

Wem Rural Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 6 June 2023, at Edstaston Village Hall starting at 7pm

Formal Meeting

Present:

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

Shropshire Councillor: Edward Towers

Clerk: Carole Warner

Deputy Clerk: Helen McCabe

Members of the Public: 0

64/23 Public Participation Period:

None

65/23 Apologies for absence:

None

66/23 Minutes

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 2 May 2023 were approved and signed.

67/23 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

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.

68/23 Communications/Consultation:

a. Appoint Communications Team

Cllrs Edwards, Morgan, Staines and Vernon were appointed to the Team.

b. Appoint moderator for Social media communications

The Deputy Clerk was appointed moderator.

69/23 Policy Review

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



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

- a. **Media Policy**
- b. **Privacy Notices (Councillors and General)**

70/23 Development in the Parish

a. Decisions Received: noted

- i. 22/03101/REF Horton House Farm Horton Wem Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 5ND
Conversion of Former Agricultural Building to Tourist Let including Parking and Amenity Area
Decision: Appeal Dismissed
- ii. 23/00722/LBC The Lawns Northwood Wem Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 5NP
Minor alterations to a Grade II listed building including a glazed door to open rear porch, glazed door to replace office window and partially new internal opening and door to sitting room.
Decision: Granted

b. Applications Received: to consider responses.

- i. 23/01791/FUL Wood End Hall Coton Whitchurch Shropshire SY13 3LJ
Erection of farm yard cover buildings.
Decision: Granted
- ii. 23/01761/FUL Proposed Agricultural Building North Of The Lowe Wem Shropshire
Erection of a general purpose agricultural building, associated track and hardstanding, and associated works
Decision: Granted
- iii. 23/01890/FUL Wem Industrial Estate Unit C8 Soulton Road Wem Shropshire SY4 5SD
Erection of 2 Industrial Units (Class B2) with associated parking and external storage.
Decision: It was resolved to support the application.
- iv. 23/01951/VAR Coton Meadows Pet And Equine Crematorium Coton Whitchurch Shropshire SY13 3LQ
Variation of Condition 13 (Operating Hours) attached to Application Reference Number: 20/00979/FUL dated 05/03/2020
Decision: It was resolved to stay neutral.
- v. 23/02200/OHL Land West Of Aston Wem Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 5JH
Install an additional wooden pole into an existing overhead line.
Decision: It was resolved to support the application.
- vi. 23/01998/FUL 7 Lacon Holdings Soulton Road Soulton Wem Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 5RR
Erection of two new agricultural buildings, a workshop and produce/machinery store, including change of use of land, formation new agricultural access
Decision: It was resolved to make a formal response once an ecological report has been completed.

71/23 Parish Clerk's Report:

a. Boundary Review

The Clerk confirmed that this is now open for consultation.

b. Business Networking Event

The Deputy Clerk confirmed details of the next networking event on Wednesday 28th June. Cllrs to inform the Deputy Clerk if able to attend. The site owner to be invited.

c. Training

The Deputy Clerk confirmed details about upcoming training events for Cllrs.

Deputy Clerk to distribute training curriculum from NALC for Cllrs to request further training.

72/23 Financial Matters:

a. Balances for information

Noted

b. Outstanding accounts

The following payments were approved:

C Warner	£657.58
H McCabe	£1049.55
HMRC	£630.41
Hiscox Insurance	£756.24
Right Sort Limited	£1464.44
Edstaston Village Hall	£25.00
Mrs J Hankey	£100.00

c. Bank reconciliation – report by Councillor

To be agreed outside the meeting

d. Renewal of Insurance Policy – 1 or 3 year agreement

It was resolved to renew the policy with a 3 year long term agreement

e. 2022/23 Year End Accounts - to approve

The Accounts were approved.

f. Internal Audit – to review and note

The Internal Audit report was received and noted.

g. Statement of Internal Control – to review and approve

The prepared Statement was approved.

h. Effectiveness of Internal Control – to review and approve

The review was completed and approved.

i. Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2022/23 Part 3

i. To consider the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1), complete and sign.

The responses to the Annual Governance Statement were considered, agreed, completed, and signed

ii. To consider Accounting Statements 2022/23 (Section 2) and sign

The Accounting Statements 2022/23 were approved and signed.

j. Community Grants

i. It Newtown Church

It was resolved to grant £500

ii. NCRA

It was resolved to grant £500 on the condition that the funds are used solely for the purpose of providing lighting as detailed in the grant application.

iii. **Wem Christmas Lights**

Cllr Broomhall confirmed that Wem Christmas Lights have disbanded and no longer require the grant.

73/23 Local Council Award Scheme

It was resolved:

- a. **To confirm accreditation level – Quality Gold Award**
- b. **The Parish Council publishes online or has in place the documents, policies, procedures and records outlined in ‘A guide to the Local Council Award Scheme 2021’.**
- c. **To instruct the Clerk to submit the completed application form to the Local Panel Co-ordinator with any additional documentation as required.**
- d. **That the Registration and Accreditation Fees of £60 and £200 be approved for payment.**

74/23 Business Plan 2021/2025

a. Review

Noted

b. Action Plan 2023/24

Updates of the Action Plan 2023/24 have been noted.

75/23 Councillor Reports:

a. Parish Councillors

Cllr Edwards provided an update on broadband and thanked Cllr Broomhall for previous update on the 20mph speed limit programme around schools being run by Shropshire Council and had shared the details of the programme with the Headmaster of Newtown Primary School.

Cllr Staines updated Councillors on the Wem Area Climate Action Forum regarding habitat mapping with Shropshire Wildlife Trust and reported on ongoing work on footpaths from the P3 Group.

Cllr Morgan reported on a future meeting with Age UK to support elderly people in the community with digital services.

Cllr Goode reported on previous meeting with NCRA.

b. Shropshire Councillors:

Cllrs Broomhall and Towers had submitted a written report.

76/23 Consultation's

a. Place Plan

There was a discussion surrounding the Place Plan.

77/23 Parish Matters

None

78/23 Highways

It was reported that damage to the highway between The Lowe and Horton had been fixed, as too had Tilley.

79/23 Date of future meeting and to consider agenda items:

Tuesday 4 July 2023

80/23 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.

81/23 Employment matters

a. Deputy Clerk's Appraisal Review

Personnel Committee to meet with Deputy Clerk.

The Chair, Cllr Edwards, declared the meeting closed at 8.52pm

Signed.....

Date.....