

Wem Rural Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 4 January 2022, at Edstaston Village Hall starting at 7pm

Formal Meeting

Present:

Councillors: Ruth Williams (Chair), Peter Broomhall, Julia Goode, Len Staines,
Liz Vernon and Stella Whyte

Shropshire Councillor: Edward Towers

Clerk: Carole Warner

Members of the Public: 5

01/22 Public Participation Period:

A member of the public explained he had great concerns with an application at Horton and had submitted his objections to Shropshire Council and also the Parish Council prior to the meeting. His main objections were the proximity of a holiday let adjacent to the adjoining property which would lead to noise and security issues. He considered the application description did not fully reflect the proposed works and there was a lack of detail regarding drainage and parking. The member of the public considered there was insufficient room for adequate visibility splays for access and exit. The proposal was for a specialised holiday accommodation which he considered admirable, but this could not be conditioned. Overall he considered the proposal to be unsustainable and contrary to planning policy.

Andrew Black, chair of the Newtown Community and Recreation Association, updated the Council on the recent progress with the extension of the car park. There had been assistance offered by Griffiths, the Network Rail contractors, following the recent replacement of the railway bridge in Wem. He hoped to work with the Council to submit a planning application for the extension in the very near future.

02/22 Apologies for absence:

Huw Edwards, Peter Marsh and Peter Slack (accepted)

03/22 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2021 were approved and signed.

04/22 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.

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Cllr Liz Vernon advised she would leave the meeting for agenda item 5b iv (Development in the Parish) due to the perception of bias and predetermination. Cllr Peter Broomhall advised he would leave the meeting for agenda item 5b i (Development in the Parish) and item 7g (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.

05/22 Development in the Parish

a. Planning Decisions received

i. 21/04560/FUL Land At Coton, Whitchurch

A material change of use from equestrian to a mixed use of equestrian and the stationing of caravans for residential purposes including the erection of two dayrooms ancillary to that use'

Decision: Refuse

b. Planning Applications Received - to consider response.

Cllr Broomhall left the meeting

i. 21/04814/FUL Trevor Pye Transport, Unit A8, Wem Industrial Estate, Soulton Road, Wem, SY4 5SD

Erection of a storage building

It was resolved to support the application.

Cllr Broomhall re-joined the meeting

ii. 21/05468/FUL Wheelwright Cottage, Northwood, SY4 5NH

Erection of two storey side extension

It was resolved to support the application

iii. 21/05610/FUL Horton House Farm, Horton, SY4 5ND

Conversion of Former Agricultural Building to Tourist Let including Parking and Amenity Area

It was resolved to object to the application due to:

1. Over development of the site/general area.

2. Lack of suitable access to the development.

3. No supporting amenities within the development.

Cllr Vernon left the meeting

iv. 21/05704/FUL New Dwelling North Of The Oaklands, Shrewsbury Road, Wem

Use of existing access from Shrewsbury Road to provide new access to new dwelling

It was resolved to support the application subject to ecology comments regarding the removal of the walnut tree. The Parish Council would recommend a replacement walnut tree is planted elsewhere within the site.

Cllr Vernon re-joined the meeting

06/22 Parish Clerk's Report:

The Clerk reported that the Friends of Whitchurch Road Cemetery had written to thank the Council for its support through the Community Grant Scheme.

07/22 Financial Matters:

a. Balances for information

Noted

b. Outstanding accounts

The following account was approved

C Warner £908.64

c. Precept and Budget 2022/23

The Budget was approved, and the Precept set for £26,844

d. Quotes for parish maintenance

The quote from Northwood Nurseries was accepted.

e. Audit Programme 2021/22

The Audit Programme was approved

f. Internal Auditor 2021/22

Linda West was appointed as Internal Auditor.

Cllr Broomhall left the meeting

g. Community Grants

A grant of £500 was approved to Wem Christmas Lights and Festival.

08/22 Freedom of Information Publication Scheme

It was resolved to re-approve the prepared Publication Scheme.

09/22 Action Plan 2021/2022

a. PCC West Mercia meeting

Councillors who attended reported the meeting had been very positive and informative. Follow-up action would be included in the Council's Action Plan. There had been a positive commitment to work with neighbouring parish councils

b. Carbon Literacy webinar.

The Clerk advised the Council had been invited to join with Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council in the webinar to be held by Allan Willson of Save our Shropshire

c. Updates

The Clerk advised that she would update the Plan and liaise with individual Councillors to progress items.

10/22 Councillor Reports:

a. Parish Councillors

Cllr Goode reported on the fund raising events held by NCRA and asked whether traffic calming could be considered for Newtown

b. Shropshire Councillors:

Cllrs Broomhall and Towers updated Councillors on the Wem railway bridge replacement and advised positive comments had been received. They agreed to contact Network Rail regarding collection of temporary road signs.

11/22 Parish Matters

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

12/22 Highways

It was noted that Shropshire Council was taking action regarding the flooding at Abbey Green.

13/22 Date of future meeting and to consider agenda items:

Tuesday 1 February 2022

The Chair, Cllr Williams, declared the meeting closed at 7.55pm

Signed.....

Date.....