



Waters Upton Parish Council

MINUTES of the **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** of **Waters Upton** which was held in the **Village Hall, Waters Upton** on **Wednesday, 24th April 2019** at **7.30p.m.**

PRESENT: Councillor: L M Baker Oliver (Chairman)

In Attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk to the Council)
Councillor E Thomas
Councillor J Griffin
Councillor B Rothwell
Councillor T Revitt
Councillor S Bentley, TWC
Councillor S Burrell, TWC
Councillor R Wickson, SALC
Inspector Gary Wade, West Mercia Police
Adam Ames, Crudgington School
J Williams, WU Village Hall
H Roberts, St Michael's Church and Neighbourhood Watch
Mr & Mrs L Finzi
Mr J Quin
Mr D Bennett

19/3666 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

All Parish Council meetings are open to the public and the Parish Council very much appreciates the time that some residents give to attend the monthly meeting – this is important and will continue to be encouraged. The Chairman, Councillor Baker Oliver, opened the meeting. This being election year, there will be no Full Council meeting until May.

19/3667 APOLOGIES

A Reed, Art Group
R Hughes, St John's Church

19/3668 MINUTES OF THE 2018 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in 2018 had been distributed and displayed in the village noticeboards. It was proposed by Cllr Bentley and seconded by Cllr Thomas, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting, held in April 2018, be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

19/3669 MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION

Speed through the villages

This is an ongoing matter which appears on regular agendas and is discussed at Highways Liaison Meetings. Inspector Gary Wade and his team are aware of the issues and he is in discussion with TWC.

The Parish Council had purchased a 'plastic policeman' which is available to borrow, it must be sited on private land.

The Parish Council will be considering working in partnership with other rural Parish Councils to purchase and manage a Speed Indicator Device.

Broadband

Our Parish is well served by Broadband provision – the faster speeds now available are appreciated, especially by those who work from home.

Swan site – drainage issues

Enforcement action is in place between the residents and the Local Authority.

Litter

Thanks were extended to everyone who had taken part in the recent litter pick around the Parish. It was unfortunate that the new contractors, Idverde, had been delayed in collecting the blue bags and fly-tips.

Special thanks were extended to local residents who pick up litter on a regular basis.

19/3670 CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman gave a report to the Meeting on the work throughout the year, a copy of the report is attached to the Minutes and is available on request. The report will be added to the website and will be forwarded for use in a future newsletter. This was the last Chairman's Report for Councillor Baker Oliver, who is retiring from the Parish Council in her 33rd year as a local councillor.

19/3671 INSPECTOR GARY WADE, WEST MERCIA POLICE

Gary had kindly agreed to attend the meeting as a follow-on from his visit to the Parish Council last year.

Gary informed Members that West Mercia will have an increase in policing in TW with thanks to the commitment of the Police & Crime Commissioner. The additional funding will provide police officers, to work with the existing teams of police officers and PCSOs. The number of response teams has reduced, but overall policing has returned to the levels of around 18 months ago. 20 new recruits will start their training on 14th May and a further 20 in June. All will be trained locally so residents will see the increase within 3 – 6 months.

It is recognised that there is an issue with the speed of updating information on the CMS system, this is run by volunteers but additional training is to be made available.

Overall, this is an area of low crime. This is in some way due to the success of the Smartwater and 'We Don't Buy Crime' initiative.

A recent burglary is likely to be brought to a conclusion in the near future, with thanks to local residents and CCTV for their support and observations.

The recent HGV incident and speed issues are being addressed, and again thanks were extended to the Parish Council for its pro-active approach, photos and evidence.

Insp Wade confirmed that there is some limited funding available for initiatives and suggested that the PC apply for road traffic safety schemes, such as Crudgington and Cold Hatton. This can include SIDs.

Cllr Thomas confirmed that the ability to text officers is appreciated as it works well and gets quick results.

Cllr Bentley requested the police support for an initiative to assist with diversions in the rural areas, especially where the narrow or private roads are included. A meeting will be arranged with the police and local authority to discuss further.

Cllr Bentley requested the police support when considering new planning applications in order that their responses are meaningful and taking local concerns into consideration.

Cllr Burrell informed the meeting of information available from the Tibberton & Cherrington SID and Insp Wade requested that this be sent to him so that the Operational Support Unit can assess the statistics and information and these can be used for monitoring and back up requests for speed control measures.

The chairman thanked Gary for his attendance and he left the meeting.

19/3672 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk is pleased to be able to report that the Parish Council still has a healthy balance.

The total of funds available at the end of March 2018 is in excess of £68,000. This is subject to the end of year adjustments for Audit purposes. We have worked within budget for 2018/19 and completed some local projects.

The balance includes around £22,000 raised from the Buy A Leaf campaign for the purchase of Parish Room Croft and other earmarked reserves. A copy of the balance sheet is available on request.

The public works loan board had confirmed the outstanding balance of the Parish Centre loan to be £9,597.85.

The budget for 2019/20 has been agreed and a precept of £24,450 has been raised.

19/3673 LOCAL GROUP & ORGANISATION REPORTS

Apple Trees Nursery	No report
St Michael's Church	H Roberts read the report, a copy will be attached to the Minutes and will appear on the website.
St John's Church	R Hughes had submitted a report and a copy will be attached to the Minutes and on the website.
St Mary's Church	No report
Crudgington School	<p>Mr Ames gave a full report, including details of the 140 on roll, of which 70% are out of the catchment area. This means the need for the walking bus is more evident as parking outside of the school is quite a nightmare. The issues with speed on the A442 do put some parents off using the walking bus, but the school is introducing pedestrian training courses to encourage more use.</p> <p>Crudgington often misses out on funding, but it is good news that, along with High Ercall, they will receive £10,000 for a joint project based around mental health and will enable more outings and visits, such as Arthog, to give confidence to the young people.</p> <p>New Staff have included an Assistant Headteacher, and Woody The Reading Dog – who is very popular.</p> <p>Last years SATs results were very good with the school coming 8th overall and 1st in the tables for writing.</p>
Art Group	Ann Reed had submitted a short report which will be attached to the Minutes and a copy will be on the website.
Chestnut Club	A Roberts had submitted a report which will be attached to the Minutes and be available on the website.
Waters Upton Village Hall	A copy of the report from the Management committee will be added to the minutes and available on the website.
Neighbourhood Watch	<p>Huw Roberts presented an up to date report on the Smartwater</p> <p>We Don't Buy Crime project. Smartwater kits are available at a special price of £8.90. 38 Parish signs have been erected in the Parish.</p>

19/3674 TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

Councillors Bentley and Burrell had provided a written report which will be included in the Minute Book and on the website. Copies are available on request.

None

SPECIAL ADDITIONAL ITEM

COUNCILLOR LYNDA BAKER OLIVER

This meeting would be the last meeting of the Council, chaired by Councillor Baker Oliver as she is retiring and not standing for election in May of this year.

H Roberts said thank you from the community. S Bentley thanked Lynda on behalf of the Borough and paid tribute to her working in partnership. She is highly respected by TWC Officers and has led the Council in many innovative and ground-breaking initiatives. Cllr Thomas thanked Lynda from the Parish Council and Lynda received gifts and cards from the Parish Council and residents. Finally, R Wickson attended to represent the Shropshire Association of Local Councils, thanking Lynda for her dedication to the role and for her support on many committees and attendance at events representing the Parish Council and promoting the good work of the sector.

All speakers recognised Lynda's outstanding commitment and remembered many projects that have enhanced our area and benefitted the communities in the Parish of Waters Upton.

COUNCILLOR DES SMITH

Members also recognised the important contribution to the parish work that Des had provided over a number of years, especially representing Crudgington residents. Unfortunately, due to ill health, Des has not been able to attend meetings recently – everyone at the meeting expressed their thanks for his support and to wish him well for the future. Councillor Baker Oliver would take the gift and thank you card to Des at home.

19/3676 NEXT MEETING

The Annual General Meeting takes place on Wednesday 8th May 2019 at 7.30pm followed by the first Full Council of the new municipal year.

SignedDate