

Wem Rural Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 1 September 2020, remotely by Zoom starting at 7pm

Formal Meeting

Present:

Councillors: Liz Vernon (Chair), Peter Broomhall, Huw Edwards, Julia Goode, Glynis Nicholls, Peter Marsh, Peter Slack, Len Staines, Stella Whyte and Ruth Williams

Shropshire Councillor: Pauline Dee

Clerk: Carole Warner

Members of the Public: none

55/20 Public Participation Period:

None.

56/20 Apologies for absence:

Cllr Tim Wilton-Morgan (accepted)

Shropshire Councillor Chris Mellings

57/20 Minutes

The minutes of the Meeting held on 4 August 2020 were approved and would be signed outside the meeting.

58/20 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 Julia Goode advised she would leave the meeting for agenda item 7d (Finance) due to the perception of bias and predetermination

b. To consider any requests for Dispensation

None

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

59/20 Development in the Parish

a. Planning Decisions received - noted

i. 20/02693/FUL Brook House, Wem Lane, Sulton, Wem, SY4 5RT

Change of use of countryside land to form domestic curtilage; alterations to existing access to form a new driveway parking and turning area with increased visibility splays; erection of a detached garage and storage building

Decision: Grant Permission

b. Planning Applications Received - to consider response

Clerk: Carole Warner,
Orchard Cottage,
Rowe Lane,
Welshampton,
Ellesmere, SY12 0QB
Tel. 01948 710672 email: clerk@wemrural-pc.gov.uk
www.wemrural-pc.gov.uk



- i. 20/02957/FUL Corner Cottage Farm, Coppice Lane, Coton, SY13 3LT
Erection of porch, car port and replacement 2m gate and wall
It was resolved to support the application
 - ii. 20/03018/LBC No 2 The Barns, Lowe Hall Farm , Wem, SY4 5UE
Replacement windows and doors
It was resolved to support the application subject to the conservation officer's recommendations.
 - iii. 20/03017/FUL The Little Wickett, Rye Bank, Wem, SY4 5RA
Erection of a local needs dwelling including garage and access
It was resolved to object to the application based on the information available. The Council seeks confirmation from the planning officer that the size of the proposed dwelling is within the policy for single plot exception sites. The decision will be reviewed on receipt of the ecology report as detailed by the ecology officer.
 - iv. 20/03199/FUL Cinema Cottage, Shrewsbury Road, Wem, SY4 5PW
Erection of single storey extension and first floor extension; elevational alteration
It was resolved to support the application.
- c. New development sites**
The Clerk advised that residents had voiced concerns with a new development and that conditions relating to hours of work were being broken. Confirmation had been received that the planning officer was in discussion with the developer.
- d. Future Development in the Parish Statement**
It was resolved to re-adopt the statement
- e. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government consultation:**
- a. Changes to the current planning system**
 - b. Planning for the future**
 - c. Transparency and competition: a call for evidence on data and land control**
- The consultation was noted but no comments would be submitted.
- f. Shropshire Council consultation**
- a. Draft Shropshire Local Plan 2016-2038**
 - b. Draft Shropshire Council Housing Strategy 2020-2025**
- The consultation was noted but no comments would be submitted.

60/20 Parish Clerk's Report:

a. Parish Newsletter

The Clerk advised she was planning to issue a newsletter at the end of September.

61/20 Financial Matters:

a. Balances for information

Noted and a review of budget allocations took place.

b. Outstanding accounts

The following payments were approved:

C Warner	£987.74
HMRC	£115.65
SLCC	£117.50
SALC	£75.00

c. Bank reconciliation

Cllr Staines confirmed he had received the documents but had not yet studied them. He agreed to bring any issues to the October meeting.

Cllr Goode left the meeting

d. Newtown Car Park Maintenance

The Council noted that the new NCRA committee had been carrying out a vast amount of maintenance and improvements. It was therefore resolved to donate £216 towards the re-painting of the white lines in the carpark.

Cllr Goode re-joined the meeting

e. Community Grants

It was agreed to invite grant applications through the newsletter.

Councillors were conscious that local community groups are finding it more and more difficult to source external funding for projects. It was suggested that joint discussions should take place between individual groups and representatives of the Council to see if joint working to obtain funding would be of benefit.

f. Community Infrastructure Levy/Neighbourhood Funds Annual Return

The Monitoring report was approved.

g. Community Led Housing Grant Annual Return – to agree

The Monitoring report was approved.

62/20 Parish Council's Action Plan

a. We Don't Buy Crime/Smartwater

The Clerk advised that locations for signage had been researched and made available for Councillors to comment on. All comments were requested by the 4 September.

b. Community Public Access Defibrillators (cPADs)

The Clerk reminded Councillors that applications to the National Lottery for cPADs were not being accepted. It was suggested whether the Council could fund one or both cPADs from the Council's own funds. Councillors noted that Newtown had several facilities and attracted a large number of visitors in addition to the local residents.

Following the earlier review of the Council's financial position it was resolved to fund the Newtown cPAD from its own funds.

63/20 Councillor Reports:

a. Parish Councillors

Cllr Staines reminded Councillors of the Curious Carrot event and the Harvest Market. He reported that the Wem Area Climate Change Group continued to meet on Mondays at 2pm via Zoom and had set up a Facebook page. Progress to set up a Parish Paths Partnership group appeared to have stalled.

Cllr Broomhall reported on the Wem Christmas Festival and Lights group. It had been decided not to hold a Festival this year, but the lights would be turned on earlier, 20 November.

b. Shropshire Councillors:

Cllr Dee reported on the appointment of Andy Begley as the new Shropshire Council Chief Executive. Cllr Dee also reported she had met with the new Assistant Director: Infrastructure Steve Smith. General discussion took place on the poor/dangerous standard of road surfaces. Comments included the need to cut the verges more than once a year and to allow a more flexible approach to hedge management.

64/20 Parish Matters

None

65/20 Highways

Discussed under Shropshire Councillor reports.

66/20 Date of future meeting and to consider agenda items:

Tuesday 6 October 2020

67/20 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 and 15 as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the inclusion of personal nature in the business to be transacted.

68/20 Letter from Mrs Anna Turner, Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Shropshire dated 12 August 2020

The letter was noted but the Council was unable to respond.

69/20 Public Protection issues in parish

The Clerk advised details of a recent incident which Cllr Mellings had confirmed had been reported to Shropshire Council.

The Chair, Cllr Vernon, declared the meeting closed at 8.15pm

Signed.....

Date.....