

LITTLE WENLOCK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 12th MARCH, 2012 AT 7.35 p.m. IN THE VILLAGE HALL, LITTLE WENLOCK.

3/12/01 Members present;

Councillors Mrs. S. Hutchison (Chairman), Mr. A. Lees, Miss. J. Esp and Mr. S. Holding.

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

In attendance:

T&W Cllr. Jacqui Seymour.

Members of the Public.

1 member of the public was present.

3/12/02 Apologies:

Apologies were received from Cllr. Ed Roberts who was at work, this was approved and T&W Cllr. Terry Kiernan.

3/12/03 Declarations of interest:

None were made.

3/12/04 Members of the public address the Parish Council.

None.

3/12/05 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 13th February 2012.

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th February 2012 were **approved** and signed by the Chairman.

3/12/06 Bryony Carter, People & Wildlife Officer, Shropshire Wildlife Trust.

Bryony formally introduced herself and said that she would be here for the next two years working in the western fringe of Telford. She was grateful for the funding granted by the Huntington Lane Surface Mine Community Fund to help create a new wild life group in the area. Ten biodiversity events would be held every year as part of the project and these would be free of charge. She outlined some of the planned activities. She had already spoken to Lawley & Overdale parish Council about the project.

It was **resolved** to invite her to the Parish Open Meeting to talk about the project and put items about the project in the Community Newsletter and on the Parish web site.

3/12/07 Little Wenlock Parish Housing Needs Survey Report.

The Parish Council had met with Fiona Stewart and Matthew Wedderburn prior to the Parish Council meeting and discussed aspects of the report with them.

The report was a draft and it was **resolved** to request that the following amendments were made:

- a. Under "other local connection" the Parish Council asked for clarification of the "offer of full-time employment" which included 12 households.
- b. That under "recommendations" the second paragraph be deleted.
- c. That the third paragraph be changed to read, "It is also recommended that the results of the survey are refreshed in 4-5 years".

3/12/08 Chairman's Annual Report.

It was resolved to accept the report with two small amendments under Highways and Rights of Way.

3/12/09 Litter Bins.

The Clerk reported that Keith Slater, T&W Public Realm Officer, had informed him that litter bins would cost £273.50 each and that T&W would install them free of charge and service them in the future.

It was **resolved** to place a litter bin on Coalbrookdale Road at the entrance to Swan Farm pool subject to approval from the landowner.

It was **resolved** to see if a litter bin could be placed in New Works on Church Lane by the gate to the bridleway; this needed to be explored further and find out who owned the land if not T&W. It was further resolved that a litter bin be installed at the bus shelter when it is built.

3/12/10 New Works:

- a. Bench. It was reported that the bench had been installed just off New Works Lane.
- b. Bus Shelter: The Clerk presented a specification for the bus shelter and a quotation for the work from Severnoak which included the planning application, clearing the site, build and erect the bus shelter. It was **resolved** to make an application for a grant from the Huntington Lane Surface Mine Community Fund for just under £13,000 which would include the VAT which would be returned to HLMCLC once LWPC had reclaimed it.
- c. Car Park: A survey of the residents had taken place at New Works regarding the proposed car park in the restoration plan. There was overwhelming opposition to the car park. The survey had been handed to Michael Barker head of T&W planning department who stated that the planning department would make the final decision. The UK Coal site manager said that at other restored sites that newly created car parks had been closed within a year.

3/12/11 Newsletter.

The main item would be the Chairman's Annual Report, the precept and the 2012/13 budget plus other items subject to space.

3/12/12 Super fast broadband.

The Clerk reported that the working party had met with Ian Binks, Regional Partnership Director, BT Retail, who outlined what could be done.

New Works are on the Lawley BT cabinet and will be upgraded automatically when the work is complete; Steeraway is on the Wellington exchange.

He explained the technicalities of the project and that it was possible to run an optical cable to the Little Wenlock BT cabinet which would initially give a speed of 50 Mbps to most of the village and 24 Mbps to the more rural locations.

The HLSMCLC agreed in principle at its last meeting to go ahead with the project. Tim Moore, T&W Economy team, would manage the project and payment for the project would go through him.

It was **resolved** to carry out a survey of the residents who would be served by the Little Wenlock BT cabinet to see how much in favour the residents were for super fast broadband.

It was **resolved** that the Clerk asks Madeley Print Shop to print 160 survey sheets. Cllr. Holding asked as to whether the project could link into the super fast broadband which is being brought to his company's HQ on Coalmoor Road as the same ducting would be used.

3/12/13 Highways & Signage:

- a. Lee Barnard was at the Wrekin Forest Partnership meeting and we need to move forwards much faster, there are things that we can get on with now. Cllrs. Esp and Lees are to arrange a meeting to see what we can start to put in place. It was therefore **resolved** to contact Lee Barnard to arrange a meeting and Cllr. Hutchison would contact him. It was also **resolved** that LWPC would act independently in identifying issues.
- b. Cllr. Lees reported that the order had been placed for the signage and the finger post. He anticipated that the project would be completed by mid/late May.

3/12/14 Jubilee Mugs and the Celebrations:

It was **resolved** to order 60 mugs from Communicorp at £4.95 + delivery and VAT with the name of the Parish on them. It was **resolved** that a cheque could be sent with the order prior to the next PC meeting.

3/12/15 Donkey Field.

The following issues were raised:

- a. We need to look at the overall problem and include the issue of roadside parking in any proposal.
- b. Has this proposal been submitted with the approval of and as part of the forthcoming Wrekin Forest Plan?
- c. Does the proposal have the support of the Wrekin Forest Partnership?
- d. Is this proposal in isolation from other developments?

It was **resolved** to defer any decision or recommendations until further information on the whole plan for the "development" of the area at the foot of The Wrekin was known. It was **resolved** to include this item in the April agenda following the initial discussions on the application at the UK Coal community fund meeting.

3/12/16 Swan Farm footpath repairs.

Cllr. Lees would contact Cllr. Holding regarding the completion of the work. It was suggested that a further 50 tons of plainings might be required. Cllr. Lees would also seek the availability of William Davidson so that he could complete his D of E award.

3/12/17 Street Lighting.

Cllr. Lees reported that he was waiting to hear from Dan Hitching of E.On about the cost of replacing the present lights with the new Victorian style lamps which are 17w as opposed to the present 25/40w. As they are LEDS they would need less maintenance. Cllr. Lees suggested that the project would cost between £40 and £50 thousand pounds.

3/12/18 Dog Fouling.

This was particularly bad on Buildwas Lane and Witchwell Lane and there were instances where dog owners had left bags of dog excrement by the benches.

It was **resolved** to place an article in the next Community Newsletter to ask dog owners to clear up after their dogs and also to point out that T&W will fine anyone who does not clear up after their dog.

Cllr Esp suggested that a sign saying "Enjoy the view, but please remove your dog's poo" might have some effect!

3/12/19 Parking at Lydebrook House on Coalmoor Road.

A number of residents had stated that cars and vans had been parked on the crest of the hill and near to the bend which made passing any parked vehicles dangerous, a number of residents had had "near misses" caused by this dangerous and inconsiderate parking.

The Clerk reported that the concerns had been reported to T&W Planning Office.

It was **resolved** to inform West Mercia Constabulary of the dangerous and inconsiderate parking and request that our local beat officer discusses the matter with the resident of the property.

3/12/20 Annual Parish Open Meeting.

It was **resolved** to:

- a. Hold an "Any Questions Session" with the parish councillors.
- b. Invite our ward councillors to present a brief report and answer any questions.
- c. To invite Russell Yeomans who is the police sergeant for this area and lives in the parish.
- d. To invite Peter Morris to talk about developments with the Huntsman Inn.
- e. Outline highway issues and developments.
- f. Outline the NHW scheme and email contacts.

3/12/21 Clerk's Report.

- a. The Clerk outlined the changes that have taken place within West Mercia Constabulary in relation to shift patterns.
- b. The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from Mr. & Mrs. Ellis who live in New Works about various issues relating to the community. The Clerk had responded to their letter.
- c. The Clerk explained the situation regarding VAT and the Huntington Lane Surface Mine Community Fund in relations to grants applied for.

- d. The Clerk pointed out that more charities and “good causes” were requesting grants from Parish Councils and he suggested that it might be appropriate to specify the charities that LWPC supports to deter some of the round-robin requests. The charities that LWPC has constantly supported were The Severn Hospice, Hope House, The Samaritans and the Air Ambulance which are either regional or national charities to which the local electorate may turn in need, as well as ones specific to Little Wenlock Parish.
- e. It was noted that a request for funding to support Crucial Crew 2012 had been made and that details were in the circulation pack. It was **resolved** to place the request on the next agenda.

3/12/22 **Planning:**

- a. An application for a Street Trading Consent for an ice cream van had been made covering Telford and Shifnal. The PC had no objections so long as it was not located at the foot of The Wrekin.
- b. The two story extension at The Old Hall has been approved and work had commenced.
- c. The proposed tree preservation notice at The Old Hall had been withdrawn by T&W and a replacement tree will be planted on the site.

3/12/23 **Borough Liaison.**

T&W Borough Councillor Jacqui Seymour discussed the recent council tax rise and the plans for the expansion of services at the Princess Royal Hospital in Telford.

3/12/24 **Reports from Individual Parish Councillors.**

- a. Cllr. Hutchison reported on the Wrekin Forest partnership meeting on 20th February. The meeting had been called in order to draw up a new plan for the Wrekin Forest. One purpose was to define the boundary of the Wrekin Forest so as to give it a protected area. Thoughts on highway issues were also expressed.
- b. The report on the Huntington lane Surface Mine meeting held on 5th March is attached.

3/12/25 **Finance.**

Financial balances:

The balance in the Community account is £23,020.74 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 on the election bill which had been queried. As the two larger sums are committed for orders place with “Signs of the Times” a truer reflection of the balance would be £2273.62. The PC is also committed to contribute £1000 towards the new signs.

The following accounts were approved for payment:

John F. Marcham	salary	£238.58
HMRC	PAYE	£59.65
John F. Marcham	Expenses	£131.67

E.On	Maintenance	£25.28
E.On	Maintenance	£25.28

End of year balances.

The end of year balances, which were still to be finalised, were approximately as follows:

Income	£42,987
Expenditure	£14,606
Balance	£28,381

The balance includes the HLSMCLC grant of £19,747 and the £££'s for project grant of £1000 and therefore the actual working balance is £7634 and from that £1000 is committed towards the new signage. That leaves £6634 working capital as opposed to £9511 in 2010/11.

3/12/26 Dates of the next meetings.

Monday 16th April at 7.30 in the Village Hall.

Annual Parish Open Meeting Monday 30th April at 7.30 in the Village Hall.