

Wem Rural Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 10 January 2023, at Edstaston Village Hall starting at 7pm

Formal Meeting

Present:

Councillors: Huw Edwards (Chair), Peter Broomhall, Julia Goode, Andrew Matthews, Denise Morgan, Len Staines, Liz Vernon, and Stella Whyte,
Shropshire Councillor:
Clerk: Carole Warner
Deputy Clerk: Helen McCabe
Members of the Public: Six

01/23 Welcome

The Chair welcomed Cllr Morgan to her first full meeting and welcomed the Council's Deputy Clerk, Helen McCabe, who would be assisting the Clerk. The Chair advised Cllr Whyte would be standing down as Councillor from 31 January as she was moving out of the area. The Chair thanked Cllr Whyte for her commitment to the community and her work with Council communication.

02/23 Public Participation Period:

A resident from Horton House Farm spoke in support of their planning appeal and their vision for much needed holiday accommodation for families with autistic children. This was supported by a neighbour from Horton Hall Farm who spoke about the importance of developing the local economy.

A resident raised concerns regarding the volume and speed of traffic at Quina Brook and the Pepper Street junction. The resident considered there had been a significant increase of traffic over the last few years and it was unsafe. The area was a 40mph limit however he considered traffic was travelling around 70mph-80mph. A question was raised regarding the resident's preferred outcome. The resident replied a traffic calming system, potentially partially funded by Wem Rural Parish Council. The resident asked that this matter be discussed at the next Council meeting.

Mr Minty spoke in support of his application for the Councillor vacancy in the Edstaston ward. He had attended previous meetings and would use his background in agricultural to support and represent on the Council, those in this sector. Councillors asked Mr Minty questions which he answered.

03/23 Apologies for absence:

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



Cllr Peter Slack (accepted)
Shropshire Councillor Edward Towers

04/23 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2022 were approved and signed.

05/23 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.**
None to report.

06/23 Parish Councillor Vacancy

- a. To confirm co-option procedures and ward**
The vacancy for the Edstaton ward and procedures were confirmed.
- b. To consider co-option of Parish Councillor**
Mr Minty signed his declaration of office and joined the formal meeting.

07/23 Development in the Parish

- a. Planning Decisions received – noted**
 - i. 22/03986/FUL Tilley Green Farm, Tilley Green, Wem, SY4 5PL
Erection of first floor and two storey rear extension and partial loft conversion, internal remodelling and associated works.
Decision: Grant Permission
 - ii. 22/04064/FUL Wheelwright Cottage, Northwood, SY4 5NH
Erection of rear extension and associated works.
Decision: Grant Permission
 - iii. 22/05034/FUL Bank Farm Barn, Paddol Green, SY4 5QZ
Insertion of one new window in annex to provide natural light in a kitchnette
Decision: Grant Permission
 - iv. 22/03076/REF Ashleigh, Horton, Wem
FUL Bank Farm Barn, Paddol Green, SY4 5QZ
Erection of garage and shed 22/02531/FUL
Decision: Appeal Dismissed
 - v. 22/03051/REF / 21/0560/FUL Land at Coton Whitchurch Shropshire
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: Appeal Allowed
 - ii. 22/05347/FUL Newton Villa Farm, Newtown, Wem, SY4 5NU
Formation of a slurry lagoon and associated works
Decision: Grant Permission

b. Planning Applications Received – to consider response

- i. 22/05339/FUL Workshop at Creamore Mill, Creamore, Wem, SY4 5QU
Creation of a wildlife pond

It was resolved to support this application.

c. Appeals to Consider

- i. 22/03101/REF Horton House Farm, Horton, Wem
Conversion of Former Agricultural Building to Tourist Left including parking and amenity area.

The Appeal Statement submitted by the agent was reviewed. Discussion took place on the aspects highlighted by the agent. Councillors noted that three similar applications within Wem Rural Parish had previously been approved by Shropshire Council and the Parish Council had supported this proposal at application stage.

It was resolved to support this appeal and submit an additional response.

08/23 Parish Clerk's Report:

a. Annual Parish Meeting

Discussion took place as to the timing and content of the meeting. It was agreed to discuss further at the next meeting.

b. Newsletter - Winter edition.

The Clerk advised that the Autumn edition of the newsletter had not been delivered. It was believed this was due to Royal Mail strikes. It was suggested to review the newsletter and send out again with a covering letter of explanation. The appointment of the Deputy Clerk and new Councillors would be included, along with a new deadline for community grants and notification of the Annual Parish Meeting, if agreed in time.

c. Councillor Training

The Clerk circulated training information from SALC and suggested that an informal training evening be held for new Councillors. Topics would include legal aspects of the Council, planning applications and community engagement. The Deputy Clerk agreed to organise the evening.

09/23 Financial Matters:

a. Balances for information

Noted

b. Outstanding accounts

The following payments were approved:

C Warner	£1,152.82
SALC	£20.00
SLCC Enterprises Ltd	£181.15

c. Precept and budget 2023/24

Discussion took place to increase the Precept to cover increases in expenditure. It was agreed to fund the increase partly by reserves and partly by the Precept.

The Budget was approved, and the Precept set for £28,926.

d. Audit programme 2022/23

The Audit Programme was approved.

e. Internal Auditor 2022/23

Linda West was appointed as Internal Auditor

f. Community Grants

It was noted that the deadline for Community Grant applications had not been publicised due to the Autumn newsletter not being circulated. A new deadline would be included in the next newsletter with grants being considered at the April meeting.

g. Consultation: Shropshire Council Budget 2023/2024

Noted.

10/23 Freedom of Information Publication Scheme

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

11/23 Action Plan 2022/2023

a. Updates

The document had been updated and circulated. The Deputy Clerk would review projects with the aim to make progress.

12/23 Councillor Reports:

a. Parish Councillors

Cllr Goode reported that NCRA was making progress with updating the legal documentation. She was not aware of any meetings in the near future.

b. Shropshire Councillors:

Cllrs Broomhall and Towers had submitted a written report.

13/23 Parish Matters

a. Boundaries Review

The Clerk advised the review was still at Shropshire Council Ward level. It was noted that a briefing coordinated by Shropshire Council was to be held on Thursday 12 January.

14/23 Highways

Discussion took place regarding the number of pot holes and time taken to be repaired. It was recommended to use 'Fix My Street' to report highways issues to Shropshire Council.

15/23 Date of future meeting and to consider agenda items:

Date of next meeting is 7 February 2023

To discuss: Highways Issues at Quina Brook.

The Chair, Cllr Edwards, declared the meeting closed at 8.20pm

Signed.....

Date.....