

LITTLE WENLOCK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 10th DECEMBER, 2012 AT 7.30 p.m. IN THE VILLAGE HALL, LITTLE WENLOCK.

Prior to the meeting there was a drop-in session between 6.30 and 7.00 pm with T&W Highway Officers to discuss the proposed on-street parking restrictions at the Forest Glen.

At 7.00pm the Parish Council had a meeting with Lee Barnard (T&W Highways Officer) to update LWPC on recent highway developments as listed below:

Rumble Strips: Survey residents within 200 metres of the proposed location for their views on the matter. T&W will send a formal letter to the residents living near to the proposed rumble strips. Cllrs. S. Hutchison and A. Lees will survey the residents and pass on their comments to Lee Barnard.

The Forest Glen: The Section 106 payment to be made by the applicant of the proposed Donkey Field car park will now be £5000. It was hoped that an outline funding decision for the improvements (improved junction lay out and double yellow lines) would be made shortly. The TRO review, funded by T&W, is the first one to be done since T&W became a Unitary Authority.

Car Park: It was noted that the pedestrian exit from the existing car park was on a blind bend in the middle of the junction. SWLT would be contacted about this as they were the owners of the car park.

Future: Gateway feature and rumble strips at the Forest Glen.

Target date for the work: April 2013 onwards.

Yellow lines: The consultation process finishes on 14th December. If there are conflicting views on the yellow lines these will try to be resolved, however T&WB Cllr. Hilda Rhodes and Lee Barnard have delegated power to make the final decision. It was hoped that Adam Brooks would be able to give a response on the consultation by early 2013.

Lighting: Amanda Roberts has informed Cllr. A. Lees about loans.

Coalmoor Road: Matt Batham was investigating the signage error and that would be rectified in due course.

The Chairman thanked Lee Barnard for his work and the information given at the meeting.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING COMMENCED AT 7.40 pm.

12/12/01 Members Present:

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

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

T&W Borough Councillor Jacqui Seymour was in attendance.

Members of the Public:

4 members of the public were present.

12/12/02 Apologies:

Apologies were received from T&W Councillor Terry Kiernan.

12/12/03 Declarations of Interest:

No declarations were made.

12/12/04 Members of the public address the Parish Council:

Linda Buckle asked about the closure of Buildwas Lane. It was explained that this would be covered under agenda item 7.

12/12/05 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th November 2012 were **approved** and signed by the Chairman.

12/12/06 Update on Highway Issues:

The first three items on the agenda (a, b and c) had been covered by the meeting with Lee Barnard.

- d. Dangerous willow tree: The Clerk reported that Matthew Seabrook had informed him that T&W could only remove a tree belonging to another owner under Section 24 of the Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1976 if there was imminent danger or where there is an unreasonably high risk to persons or property. The tree did not fall into that category. It was **resolved** to write to Mr. T. Beanland, the owner of the tree, to express the concerns.
- e. Flooding at Little Worth and Coalbrookdale Road: The ditch had been cleared by Mr. Roberts and the culvert has been cleared and was working well. Dyno Road located a buried manhole which is adjacent to the head wall and T&W are looking to change the cover for a grid so that it acts as road gully and will make for easier access should it become blocked again. The Lydebrook runs under part of Coalbrookdale Road by Leasowes Farm; ditching work has been done along the verge and this will keep the water from flooding the road and the pipe under the road has been jetted.
- f. The Chairman thanked Cllr. S. Holding for sending his mechanical road sweeper around the village of Little Wenlock. A number of residents had expressed their appreciation.

12/12/07 Proposed blocking-off of Buildwas Lane.

SCC wishes to close Buildwas Lane following damage done by the recent heavy rain. Buildwas Lane is a highway and a very ancient one, probably pre-Norman.

The Clerk advised that highway authorities are by law under a duty to maintain most highways (Highways Act 1980 s.41); including footpaths in such a condition as is reasonable in view of the nature and volume of traffic that may be expected to use the way. It will need a formal order to close the route as a highway.

It has been impossible for a vehicle to traverse the route from Buildwas to Little Wenlock for many years. However it is regularly used by walkers and horse riders and they should still have access and SCC is under a legal obligation to maintain it in a state suitable for their use. Clear signage would be required to show that the highway was no longer accessible to vehicles but was now a bridleway/footpath.

It was **resolved** to write to T&W and stress that the route must remain open for horse riders and walker and that it must be maintained to a sufficient standard for their use.

12/12/08 Lighting:

- a. New Works lighting survey results:

Cllr. A. Lees reported that:

37 properties had been surveyed, 3 could not be contacted and 2 refused to return the form.

61 electors responded to the survey as follows:

Do not replace:	1
Increase Precept	6
Obtain a loan	2
Request a grant from HLSM Community Fund:	52 which is 85.2% of the respondents.

Several added comments: "Why should we pay when there is money from UK Coal available"; "Street lights act as a deterrent"; "We have had very little funding from UK Coal"; "Why did the Community Fund turn it down?" and "We need more street lights".

It was **resolved** to consider the options available and discuss proposals at the January Meeting.

- b. Cllr. A. Lees reported that he had contacted Dan Hitchin from E.On to advise LWPC about the two faulty lights in Little Wenlock, reference 20 and 33. It was **resolved** to place the item on the January agenda when more information was available about the options open to LWPC.

12/12/09 Footpaths:

- a. It was reported that no quotations for the footpath had been received. It was **resolved** to contact John Corley so see if he was still interested in submitting a quotation for the work. S.P. Holding would be submitting a quotation in due course. Cllr. A. Lees would endeavour to obtain another quotation from a suitable contractor.
- b. The Clerk reported that T&W had paid the £666 in the Council's bank and that the clerk had contact Jaz Sidhu for an invoice for £1000 as its contribution to the work on the boardwalk at Swan Farm pool. It was **resolved** to contact Andrew Careless in Jas Sidhu's absence regarding progress on repairing the boardwalk.

12/12/10 New Works Bus Shelter:

Adrian Foster from Veolia had not yet provided the lease for the site of the bus shelter. The site was part of a 106 agreement with Veolia and it was **resolved** to contact David Coxill to see what progress had been made on the relevant planning application.

12/12/11 2013 Information Sheet.

The Clerk distributed a draft Information Sheet and requested that councillors go through it and check that the information is correct.

Cllr. S. Holding offered to print the sheet when it was ready.

12/12/12 Newsletter Distribution:

It was agreed that the numbers were as follows:

Cllrs. S. Hutchison and J. Esp: 56
 Cllr. A. Lees: 35
 Cllr. J. Davidson: 38
 Cllr. S. Holding: 14
 Mrs. J. Whittle for Huntington Lane: 8
 Mrs. I. Gamble for New Works: 41
 Posted: 28
 Total 220.

12/12/13 Clerk's Report:

- a. The Clerk reported that a grit bin would be located on Coalmoor Lane following a request from a resident and that Ken Smith would grit Coalmoor Lane from Coalmoor Road to Lower Coalmoor Farm.
- b. Cllrs. A. Lees, J. Davidson and S. Holding were to attend the Shaping Places meeting on 11th December. It was **resolved** that they would report back on the meeting at the January meeting.
- c. The Clerk outline the Community Newsletter publication dates for 2013 as follows:

January.	July
March (Annual Parish Report)	September
May	November.
- d. The Clerk reported that he was meeting with Richard Wood of BT Openreach to discuss the location of the new Superfast Broadband cabinet. The suggested place for the cabinet was on the other side of the present BT cabinet where the bus shelter is located. There was some question as to who owns the land and the general consensus of opinion was that it belonged to the community. The Clerk produced 3 O.S. maps dated 1918, 1927 and 1957 which seemed to clearly indicate that the area was an "open space". It was **resolved** to contact the Land Registry as BT OpenReach had reported that the land was not registered with them.
- e. The Dothill Estate Sale Brochure of 1918 and accompanying maps had been placed on the web site as a historic document.
- f. T&W are rolling out free Wi-Fi in the urban areas. Cllr. Shaun Davies has said to the Clerk, "The principle we are developing is to allow free Wi-Fi from those buildings that already have a council network. For e.g a leisure building and we hope to roll this out to schools." The Clerk contacted

him to point out that yet again the rural areas would not receive this service as we have few or no T&W council building or schools in many rural areas. The ideal place for this service would be the Village Hall. It was **resolved** to ask the Village Hall committee if it would support LWPC request to T&W for free Wi-Fi to be installed in the village hall if it became available. Cllr. Shaun Davies stated that he would be delighted to meet the Clerk and councillors to discuss chances in Little Wenlock

12/12/14 Borough Liaison:

T&WB Cllr. J. Seymour outlined some further information related to Shaping Places and Neighbourhood Plans.

12/12/15 Information and updates from Parish Councillors:

A Report was given on the HLSMCL meeting and HLSM Community Fund meeting on 3rd December. The report is appended to the minutes.

12/12/16 Budget for 2013/14:

The Clerk had prepared an outline budget which had indicated a rise of £4,000 in the Precept largely arising from the need to replace the condemned lights. This was taken as the starting point for discussion. It was felt that such an increase would be unacceptable and the following suggestions were made:

- a. To reduce donations to charities by £200.
- b. To reduce training costs to £100.
- c. To reduce newsletter costs by £100 by no longer sending it out in the post to outlying properties.
- d. To cancel the proposed annual £500 to support rights of ways.
- e. Not to initiate any new projects unless fully grant supported which would save £1500.
- f. The Clerk was asked to look at other specific expenditure items relating to lighting, highways, the maintenance of open spaces and winter gritting.
- g. The savings from the above amounted to £2,400.

12/12/17 Precept 2013/14:

It was resolved not to set the **Precept** until T&W could inform the Parish Council a) the council tax base and b) how the district is going to split the government grant. Once that was done the parish council should have some indication as to how any rise would affect band D council tax payers.

12/12/18 Finance:

- a. The balances in the accounts are as follows:
Current Account £3,070.58 which includes the £666 T&W grant.
Base Rate Account £30,187.36.
- b. It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

E. On	Replacement light on Buildwas Lane	£894.00
Raby sawmill	Christmas Tree	£114.00
J. Marcham	salary	£242.33
HMRC	PAYE	£60.58
J. Marcham	Expenses	£159.06
A. Lees	Travel costs	£26.00
K. Smith	Grounds Maintenance	£456.60
- c. Cllr. J. Esp reported that she had carried out the quarterly audit of the accounts and everything was satisfactory.
- d. It was **resolved** to appoint SDA Accountancy & Audit Services as the Internal Auditor for the 2012/13 accounts.

12/12/19 CLERK'S APPRAISAL: (Public Excluded under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.)

The Chairman reported that a satisfactory appraisal had been carried out and signed by all parties. It was **resolved** to increase the Clerk's salary by one increment to point SCP23 from 1st April 2013.

12/12/20

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The date of the next meeting is Monday 14th January 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.