

Wrockwardine Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th April 2019 at Wrockwardine Parish Hall at 7.30p.m

Present: **Chair:** Ms Nadine Evans
 CLLrs: Mr S Rawlings, Mr I Farrington, Mr P Bevis, Mrs J Savage,
 Clerk: Ms Julia Hancox
 In attendance: Andrew Sheldon – Land Director, Shropshire Homes
 Rob Jeavons – Chair, Admaston Allotment Society

19/44 Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, the last before the forthcoming election, and thanked everyone for coming.

19/45 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mrs E Anderson
Cllr Mr K Ballantyne
Cllr Mrs E Ballantyne
Cllr Mr T Kiernan
Cllr Mrs S Turner

Borough Cllr Mrs J Seymour

19/46 Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Requests

Cllr Rawlings declared a non-pecuniary interest in the planning matters relating to the development at Bratton

19/47 Public Session

1. Andrew Sheldon, Land Director for Shropshire Homes, provided detailed information regarding the proposed amendment to an existing approved planning application in Bratton (TWC/2019/0288). Mr Sheldon advised councillors that significant time had been spent with the Borough Council in designing the site. The additional 3 plots still maintain the low density of the site. The company will make additional contributions through s.106 legislation towards education, play and affordable housing in the area. Cllr Mrs Savage asked if there was play provision on the site and Mr Sheldon confirmed there was not. The Chair asked if Mr Sheldon knew where the s.106 money would be specifically spent, he confirmed he did not. Mr Sheldon advised that the work on the site would commence around June, but could be earlier. No further questions were asked.
2. Rob Jeavons, Chair of the Admaston Allotment Society, read out an email from another society member, who had requested that the contents be minuted. The email expressed disappointment at the actions of the Chair of the Parish Council with regard to longstanding disputes between members of the allotment

management committee. The member felt that the Chair of the PC had not given sufficient attention to their view that bullying and intimidation had taken place between plot holders. They also felt that the proposed constitution did not address some important issues.

Mr Jeavons' explained that the writer of the email did not want to attend the meeting herself as she felt intimidated. The Chair stated her disappointment that the writer felt unable to come and discuss the matter themselves.

A discussion took place regarding the lack of communication with Mr Jeavons. Various members of the Parish Council and the clerk had tried on numerous occasions to contact him, via email and by phone, with no response. Mr Jeavons' stated that it had got to the point where he did not look at his emails because it was causing him too much stress.

The Chair and Cllr Bevis stated that they had attended two recent meetings with the society. The second of these was called by an allotment holder, not the chair, and had the majority of holders in attendance. All members, including the chair had been invited, as were the Parish Council. The first meeting had been called, at very short notice, by the chair of the society and was attended by him, two other members and the Parish Council. Subsequently these three members did not attend the second meeting.

At the first meeting it became obvious that there was no existing society as the Treasurer and Secretary were no longer in place. The Chair of the PC had suggested that, because it was making him ill, Mr Jeavons should consider stepping down. The Chair of the PC stated that she was not acting alone in trying to resolve the issues which had led to the current situation. The current constitution was not fit for purpose and should therefore be amended. It was pointed out that there appears to be no geographical limit to the allocation of allotments and, the Chair of the PC felt that this should be included in the new constitution since the provision of the allotments had been made by Wrockwardine Parish Council. The new constitution should state the process to follow should this happen in the future.

The Chair of the PC stated that initial problems were raised in July 2018 when an allegation was made against the Chair of the Society. At this time the Parish Council chose not to intervene and had encouraged the society to sort out the issues themselves. Since then there had been several requests from society members for the Parish Council to get involved. The Parish Council resisted involvement until the latest request, when it was pointed out that fees are due and there is no existing method for them to be paid. The Chair of the PC and Cllr Bevis agreed that the actions the Parish Council then took were necessary. The constitution which is now circulating to the members of the society, and produced by another member, is a draft and open to comments from all members. An EGM would then give everyone the opportunity to contribute.

The Chair of the PC then addressed specific concerns within the email and with regard to the proposed constitution and suggested that the member reviewed the draft and submitted comments accordingly. Mr Jeavons' stated that he had not, as yet, seen the proposed constitution nor had he any idea of the proposed date for the EGM.

The Chair of the PC confirmed that the Parish Council wants to help make the allotment site better with a fresh start. There is no current management team in place and therefore no real organisation. Mr Jeavons then asked if the Council had a complaints procedure and was advised it was on the website. At this point Mr Jeavons' also stated that the allotment part of the website did not seem to be working correctly and, the clerk said she would investigate. The Chair stated she would be disappointed if a complaint were forthcoming but confident to address it. The Council had tried to encourage the society to sort out the issues themselves however, they had failed to do so and, as a landlord, the Parish Council had to get involved to try and provide a happy site for everyone. The Chair stated that the intervention had not been taken lightly and the constitution had been gone through line by line with the existing society members, one of whom had taken on the task of managing and distributing the draft.

It was suggested that Mr Jeavons provide an alternative email address where the clerk and other councillors could contact him if he was not going to look at his allotment address.

Mr Jeavons left the meeting at 7.57p.m

19/48 Borough Councillor's Report

Cllr Mrs Seymour had not provided a report.

19/49 To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th March 2019

It was **RESOLVED** to confirm and sign the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th March 2019.

19/50 Actions from Minutes

The Clerk updated on the following actions:

War Memorial Plaque	Quote received for work, on the agenda for discussion
Pemberton Road Playground	Work completed by Rod Carter, Sunshine Gym. Photos shown of how problem was rectified
Defibrillator training	Cheque for donation with payments for signing
Rights of Way	Officer from T&W confirmed all problems with ROW reported are "in hand". Mr Careless is also attending the APM
Scout Group relocation following Admaston House improvements	Cllr Kiernan confirmed the Scout Group agreed to be located upstairs 2 years ago. The Chair was advised at the Admaston House Trust meeting

	that as the group was now larger it had been agreed for them to remain downstairs following the refurbishment.
Public Pride	Work ongoing. Bus shelter at Allscott completed and work now being undertaken on notice board at Admaston
APM	Meeting confirmed for 23 rd April. ROW Officer will be attending
Police Commissioner Grant	Awaiting decision
Play area signage & additional signage	Ordered weatherproof printer paper to amend telephone numbers on relevant signs. Cllr Farrington confirmed additional signage still needed. Clerk to now action
Additional bank account	Account now open and ready for money to be transferred. Clerk to action
STARS	Following last month's meeting, clerk contacted STARS for more information but has received no response from them

19/51 Annual Parish Meeting

The Chair confirmed the meeting would take place on 23rd April 2019. Andrew Careless, Rights of Way Officer for the Borough Council has agreed to come and give a presentation. Attendance of the Shawbirch Medical Practice had been suggested by a member however, but it was felt that as so many people had turned out for the actual consultation meeting that it would not attract sufficient interest.

19/52 Grants Update

The clerk confirmed the Telford & Wrekin Borough Council grant money for Admaston Green had been deposited

19/53 Planning Matters

a) To consider applications and receive permissions and refusals

1. Applications

None

2. To consider applications received after the date of the agenda

TWC/2018/0727	Land rear of 32 Bratton Road, Bratton	Amendment to include 3 additional dwellings. Details provided in the public session 19/47 1.
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The Chair thanked Mr Sheldon for attending the meeting and providing the detail to the amendment.

It was **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Orders

Mr Sheldon confirmed that he could be contacted if there were any other queries

It was **RESOLVED** to reinstate Standing Orders

Members made **no comment** on the application amendment

PE/2019/0222	Site of Richmond House, Donnerville Gardens, Admaston	Demolition of the existing dwelling and erection of up to 10no. dwellings and associated garages
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The clerk confirmed that a previous application for the site had been received in 2011 and, this had carried on until 2014 following approval, but nothing since then. The original permission was for 4 detached dwellings with garages and this had now increased to 10. Member's requested that the clerk ask for a deferment of comments until after the next Parish Council meeting to give members additional time to consider the implications. Clerk to action

3. Permissions:

TWC/2018/0727	Land rear of 32 Bratton Road, Bratton	14 dwellings with garages	28/3/19
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4. To receive any permissions received after the date of the agenda
None

b) Local Plans awareness

The Chair attended the meeting on the 25th March 2019 regarding the proposed development site at Shawbirch. The group that arranged the meeting are hoping that the groundswell of opposition to the site can force a change of plans to make it a designated agricultural area.

19/54 Parish Matters

a) RoSPA Inspection

Cllr Farrington reported no issues with the playgrounds. Cllr Farrington confirmed that he was not standing as a Parish Councillor at the forthcoming election however, he agreed to carry on performing the inspections on the playgrounds and report to the clerk when necessary and on a monthly basis.

b) Insurance Claim – Wrockwardine Playground

No direction has been received from the insurers. The details requested were sent by the clerk and nothing more had so far been requested

c) Allotments

The Chair again expressed her disappointment that Ms Hind did not attend the public session of the meeting. Members discussed the timeline of events leading to the intervention. Cllr Bevis stated that he had carried out a site visit to the allotments on Sunday 7th April and been shown around by a plot holder. He had seen that the path had been sprayed with weed killer and, some of the plots were untidy, although it was accepted that it is still early in the season.

The Chair confirmed that at the meeting the majority of the plot holders attended, there were at least 9 volunteers to stand on the new committee and, none of these were the ones currently in conflict with each other.

Cllr Rawlings stated it was clear that the society needed a new start and confirmed his support of the work already carried out by the Chair and Cllr Bevis. He suggested a representative from the Parish Council is in attendance at the society's meetings, but should resist being dragged in to the day to day running of it. The Chair suggested different representatives attend each time to ensure this didn't happen and Cllr Rawlings suggested this be written into the constitution. The Chair asked the clerk to email the draft constitution to Council members for information. **Clerk to action**

d) Parish Newsletter & Communications

The current edition of the Church Newsletter, including the Parish Council page, has been distributed. St Peter's Primary School had also contributed to this edition and the Chair felt this was very encouraging.

It was suggested that John Wardle be invited to the APM to give updates on the newsletter and, as he is also part of the Shawburch Health Centre Committee he could also answer queries on this. **Clerk to action**

e) Defibrillators & Training

The Chair reported that training was successful and enjoyable and had been very well attended with around 45 attendees (more than the number who had attended the session at Bowring Park). Members of the Admaston House Trust had identified that some residents had not known about the training, despite the Council's efforts to publicise it, and would have liked to attend. It was agreed to arrange another session and to ensure the details go on the Shawburch/Admaston/Bratton Facebook group. **Clerk to action**

The Chair confirmed that the Admaston House Trust had waived the hall hire fees for the training. Members of the Council were very appreciative of this kind gesture

Cllr Bevis suggested a notice board be installed in the bus shelter outside Admaston House because many people use it or walk past. **Clerk to action**

The Chair confirmed that the defibrillator previously donated to Admaston House was not being used because the Trust prefer to keep the new one for consistency. The Trust plan to talk to the donator and will consider donating it elsewhere

f) Rights of Way

The finger post opposite The Plough pub at Allscott is down. Clerk to action

g) Reports on Local Meetings

The Chair attended the Admaston House Trust meeting.

The Chair and the clerk attended the Wrekin Area Committee meeting where discussions had been around Parish Council's becoming "greener" and reducing their carbon footprints. One parish had been successful in obtaining grant funding to insulate their village hall and, the Chair had found some similar funding opportunities and asked the clerk to investigate the possibility of helping Wrockwardine Parish Hall. During the meeting the Chair questioned members over the issue of world tourism and how contradictory this was with people enjoying travel and holidays abroad.

h) Public Pride

The Chair commented that the bus shelter at Allscott was finished and looked much improved. Work is planned for the notice board at Admaston and, the clerk is sourcing paint for the telephone box refurbishment.

i) War memorial

The clerk contacted 3 stone masons regarding potential work on the memorial. Only one responded and, at their request the clerk had provided photographs and had received the following recommendation and quote:

Remove & dispose of existing plaque
Provide new plaque, grit blasted lettering & stainless-steel fixings
Affix to block
Cost £890 + £178 vat =£1,068.00

They did not feel they could amend the plaque in its current form

Because Cllr Mr Ballantyne was not present at the meeting it was decided to discuss this further at the next meeting. Clerk to action

j) Admaston Green Track

The Chair completed work on the tender for the work to be carried out and, this was been sent to 6 firms. An indication of an intention to submit a tender was requested for the 10th April, to date 1 firm responded

k) Cemetery Tree Work

Nothing to report

19/55 Finance

(a) End of Year Accounts

The clerk tabled the completed accounts

(b) Accounts for Payment

Receipts & Payments – It was **RESOLVED** that these be approved and paid as tabled.

Statements 61, 70 & 71 from Unity Trust were tabled along with reconciliations and were approved.

19/56 Traffic Matters

The Chair reported that there had been a recent accident on the road at Allscott between the Plough pub and the site of the old Sugar Beet Factory. Cllr Bevis reported that a cyclist had been knocked off their bike by a car in Wrockwardine recently.

Cllr Bevis reported that the road markings at the top of Drummery Lane, Wrockwardine were almost invisible now. The Chair suggested this be reported, individually, through the MyTelford website rather than by the Parish.

The Chair expressed disappointment at the proposals received from the Borough Council regarding traffic calming measures in Admaston. The proposals reference SIDs and gateways. The Chair confirmed she is meeting Angie Astley from the Borough Council on 25th April 2019 and, has invited Cllr Mr Ballantyne to also attend

Member's queried how a raised crossing would cost £35k and, Cllr Rawlings stated that the raised crossing had also been part of a proposal by the developers of the Sugar Beet development to calm traffic to that site.

The Chair said that whilst the Parish Council had budgeted £25k for traffic calming in Admaston, the proposed scheme did not appear to be worth that amount and, there are already reserves in place for SIDs and gateways.

As part of the proposal the Chair had asked the Borough to provide costings for a traffic island at the Bratton junction and this had not been provided. The Chair stated that she had also written to T&W again about the Allscott speed sign which, is still down, 12 months later after it was initially reported.

The current SID statistics were circulated to members and, the Chair thanked Mr Cartwright for these. The Chair asked if some work could be done using the statistics to see whether the speed of traffic is reducing. Clerk to action

19/57 Election

It was noted that the Parish is split into 2 wards and Admaston & Bratton ward holds 7 seats on the Parish Council whilst Wrockwardine holds 3. There are 4 nominees for the Wrockwardine seats in the forthcoming election.

The Chair stated how sorry she was that not all the current members of the Council are seeking re-election.

Cllr Rawlings & Cllr Mrs Savage left the meeting at 9.10p.m

19/58 Correspondence

- Invitation to attend – Telford & Wrekin Council Meeting & Mayor Making Ceremony, Thursday 23rd May 2019 at Oakengates Theatre – **Noted**
- Launch of Friends of Telford 50 50 Mile Trail – Tuesday 16th April 7.30p.m at Wellington Library – **Noted**
- Admaston Field – Request by the Friends of Dothill Local Nature Reserve to hold an outdoor event on Admaston Green on Saturday 6th July 2019 10.00a.m – 2.00p.m – Permission granted on the condition that any planned activities are covered by relevant insurance. Clerk to action
- Grant request – First Admaston Brownies – Request for £150 towards purchasing new programme resources and materials following a revamp of the current programme. **RESOLVED** to award £150.00. Clerk to action

19/59 To note the date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 8th May 2019** at **Admaston House** at **7.30p.m.** This will be the **Annual General Meeting**

The meeting closed at 9.20p.m

Signed Nadine Evans Date 15.5.2019
(Chairman)