK'S REPORT

a) Rights of Way

There have been reports of obstructions on official rights of way and work continues to make routes as accessible as possible. The installation of kissing gates in Sytch Lane and Great Bolas should be completed in the Spring.

The consultation continues regarding The Stackyard and its proposed bridlepath status. The tree blocking the stile in Sytch Lane has been removed.

b) Waste Bin and Dog Poo Dispenser, The Stackyard

The dispenser is now in place and we await the installation of the litter / dog waste bin.

c) The Stackyard

The car park bollards are now in use and the car park is available for visitors to church services and will be open on a Sunday. Maintenance within the site has started, we are awaiting a delivery of bark and work on the Lime Trees will be completed on 18th March 2023.

COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Revitt reported that the work to provide the much-needed fence adjacent to Swan Bridge has started.

23/0430

INFORMATION FROM TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL – Councillor Stephen Bentley

The rural bus service has been well received and despite a few initial teething problems is providing a good service which is appreciated by the communities.

Steve thanked the Parish Council for its continued support which has resulted in this project being possible.

A recent meeting with TWC Planning and Enforcement Officers was useful, the face to face meeting avoided mis-interpretations and gave an opportunity for him and Councillor Roberts to challenge information and engage with them regarding long-standing enforcement issues. There was an assurance that these are moving through the legal process.

Whilst limited information can be shared regarding the recent drainage issues in the Village, Steve gave an assurance that he will act in the best interests of the communities and to continue to add pressure towards a resolution.

Steve said 'As we approach the elections, I wish to record my thanks to the Parish Council and the communities throughout my term of office. Together we have achieved a lot and I give my assurance that if re-elected, I will continue to represent the people of our Ward at every opportunity and will continue to work with the Parish Council wherever possible'.

Councillor Roberts, as Chairman and on behalf of the Parish Council and residents thanked Steve, as our Ward Councillor, for his support and determination to represent the local people on a variety of issues.

23/0431

PARISH MATTERS

Members had an opportunity to respond to matters raised in the public session

Dog fouling and bags left on the right of way at The Stackyard – remind residents that this is an offence

Dog fouling on the A442 school route and near Pear Tree House – newsletter and dog warden

Litter – serious litter issues can be reported on My Telford and a Parish Litter Pick has been arranged for 15th April

Planning application – rear of Quarry View, Waters Upton – encourage neighbours to submit comments to TWC

A442 speed – use the information from the SID to support the request for Average Speed Cameras

Other matters raised

- The long standing issues reference drainage at the rear of Orchard Close
- No legal back-up for enforcement – poor service by TWC

23/0432

NEXT MEETING

26 th April 2023	7.30pm	Annual Parish Meeting	Waters Upton Village Hall
4 th May 2023	All Day	Election Day	Remember Photo ID will be required at the polling station
17 th May 2023	7.30pm	Annual General Meeting	Waters Upton Village Hall
	8.15pm approx	First Council Meeting of the new Council	

The Chairman thanked Members for their important contributions to this meeting. Thanks were also extended to all members for their work throughout their terms of office. Every good wish was extended to all those who will be standing for election.

SignedDate

These Minutes are produced in draft form. E & OE until confirmed as a true record by Full Council at the next meeting on 17th May 2023.