

LITTLE WENLOCK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 13th OCTOBER, 2014 AT 7.30 p.m. IN THE VILLAGE HALL, LITTLE WENLOCK.

10/14/01 **Members Present:**

Councillors Mrs. J. Davidson, (Chair), Miss J. Esp (Vice Chairman), and Mr. A. Lees

In attendance:

Mr. J.F. Marcham – Clerk & RFO to Little Wenlock Parish Council.

Members of the Public:

6 members of the public were present.

10/14/02 **Apologies:**

Cllr. Sheila Hutchison for personal reasons and Cllr. Steve Holding for business reasons; both absences approved. T&W Borough Councillor Jacqui Seymour.

10/14/03 **Declarations of Interest:**

Cllr. Juliet Esp stated that Hatch Lane is on the boundary of her family's property.

10/14/04 **Public Session:**

1. Mr. Jim Roberts re. Hatch Lane: He did not know why the notice was served on him except that he placed the boulders in situ. The modification order 1996 designated the route a bridleway following a public inquiry. This was fully supported by LWPC at the time and the great majority of the parish residents. This came about because of the constant miss-use of the lane; between 1991 and 1995 there were 47 instances of cars burnt out, constant "joy riding", drug trafficking and fly tipping. Horse riders were afraid to use the lane and the police backed the closure of the lane.
Recently "green-laners" in 4x4's have been using the lane, moving the original obstructions and causing damage to the flora and fauna. The boulders which have been recently placed in the lane do not impede walkers, cyclists or horse-riders.
He had concern as to how effective the proposed posts/bollards would be and anyway carriages do not use this route.
2. Cllr. Juliet Esp: Talking as a parishioner and as one of those that originally sought the closure of Hatch Lane stated that she would like to see a meeting being held by all interested parties before any decisions were taken about the removal of the boulders and the installation of posts/bollards.
3. Pat Haymes: She expressed her concern about the recent planning application for The Patch in High Point. She stated that the damson trees had not been shown on the application and she did not want them removed as she would lose her privacy.
4. John Owen, Beech House, Huntington Lane: Mr. Owen stated that he had left the village 14 years ago. However he had kept ownership of his property and was hoping to return in the near future. He owned a small piece of land opposite his house and hoped that he would be able to build a house on it for his son at some future date.
5. David Owen: He stated that he grew up in the village from the age of three and that when his father, John Owen, moves back to the village he would also like to return. He stated that he would be requesting outline planning permission to build on the land opposite Beech House. The design would consider other residents and the design of the property would be sympathetic to other local housing. He had discussed his plans with the neighbours and there were no objections.

10/14/05 **Minutes of the meeting held on 14th July 2014:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th August 2014 were **approved and signed**.

10/14/06 **Quiet Lanes & bid for T&W Council's Community Pride Fund:**

10/14/07 **Highway Issues:**

- a. Rumble Strips on Malthouse Bank: The Clerk reported that they had been removed.
- b. Forest Glen: The Clerk reported that work had commenced on the junction and resurfacing of the highway.
- c. Highway Capital programme: The Clerk reported that the following highways had been included in the 2014-2016 capital programme – New Works Lane, The Alley, Wellington Road.
- d. Buildwas Lane: A formal warning had been given to the occupants of 2 cars parked down Buildwas lane by the police with an order that they do not park there again. A £50 spot fine had been imposed by T&W on an individual for fly-tipping at Buildwas Lane.
- e. Japanese Knot Weed at Dog in the Lane: It was reported that there was Japanese Knot Weed at the entrance to the Veolia Site & on the opposite verge. Veolia has dealt with the infestation by their entrance but T&W have not yet dealt with it on the opposite verge. It was **resolved** to write to T&W Council and ask them what they were doing about and to also outline the prompt action that Veolia had taken.

10/14/08

Hatch Lane:

Mr. Jim Roberts had placed large boulders on the lane in an effort (successfully) to stop "off-roaders" from damaging the local flora and fauna. A complaint was made about his action and he was served with a S130 Highways Act 1980 Notice to remove the said boulders. The Clerk gave a history of the previous problems with Hatch Lane including 47 instances of cars being burnt out and the police supporting the original closure of the lane.

It was **resolved** to write to Andrew Careless (T&W Rights of Way Officer) to state the LWPC was perfectly happy with the boulders that had been placed there. That considering the present financial constraints it seemed a waste of funds which could be put to better use than to install heavy duty bollards to a Kent Carriage Gap design bearing in mind that carriages had never used the route. The route is perfectly accessible and passable for walkers, cyclists and horse riders in its present state. In fact its width naturally narrows near to The Hatch. There had only been one objection to the boulders. Wrekin Forest Partnership would support keeping the boulders in situ and parishioners would also oppose the moving of the boulders.

10/14/09

New Works Lighting Update:

Cllr. Alan Lees stated that this is progressing well and that it had been agreed that there would be all night illumination at 24w except for two lights, one at 18w and the other at 28w following resident's requests. The order for the lights had been placed and E.On should have them by the end of October. It is anticipated that the project will be completed by the end of December.

It was **resolved** to mention this in the next newsletter.

10/14/10

Swan Farm footpath: Veolia application update:

Cllr. Alan Lees had received an email from Veolia which stated:

Your application for the above named project has now been processed and checked for compliance against the Landfill Communities Fund.

We are pleased to let you know that it will now be forwarded to the Regional Panel for consideration and reviewed by the Trust Board on 08 December 2014. We will advise you of their decision, in writing, as soon as we are able.

10/14/11

War Memorial:

- a. The Clerk reported that work had now been completed by Midland Masonry and that they had submitted their invoice for £1323.75 as per their original estimate. The Clerk reported that he was still for the contractor's declaration and the report on the completion of the work so that he could submit the paperwork to WMT for the agreed grant.
- b. The Clerk reported that a poppy wreath had been ordered from the British Legion at a cost of £17. They had asked if this was to be an annual order.
- c. The Clerk reported that if the grant was successful it would be for the sum of £661.00. There was a balance of £408.25 from the funds originally raised and that plus the grant would leave a balance of £1069.25. It was resolved to proceed with this book.

- d. Once the Memorial Book costs had been met it was **resolved** to consult with those who subscribed and if agreeable to give/share the remaining balance with forces charities.

10/14/12 Clerk's Report:

- a. Hatch Lane history (see 10/14/08)
- b. War Memorial: The Clerk outlined the history of the War Memorial since 1971 and stated that from that date the Parish Council had always paid for the repairs etc.
- c. The SALC AGM would take place on Saturday 1st November at 10.00 am at The Shirehall. The Clerk reported that he had returned the Jan Snell Shield to SALC at The Shirehall. It was **resolved** that Cllrs. Juliet Esp and Alan Lees would attend the AGM and Conference.
- d. Bench Walks: Larry Jones had attended to all the benches as per his estimate. He had not done anything to the "Lady Ash" seat and had agreed to discuss its repair with Sharon Pickering.
- e. LWPC Files: The Clerk reported that he had been through all the LWPC minutes since April 1966 (when the PC was inaugurated) and had put the minutes in the correct order and filed them in labelled probate wallets. He had done the same with any financial material that needed to be kept. He had thrown out any letters, paperwork etc that he had not accessed for the last five years but had obviously kept any documents of historical value. Recent planning applications, where appropriate, had been kept.
- f. Meeting dates for 2015: It was resolved that dates for the meetings in 2015 be as follows:

12 th January	8 th June
9 th February	13 th July (Clerk's last meeting + new Clerk)
9 th March	10 th August
13 th April	No meeting September.
27 th April (Parish Open Meeting	12 th October
11 th May (AGM following General	9 th November
Election on 7 th May)	14 th December.

10/14/13 Community Newsletter:

It was **resolved** that an edition would be issued in November and include the items listed in the Clerk's Report. It was resolved to include articles about the vacancy for a Clerk in 2015, Be Seen Be Safe. New Works street lights, Hatch Lane.

10/14/14 Planning Applications:

- a. TWC/2014/0805: Erection of 1no. dwelling, The Patch, Land opposite 4 High Point, Little Wenlock, TF6 5BT.
The Parish Council **resolved** to object to the proposal for the following reasons;
 1. There were strong objections from neighbours.
 2. It was a large development on a small plot of land.
 3. The building is too tall, it is a house not a bungalow.
 4. The level of the chimney would mean that smoke etc would blow onto local housing.
 5. It would impact adversely on the character of the present buildings.
 6. All the other buildings are bungalows.
 7. Parking could be a problem if more than one car. Visitors etc would have to park in the turning area which would present problems for other residents.
 8. The road would not be able to accommodate HGV's etc whilst building work was proceeding.
 9. It is exactly the same plan and design which was rejected by the planning inspector in 2008.
- b. To discuss any planning applications received after the publication of this agenda.

10/14/15 Borough Liaison:

Remembrance Poppy Mix for roadside verges: It was resolved to have the area on Wellington Road re-seeded for 2015.

10/14/16 Report and Updates from Parish Councillors:

- a. Wrekin Forest Partnership. Report given by Cllr. Jayne Davidson and attached to these minutes.
- b. Candles Liaison Committee. Report given by Cllr. Jayne Davidson and attached to these minutes. It was reported in the press on 23rd September that a landfill site is being turned into a nature reserve thanks to a grant of almost £40,000. The Shropshire Wildlife Trust has been given £38,804 by Veolia Environmental Trust to turn the site near to New Works into the The Paddocks Nature Reserve.
- c. Future Fit Workshop Report. Report given by Cllr. Jayne Davidson and attached to these minutes.
- d. Village Hall Committee. Cllr. Steve Holding was not present to give a report.
- e. Local Access Forum. Report given by Cllr. Alan Lees and attached to these minutes.

10/14/17 Finance:

- a. Bank balances:
Community Account: Balance on 7th October 2014 was £39,437.93. This included the second Precept instalment of £6,527.00
Base Rate Account: Balance on 7th October 2014 was £17,185.93.
Total balances on 7th October equal **£56,623.86**.

Committed funds:

New Works Lighting Grant	£33,870-05
War Memorial Project	£1,732-00
Balance on BT grant	£3,600-00
Swan Farm Ward Fund + LWPC	£1,666-00
Quiet Lanes	£2,000-00
Total	£40,202-05

Total working balance on 7th October is **£16,421.82**.

- b. VAT on Swan Farm project: The Clerk reported that HMRC had confirmed that VAT could be reclaimed.
- c. Village Hall Christmas tree. It was **resolved** to purchase a tree for the village hall.
- d. Electricity Supply. It was **resolved** not to pursue that matter further with Utilitywise PLC.
- e. Audit notice. The Clerk confirmed that the "Notice of conclusion of the audit & right to inspect the Annual Return for the year ending 31st March 2014" and copies of the Annual Return had been displayed as required under Section 14 of the Audit Commission Act 1998: Accounts & Audit (England) Regulations 2011 (SI 2011/817) on the notice boards at Little Wenlock and New Works.
- f. Budget issues for 2015/16:
 - i. Major Projects for the financial year 2015/16.
 - ii. Any specific issues: General and local Elections.
- g. Quotation from Fresh-air Fitness for remedial work on the equipment as recommended by RoSPA. It was **resolved** to accept the quotation and instruct Fresh-air Fitness to carry out the remedial work.
- h. Quarterly Audit. It was **resolved** that Cllr. Juliet Esp would carry out the quarterly audit.
- i. Accounts to pay as listed on the Clerk's Report:

Larry Jones	Bench repairs & Maintenance	£330.00
Npower	Energy Consumption	£131.22
Npower	Energy Consumption	£44.46
K. Smith Contracting	Grass cutting etc	£982.80
E.On	Light repair	£49.31
Midland Masonry	Work on the War Memorial	£1588.50
J. Marcham	Salary	£525.56
HMRC	PAYE	£131.38
J. Marcham	Quarterly Expenses	£222.24
SLCC	Annual membership	£87.00*
Npower	Energy Consumption	£132.67
Npower	Energy Consumption	£44.97

* The membership can be transferred to the new Clerk after July's meeting

10/14/18

Date of the next meeting:

10th November 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.