

# Wem Rural Parish Council

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## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 4 April 2023, at Edstaston Village Hall starting at 7.20pm

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### Formal Meeting

#### Present:

Councillors: Huw Edwards (Chair) Peter Broomhall, Julia Goode, Andrew Matthews, Will Minty, Denise Morgan, Len Staines, Jordan Page, Liz Vernon

Shropshire Councillor: Edward Towers

Deputy Clark: Helen McCabe

Members of the Public: 2

#### 30/23 Public Participation Period:

Mrs Hilditch spoke in support of her application for the Councillor vacancy in the Edstaston ward. She has lived in Newtown for 17 years and has taught in the area. She is interested in looking after the environment and hearing from young people about the local area. Councillors asked Mrs Hilditch questions which she answered. Mr Britton spoke in support of his application for the Councillor Vacancy in the Newtown ward. He lives in Northwood and is a serving magistrate. He has worked for Royal Mail as a union rep and has been retired for 5 years. He is keen to get involved in any policing matters. Councillors asked Mr Britton questions which he answered.

#### 31/23 Apologies for absence:

Cllr Peter Slack (accepted)

Carole Warner (accepted)

#### 32/23 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2023 were approved and signed.

#### 33/23 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Hospitality Register:

- a. Members were reminded that they were 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 was 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.*

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### **34/23 Parish Councillor Vacancies**

#### **a. To consider co-option of Parish Councillors**

**It was resolved to co-opt Mrs Hilditch as Councillor for Edstaston Ward and Mr Britton as Councillor for Newtown Ward**

Mrs Hilditch and Mr Britton signed their declaration of office and joined the formal meeting.

### **35/23 Development in the Parish**

#### **a. *Planning Applications Received – noted***

- i. 23/00330/FUL The Pools Farm Ellesmere Road Wem Shropshire  
Change of use of barns to three dwellings, creation of amenity space, installation of treatment plant, creation of parking space and ancillary works.  
Decision: Withdrawn
- ii. 23/00364/AGR Land East Of B5476 Quina Brook Wem Shropshire  
A steel portal frame agricultural storage building.  
Decision: Withdrawn

#### **b. *Planning Applications Received – to consider response***

- i. 23/01000/VAR Land At Aston Wem Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 5JH  
Variation of Condition 2 of Application Reference Number: 21/04520/FUL - Condition 2 to be revised to allow work to be carried out in accordance with a revised Site/Block Plan showing the approved affordable dwelling relocated on the site to provide additional clearances from the existing 11kVa overhead power cable.  
**It was resolved not to comment on this application.**
- ii. 23/00569/FUL Lacon Farm Lacon Prees Shropshire  
Farm diversification - change of use of agricultural land to caravan storage and siting of 5No storage containers (B8 Use) including 1.8m high fencing and formation of vehicular access with gates.  
**It was resolved to support this application subject to positive comments from consultees.**

### **36/23 Parish Clerk's Report:**

#### **a. Emergency Planning**

**It was resolved for Wem Rural Parish Council to express in interest in Community Emergency Planning.**

#### **b. Business Networking Event**

The next consultation event for businesses in the Rural Parish has been scheduled for Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June. More information to follow after the meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> April.

### **37/23 Financial Matters:**

#### **a. *Balances for information***

**Noted**

**b. Outstanding accounts**

**The following payments were approved**

C Warner	£502.40
H McCabe	£1099.61
SALC	£225
Community Heartbeat	£522
Edstaston Village Hall	£175
SLCC	£70

**c. Community Grants**

Application forms to be circulated to councillors after the submission deadline on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

**38/23 Consultation**

**a. Climate & Ecology Bill Motion**

**Motion to support the Climate and Ecology Bill was agreed.**

**b. Customer Service Consultation**

**It was resolved to publicise Shropshire Council's Customer Service Consultation via social media.**

**c. Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)**

**It was resolved to support the LCWIP in order to help connect Shropshire.**

**39/23 Civility and Respect Project**

**a. Pledge**

**It was resolved to sign the Civility and Respect pledge.**

**b. Dignity at Work Policy**

**It was resolved to adopt the Dignity at Work policy.**

**40/23 Action Plan**

**a. Updates**

Updates of the Action Plan 2022/23 have been noted. The Business Plan to be discussed in the May meeting to form the Action Plan 2023/24.

**41/23 Councillor Reports:**

**a. Parish Councillors**

Cllr Staines updated Councillors on the objection to the redevelopment of the Edinburgh House site from the Wem Area Climate Action Forum.

Cllr Broomhall updated Councillors on funding to local groups from the Noble Street Charity.

Cllr Goode reported that there are no updates from NCRA.

Cllr Edwards updated Councillors on meeting with head of Shropshire Council, Lezley Picton regarding Internet for hard-to-reach area.

**b. Shropshire Councillors:**

Cllrs Broomhall and Towers had submitted a written report.

**42/23 Parish Matters**

**a. Round Meadows Community Led Housing with Homes Plus and Shropshire Council**

No update.

**b. Supporting Shropshire Rural Support**

Article to be included in Rural Review as Young Farmers support them.

**c. Biodiversity**

Cllr Staines submitted a report from recent training and how biodiversity statements can be included in planning applications and the local Action Plan.

**43/23 Highways**

**a. Wheelie Bin Stickers**

Speeding and road safety stickers for Wheelie Bins have been purchased and are available from the Deputy Clerk.

**b. Barkers Green**

Outstanding drainage issue close to Jewsons to be followed up with Highways.

**c. Road markings in Newtown**

Zig zags outside school need to be repainted.

**44/23 Date of future meeting and to consider agenda items:**

Date of next meeting is 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 to start no earlier than 7pm.

**45/23 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 15 as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the inclusion of confidential and personal nature in the business to be transacted.**

**45/23 Employment matters**

**a. Clerk's Appraisal Review**

Cllr Edwards to meet with the Clerk.

The Chair Huw Edwards declared the meeting closed at 8.46pm.

Signed.....

Date.....