

Wem Rural Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 7 December 2021, at Edstaston Village Hall starting at 7pm

Formal Meeting

Present:

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

Shropshire Councillor: Edward Towers

Clerk: Carole Warner

Members of the Public: 6

146/21 Public Participation Period:

A resident from Barkers Green spoke about the road closure at the railway bridge and the volume and speed vehicles were travelling at through Barkers Green having ignored the 'no through road' signs. He had tried contacting Network Rail and Shropshire Council but no action had been taken. Barkers Green had become a rat run and an accident was waiting to happen.

The Chair sympathised with the residents and advised other residents from Barkers Green had attended the November meeting. The Council was liaising with Shropshire Council to try to reduce speeds in all settlements in the parish.

The residents wished for traffic calming at the very least in Barkers Green.

All agreed volume of traffic had increased over the last 18 months as well as the lack of consideration to other road users.

Residents were advised how to contact Network Rail and would be supported by the Parish Council and Shropshire Councillors.

147/21 Apologies for absence:

Peter Broomhall and Len Staines (accepted)

148/21 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2021 were approved and signed.

149/21 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 7e iv (Finance) due to the perception of bias and predetermination.

Clerk: Carole Warner,
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Cllr Peter Slack advised he would leave the meeting for agenda item 7e i (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.

It was agreed to bring forward the discussions due under

Action Plan 2021/2022 on Barkers Green

150/21 Action Plan 2021/2022

Councillors agreed that the diversion and no through road signage discussed with Network Rail earlier in the year had not been implemented as recommended. This was some of the cause of the issues being experienced by Barkers Green residents. Shropshire Councillor Edward Towers advised Cllr Broomhall had contacted Shropshire Council Highways Dept to bring the issues to their attention. General discussion took place on measures that could and should be taken by Network Rail and Shropshire Council.

It was agreed that urgent action needed to be taken by both Network Rail and Shropshire Council. Shropshire Councillors and the Clerk would follow this up as a matter of priority.

151/21 Development in the Parish

a. Planning Decisions received

- i. 21/03914/FUL Wheelwright Cottage, Northwood, SY4 5NH
Formation of new access following closure of existing access
Decision: Grant Permission
- ii. 21/04595/FUL 24 Barkers Green, Wem, SY4 5JW
Erection of a two storey extension; replacement front porch and windows
Decision: Grant Permission
- iii. 21/04682/FUL The Cafe, Wem Industrial Estate, Soulton Road, Wem, SY4 5SD
Erection of an external canopy
Decision: Grant Permission
- iv. 21/04720/FUL The Garage, Coton, SY13 2RB
Application under Section 73a of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 for the retrospective erection of a 2.8m high fence; siting of additional demountable building; extension to existing hardstanding to front elevation
Decision: Grant Permission
- v. 21/04428/FUL Foxholes Farm, Foxholes, Wem, SY4 5UJ
Application under Section 73a of the Town and Country Planning Act for the part retrospective application for the creation of a new access entrance and agricultural access track and involves the change of use of land for the domestic use of that access and track (where the authorised use of that land is currently agricultural land)
Decision: Grant Permission

- vi. 21/04697/FUL Barn Adj. To Evenwood, 10 Lacon Holdings, Soulton Road, Soulton
Conversion of barn to 1No dwelling with detached double garage, boundary wall, formation of vehicular access and installation of package treatment plant
Decision: Grant Permission
- vii. 21/03716/FUL Coton Oaks, Coton, SY13 3LQ
Installation of two Air Source Heat Pumps
Decision: Grant Permission

b. Planning Applications Received - to consider response.

- i. 21/04587/FUL The Old Orchard, Weir Lane, Barkers Green, SY4 5JL
Redevelopment of existing site to enable the increase in the number of residential caravan pitches with 4no caravans and no more than 3no static caravans/mobile homes to include hardstanding and erection of utility building and extension of existing dayroom
It was resolved to make representations that the following conditions be attached to any consent should the Planning Authority approve the application:
 - 1. Occupants of the site be restricted to the existing occupants and their extended family.**
 - 2. No further development of the site will be allowed.**
- ii. 21/05355/FUL Proposed Agricultural Building At, Lowe Hill, Wem
Application under Section 73a of the Town and Country Planning Act for the retrospective erection of agricultural building, extended hardstanding and use in connection with farm contracting and tree surgery/timber business (amendments to application ref 16/03756/FUL)
It was resolved to support the application.
- iii. 21/05357/VAR New Dwelling North Of The Oaklands, Shrewsbury Road, Wem
Variation of Condition No. 5 and removal of Condition No.s 6 and 7 attached to planning permission 20/03550/VAR dated 16 October 2020 to allow access to the site to be gained from the existing drive serving Pankymoor Barns
It was noted the application had been removed and would be re-submitted

c. Appeals – the following was noted.

- i. Appeal allowed: 21/02943/REF Land South The Little Wickett, Rye Bank, Wem
Erection of a local needs dwelling including garage and access (20/03017/FUL)
- ii. Appeal lodged: 21/02967/REF Brook House, Wem Lane, Soulton
- i. 21/02220/VAR Variation of Condition No.2 (approved plans) attached to planning permission 20/04053/FUL dated 19/01/21

152/21 Parish Clerk's Report:

The Clerk had nothing to report.

153/21 Financial Matters:

a. Balances for information

Noted

b. Outstanding accounts

The following accounts were approved

C Warner	£1,062.35
HMRC	£145.43
The Right Sort Mailing Co Ltd	£1,245.10

c. Bank reconciliation

Cllr Vernon reported she had agreed and signed the bank reconciliation

d. Budget 2022/2023

The Budget prepared on the advised taxbase was agreed by Councillors including the level of percept which would result in no increase of the Council Tax paid by residents.

e. Community Grants

The following grants were approved:

Cllr Slack left the meeting

- i. 1st Wem Scout Group - £500

Cllr Slack re-joined the meeting

- ii. Edstaston Church -£400

- iii. Friends Of Whitchurch Road Cemetery, Wem - £400

Cllr Goode left the meeting

- iv. NCRA - £1,000

Cllr Goode re-joined the meeting

- v. Newtown Church - £400

- vi. VCH Shropshire - £800 when match funding is advised.

154/21 Action Plan 2021/2022

a. PCC West Mercia meeting

Councillors were reminded of the meeting with the PCC West Mercia on the 9 December at 6.30pm. Topics for discussion were identified as traffic in the rural areas, rural theft, drugs/county lines, and the Police Community Charter.

b. Updates

The Clerk advised that Shropshire Council Highways Dept had investigated the road surface following the accident and no repairs were required. The traffic engineer was awaiting the Police report before assessing whether any action needed to be taken.

155/21 Councillor Reports:

a. Parish Councillors

Cllr Goode reported on the fund raising events held by NCRA and how progress had been made with hardcore for the car park extension.

b. Shropshire Councillors:

Cllrs Broomhall and Towers had circulated a written report.

156/21 Parish Matters

The Chair advised of potential unauthorised development in the parish and that it had been reported to Shropshire Council.

157/21 Highways

Flooding was reported Waterloo/Edstston. Shropshire Council Towers agreed to follow this up with Shropshire Council.

158/21 Date of future meeting and to consider agenda items:

Tuesday 4 January 2022

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

Signed.....

Date.....