

LITTLE WENLOCK PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY
13th FEBRUARY, 2012 AT 7.30 p.m. IN THE VILLAGE HALL, LITTLE WENLOCK.**

2/12/01 Members present:

Councillors Mrs. S. Hutchison (Chairman), Mr. E. Roberts (Vice Chairman), Miss. J. Esp and Mr. S. Holding.
Mr. J.F. Marcham – Clerk to Little Wenlock Parish Council.

Members of the Public.

4 members of the public were present.

2/12/02 Apologies:

Apologies were received from Councillor Mr. A. Lees who was abroad which were accepted.

Apologies were received from T&W Borough Councillors Miss J. Seymour and Mr. T. Kiernan.

2/12/03 Declarations of interest:

Councillor Mr. S. Holding made a personal declaration with regards to agenda item 8 regarding the footpath on Coalmoor Road.

2/12/04 Members of the Public address the Parish Council:

Mrs. Sue Bates stated that she had given the Parish Council a letter and a petition signed by over 200 people urging, "Little Wenlock Parish Council and Huntington Lane Surface Mine Community Liaison Committee to reconsider the decision not to support the installation of a footpath from Coalmoor Lane to Horsehay along Coalmoor Road."

She stated that she knew for a fact that the Parish Council voted against the proposed footpath. She further stated that there were recently 24 coal lorries queued up on Dog in the Lane which gives the impression of the number of HGV's on the road plus those going into SJHolding and Veolia.

Councillor Hutchison stated that the Parish Council had supported the footpath project based on SPHolding's initial quotation. Matters changed because Telford and Wrekin Council own the land and wanted to put a footpath in to a higher specification and thus the price was considerably higher than the original quotation. The new quote came as a shock as it was felt that the original specification for a stone path was more in keeping but could not be done. The Parish Council was under the impression that not many people would use it.

Following the petition it was clear that more people would use it. Councillor Holding stated that at least 30 people walked past his premises every day.

Mr. Don Bates said that it was a balance of people's safety against cost. He said that he would like to see more footpaths within the parish but that this stretch was

particularly important as the road was dangerous for everyone. He said that he came up with the original idea at the Parish Annual Meeting and that it was included in a Community Newsletter as one of the items the community would like to see the money used for.

Peter Whittle (Chairman of the HLSC Community Liaison Committee) stated that there had been a split vote on the decision to pay for the footpath and therefore the outcome was still undecided as a decision had not been made. If the Parish Council was willing to reconsider its stance today it could be placed back on the next HLSCCLC agenda.

2/12/05 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2012:
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th January 2012 were **approved** and signed by the Chairman.

2/12/06 Affordable Housing:
The results of the survey will be sent to Parish Councillors prior to the next Parish Council Meeting. It was **resolved** to invite Fiona Stewart and Matthew Wadderburn to the next Parish Council meeting on 12th March at 7.00 p.m. to discuss the results of the survey.

2/12/07 Highways:
See attached report of earlier meeting with Lee Barnard.

2/12/08 Coalmoor Road footpath:
An alternative route had been offered by Cllr. Roberts across his land as a temporary (permissive) path but he stated that he would rather see the path on the side of the hedge by the road.

Concern was expressed at the £3,500 management cost proposed by T&W. Concern was also raised that T&W had made no offer of financial help to the path. It was strongly felt that T&W should make some contribution because it will be on their land. It was reported that Peter Whittle had managed to reduce the original cost with T&W. It had been stated by T&W that they would not consider constructing a footpath on the proposed route because it would not be used enough and was therefore not cost effective.

However, LWPC feels that some funding should be forthcoming from T & W as they are the land owners and it will be their footpath.

It was **resolved** to ask Peter Whittle to reopen the matter at the next meeting of the HLSC CLC in April with 2 new quotes with either a contribution from T&W or T&W to drop or reduce the project management cost.

Councillor Esp pointed out that the members of the HLSC CLC had to be seen to be diligent with the disbursement of the community fund.

2/12/09 Signage and finger post:

The Clerk reported that funding for both projects had been received and that the orders had been placed.

2/12/10 Jubilee Celebrations:

The Clerk reported that Bob Justham (Church Warden) had spoken with Jayne Davidson and the maypole dancing would be based at Coalbrookdale Primary School. There were still a number of parents who had not yet sent in their children's names for a Jubilee mug.

It was resolved to look at the style and purchase of mugs at the March meeting and also to see if the recent census showed how many children were in the parish.

2/12/11 Litter Bins:

The Clerk and Mrs. Heather Cook had identified the site for a litter bin on Coalbrookdale Road. The Clerk had contacted T&W Council about the provision and service of a litter bin but had not yet received a reply. It was resolved to ask T&W for any early response.

2/12/12 Annual Report:

It was **resolved** that the Chairman and the Clerk would discuss the report and have something prepared for approval by the March meeting.

2/12/13 Community Newsletter:

The Clerk presented a list of possible items for inclusion but pointed out that the Annual Report and accounts would take precedence. It was **resolved** that if necessary an addition sheet could be included in the next newsletter.

2/12/14 New Works:

- a. Bus Shelter. The Chairman reported that Adrian Foster of Veolia has agreed to the Parish Council's preferred location. It was **resolved** that 2 quotations now be sought which should include the site preparation, planning permission application and erection of the bus shelter.
- b. Bench: The Licence Agreement had now been received from Adam Murray at Harworth Estates. It was **resolved** that the Clerk signs the agreement on behalf of LWPC and returns the copies to Adam Murray.

2/12/15 Improved Broadband:

The Clerk reported that he sent Ian Binks all the details that he had requested in terms of location sites and post codes so that he could draw up a report on the installation of an improved broadband service to the parish. The Clerk reported that the small working party consisting of Parish Councillor Mrs. S. Hutchison, T&W Borough Councillor Miss Jacqui Seymour, Peter Whittle (Chairman of HLSCMLC) and John Marcham (Parish Clerk and Vice Chairman of HLSCMLC) would meet on 29th February with Ian Binks (BT Regional Partnership Director) and Corin Crane (T&W Economic Development Officer).

2/12/16 Clerk's Report:

- a. Tourist Signs for The Huntsman Inn: It was **resolved** to support Peter Morris in his wish to have signage directing people to the Huntsman Inn.
- b. Donkey Field Community Project: A copy of the proposed development was included in the circulation pack. It was **resolved** to discuss the project at the March meeting.
- c. WPC Judith MacPherson: The Clerk reported that she had now taken up a new post based at Malinslee Police Station. It was **resolved** to write to her and thank her for the support she gave to LWPC and HLSMCLC.
- d. Gritting: Thanks had been expressed by the residents of New Works for the recent gritting when the rain froze onto the roads.
- e. Parish Forum: The next meeting is on 14th March at the Civic Offices.
- f. Bryony Carter, People and Wildlife Officer, Shropshire Wildlife Trust: It was **resolved** to invite her to the March meeting so that she could explain the New Works Wildlife Project funded by HLSMCLC.-
- g. E-On: E-On, following presentations from the Clerk, agreed not to charge LWPC for replacing the faulty light bulb which they had installed in October 2011.
- h. Training: the latest ALC training programme was brought to the attention of the Council. It was **resolved** that the Clerk could attend the "End of Year Accounts" training session in March.

2/12/17 Planning:

Consent has been given to Mr. Roberts at Upper Huntington Farm to install a 20 tube solar thermal hot water system on his farm house roof.

2/12/18 Borough Liaison:

T&W Councillor Miss J. Seymour was not present.

2/12/19 Individual Councillors' Reports and Updates:

- a. Cllr. E. Roberts reported on his attendance at the recent Village Hall and Playing Field Committee meeting.
- b. Cllr. S. Hutchison gave the following report on the recent meeting with Veolia:
 - i. A visit to the DP site will be made in the spring and Cllr. Lees wishes to take some photographs of the site.
 - ii. Coalmoor site: Leachate levels are still compliant. The site is scheduled to close in 2013 but may not be full by that date and thus require a further extension of 6 months.
 - iii. Candles: The normal tour of inspection made by Peter Thomas was not carried out because of the cold weather. There had been an issue with debris on Coalmoor Road which was mostly sponge from the on-site wheel washer.
 - iv. Complaints: There had been two complaints in January relating to odours; one of the complaints Veolia felt was not justified.
 - v. Cllr. E. Roberts inquired about seagulls dropping litter off-site and asked who was responsible for cleaning it up.

2/12/20 Finance:

- a. Cllr. S. Holding reported that the quarterly audit of the accounts was all in order.
- b. The balance in the Community Accounts was as follows:
The balance in the Community account is £23,820.18 with all cheques cleared. This sum includes the HLSMCLC grant of £19,747.12 paid via T&W for the new signage within the parish; £1000 from T&W for "£££'s for Projects" and a refund of £445.64 refund on the election bill which I queried. As the two larger sums are committed for orders place with "Signs of the Times" a truer reflection of our balance would be £3,073.06.
- c. The following payments were approved:

J.F. Marcham	Salary	£238.58
HMRC	PAYE	£59.58
Placemarque	Artwork for signs	£360.00
Madeley Print Shop	Printing Information sheet	£37.00
Npower	Energy Consumption	£80.58
Npower	Energy Consumption	£33.63
- d. Base Rate Reward Account: This has now been set up with Barclays Business. The balance now being £5,788.04; 40p interested having been added to the previous Business Saver Account.

2/12/21 Date of he next meeting:

Monday 12th March at 7.00 pm.

**Notes on meeting with
Mr Lee Barnard, T&W Highways Department, on 13th February 2012
prior to the Parish Council meeting.**

General:

- Reducing speed through the villages and lanes.
- Can anything be done about the blanket 60 mph limit on rural roads?
- Quiet lanes – round the Wrekin and feed into Little Wenlock.
- Do not want things in isolation – joined up thinking with Wrekin Forest Partnership (WFP).
- Can do simple things such as the white lines at the Forest Glen.
- Speed limits an issue.
- Parking restrictions – create pedestrian routes at the Forest Glen.

White lines at the Forest Glen (LB):

- Can do lines, some money may be available for white lines etc.
- Willing to spend some money to benefit Little Wenlock.
- In before April.

LWPC:

- Part of WFP down by the Wrekin.
- There has been 8 to 9 years of correspondence on local highway matters.
- LWPC wants to feel that it is having its own impact on the wider area.
- Happy to work with WFP.

Lee Barnard:

- The key words are “Joined up Thinking” to cover both the concerns of LWPC & WFP.

WFP meeting:

- Parish councillors will be attending the WFP on 20th February in the village hall.
- Will also be attended by a number of T&W Highway Officers and T&W planners.
- Felt by LWPC that 20 mph in the villages and 30 mph in the rest was fast enough.
- WFP may not be interested in the wider issues, e.g. Coalmoor Road.
- A new Wrekin Forest plan is being drawn up, LWPC needs to be involved.

Lee Barnard:

- LB very much aware of LWPC's issues.
- LB will act as our main contact.
- Working with a core team of 7 T&W Highway Officers.
- LB will do what he can.

Rumble Strips:

- The rumble strips on Malthouse Bank were tarred over even though LWPC had asked them to be retained.
- Promise of their reinstatement.
- LWPC would like replacement with proper rumble strips.

Coalmoor Road:

- Chipping to be laid down in June/July as part of the 2 year programme already agreed.
- White lines to be reinstated.

Parking at the Forest Glen:

- Dangerous parking especially on Bank Holidays etc reduced to only single lane working on some roads.
- Emergency services would have problems getting to the Forest Glen, and access to the Wrekin.
- Long term future increase in traffic.
- Road used as a "Rat Run" all the time.
- LWPC does not want more traffic.

Lee Barnard:

- Can see that the work needs to be done.
- Hopes LWPC feels more assured.
- Happy to attend future LWPC meetings.

The meeting closed with the Chairman thanking Lee Barnards for his attendance and assistance in the above issues.