

# Wem Rural Parish Council

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## Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 3 May 2022, at Edstaston Village Hall starting at 7pm

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### Formal Meeting

#### Present:

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

Shropshire Councillor: Edward Towers

Clerk: Carole Warner

Members of the Public: None

#### 56/2 To elect the Chair of the Council.

Cllr Williams was unanimously elected as Chair.

#### 57/22 Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr Williams signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

#### 58/22 To elect the Vice Chair of the Council.

Cllr Edwards was unanimously elected as Vice Chair.

#### 59/22 Public Participation Period:

None

#### 60/22 Apologies for absence:

Jordan Page and Stella Whyte

#### 61/22 Minutes

The minutes of the Meeting held on 5 April 2022 were approved and signed.

#### 62/22 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.
- b. To consider any requests for Dispensation*  
None
- c. Members were reminded that they are required to declare any acceptance of gifts and hospitality.*

Clerk: Carole Warner,  
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**63/22 Personnel Committee:**

**a. *Review Terms of Reference***

The Terms of Reference were reviewed and adopted.

**b. *Receive nominations to the Committee***

Cllrs Williams, Edwards, Vernon and Whyte were appointed to the Committee.

**c. *Appoint Chair of Committee***

Cllr Williams was appointed Chair of the Committee.

**64/22 Communication/Consultation:**

**a. *Appoint Communication Team***

Cllrs Williams, Edwards, Staines, Vernon, Whyte and the Clerk were appointed to the Team.

**b. *Appoint moderator for Social Media communications***

Cllr Whyte and the Clerk was appointed moderators.

**65/22 Policy Review**

It was resolved to re-adopt the following policies and procedures:

**a. *Standing Orders***

**b. *Financial Regulations***

**c. *Procedures for Dispensation in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests***

**d. *Health and Safety Policy***

**e. *Scheme of Delegation***

**66/22 To appoint officers and representatives to the following outside bodies:**

**a. *Shropshire Association of Local Councils***

It was resolved to appoint Cllrs Williams and Edwards.

**b. *Emergency Planning Officer / Snow Warden***

It was resolved to appoint Cllr Slack.

**c. *Helicopter Noise Liaison Group***

It was resolved to appoint Cllr Goode.

**d. *Wem Economic Forum***

It was resolved to defer the appointments

**e. *Newtown Community and Recreation Association***

It was resolved to appoint Cllr Goode.

**f. *Wem Area Climate Action Forum***

It was resolved to appoint Cllr Staines.

**67/22 Development in the Parish**

**a. *Planning Decisions received - noted***

**i. 22/01157/FUL Rye Bank House, Rye Bank, Wem, SY4 5QX**

Construction of manege and installation of post and rail fencing (private use only)

Decision: Grant Permission

**ii. 22/01149/FUL Nevesa House, 58 Coton, Whitchurch, SY13 3LT**

Erection of a first floor extension to side

Decision: Grant Permission

**b. Planning Applications Received – none at time of issue of agenda.**

**c. Applications Received: to note responses submitted.**

- i. 22/01369/FUL Spencer Lodge, Horton Hall Barns, Horton, Wem, SY4 5ND  
Replacement of windows/doors with uPVC units; insertion of bi-fold door to side elevation  
Response: No objection to the application.
- ii. 22/01303/FUL Edstaston Hall Farm, Edstaston, Wem, SY4 5RG  
Construction of a slurry lagoon and associated works  
Response: No objection to the application subject to adequate secure fencing (for safety reasons) and screening.
- iii. 22/01308/FUL Beechcroft, Northwood, Wem, SY4 5NN  
Erection of replacement single storey extension  
Response: No objection to the application

**68/22 Parish Clerk's Report:**

**a. Complaints – annual report**

The Clerk confirmed there had been no complaints.

**b. H&S – annual report**

The Clerk confirmed there had been no issues raised.

**c. Edstaston Village Hall Celebration Party**

The Clerk confirmed Cllr Williams would be representing the Parish Council.

**69/22 Financial Matters:**

**a. Balances for information**

Noted

**b. Outstanding accounts**

**The following payments were approved:**

C Warner	£1,148.11
Edstaston Village Hall	£75.00
SALC	£731.11
The Right Sort Mailing Co Ltd	£686.80
SLCC	£36.00

**c. Reserves Policy**

**It was resolved to re-adopt the policy.**

**d. The Lowe Notice Board**

**It was resolved to repair the notice board rather than replace.**

**70/22 Business Plan 2021/2025**

**a. Review**

Councillors noted the Plan with the updated budget details.

**b. Action Plan 2022/23**

Cllr Staines reported that Wem Area Climate Action Group had 6 sub-groups working on projects. The Parish Paths Partnership group main emphasis was on Wem Rural's rights of way. It was hoped that in the future to arrange a meeting between WRPC, WACAG and local farmers. There was an urgent need to formalise the Group's status with the Charity Commission.

The Clerk reported that representative of Wem Town Council and the Parish Council had met with officers and local members from Shropshire Council to assess whether the Wem Economic Forum could be a vehicle to assist investment onto the town and rural parish area.

General updates were noted.

**71/22 Councillor Reports:**

***a. Parish Councillors***

Cllr Goode updated Councillors on progress with the planning application Newtown car park and her attendance at a presentation by Shropshire Supports Refugees and an update by West Mercia Police on the Policing Charter.

***b. Shropshire Councillors:***

Cllrs Broomhall and Towers had submitted a written report.

**72/22 Parish Matters**

No matters were reported.

**73/22 Highways**

Councillors noted the flooding continues under the Railway bridge in Wem.

The Clerk reported that flooding along Soulton Road was being investigated by Highways.

**74/22 Date of future meeting and to consider agenda items:**

Tuesday 7 June 2022

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

Signed.....

Date.....