

Buildwas Parish Council

www.buildwasparishcouncil.org.uk

Chairman of the Council
Cllr L Pratt

Clerk to the Council
Mr C Furnival (CiLCA)

MINUTES of the meeting of Buildwas Parish Council meeting held on Monday 20th March 2023 at Buildwas Village Hall 7.30pm.

Members present: Councillors Heath (Chair), Grainger, Jones, Jackson, Ling and Wilcox.

In attendance: Cllr Wild (Shropshire Councillor), Mr C Furnival (Clerk), one member of the public and PCSO's Birch and Roberts.

22/23.73 Apologies and declarations of Interest

Apologies received from Cllr Pratt who is dealing with a work emergency.

Cllr Heath declared an interest in item 22/23.77 due to being related to the applicant of 23/01046/FUL.

22/23.74 Public Session

None.

22/23.75 Minutes of the Full Council meeting held 16th January 2023

It was proposed by Cllr Jackson and seconded by Cllr Jones all in favour therefore it was **RESOLVED to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16th January 2023.**

22/23.76 Matters arising, for information, from the 16th January 2023 minutes not otherwise on the agenda

None.

22/23.77 Planning

It was agreed for Cllr Wilcox to take the chair for this item as Cllr Heath left the room.

The standing orders were suspended in order to allow Mrs Heath, the applicant of 23/01046/FUL, to inform members of the detail of the application.

Mrs Heath noted that the design and build of the former post office would not change externally. There is a desperate shortage of 1 bed homes in this area which are affordable and the concept of these works is to utilise a building that is not in use and help tackle this single bed market. They will put a dropped kerb outside for one car space for the property and there is no garden space.

Due to being related to the applicant of 23/01046/FUL, Cllr Heath left the room and did not take part in the decision making on this item.

The following application was considered by members and the listed response was agreed;

Applications/enquiries to be considered;	Response
23/01046/FUL - Site Of Buildwas Post Office, Park View, Buildwas, Telford Proposal: The proposed change of use to the existing ground floor commercial premises to residential use to create a detached two-storey single family dwelling.	Support

Members noted the following applications which have been decided by Shropshire Council since the date of the last Parish Council meeting;

Applications decided/withdrawn since last meeting;	Response	Decision
22/04118/FUL - Home Farm, Buildwas, Telford, Shropshire, TF8 7BU Erection of 2No dwellings following demolition of existing dwelling	No response	Refused
22/05665/FUL - Holiday Let Accommodation At, The Folley, 34 Much Wenlock Road, Buildwas, Telford Change of use from holiday let accommodation to dwelling	No objection	Granted

22/23.78 Reports from West Mercia Police

PCSO's Birch and Roberts reported that there had been 23 incidents in the parish in the last three months. These figures are the best that they can get in the parish, as they have to try to narrow their searches for stats in the parish and align them with policing areas. These reports do align quite well with the Parish Councils policing priorities. Of these reports, some of the issues were burglary, commercial theft from school and nuisance calls to name a few. PCSO Roberts stressed that, as this policing team have 19 parishes to cover, the Parish Council do not have to worry if they only have one priority for their next Policing Priority response. The team have been in the parish as regularly as they can, with covert and overt operations for monitoring speed through Buildwas.

Cllr Ling noted that speed through Buildwas village is worse in the mornings rather than the afternoons.

Cllr Ling asked if the police still offer local councillors the opportunity to join them on patrol on occasion. PCSO Roberts noted that it is difficult to continue doing this due to numbers of police officers.

22/23.79 Reports from Shropshire Council

Cllr Wild reported that the liaison group for the former Buildwas Power Station had a meeting on the 3rd March 2023. Cllr Heath raised questions at this meeting with regards to road safety, signage and surface conditions. G. Lawley (Shropshire Council) noted that the Highways Authority are happy to come to the next Parish Council meeting because they want to talk about what's going to happen, when and where. G. Lawley has written to all local schools and Buildwas Primary School have signed up to visit the site.

The planned train ride was suspended, and councillors will be given new date in due course.

During the meeting of the liaison group Cllr Heath raised that, whilst we have speed restrictions on A4169 and B4380, they didn't have any plans for Ironbridge Road and this was raised as a serious concern.

The JPE quarry has been purchased by Harwoth, there is a further update on this in "Under the Wrekin".

Cllr Heath noted that discussions are ongoing about the possibility of the roundabout by Ironbridge Bypass and the junction that will be by Lillichap either being developed together or being completed at separate times.

Cllr Jones asked if the current planning permissions for material movements would be transferred from JPE to Haworth's contractors. This was confirmed to be correct.

Cllr Ling noted that the pothole in front of his house still has not been actioned.

Cllr Heath noted that he asked about the road down to Ironbridge, where the plan is so you cannot turn right for Much Wenlock. He has asked for the figures that prove this is needed. Shropshire Council are to come back on this with alternatives.

22/23.80 Correspondence

The Parish Clerk has registered an interest in the upcoming Community Emergency Planning sessions on behalf of the Parish Council. For context, the communication received was;

“Community Emergency Planning is becoming increasingly more important, whether for floods, pandemics, food & utility issues, or the next unexpected event. For emergency planning to be as effective as possible in keeping people, businesses, property and our environment safe it should be led at a local level, with the joined-up support of principal councils, the emergency services and other relevant agencies.

A programme is being run by Communities Prepared in collaboration with SALC, Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service, West Mercia Police and the Local Authorities to work with parish and town councils, and their communities, on developing an approach to community emergency planning which works for all concerned.

Three online workshop sessions will be held over the summer of 2023 for parish and town councillors, officers and interested members of the community who could most benefit from support in developing a plan for a parish or town. Once the plan is formed you will also get support and guidance in implementing it, so that we can all keep our communities safer from the range of emergencies we may all face.”

22/23.81 Highways/Road Safety along the B4380

Covered under item 22/23.82.

22/23.82 Rights of Way

Cllr Grainger has been looking at the definitive map. Some footpath routes could do with walking to see what needs doing. Some are in dire need of attention. That's one issue which is within the parish. The suggestion is that some proactive actions are taken to improve the condition and access to some of these routes.

There is a footpath that has gained interest from local people that is partly in the parish, which runs along the river. Cllr Grainger will follow this up with Shropshire Council.

Councillors to review some footpaths and report any issues back through the Parish Council or Cllr Grainger.

22/23.83 Buildwas Parish Plan (Community Led Plan)

A last attempt to garner resident's responses to this survey has gone out through 'Under the Wrekin' and more posts have been shared on social media. It is proposed that we leave it until 30th April 2023 to receive responses. At this point the Clerk shall collate responses and organise a working group of Councillors to review and prepare actions as part of a new Parish Plan.

22/23.84 Climate and Nature Action

Cllr Jackson attended a Carbon Literacy training recently and has been reviewing some other parish council's climate and nature plans.

Cllr Jackson has been looking at EPC's. Out of 89 properties in the parish that have their EPC's on a national system, 10 of those 89 were on a C rating.

Buildwas is higher than Shropshire and the National average for CO2 usage.

Members agreed that we need to encourage information and conversations about how to be an eco-friendlier parish with residents.

22/23.85 Reports from Parish Councillors

Cllr Grainger attended an online meeting to discuss the rail links transport study. The feedback is that there is slow progress, and that currently they are only talking about trains. Particularly making the tracks suitable to access and availability is difficult. If these issues are dealt with in 5-10yrs, passengers could get off at Stafford Park and onto main line but not confirmed.

Cllr Heath noted that there was the Gorge World Heritage site meeting recently and he wished to thank residents for attending this meeting.

22/23.86 Finance reports

Members reviewed the latest bank reconciliations and banking statements up to the 28th February 2023 which complete a reconciled balance of £26,096.57. Having been accepted, two nominated Councillors will sign off the master copies.

The following payments made since the last meeting were noted:

Details	Ref	Statutes	Account
Travel and home office expenses	P42-22/23	LGA 1972 s111	£112.50
Salary	P43-22/23	LGA 1972 s111	£236.90
PAYE	P44-22/23	LGA 1972 s111	£59.00
Street lighting maintenance	P45-22/23	LGA 1972 s214	£24.00
Meeting room hire	P46-22/23	LGA 1972 s112	£135.00
Locum cover for Clerk	P47-22/23	LGA 1972 s111	£120.00
		TOTAL	£687.40

Members reviewed the draft risk management assessment prepared by the Clerk and considered this to be accurate and of sound record. It was proposed by Cllr Heath and seconded by Cllr Jones, all were in favour, thus **RESOLVED to adopt the risk management assessment for 2022-23.**

22/23.87 Policies and procedures

Members reviewed the following policies and procedures that have been presented by the Clerk and it was proposed by Cllr Jackson and seconded by Cllr Ling, all were in favour, thus **RESOLVED to adopt the following policies and publish them on the parish councils website;**

- Publication Scheme (revision)
- Data Protection Policy (new)
- Data Subjects Rights Policy & Procedure (new)

Meeting finished: 20:58

These minutes are to be considered as a draft form until signed at the next appropriate meeting, the signed copy will be retained by the Parish Council.

Signed: Dated:/...../.....

Date of the next meeting (AGM): 15th May 2023, 7:30pm at Buildwas Village Hall