

LITTLE WENLOCK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 10th March, 2014 AT 7.00 p.m. IN THE VILLAGE HALL, LITTLE WENLOCK.

Prior to the commencement of the full meeting at 7.30pm a meeting took place with Nick Kitchen and Lee Barnard from T&W Highways Department.

Forest Glen: No definite date could be given but the proposed work on the junction, the resurfacing of the highway and the yellow no parking lines would all be done during the next financial year. Whilst the work is in progress it may be necessary to close part of the highway. There would possibly be some enforcement by T&W of the no parking areas.

Quiet Lanes: A feasibility report had been carried out by Jacobs in November 2009. The object of Quiet Lanes is to make drivers aware of non-motorised road users such as walkers, cyclists and horse riders and thus to drive accordingly. Speed surveys had been carried out on 4 locations and although the volume of traffic was acceptable the speeds were quite high.

It was felt that an area wide scheme linked to the rights of way would be more effective than just a speed limit on Wellington Road. The speed survey had shown that 85th percentile speed, northbound, on Wellington Road was 40.8 mph and so a 40 mph speed limit would make no significant improvement.

Funding the scheme would be the big issue as it would need a capital expenditure programme. It was proposed that a proposal (Phase 1) be put together focusing on the areas highlighted on the map in the feasibility report. No time scale was given in which to put together phase 1.

It was **resolved** to place an item on the agenda of the Parish Open meeting to discuss the matter further and to seek opinions as to what people want. Lee Barnard kindly agreed to attend the meeting.

Other issues: A message from T&W Borough Councillor Jacqui Seymour was passed on relating to highway and signage issues on Huntington Lane and New Works Lane. The Clerk supplied some photographs from Google Earth relating to missing road signs.

The Chairman thanked them both for coming to the meeting and listening to the parish council's concerns.

The Parish Council meeting commenced at 7.40 pm:

- 03/14/01 Members Present:**
Councillors Mrs. S. Hutchison (Chair), Miss J. Esp (Vice Chairman), Mrs. J. Davidson, Mr. A. Lees and Mr. S. Holding.
In attendance:
Mr. J.F. Marcham – Clerk & RFO to Little Wenlock Parish Council.
Members of the Public:
2 members of the public were present.
- 03/14/02 Apologies:**
Apologies were received from T&W Borough Councillors Jacqui Seymour and Terry Kiernan.
- 03/14/03 Declarations of Interest:**
None
- 03/14/04 Public Session:**
Sharon Pickering raised concerns about the litter bin by the bench on Buildwas Lane. She reported that it had not been emptied and that it smelled. She asked if the litter bin could be moved away from the bench as it was unpleasant to sit there.

- 03/14/05 Minutes of the meeting held on 10th February 2014:**
The minutes of the meeting held on 10th February 2014 were **approved and signed.**
- 03/14/06 Highways:**
It was felt that the meeting with the T&W highway officers had been positive and that the parish council now needed to look at the area around the Wrekin as a whole in reducing traffic speeds. The newly designed junction at the Forest Glen should help to reduce speeds in that locality. It was also felt that reducing the width of the highway in some locations would also help to reduce speeds.
The Clerk was asked to remind Lee Barnard about the white paint which marked road repairs and had been washed away by the recent heavy rain.
- 03/14/07 Swan Farm footpaths;**
The Chairman reported that she had contacted Andrew Careless (T&W R of W Officer) on the 4th February for any news of progress with regards to the very wet areas and the gates at Willowmoor. He had taken a contractor to the site but the weather was against them making any progress. Contact was again made on 26th February and on 27th a revised timetable for the work would be put in place asap.

Cllr. Alan Lees recapped on the progress of the footpath upgrading plans for Swan Farm. There were some issues which needed resolving, namely a) access to cattle from Coalbrookdale Road to Buildwas Lane, and b) part of the route may not be suitable for wheelchair use etc. because of horses and blind spots.

Cllr. Alan Lees stated that the cattle access needs to be resolved. Discussions had taken place with Andrew Careless who was concerned as to where a diversion was possible and he was not very keen on it because of the trees that would have to be removed and the need for a new entrance on Buildwas Lane which would need planning permission because it was highway. Once the upgrade had taken place any damage done by the cattle would have to be repaired. The question was asked, "Do the cattle need to use the footpath? It is a short cut and quicker route, but the cattle could be driven via Coalbrookdale Road, Church Lane and down Buildwas Lane on the highways". It was also reported that the fencing needed to be put back and that the parish council had no objection to the use of barbed-wire. It was pointed out that funding may well not be available for something which is a private "path" for cattle to be moved on.
- 03/14/08 FOI request in relation to landowners and SHLAA:**
The Clerk reported that a FOI request had been refused as it was deemed to be personal information. It was pointed out that should a planning application be made for building on any of the sites then the owner would be identified.
- 03/14/09 Chairman's Annual Report 2013/14.**
The report was formally **approved.**
- 03/14/10 Huntington Lane:**
The Clerk reported that he had delivered letters to all the residents who lived on the proposed named "Huntington Lane". Five had no objections to the change. Five did not object but did not want their post code changed. One objected because she thought the post code might change. Two wanted "Blacksmith's Lane" aka Church Hill extended to Dog in the Lane and Huntington Lane to run from Dog in the Lane to its junction with Malthouse Bank.
As there was concern about the possible change of post codes the Clerk had written to Royal Mail to obtain assurance that they would not change. He had not yet

received a reply. It was **resolved** to take no further action until a response had been received and to discuss the matter further in the April meeting.

- 03/14/11 New Works Lights:**
Cllr. Alan Lees reported that the installation of the first trial light had been delayed until early April as E.On was waiting for the lamp to be delivered.
- 03/14/12 Litter Bins:**
It was **resolved** that Cllr. Steve Holding would supply a written quotation for the cost of relocating the litter bin away from the bench on Buildwas Lane.
The new footpath along Coalmoor Road crosses the boundary between Little Wenlock Parish and Dawley Hamlets Parish. As the majority of dog walkers came from Horsehay it was felt appropriate for Dawley Hamlets to place a litter bin at the Horsehay end of the footpath.
- 03/14/13 April's Community Newsletter:**
It was **resolved** to add an item about the New Works lights, the work at the Forest Glen and Quiet Lanes.
- 03/14/14 Parish Open Meeting Agenda:**
It was **resolved** to add an item about the highway at the Forest Glen to the agenda.
- 03/14/15 Planning Applications:**
None had been received.
- 03/14/16 Clerk's Report:**
The Clerk reported that he would be attending a NHW meeting at Wellington Police Station on 12th March.
- 03/14/17 Borough Liaison: Pride in Your Community:**
The Parish Council fully discussed the questions relating to environmental and highway issues as listed on the form. The clerk would complete the form and return it to T&W Council. A copy of the response will be appended to the minutes.
- 03/14/18 Representative on the Village Hall.**
It was **resolved** that Cllr. Steve Holding would continue as LWPC's representative.
- 03/14/19 Individual Report and updates from Parish Councillors:**
- a. **Village Hall.** No report.
 - b. **Presentation by Hugh Richards on planning:** An excellent meeting, attended by 4 councillors, and very interesting. His Power Point presentation is included in the circulation pack.
 - c. **Wrekin Forest Partnership:** Cllrs. Jayne Davidson and Juliet Esp attended the meeting held on 12th February. A copy of the minutes is attached to these minutes.
- 03/14/20 Finance:**
- a. **Financial balances:**
On 6th March the balances in the bank accounts were as follows:
Community Fund: £31,422.79 with all cheques cleared.
Base rate Account: £17,136.09.
Total balance in both accounts **£48,558-88.**
 - b. **Projected balances to be carried forward to the next financial year:**
Ring-fenced monies are as follows:
New Works Lighting Grant £33,870-05
War Memorial Project £1,732-00

Balance on BT Openreach grant	£3,600-00
Swan Farm Ward Fund + LWPC	£1,000-00
Total	£40,202-05

Working balance in hand	£8,356-83
This month's expenditure	£786-61
Projected end of year balance	£7,570-22

Reasons for this:

£2000 originally set aside for lighting improvements in Little Wenlock has not been used and maintenance costs have also been lower.

£500 Rights of Way money has not been used.

£1000 not needed for gritting this winter nor grit bin "top-ups".

c. Electricity prices:

The Clerk reported that he had received three letters from Npower with the new electricity prices from April 1st. Each account had a different unit rate ranging from 23.33p /kWh to 15.67p kWh and two accounts had a standing charge of £5.50 a month. The Clerk had discussed this with Npower and it was agreed that once the new lights at New Works had been commissioned that a new certificate be requested from Western Power Distribution and Npower would review the present charging arrangements.

d. Accounts to be paid:

SALC	Planning Event 12.02.14	£40.00
E.On	2 nd Half yearly maintenance contract	£227.59
J.F. Marcham	Clerk's Salary	£254.47
HMRC	PAYE	£63.62
J.F. Marcham	Quarterly Expenses	£200.93

e. SALC Audit Course:

It was **resolved** that the Clerk could attend the SALC end of year audit course at a cost of £20.

03/04/21

Dates of the next meetings:

Monday 14th April at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Annual Parish Meeting Monday 28th April at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall