

LITTLE WENLOCK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 10th OCTOBER, 2011 AT 7.30 p.m. IN THE VILLAGE HALL, LITTLE WENLOCK.

- 10/11/01 **Members present:**
Councillors Mrs. S. Hutchison (Chairman), Mr. E. Roberts (Vice Chairman), Miss J. Esp and Mr. A. Lees.
Mr. J.F. Marcham – Parish Clerk.
- Members of the public :**
3 members of the public were present.
- 10/11/02 **Apologies for absence:**
Apologies were received from T&W Borough Councillors J. Seymour and T. Kiernan.
- 10/11/03 **Declarations of Interest:**
None were made.
- 10/11/04 **Public Session:**
Linda Buckle thanked the Parish Council for getting the roads sorted out.
- 10/11/05 **Minutes:**
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19th September 2011 were **approved** and signed by the Chairman.
- 10/11/06 **Election:**
The Clerk reported that the election for a new Parish councillor would take place on Thursday 20th October between 7.00 am and 10 pm; there were 2 candidates and the count would take place in the Village Hall at 10.00 pm. The Clerk informed the meeting that the formal notices had been placed on the notice boards in New Works and Little Wenlock.
- 10/11/07 **Affordable Housing:**
Cllr. Lees reported that he had received a response from Fiona Stewart relating to the removal of the statement on question 25. It was **resolved** that the affordable housing survey may go ahead with the statement on question 25 being omitted.
- 10/11/08 **Highways:**
- a. The flooding on Coalbrookdale Road had not been an issue because of the dry weather. Cllr. Lees had not had a reply from Julia Owen to his recent query.
 - b. The recent road works had proved to be a protracted exercise; there had been many changes to the schedule and also signage problems which caused confusion to road users. The rumble strip on Malthouse Bank had been tarmaced over and this had been reported to Amanda Roberts who had stated that it would be expensive to re-instate the rumble strip. Cllr. Lees stated that the issue of re-instating the rumble strip could be held until a meeting had been arranged by T & W to discuss traffic issues as a whole. By

agreement, the rumble strips could then be re introduced as a new design, and it was therefore **resolved** not to pursue the reinstatement of the rumble strip at this time. Concern was again expressed regarding the delays experienced with arranging a meeting to discuss Traffic Management problems within the Parish.

- c. The Clerk reported that he had received a number of letters from Mark Pritchard MP supporting the concerns of the Parish Council and also expressing his own and constituent's concerns about traffic speeds and dangerous trees. He had suggested a 20 mph speed limit in Little Wenlock.
- d. The Clerk had written to T&W Borough Council regarding concerns about some of the trees on Wellington Road. Matthew Seabrook, Arboricultural Officer for T&W Borough Council was actively pursuing the issue and contacting the appropriate landowners.
- e. The Clerk had written to T&W Borough Council expressing concern about the new "brown sign" directing traffic from Horsehay to The Wrekin which would increase the amount of traffic on the local roads. Tom Goff at T&W Borough Council was attending to the matter.

10/11/09 **Lighting and Street Signs:**

- a. Cllr. Lees reported that the original lighting bid to HLSCMLC had been withdrawn. E.ON had advised him that there was now a new LED designed light which was now 17w and not 30w which would give an energy saving. It had been felt that the modern original design was not in keeping with the rural area but now there was a Victorian style design which was more in keeping with the rural nature of the community. Cllr. Lees stated that he will now revisit the bid within the next 12 months.
- b. The street sign bid had been submitted and the Parish Council had agreed to part fund the project (minute 09/11/10).
- c. Footpath on Coalmoor Road. This had originally been proposed by a member of the community who had already done some preparatory work on the project and obtained some quotations. It had been requested that LWPC now manages the project. Cllr. Lees stated that he was willing to do the administration and it was therefore **resolved** that LWPC would act as "agent" to bring the project to a satisfactory conclusion.

10/11/10 **New Works:**

- a. Siting of bench: The Chairman and the Clerk had met with Adam Murray from Harworth Estates (UK Coal) who owned the land where the bench was to be located. LWPC was waiting for his permission to proceed.
- b. Relocation of grit bin: David Bell of T&W Borough Council is dealing with this in conjunction with Vernon Plim. A new grit bin has been provided.
- c. Bus Shelter. The Clerk has sought planning advice from T&W Borough Council.
- d. The flower planters have been installed and planted with spring bulbs and winter pansies.

10/11/11 **Future housing development at New Works.**

Although Adam Murray from Harworth Estates (UK Coal), who own much the land between New Works and the Dawley Road, had raised the issue of its future

development for housing T&W planning department were unaware of any such proposal.

10/11/12

Future planning goals:

Following the attendance of a two parish councillors at a recent training meeting it was felt that the Parish council should have a clear focus with regards to short, medium and long term planning objectives.

The following were suggested:

- a. Traffic calming.
- b. Leisure facilities at New Works.
- c. Affordable housing.
- d. Restoration plan for the UK Coal site.
- e. Jubilee celebrations.
- f. Footpath maintenance at Swan Farm.
- g. On-going footpath maintenance within the parish.
- h. Street lights.
- i. Entry signs and street signage.

It was **resolved** to seek other suggestions from the electorate in the Community Newsletter.

10/11/13

Parish Plan:

- a. It was **resolved** to accept the quotation from Madeley Print Shop to print 20 spiral bound paper copies.
- b. The Clerk reported that he had received 4 requests for printed copies.
- c. It was noted that the Parish Plan on the web site would not include the maps as the files were too big.
- d. It was **resolved** to make 10 copies on disc which would include the maps.

10/11/14

2012/13 Budget:

The following issues were noted for possible expenditure in the 2012/13 budget:

- a. Part funding towards the street lighting project.
- b. £500 funding for maintenance and clearing of footpaths within the parish.
- c. Jubilee expenses and purchase of mementoes for young residents.
- d. Continue the winter gritting programme.
- e. Part funding towards the street signs project.
- f. Defibrillator, dependant on cost, volunteers and siting.

10/11/15

Clerk's Report:

- a. The Clerk reported on letters received from Mark Pritchard MP.
- b. No councillors were available to attend the Rural Forum meeting on 13th October.
- c. It was **resolved** to support the Kinlet Parish Council proposal to revert back to the title of the Shropshire Association of Local Councils at the AGM on 5th November.
- d. It was resolved, that regarding NALC and the National Planning Framework, to wait until details had been published in full but to state, "We are not in favour of building on green belt without the right framework in place".
- e. Crash map: This showed a record of recorded accidents nationally and it was decided to explore the cost of obtaining further details.

- f. Neighbourhood Watch: The Parish Clerk, who is the parish NHW coordinator, attended a meeting at Wellington Police Station. It was **resolved** that it might be worth refreshing and updating the parish NHW scheme in the spring of 2012 as the West Mercia Ringmaster system of communication has now ceased. A new, more up to date system, should be in place in the near future.

10/11/16

Planning:

A proposed plan for the installation of electric photo cells on the roof of the village hall was submitted by Howard Betts who would seek funding for the project from the HLSMCLC. The plans were placed in the circulation pack so that all councillors could study the proposal prior to the formal request for consideration from T&W planning department.

10/11/17

Rights of Way:

- a. There was a 70 metre stretch of footpath to the Swan Farm pool that needed attention and Cllrs. Hutchison, Roberts and Lees would look into resolving the problem. It was felt that the solution was to put plainings on the present footpath surface to raise it by about 4 inches. It was estimated that 7 tons of plainings would be required. It was also noted that the bridle path also gets flooded and if the proposal for the Swan Farm pool footpaths works then the same process can be carried out.
- b. A letter had been received from William Davidson who was willing to volunteer to do some of the above work as part of his Duke of Edinburgh award. It was **resolved** to accept his offer and Cllrs. Hutchison and Lees would supervise the work. The Clerk would check on the insurance to make sure that he was fully covered by it.
- c. Steve Holding stated that he would arrange to roll the top of the newly laid plainings.
- d. Coalmoor Road footpath. It was **resolved** to seek a second quotation and for the Clerk to ask Jaswant Sidhu for the one that T&W created.

10/11/18

T&W Borough Liaison.

No reports were received.

10/11/19

Individual Parish Councillor Updates;

- a. Cllr. Lees reported on progress on the site at the HLSM and the recent HLSNCLC meetings. His report is appended to the minutes. A strong letter had also been sent to T&W Borough Council concerning the unacceptable delay in paying the grant for the planters at New Works which was approved by the HLSMCLC in May 2011.
- b. There had been an article in the Community Newsletter seeking volunteers for training in the use of a defibrillator.
- c. Cllr Lees gave a report on the local shadowing award, appended to these minutes. It was **resolved** that Laura Pennells be invited to attend the next parish council meeting on 14th November and to invite her to the election count at 10.00 pm on 20th October.

10/11/20

Finance:

- a. The bank balance on the 29th September the balance in the main account was £3,091.50 with 2 outstanding cheques to the value of £52.0 still to be presented making a working balance of £3039.50. The second instalment of the Precept of £5,500 has now been paid into the account but T&W Council had not yet paid the £900 from the HLSM Community Fund into the account
- b. The Parish Clerk presented a break down of the half yearly spending totals which are appended to these minutes.
- c. It was **resolved** that Cllr. Hutchison would carry out the quarterly audit of the accounts.
- d. It was **resolved** to accept the quotation from Madeley Print Shop for the printing of the Parish Plan.
- e. The Clerk informed the Parish Council that the new Bank Mandate had been accepted by Barclays Bank and is now up and running.
- f. It was **resolved** that the following payments be made:

Steve Bloomfield	Planters	£1,250.00
E-ON	Light repairs	£49.82
Portfolio Display	Bunting	£112.44
SLCC	Annual Membership	£82.00
J.F. Marcham	Salary	£238.58
HMRC	PAYE	£59.65
Madeley Print Shop	Newsletter	£20.00
E.ON	Maintenance contract	£305.84

10/11/21

Date of the next meeting:

The date of the next meeting is Monday 14th November at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Half-yearly budget analysis:

	Proposed 2011/12 Budget £	Spending To end of September 2011 £ (excl. VAT)	Next 6 months projected spends.	+/=/ -	Notes
Clerk's Salary & PAYE	3600	1789	1789	=	Next salary increment not due until April 2012
Admin & Clerk's Expenses	1000	373	300	-	Mainly paper, postages, stationary, ink etc.
Insurance, Audits & Banking	850	647	10	-	Nearly all costs have now been met.
Subscriptions, Miscellaneous & elections	1000	375	1200	+	Subscription to SLCC to pay £82. Election £1000?
Training & publications	300	204	80	=	Training for new parish councillor if required.
Lighting: Energy Cons	715	303	300	-	
Lighting: Maintenance	700	275	400	=	Next half year maintenance charge to pay £255 approx
Newsletters, Printing, web site	1000	120	250	-	3 more issues of the Newsletter at £25 each + Parish Plan + web site.
137 & P of W	700	665	nil	-	
Projects	2000	316	1600	-?	Part cost towards planters; gritting, last year about £500. Bulb planting + bench
Village Hall & Open Spaces	1500	1078	500	+	
TOTALS	13095	6564 (incl. VAT)			

Report on the meeting of HUNTINGTON LANE SURFACE MINE CLC held 26th Sept 2011

Concern was expressed re the delays experienced in releasing funds for 3 projects previously approved by the CFSG. This concern would be conveyed to senior officers of Telford & Wrekin Council.

Coal workings remained on programme, with 260,000 tonnes of coal removed from Area A thereby completing that phase. Area B has had topsoil stripped prior to creating a void for coal extraction.

No issues of complaint registered.

Some issues were raised with regard to the procedures currently adopted for the assessment of funding applications. It was thought that the decision making process should be able to stand external scrutiny. A small sub group of 6 committee members was formed in order to review existing procedures and to recommend any changes considered necessary.

Report on the meeting of HLSC CFSG (Sub Committee) held 6th October 2011

The proposals outlined below are to be issued to the full CFSG committee for ratification.

Since the level of funding is large at £500,000, the CFSG has a responsibility to ensure it is spent wisely. The sub committee considered the make up of the committee – and decided not to change the membership numbers or representation.

A more prescriptive TOR was proposed, including a revised eligibility criteria.

Project presentation was clarified.

Applications should be submitted at least two weeks prior to being considered at an evaluation meeting.

Projects are to be submitted in the first instance, in totality. i.e. not phased applications.

A three stage assessment process would be adopted, replacing the current two stage process.

All CFSG Committee members would be permitted to vote on the merits of any project application, subject to not having personal or pecuniary interests.

If an individual wishes to make a proposal for funding, such a proposal could be submitted via the Parish Council who would administer and manage the project. This suggestion was subsequently approved by LWPC.

Little Wenlock Parish Council Shadowing Award

During September 2011, Laura Pennells a student and resident from the village, was awarded an opportunity to “Shadow” a Local Councillor.

Cllr Alan Lees volunteered for the role, and an introductory discussion was held with Laura on 21st September, in order to formulate a programme.

In addition to an introductory session, the topics to be covered will include:

- Administration of award documentation
- Structure of LWPC
- Councillors’ general responsibilities
- Cllr Alan Lees specific responsibilities
- Training of a Parish Councillor
- Preparing items for a LWPC agenda
- Attending a Parish Council Meeting – Provisional November 14th 2011
- Attending an election count to fill vacancy for a new Parish Councillor
- Involvement with current community issues.

Programme evaluation

The programme will have a total duration of 10 hours, over approx. 6 month period.