

Wem Rural Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 5 March 2019, in the Roden Suite, Edinburgh House, Wem starting at 7pm

Formal Meeting

Present:

Councillors: Liz Vernon (Chair), Peter Broomhall, Peter Marsh, Jon Murgatroyd, Len Staines, Stella Whyte, Ruth Williams and Tim Wilton-Morgan.

Shropshire Councillor: Chris Mellings

Clerk: Carole Warner

Members of the Public: 12

28/19 Public Participation Period:

A member of the public agreed to answer questions from Councillors regarding the planning application at Tilley Green. She confirmed the septic tank was in her ownership

29/19 Apologies for absence:

Cllrs Geoff Glover and Peter Slack and (accepted)

Shropshire Councillor Pauline Dee

30/19 Minutes

The minutes of the Meeting held on 5 February 2019 were approved and signed.

31/19 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.

Cllr Vernon advised she would be leaving the meeting for Agenda item 7g (Finance) due to the perception of bias and pre-determination

b. To consider any requests for Dispensation

None

c. Members were reminded that they are required to declare any acceptance of gifts and hospitality.

32/19 Planning

a. Proposed Tilley Conservation Area

The Chair and Clerk outlined the activities undertaken by the Parish Council since the last meeting. The Clerk confirmed the Parish Council had received the Tilley Character Assessment Toolkit from the Tilley Timber Project. It was noted that the Toolkit had indicated the results of the survey would be shared with the Parish Council. However, details of the responses were not forthcoming from the Project members. The Clerk confirmed that the balance of opinion from the letters forwarded by Shropshire Council,

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in response to its formal consultation, was in favour of Tilley being designated a Conservation Area. The Clerk also confirmed that Tilley was part of a 'Cluster' being proposed within Shropshire Council's review of the Local Plan which, if adopted, would allow open market residential development in the village. The Clerk advised Shropshire Council Officers had indicated the decision whether to recommend or not the designation of a Conservation Area would take into account the responses to its formal consultation and the Draft Tilley Conservation Area Appraisal. Any informal consultation carried out prior to the formal consultation would carry limited weight in the decision making process. General discussion took place which included concerns with the lack of transparency of the results of the toolkit/survey, the number of households consulted prior to Shropshire Council's consultation and inclusion of the wood within the proposed area. Councillors were also concerned with the tone of comments received by letter and members of the public at the meeting.

It was resolved not to support the designation of Tilley as a Conservation Area due to the lack of information and transparency of the Toolkit process.

b. Decisions Received - noted

- i. 18/04985/FUL The Moat Shed, Cafe and Visitor Centre At, Northwood Hall, Northwood, SY4 5NU
Extension to existing visitor centre and cafe to provide additional kitchen, office and staff facilities
Decision: Grant Permission
- ii. 19/00017/FUL Units B3 And B4 , Wem Industrial Estate, Saulton Road, Wem, SY4 5SD
Erection of single storey extension to rear of existing offices
Decision: Grant Permission
- iii. 18/05534/FUL Oakwood Grange, Grange Farm Barns, Northwood, SY4 5NP
Erection of a one and a half storey rear extension with balcony and glass balustrade
Decision: Refuse

c. Applications Received

- i. 19/00571/FUL Proposed Domestic Garage/Store, At Tilley Green, SY4 5PL
Erection of a detached domestic garage/store (resubmission)
It was resolved to object to the application. It was noted the re-submitted design was slightly smaller than the previous application but the comments made in response to that application remained. It was agreed to request that should the officer recommend approval the application be referred to and determined by Shropshire Council Planning Committee.
- ii. 19/00810/FUL Springfields, Barkers Green, SY4 5JW
Erection of single storey rear extension
It was resolved to support the application.
- iii. 19/00851/FUL The Gables, 16A Aston Village, Aston, SY4 5JH
Erection of two-storey extension to include Juliet balcony to replace existing single storey extension
It was resolved to support the application.
- iv. 18/04561/REM Land Adjacent, Ash Grove, Wem, SY4 5RW
Approval of Reserved Matters (access, appearance, layout, scale, landscaping) pursuant of outline application (all matters reserved) for the erection of five pairs of semi-detached dwellings (allowed on appeal 15/02271/REF) (re-consultation)
The amendments to the application were reviewed. It was considered the inclusion of an ensuite above the garage to justify the dwellings being classed as semi-detached was not in the spirit of the RICS definition quoted by the agent. It was therefore resolved to continue to object to the application.

33/19 Parish Clerk's Report:

a. Newsletter – March 2019 edition

The Clerk advised the newsletter would be issued that week.

b. Councillor Vacancy

The Clerk advised the formal notice of the vacancy would coincide with the newsletter.

34/19 Financial Matters:

a. Balances for information

Noted

b. Outstanding accounts

The following payment was approved:

C Warner	486.42
HMRC	333.17
Shropshire Council	21.50
Imprint	246.00
SALC	27.00
C Warner	214.28

c. Bank reconciliation

Cllr Williams reported she had agreed and signed the bank reconciliation.

d. Risk Management Scheme

It was resolved to adopt the Scheme.

e. Risk Assessment

It was resolved to approve the Risk Assessment.

f. Asset Register

It was resolved to approve the Asset Register

The Chair, Cllr Vernon, left the meeting.

Cllr Murgatroyd chaired this item of the meeting.

g. Community-Led Housing Grant Applications

It was noted just over £1,200 of the ring-fenced funds remained. The use of the funds was considered. It was agreed the remaining funds would be reserved to assist community groups whose projects albeit important to the community, did not, due to size or nature, attract funding from other sources.

It was resolved not to support the 2 grant applications received as alternative sources of funds was available.

The Chair, Cllr Vernon, re-joined the meeting

35/19 Parish Council's Action Plan

a. Newtown School car parking

It was resolved to submit the Expression of Interest to Shropshire Council for CIL Local funds.

b. Community Plan refresh

The Clerk advised the re-fresh questionnaire would be distributed with the March newsletter.

36/19 Councillor Reports:

a. Parish Councillors

Cllr Broomhall and Wilton-Morgan reported on the Noble Street Charity meeting.

b. Shropshire Councillors:

Cllr Mellings had submitted a written report.

37/19 Parish Matters

a. Wem Economic Forum

Cllr Wilton-Morgan reported on the recent meeting.

b. Litter and dog waste

It was agreed this topic would be best addressed through articles in the Rural Review.

38/19 Highways

a. Newtown – residents’ concerns with noisy vehicles

The residents’ concerns were noted, and it was hoped the Police would be able to resolve them.

39/19 Date of future meeting and to consider agenda items:

2 April 2019 - **to start no earlier than 7.15pm**

40/19 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 14 as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the inclusion of personal nature in the business to be transacted.

The Clerk left the meeting

41/19 To consider employment matters

The Clerk’s annual performance review was discussed, and decisions made

The Clerk re-joined the meeting

The Chair, Cllr Vernon, declared the meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed.....

Date.....