## p Wrockwardine Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021 Held at Admaston House, Admaston at 7.30p.m

**Present:** Cllr Mrs E Anderson (Chairwoman)

Cllr Mr P Cooper (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr Mrs E Ballantyne Cllr Mr K Ballantyne Cllr Mr P Bevis Cllr Mrs J Savage Cllr Mr G Thomas Cllr Miss K Tonks

**In Attendance:** Borough Cllr Miss J Seymour

3 members of the public Mr B Cartwright - Volunteer

Ms J Hancox (Clerk)

## 21/54 Welcome by the Chairwoman

The Chairwoman welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Chairwoman advised Members that Cllr Mr Baxter had resigned from the Parish Council. Members asked the Clerk to write to Cllr Mr Baxter to thank him and express appreciation for his work with the Council especially the extensive work he did to set up the Council's current website.

### 21/55 Election of Chairman

Cllr Mr Cooper nominated Cllr Mrs Anderson to serve. The nomination was seconded by Cllr Mrs Savage. There being no other nominations, it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Mrs Anderson be elected to serve as Chairwoman.

## 21/56 Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr Mrs Anderson signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by the Clerk.

## 21/57 Apologies for absence

None

#### 21/58 Election of Vice-Chairman

Cllr Mr Ballantyne proposed Cllr Mr Cooper, this was seconded by Cllr Mrs Savage. There being no other nominations it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Mr Cooper be elected to serve in the office of Vice-Chairman.

#### 21/59 Declaration of Interests & Dispensations

- a) Pecuniary None declared
- b) Personal Cllr's Mr & Mrs Ballantyne declared an interest in planning application TWC/2021/0379

## 21/60 Public Session

Mr Cartwright asked about the progress of the traffic pads and speed signs at Wrockwardine. Council advised this was being pursued with Telford & Wrekin Council and it was understood that the delay had been caused by the police objecting to the scheme during the consultation period.

Cllr's Mr & Mrs Ballantyne left the meeting at 7.38p.m

1 member of the public made representation to the Council on planning application TWC/2021/0379.

Cllr's Mr & Mrs Ballantyne returned to the meeting at 7.41p.m.

## 21/61 To confirm and agree the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** to confirm and sign the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

[Proposer: Cllr Mrs Ballantyne; Seconder: Cllr Miss Tonks; Vote: Unanimous]

## 21/62 Borough Councillor's Report

Borough Cllr Miss Seymour advised Members that the hedge at the solar farm had been cut and the closure of the road at Walcot Bridge had been extended as it required specific stone to repair it. Residents would be advised of the revised timescale.

#### 21/63 Appointment of representatives to Committees/Working Groups & Others

The following representatives were **RESOLVED**:

- 1. Finance & General Purposes Committee Cllr Mrs Anderson, Cllr Mr Cooper & Cllr Mr Ballantyne
- **2. Traffic Working Group** Cllr Mr Ballantyne; Cllr Mr Cooper; Cllr Mr Bevis; Cllr Mrs Anderson and Mr Barry Cartwright (Volunteer)
- **3.** Parish Improvement Working Group Cllr Mrs Anderson, Cllr Mr Cooper, Cllr Mr Ballantyne, Cllr Mrs Ballantyne, Cllr Mr Bevis; Cllr Mr Thomas; Cllr Miss Tonks
- 4. Wrekin Area Committee Chairman & Clerk
- 5. Leaton Quarry Liaison Group Cllr Mr Bevis; Cllr Mrs Savage; Cllr Mr Thomas
- 6. Allscott Meads Stakeholder Group Vice-Chairman & Clerk
- 7. Haygate Road Liaison Group Chairman & Clerk
- **8.** Rural Forum Chairman, Vice-Chairman & Clerk
- 9. Bus User Group Chairman
- 10. Admaston House Trustee Meeting Cllr Miss Tonks
- 11. Allotment Society Cllr Mr Bevis
- 12. Mental Health Liaison/Representative Cllr Miss Tonks

During discussions, Member's agreed the following:

- **1a) Employment Working Group** that the matter be deferred and go on the agenda for the next meeting as a confidential matter
- **3. Parish Improvement Working Group** it was **RESOLVED** that this becomes a standing committee [Proposer: Cllr Mr Ballantyne; Seconder: Cllr Mr Cooper; Vote: 2 abstains; 4 for]
- **6. Allscott Meads Stakeholder Group** that the Clerk request an additional place on the group from SJ Roberts for Cllr Mr Bevis.

#### 21/64 Meetings of the Council

Members agreed that the meetings of the Council would continue on the second Wednesday of the month, except for August, at 7.30p.m. In the short-term meetings would be held at Admaston House where social distancing could be adhered to. Members agreed that the room used at Wrockwardine Parish Hall was too small to safely accommodate councillors and members of the public now and in the future and meetings could only resume there if the large hall could be used.

## 21/65 Review of Documents

#### 1. Standing Orders

Document reviewed and **RESOLVED** no amendments

[Proposer: Cllr Miss Tonks; Seconder: Cllr Mr Ballantyne; Vote: Unanimous]

#### 2. Financial Regulations

Document reviewed and **RESOLVED** no amendments

[Proposer: Cllr Mr Ballantyne; Seconder: Cllr Mr Cooper; Vote: Unanimous]

## 3. Risk Management Document

Document reviewed and **RESOLVED** no amendments

[Proposer: Cllr Mrs Ballantyne; Seconder: Cllr Mr Cooper; Vote: Unanimous]

## 21/66 Annual Subscriptions

It was **RESOLVED** to continue the following subscriptions:

1. Membership of NALC (National Association of Local Councils)

[Proposer: Cllr Mrs Savage; Seconder: Cllr Miss Tonks; Vote: 1 abstain; 5 for]

2. Membership of SALC (Shropshire Association of Local Councils)

[Proposer: Cllr Mrs Savage; Seconder: Cllr Mrs Ballantyne; Vote: 1 abstain; 5 for]

3. Membership of SLCC (Society of Local Council Clerks)

[Proposer: Cllr Mrs Ballantyne; Seconder: Cllr Mr Thomas; Vote: All]

The Clerk was asked to contact SALC over the lack of provision of night time training courses for those councillors unable to access daytime courses.

## 21/67 Planning

#### 1. Permissions & Refusals

Members noted the following permissions and refusals:

| TWC/2021/0171 | 12 Admaston Spa,      | Erection of a 2-storey rear | Full      |
|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
|               | Admaston              | extension                   | Granted   |
| TWC/2021/0267 | Oak House, 14         | Crown reduce 1no. oak       | TPO       |
|               | Aldermead Close,      | tree by up to 2m            | Granted   |
|               | Admaston              |                             |           |
| TWC/2021/0257 | Dovecote Grange,      | Replacement of existing     | Full      |
|               | Bratton Road, Bratton | extension pitched roof      | Granted   |
|               |                       | with flat roof on &         |           |
|               |                       | installation of 3no.        |           |
|               |                       | replacement windows         |           |
| TWC/2021/0074 | 18 Bratton Road,      | Erection of 2-storey rear   | Withdrawn |
|               | Bratton               | extension incorporating     |           |
|               |                       | loft & erection of single   |           |
|               |                       | storey front porch          |           |
|               |                       | extension                   |           |
| TWC/2021/0289 | Timber Kit Solutions, | Erection of a commercial    | Withdrawn |
|               | Long Lane             | unit & associated access    |           |
|               |                       | for manufacture of timber   |           |
|               |                       | frames                      |           |

#### 2. New Applications

Members **RESOLVED** to make the following comments:

**TWC/2021/0366** 1 Broomfield Barn, Allscott - Erection of 1no. timber shelter and 20no. photovoltaic panels to existing cart shed roof (part-retrospective) **No comment** 

Cllrs Mr & Mrs Ballantyne left the meeting at 8.20p.m

**TWC/2021/0379** Land adjacent 3 Davenport Drive, Admaston - Erection of 1no. dwelling **Comment** – The Parish Council would like to see new properties install the provision of electric car charging ports within their plans

**TWC/2021/0388** Whitefields Farm, Charlton - Erection of porch to east elevation of existing holiday let, enclosure of open fronted garage to facilitate use as storage, workshop/office and partial retention of wall and the installation of gates (retrospective)

Members **RESOLVED** to **Object** to the application and for Cllr Mr Cooper to provide the written submission.

**TWC/2021/0405** 6 Broomfield Road, Admaston - Erection of single storey side & rear extensions & erection of a front porch

No comment

## 3. Applications received after the agenda was circulated

**TWC/2021/0428** 15 Burnell Road, Admaston - Removal & cutting back of overhanging limbs beyond boundary line by up to 5m & crown & height reduction by up to 5m to 1no. Oak tree **No comment** 

### 21/68 Finance

## a) To approve End of Year Accounts 2020/21 (Appendix 1)

It was **RESOLVED** to approve these.

[Proposer: Cllr Mrs Savage; Seconder: Cllr Mr Ballantyne; Vote: Unanimous]

## b) Accounts for Payment in May

It was **RESOLVED** to pay these.

(Proposer: Cllr Mrs Ballantyne; Seconder: Cllr Mr Thomas; Vote: Unanimous]

### c) Bank reconciliation for April

It was **RESOLVED** to accept this.

[Proposer: Cllr Mr Cooper; Seconder: Cllr Mrs Savage; Vote: Unanimous]

#### d) Insurance

Members considered three quotes (Appendix 2) and **RESOLVED** to take a 3-year policy with BHIB Insurance.

[Proposer: Cllr Mr Cooper; Seconder: Cllr Mrs Ballantyne; Vote: Unanimous]

## 21/69 Annual Governance & Accountability Review (AGAR)

## 1. To receive the Internal Audit Report

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the report.

[Proposer: Cllr Mr Cooper; Seconder: Cllr Miss Tonks; Vote: Unanimous]

#### 2. To approve the Governance Statement

Members considered the questions on the statement and answered them accordingly whereby it was **RESOLVED** to approve the Governance Statement.

[Proposer: Cllr Mr Ballantyne; Seconder: Cllr Miss Tonks; Vote: Unanimous]

## 3. To approve the Accounting Statement

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Accounting Statement

[Proposed: Cllr Mr Cooper; Seconder: Cllr Mr Ballantyne; Vote: Unanimous]

## 4. Chairwoman's Signature

The Chairwoman signed both the Governance Statement and the Accounting Statement.

#### 5. Notification of Public Rights

It was **RESOLVED** to agree the dates for the Notification of Public Rights as Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021 to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021.

[Proposer: Cllr Mrs Savage; Seconder: Cllr Mrs Ballantyne; Vote: Unanimous]

#### 21/70 Climate Change

A report was circulated prior to the meeting (Appendix 3). Following discussion, Cllr Mr Ballantyne proposed an amendment to the substantive proposal contained within:

"That this Parish Council instruct the F&GP Committee to draft a Climate Change Emergency Strategy Policy against which all future spending proposals will be assessed, such strategy to include provision for, where appropriate, a cost/benefit analysis, a carbon footprint measurement, and an evaluation of the sustainability, legacy and community need of each proposal".

Members **RESOLVED** to accept the amendment and proceed as stated.

[Proposer: Cllr Mr Ballantyne; Seconder: Cllr Mr Cooper; Vote: Unanimous]

#### 21/71 Admaston Green

Members met on Admaston Green prior to the meeting to consider the details of the report (Appendix 4). Following discussion, Member's agreed defer the proposal and undertake further discussion at the first meeting of the Parish Improvement Committee.

## 21/72 Benches

Details of both wooden and plastic benches were circulated prior to the meeting. Members agreed that the resolution of the climate change agenda item 21/70 could affect the outcome of this item. However, Member's felt the agreement for benches was made prior to this and had been outstanding for some time and delayed by the pandemic. The Chairwoman was concerned that the matter was going round in circles and needed a resolution now as Members were becoming frustrated, this was supported by Cllr Mrs Ballantyne and Cllr Mr Thomas. Members agreed to vote:

Recycled Plastic – 4 votes Wooden – 4 votes

The Chairwoman used her casting vote and it was **RESOLVED** to purchase recycled plastic.

It was further agreed to meet quickly to decide on a design and after that consultation, the Clerk would proceed with ordering and installation.

#### 21/73 SID Statistics

Members noted the data (Appendix 5)

#### 21/74 Meetings Update

- 1. Allscott Meads Stakeholder Group notes attached (Appendix 6)
- 2. **Haygate Fields Liaison Group** minutes circulated prior to the meeting

## 21/75 Grant Applications

None received

#### 21/76 Correspondence

**Great British Spring Clean** – details of the event were circulated prior to the meeting. Members agreed for the Council to take part in the event. The Clerk & Chairwoman to action and circulate details.

**Hedge at Tiddicross/Solar Farm** – The Clerk reported a resident had complained about the hedge cutting and the effect it might have had on wildlife nesting there – Member's noted the complaint but were unaware of who had undertaken the cut. The Clerk had asked Telford & Wrekin Council who had confirmed they had not yet contacted the owner of the land.

## 21/77 Date of the next meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held on **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021** at **7.30p.m** at **Admaston House, Admaston.** 

The meeting closed at 9.30p.m

| Signed: | E Anderson                | (Chairman) |
|---------|---------------------------|------------|
| Date    | 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2021 |            |

# Wrockwardine Parish Council

## Item 21/68

## **Finance**

## 15b) Accounts for Payment 12th May 2021

| Payee        | Description                         | Net      | VAT   | Cost     |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|
|              | Staff Costs                         | 2,137.89 | 0.62  | 2,138.51 |
| Tesco Mobile | Telephone                           | 7.50     | 00.00 | 7.50     |
| B Cartwright | SID Maintenance                     | 200.00   | 00.00 | 200.00   |
| Barclaycard  | Web Hosting                         | 13.69    | 3.42  | 17.11    |
|              | Stationery – Poly pockets/envelopes | 8.05     | 1.62  | 9.67     |
|              | Stationery – heavy duty stapler     | 9.12     | 1.83  | 10.95    |
|              | Stationery – A4 Lever arch files    | 12.92    | 2.59  | 15.51    |
| SDH          | Internal Audit                      | 245.65   | 00.00 | 245.65   |
| Accounting   |                                     |          |       |          |
|              | Total payments                      | 2,634.82 | 10.08 | 2,644.90 |

## 15c) Bank Reconciliation April 2021

## Accounts paid April 2021

| Payee        | Description                              | Net      | VAT   | Cost     |
|--------------|--|----------|-------|----------|
| Staff costs  | Salaries                                 | 1,342.88 | 00.00 | 1,342.88 |
| u u          | Office                                   | 26.00    | 00.00 | 26.00    |
| u            | Mileage                                  | 21.50    | 1.00  | 22.50    |
| Shropshire   |  | 377.88   | 00.00 | 377.88   |
| Pensions     |  |          |       |          |
| Tesco Mobile | Telephone                                | 7.50     | 00.00 | 7.50     |
| B Cartwright | SID Maintenance                          | 200.00   | 00.00 | 200.00   |
| HMRC         | Tax & NI                                 | 441.75   | 00.00 | 441.75   |
| HMRC         | Balance to complete year                 | 100.78   | 00.00 | 100.78   |
| SALC         | Councillor Training:                     |          |       |          |
|              | Cllr Anderson – Chairmanship Skills      | 75.00    | 00.00 | 75.00    |
|              | Cllr Anderson – Year End/Audit for Cllrs | 30.00    | 00.00 | 30.00    |
|              | Cllr Tonks – Fundamentals for Cllrs      | 30.00    | 00.00 | 30.00    |
| Npower       | Street Lighting Provision DD             | 179.03   | 44.76 | 223.79   |
|              | Total for authorisation                  | 2,832.32 | 45.76 | 2,878.08 |

## Unity Current A/C Bank Reconciliation

| Unity Current A/C Balance 1/4/2021 | 40,834.61              |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Payments made in April             | 2,878.08               |
| Receipts April – Precept           | 38,500.00              |
| Total                              | <mark>76,456.53</mark> |
| Unity Current Bank Statement 104   | <mark>76,456.53</mark> |

## Banks available spend 12th May 2021

| Bank Account Current after payments May | 73,811.63  |
|---|------------|
| Bank Account Savings (Statement 86 )    | 56,618.84  |
| Building Society 90 Day + receipt       | 70,966.32  |
| Total                                   | 201,396.79 |

## **Earmarked Reserves**

| Street lamp replacement Pemberton Rd    | 1,007.00  |
|---|-----------|
| Traffic Calming                         | 35,000.00 |
| Benches – Wrockwardine & Walcot         | 800.00    |
| Admaston Green Grant Spend              | 2,832.00  |
| Additional Staff costs 1/4/21 – 31/3/23 | 14,400.00 |
| Total                                   | 54,039.00 |

| pend available at 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 147,357.79 |
|--|
|--|

## **Predicted Spend Forecast for Year 2021/22**

| Budget spend for 2021/22                   |                      | 86,450.00               |
|--|----------------------|-------------------------|
|  | <b>Balance Total</b> | 60,907.79               |
| Add 2 <sup>nd</sup> half precept Sept 2021 |                      | 38,500.00               |
| General Reserves av                        | ailable 2021/22      | <mark>99,</mark> 407.79 |

## **Notes**

- General Reserve Policy states the sum available should be equal to the annual precept (£77,000) and no less than 50% of the figure.
- The "actual monies available 2021/22" applies only if the full budget for 2021/22 is spent.
- 42 concrete street lighting columns in Admaston will need replacing at some point in the future at a cost of £1,200 each = £50,400 total. Most are fair condition at present, but can deteriorate quickly, particularly over winter months.
- Some play equipment is deteriorating and replacement would draw on general reserves.

| Signed:      | J Hancox                |                  |                           |  |
|--------------|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Clerk & Resp | onsible Finance Officer |                  |                           |  |
| Signed:      | E Anderson              | (Chairman) Date: | 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2021 |  |

## **Wrockwardine Parish Council**

Year Ending 31st March 2021

Bank Reconciliation Statements No: 103, 85 & 4

## Payments Outstanding @ 31/3/2021

| Voucher | Payee         | Amount |
|---------|---------------|--------|
| 156     | HMRC          | 100.78 |
| 157     | SALC Training | 75.00  |
| 158     | SALC Training | 30.00  |
| 159     | SALC Training | 30.00  |
|         | Total         | 235.78 |

## **Bank Reconciliation**

| 11-11 To al C 1 A/C O 24/2/2020         | 0.204.77                |
|---|-------------------------|
| Unity Trust Current A/C @ 31/3/2020     | 8,394.77                |
| Unity Trust Savings A/C @ 31/3/2020     | 56,562.43               |
| Nationwide 95 Day Saver A/C @ 31/3/2020 | 70,668.74               |
| Total in Bank A/C's                     | 135,625.94              |
| Payments outstanding @ 31/3/2020        | 612.00                  |
| Actual spend available                  | 135,013.94              |
| Receipts 1/4/2020 – 31/3/2021           | 88,950.99               |
|   | 223,964.93              |
| Spend 1/4/2020 – 31/3/2021              | 55,780.94               |
| Total spend available @ 31/3/2021       | <mark>168,183.99</mark> |
|   |                         |
| Unity Trust Current A/C @ 31/3/2021     | 40,834.61               |
| Unity Trust Savings A/C @ 31/3/2021     | 56,618.84               |
| Nationwide 95 Day Saver A/C @ 31/3/2021 | 70,966.32               |
| Total in Bank A/C's                     | 168,419.77              |
| Less Payments Outstanding @ 31/3/2021   | 235.78                  |
| Total spend available @ 31/3/2021       | 168,183.99              |
|   |                         |

| Signed: | J Hancox                  | ( Responsible Finance Officer) |  |  |  |
|---------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Date:   | 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2021 |                                |  |  |  |

## **Wrockwardine Parish Council**

Agenda Item 15d) Insurance

To consider three quotes and resolve an insurance provider

## **Background**

Zurich Municipal currently provide the Parish Council's insurance. The 3-year contract expires on 31/5/2021. To ensure both best value and best cover, three quotes have been sourced, including the current provider.

## **Details**

## 1. Zurich Municipal

1 year provision premium - £1,805.92 3-year provision premium - £1,722.70 5-year provision premium - £1,640.14

#### 2. BHIB Insurance

Insurance would be through Aviva 1 year provision premium - £1,283.53 3-year provision premium - £1,222.29

Policy also includes a free subscription to Parish Online (which Members agreed to purchase at January's meeting at a cost of £220 per year). This offer remains in place for the duration of the policy.

#### 3. Came & Company

Insurance would be through Axa 1 year provision premium - £1,711.60

This policy offers two additional services – Keyperson covers the cost of a locum clerk should the Clerk be unable to work due to an accident and Rradar cover which provides additional advice and where, if there is an issue, they maintain that 90% can be resolved before any claim is made.

## Recommendation

All three providers give adequate cover and provision for the Council's requirements.

No. 2 provides the cover necessary at a significant saving plus the added benefit of Parish Online and, is an insurance company providing for Town and Parish Council's specifically. It is therefore recommended that the Council takes out the 3-year policy with BHIB Insurers.

Julia Hancox Clerk & RFO 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021 Appendix 3
Wrockwardine Parish Council
Agenda Item 17
Climate Change Proposal

## **Background**

Telford and Wrekin Council adopted a Climate Change Emergency in 2019 and, many other Parish and Town Councils across Telford, Shropshire and indeed the country are uniting in wanting to make significant changes in opinions and actions to how we protect the Earth and how we use and protect local resources.

As a local Parish Council, we make decisions on local initiatives, we are a grassroots decision-making authority; we can lead others in changing views and actions. In declaring a climate change emergency WPC would acknowledge that a positive resolution is the best way forwards. An Emergency Climate Change resolution would help WPC to build a cohesive plan for now and the future. Protecting habitats is one positive and effective role in safeguarding the future health of the planet. However, there is so much more we can do!

## What is Climate Change?

In a nutshell climate change is a shift in the earths weather patterns. We know the burning of fossil fuels produces greenhouse gases, which in turn results in the global rise of temperature. There are several climate change case studies which support the need to change how we as earthlings respect our planet.

## **Objectives**

WPC could adopt a framework for the development of actions required to reduce their carbon footprint. Placing a focal point on the corporate performance of WPC would promote a "lead by example" role which hopefully would encourage and influence local business, third sector communities and parishioners to explore their own pathways in reducing their carbon footprints. Acting now will result in WPC having a direct influence on future policy planning and target setting within our remit (through the Parish Improvements Group). It should also be noted that we are on a shared journey, working alongside other local Parish and Town councils encouraging a cohesive strategy which will produce positive long-term consequences. WPC is represented on the **Wrekin Area Committee** and the **Rural Forum.** An engagement with the local community will enable WPC to develop plans that meet the needs of the parish. At this point it is not viable for WPC to produce a costed action plan, however moving forwards in declaring a Climate Change emergency, WPC can ensure that any additional costs if required will be built into future budgets.

## So, what can we do and what measures have WPC already undertaken?

Explore the possibility that at some point placing **car charging points** at local community centres and/ or other suitable venues. The use of the street lighting to hold car charging points could be considered. Cllr Thomas has suggested that for any future planning applications recommendation of electric car points is advised. The end of petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2040 is a current national government policy. We can future proof our local communities in the installation of electric charging points. Thus, helping rural communities in the transition to electric cars. There are grants available for installation of charging points- a possible source of funding WPC/parishioners could pursue.

Long Yard Meadow is situated on the B4394 on Station Road. WPC maintain this area for use by local parishioners. It is often used by dog walkers and holds beautiful views across the countryside. The kissing gate and bench are regularly inspected for wear and tear. The kissing gate meets current legislation for disability access, both items will be replaced in due course when the needs arise. As part of the Climate Change Emergency the appropriate use of materials for replacement items would be considered carefully. The responsibility of the PC is to ensure the land remains an open space thus ensuring its natural beauty is maintained. In the simplest of terms WPC maintains its duty to LYM and local parishioners whilst also aiding the local biodiversity.

## **Green Transport**

In providing good cycle tracks we can encourage a cycle to work policy alongside walking trails help encourage outdoor activities. The placement of watering stops using the best locations suitable within the parish would hopefully encourage the use of cycles. The use of public transport is one of the most effective ways to reduce carbon emissions, whilst the Parish Council does not provide transport, we cannot envisage what will happen to public/private transport in the future, maintaining the current bus stop shelters in good repair demonstrates a commitment to the historical importance of bus stop shelters and a future commitment to any changes that could occur in the use of bus or car share. WPC is represented on the **Bus users' forum.** 

Wrockwardine Parish Allotment Society was formed to promote the provision of allotments enabling parishioners to grow fruit, vegetables and flowers. It is managed by its own committee; WPC is in discussions with SJ Roberts in pursuing allotment site(s) planned for future inclusion within the scheme at Allscott Meads where hedgehog pathways are also part of a commitment to local wildlife survival. In the allotments frog ponds are also used to create homes. The orchard provides the most useful weapon in fighting climate change, trees, which capture carbon, provide flood defences, reduce temperatures and aid nutrient rich soil. The wildlife pond (by the way ponds can absorb more carbon than woodlands) provides homes for local habitat including crested newts. WPC is already contributing positively to maintaining local amenities. Climate change is not something that is happening in faraway places. It is happening here; we have made positive differences through decisions already resolved and will continue to undertake.

**Best use of Clerk resources.** In much smaller Parish Councils, the clerk may undertake their duties using a peddle bike! Impractical for our clerk but, by careful planning of workload, for example the inspection of playparks combined with updating notice boards during the same journey is one obvious good use of energy to reduce emissions. There will be other ways in which the PC clerk will be able to become "greener" and through consultation with the clerk and PC changes may be made which benefit all. So often, for instance we hear of "paperless" meetings, which, practical or not, are ideas that can contribute to WPC's journey in combating climate change.

## Play Parks and Adult Gym

Wrockwardine and Walcot Play areas are set in wonderful green surroundings. Pemberton Road Play Park offers a place of play and reflection. The Adult gym on Admaston Green offers an opportunity for parishioners to enjoy local amenities that encourage good health in enjoyable surroundings. There are amenities for youths with a shelter and a nearby skateboard park, again both set in green surroundings. All these settings boost community resilience and improve community relations. Future development of play parks on the Allscott Meads site will again encourage community relations. As in the past, WPC would endeavour to provide resources that work in harmony with nature, creating safe environments for parishioners and businesses to thrive. The planting of trees is encouraged (some grants are available).

**Street Lamps and bulbs.** The process of exchanging old style bulbs for energy efficient down lighting has already begun and all new lighting will consist of energy efficient downlighting. At some point forty concrete lampposts in Admaston will have to be upgraded and this will enable the PC to explore best ways forwards in how upgrades are developed. LED lighting is the way forward as an affordable and low maintenance option. All street lighting should be maintained in good repair as they offer safety, they are part of the fabric of society and there are many future possibilities in the way that street lighting can be used such as being dimmed and then awoken when cars or pedestrians pass by. They are switched into the electricity so can have environmental sensors fitted which will measure air quality and vehicle monitoring.

All the above demonstrates a snapshot of how WPC has taken measures that are important in treating our environment with respect. In declaring a Climate Change Emergency, WPC can build on the good work already undertaken, moving forward with other Parish/Town Councils to safeguard the world for our children and grandchildren.

Members may wish to access SALC and NALC websites to read through the many ways that councils can develop strategies to develop good planning.

## **Proposal**

I would like to propose that Wrockwardine Parish Council declare a Climate Change Emergency. A vote to adopt a Climate Change Emergency will initiate many discussions. The proposal will result in no action tonight but rather a resolve to place the Climate Change Emergency at the heart of future discussions and resolutions.

Cllr Elaine Anderson 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Wrockwardine Parish Council
Agenda Item 18
Report to Council 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021
Admaston Green Grant Aided Enhancement Scheme

## 1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to:
  - a] inform Members of the current position relating to the above scheme;
  - b] apprise Council of the concept alternatives and the issues to be considered;
  - c] identify the necessary budgetary provision to bring any scheme to fruition;
  - d] give further instructions to the Clerk as required.

## 2. Background:

- 2.1 In 2019, a survey was conducted amongst parishioners in the Admaston & Bratton Ward to assess where grant money available including from Borough Councillor Kiernan's ward fund should be spent. Admaston Green was identified as the most popular suggestion. A subsequent survey identified a wildflower/wildlife enhancement of the Green to be preferred.
- 2.2 Pump priming grant fund money amounting to £2,832 is held ring-fenced in WPC's accounts.

## 3. Information

- 3.1 The onset of the Coronavirus pandemic with its attendant lockdowns, shielding regimes, and consequent disruption to economic activity, has prevented much of the preliminary consultation taking place, but has also provided an opportunity for a fuller consideration of the form, style, longevity, and legacy of the scheme.
- 3.2 At its recent meeting, the Parish Improvements Working Group approved the suggestion that the scheme should be one of which the Parish Council can be proud, which will be accessible to all, which will be sustainable, and which will be a lasting community asset.

## 4. Concept

- 4.1 Admaston Green is a very popular open/recreation space and is also used as an access route to the Silkin Way. The concept of the scheme is to enhance the appearance of the Green with a purpose-built raised bed area filled with perennial wild flowers, and ideally incorporating seating. Additionally, Council has indicated that it would like to see a new notice board in the area of the Siberian Elm as part of its aim to more fully inform parishioners of its work and activities.
- 4.2 Further, to include the installation of various nesting boxes in the trees along the Green's boundary with the Silkin Way, and the planting of bulbs and shallow rooted perennials around the Siberian Elm.

## 5. Points for consideration

- 5.1 The following are points which need to be taken into account in the planning, design, implementation, and funding of the scheme. It is not an exhaustive list but aims to give Members a flavour of those matters which need to be considered. The list is not in any strict order of priority:
  - professional advice;
  - overall design and incorporation of seating;
  - position to allow access for grass cutting machinery;
  - Shropshire Wildlife Trust [SWT] advice;
  - construction materials options oak sleepers/brick/recycled plastic/powder coated steel;
  - Landlord consent [T&WBC] required;
  - AHT consent where necessary for contractor access;
  - on-going maintenance/watering/replanting contract;
  - ➤ labour;
  - budget;
  - notice board;
  - bulbs;
  - nesting boxes/suitability/SJ Roberts' offered contribution;
  - contractor tendering.

## 6. Alternative Installation Method

As an alternative to the construction of a bespoke scheme, the use of Plantscape, part of Idverde, has been considered. In this model, the firm supplies containers either empty or fully planted, and either to rent or to purchase. A watering maintenance service is available. However, these planters, which are a familiar sight in urban, hard landscaped areas, would not generally be appropriate on the Green because siting on grass is not recommended and thus highly restricts design choices.

## 7. Environmental considerations

7.1 The aim would be to try to use only or mostly British grown stock plants, maximise the opportunities for pollinators, optimise perennials in any permanent display area, and seek the guidance of SWT on the type and siting of appropriate nesting boxes. Over-laying any scheme would be such implications as may flow from a decision by the Council to declare a Climate Emergency.

## 8. Budgetary Implications

- 8.1 A bespoke constructed permanent planting area would be a capital budget spend. It is suggested that at least £10,000 would need to be added to the existing grant monies for the scheme to include design, materials, and labour. Provision for expenditure on such a scheme has already been made by Council through capital budget planning over many years and the resources are available to the Council in its Parish Improvements reserves.
- 8.2 To meet the Council's stated aims of the scheme, an on-going maintenance contract of the planting areas, including losses replacement, would be a revenue budget item and would thus need to be identified as such year on year.

- 8.3 The incorporation of a new noticeboard into the scheme would require additional funding from the identified reserves.
- 8.4 Attractive though it is in many ways, the use of Plantscape is not considered to be a viable alternative to a bespoke design.

## 9. Recommendation

- 9.1 That the Council identify £10,000 from Parish Improvements reserves to add to the existing £2,832 grant monies for a scheme to include design, materials, and labour.
- 9.2 That the Clerk is asked to prepare tender documents for a design, construction, planting, and three-year ground work/planting maintenance contract for a bespoke raised bed wild flower planting scheme on Admaston Green.

Councillor K Ballantyne

26th April 2021

# **SID Statistics April**

| Location/Direction                       | From     | То       | No. over speed limit | Days at location | Daily<br>Average<br>vehicles<br>over | Notes                       |
|--|----------|----------|----------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| The Avenue, Wrockwardine,<br>West Bound  | 8/12/20  | 21/12/20 | 143                  | 13               | 11                                   |                             |
| Station Road, Admaston, South<br>West    | 22/12/20 | 5/1/21   | 4,749                | 15               | 315                                  | Covers Christmas period     |
| Station Road, Admaston, South<br>West    | 6/1/21   | 18/1/21  | 5,252                | 13               | 404                                  |                             |
| Station Road, Admaston, South<br>West    | 19/1/21  | 3/2/21   | 3,441                | 15               | 229                                  | B4394 closed for<br>10 days |
| Shawbirch Road, Admaston,<br>South West  | 4/2/21   | 17/2/21  | 12,394               | 13               | 930                                  |                             |
| Shawbirch Road, Admaston<br>North East   | 18/2/21  | 1/3/21   | 12,272               | 12               | 1,023                                |                             |
| Wellington Road, Admaston,<br>South East | 2/3/21   | 14/3/21  | 3,301                | 11               | 300                                  |                             |
| Wellington Road, Admaston,<br>North West | 15/3/21  | 29/3/21  | 3,503                | 14               | 250                                  |                             |
| The Avenue, Wrockwardine,<br>West Bound  | 30/3/21  | 11/4/21  | 98                   | 12               | 8                                    |                             |
| The Avenue, Wrockwardine,<br>East Bound  | 12/4/21  | 25/4/21  | 239                  | 13               | 18                                   |                             |
| Station Road, Admaston, North<br>East    | 26/4/21  | 10/5/21  | 5,041                | 15               | 337                                  |                             |

# Appendix 6 Wrockwardine Parish Council Agenda Item 21 Meetings Update

## 1. Allscott Meads Stakeholder Group

- Held on 7/5/21 via Zoom
- Work will hopefully start on 28/6/21 on the B4394 278 Works which will include widening the road, kerbs, signage etc. There will be traffic lights in place on the route and there is a planned road closure (this will only happen once the Walcot Bridge road is fully re-opened). Disruption will last 2-3 months.
- 60 reservations on further 80 plots. Demand is high and people are mainly moving from within Telford.
- Current traffic lights at Walcot are Western Power and not SJ Roberts work. SJ Roberts tried to negotiate
  the work taking place during their planned road closure but Western Power were unable to change their
  schedule.
- Planning application currently being considered for the new sports & social club and pitches.
- T&W is continuing with its search for an academy to take on the new school. SJ Roberts may now build the school, pre-plans in the works with a view to full planning application by the end of the year. To be open by Sept 2023. Will hold 150 places with the ability to extend to 210 places.
- Current sports & social club looking to reopen in May/June depending on Government guidelines
- SJ Roberts are suggesting a communal event in the summer to involve the new community and lift the profile of the development and would welcome any ideas for things that could be done.

Julia Hancox Clerk & RFO 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021