

Wem Rural Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 1 September 2015, in the Roden Suite, Edinburgh House, Wem starting at 7pm

Formal Meeting

Present:

Councillors: Tim Wilton-Morgan (Chair), Peter Broomhall, Fiona Ford, Trevor Hayward, Bev Horsley, Peter Marsh, Jon Murgatroyd, Peter Slack, Len Staines and Liz Vernon

Clerk: Carole Warner

Members of the Public: None

209/15 Public Participation Period

None

210/15 Apologies for absence:

Shropshire Councillors Chris Mellings and Pauline Dee

211/15 Minutes

The minutes of the Meeting held on 4 August 2015 were approved and signed.

212/15 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

- a. Members were reminded that they are required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, whether or not the interest is entered in the register of members' interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer.
- b. **To consider any requests for Dispensation**
None
- c. **Members were reminded that they are required to declare any acceptance of gifts and hospitality.**

213/15 Planning

- a. **Decisions Received - noted**
 - i. 15/02472/FUL Forest View, Aston, Wem, SY4 5QJ
Erection of general purpose agricultural building and extension to existing agricultural building, for the purpose of storing straw and fodder
Decision: Grant Permission
 - ii. 14/04296/OUT Land At Lowe Hill, The Lowe, Wem
Outline Application for the erection of an Agricultural Workers Dwelling (all matters reserved)
Decision: Grant Permission
 - iii. 15/02235/PMBPA Barn At Horton House Farm, Horton, Wem, Shropshire
Application for Prior Approval under Part 3, Class Q of the Town & Country

Clerk: Carole Warner, Orchard Cottage, Rowe Lane, Welshampton, Ellesmere, SY12 0QB

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Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 for change of use from agricultural use to residential use
Decision: Withdrawn

b. Applications Received

- i. 15/03128/FUL Homedene Farm Nurseries, Aston, SY4 5QJ
Erection of a steel framed portal storage building for horticultural use
It was resolved there were no objections to the application.
- ii. 15/02585/FUL Homedene Farm, Aston, SY4 5QJ
Erection of 2no polytunnels 21.175 x 9.140 x 3.660m high
It was resolved there were no objections to the application.
- iii. 15/03194/FUL Brook House, Wem Lane, Souldon, SY4 5RT
Erection of annexe following demolition of existing outbuilding; single storey extension to form rear entrance hall; erection of a sun-room and associated external works
It was resolved there were no objections to the application.

Cllr Slack arrived

214/15 Parish Vacancy

The Clerk advised that no nominations had been received by Shropshire Council during the latest period for candidates.

It was resolved flyers would be produced explaining the vacancy and distributed in the ward through the School and other means.

215/15 Parish Clerk's Report:

a. Standing Orders – to adopt amendments to reflect Public Contracts Regulations 2015

It was resolved to adopt the amended Standing Orders

b. Wem Economic Forum

The Clerk advised the next meeting would be held on 23 September and members to confirm if they would be attending.

c. Place Plan Annual Review

The Clerk advised she was attending a presentation on this year's review process on Monday 7 September.

d. Community Governance Review Wem Ward name

The Clerk advised Shropshire Council had indicated a review of the Wem Ward name would be included in the next Governance Review.

216/15 Financial Matters:

a. Balances for Information

Noted

b. Outstanding accounts

The following accounts were approved:

C Warner	896.32
HMRC	114.43
Mazars LLP	120.00

c. Bank reconciliation

Cllr Horsley reported she had checked and agreed the Bank Reconciliations.

d. External Audit Report

The External Auditor's Report for the year ending March 2015 was noted. The Clerk confirmed she had publicised the conclusion of the Audit as instructed by the Auditors.

217/15 Parish Council's Action Plan

a. Broadband

Cllr Murgatroyd reported that of the 3 options available as alternatives to fibre: mobile phone, WiFi and more fibre boxes, a wireless solution appeared to be most feasible.

It was resolved that Cllr Murgatroyd would contact possible providers for more information.

b. Future Development in the Parish

The Clerk outlined her understanding of the process used to approve the consultation document. She advised required changes to Shropshire Council's SAMDev planning policy by the Planning Inspector meant it was unlikely any changes to the current development status of any Parish (hubs, cluster or countryside) could be approved outside of a formal interim review.

The Clerk agreed to seek further guidance from Shropshire Council.

It was resolved that, if possible, a Parish Meeting combining discussions on Future Development and Broadband would be of most benefit.

c. To improve the range of local facilities

General discussion took place regarding the Community-Led Housing Grant. It was noted that there was a preference of allocating the grant over a period of years and projects.

It was resolved that prior to any allocation of funds/grants a better understanding was required of a broadband solution for the Parish and any associated costs. An article about the Grant should be included in the next newsletter and the annual invitation for community grants from the Precept.

218/15 Meeting with Severnside Housing

Cllr Staines reported on the meeting held between himself, Cllr Horsley, the Clerk and Sarah Boden, CEO of Severnside Housing. The main purpose of the meeting was to confirm lines of communications now the Steering Group had disbanded and to explore areas of partnership working. The meeting had been considered of benefit.

219/15 Councillor Reports:

a. Parish Councillors

None.

b. Shropshire Councillors:

None.

220/15 Parish Matters

a. Land East of Ash Grove

The Clerk advised that progress would be unlikely until after the determination of the planning application appeal.

b. Footpaths in the Parish and Ramblers Big Pathwatch campaign

The Clerk advised she had spoken to a member of Shropshire Ramblers who lived in Wem and he was happy to assist with a mapping exercise outside the Big Pathwatch campaign. It has been suggested to start the exercise in Spring rather than the Autumn.

c. Bus Shelter Newtown

The Clerk advised the base had been completed and the shelter was under construction. An invoice from the supplier for £2,580 plus VAT had been received.

It was resolved to authorise payment of the invoice and delegate authority to the Clerk to release the cheque once the shelter was in place.

221/15 Highways

a. B5063 Barkers Green/Tilley Green junction

The Clerk advised she had written to the landowners giving them to 18 September for a response otherwise it would be assumed they did not wish to be involved in a potential solution to the dangerous junction.

b. Palms Hill

Progress on a solution was awaited.

Cllr Horsley left the meeting

222/15 Consultation

a. Policing in West Mercia

It was resolved to appoint Cllr Staines to complete the document.

222/15 Date of future meeting and to consider agenda items:

Tuesday 6 October 2015.

It was agreed to add the traffic problems in Wem (to be discussed at the Wem Economic Forum) to the next agenda.

223/15 Resolved: That under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the item of business numbered 17 as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the inclusion of personal nature in the business to be transacted.

224/15 To consider evidence of Local Connection.

Evidence of Local Connection was considered and decisions made.

The Chair, Cllr Wilton-Morgan, declared the meeting closed at 7.53pm

Signed.....

Date.....