

**Buildwas Parish Council
ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING
on Monday 20th May 2019
at 7.30pm in Buildwas Village Hall**

MINUTES

Present: Cllr. L Pratt (Chairman), Cllr J Grainger, Cllr. J. Heath, Cllr. S Heath, V. Morgan, Cllr. S. Ratcliffe

In attendance: Sarah Morris (Clerk), Shropshire Councillor Claire Wild, 2 representatives of Harworth Group, 5 members of the public

It was resolved to move the presentation by Harworth Group to the start of the meeting, followed by the public session.

Ironbridge Power Station Development update – presentation by Harworth Group

The representatives of Harworth Group presented some background on the company and the Ironbridge Power Station development. They presented the key issues which had been discussed at the stakeholder and public consultation so far which included:-

- Movement and connectivity – assessing the capacity of the surrounding roads; potential to reinstate the rail link, potential for a Park and Ride service, identification of vehicular access to the site onto the Much Wenlock Road.
- Housing – 1,000 houses needed to make the development financially viable; building on green and brownfield areas of the site; housing to be interspersed with green infrastructure; development to be sensitive to the local area and World Heritage Site.
- Mixed use – support for a local centre of some sort; mixed views on the nature of retail; existing sports facilities to be retained; need for services including a school; potential for allotment.
- Natural environment – commitment to mitigation for existing species including new habitat for Great Crested Newts; creation of green corridors; commitment to being an environmentally friendly development.
- Heritage and tourism – improve links to tourist spots; retain buildings of heritage significance; complement the historic nature of the area.

There was a significant amount of PFA, sand and gravel to be removed from the site. Harworth and Network Rail were in discussions to reinstate the rail line to enable this to be removed by rail, which would limit the impact on the road network. The Edward Albert bridge would need to be upgraded to cope with the weight. A demolition contractor had been appointed and had started the soft clear of the site, with a demolition timeline of around 27 months. The removal of sand and gravel would drop the site down and reduce the visual impact of the housing development on the local area.

The proposed map of the development was presented, and would be available for further perusal and comments at the public consultation on 22nd May. It was estimated that the outline planning application would be submitted towards the end of September, with an application to extract the mineral submitted alongside it.

The following questions were asked and comments made by those present:-

How is the water being retained for the newts, with their habitat having been moved to the top of the hill? The habitat had been designed to the specification of an ecologist and was required to be shallow water.

Does the cycle path run alongside the river or the road? The footpath and cycle path into Ironbridge ran from No. 4 cooling tower, along the old railway line. Councillors suggested that it would be safer and more enjoyable to have the pedestrian and cycle route along the river rather than bordering a road/tram/train.

Is Telford & Wrekin Council only commenting on the areas of the plans within their boundary? Telford & Wrekin Council would be able to comment on the plans as a whole. There were some cross-boundary issues such as highways, for which they would be involved in the strategic discussions. Initial traffic assessments show that the majority of traffic will move via Telford.

Is the viaduct in sufficiently good condition to use? This was regularly inspected by Network Rail and was understood to be in better condition than the Edward Albert bridge. National Rail would assess the condition prior to the heritage train journey which was planned for 9th June. The waste from the site would need to come out by rail due to the volume of waste, and it was the responsibility of Network Rail to ensure that the infrastructure could support this. Harworth were working with them to expediate the opening of the rail line in order to be able to move out the waste.

There are sometimes power issues in the local area; will there be sufficient supply to the site? There was currently no energy supply on site, despite the National Grid building. The development plans were taking into consideration the lifestyle changes that were envisioned over the next 10 years or so, including the end of gas boilers and diesel vehicles.

Is there a safety issue for developing beneath the overhead lines? The plan was to put the commercial developments in these locations rather than housing.

Will the access road at Pool View remain when the site is complete? The intention was for this road to stay the same, with additional access along the Much Wenlock road.

How will the towers be taken down? There was significant amount of asbestos to be removed from the towers first. They would then be blown up, all on the same day. The chimney would be last for demolition as the site will need to be clear to make way for the demolition of this.

The following issues were raised, which the Harworth representatives agreed to investigate:-

- Removal of hedges and trees around Bluebell Cottage during bird nesting season, rather than after July as is the requirement.
- Problems of access along Pool View Road cause by demolition contractor vehicles.
- Status of the ash disposal pipe which has suffered a collapse.

The representatives of Harworth Group and members of the public left the meeting.

1) Election of Chairman

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr. Pratt as Chairman for 2019/20.

2) Election of Vice Chairman

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr. S Heath as Vice Chairman for 2019/20.

3) Apologies for Absence

Received from Cllr. Wilcox.

4) Declarations of Disclosable Interests & Dispensation Requests

None declared.

5) Ironbridge Power Station Development Update

This item had been taken at the start of the meeting.

6) Public Session

This item had been taken at the start of the meeting.

7) To confirm and accept the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 4th March 2019

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes as being a correct record and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

8) Matters arising from the minutes

Joint Parishes Working Group. A meeting had been held between the parishes and Shropshire Council officers to discuss the traffic implications of the development. A further meeting would be held to discuss these issues with Harworth. The Clerk had sent details of the public consultation to the Working Group members.

9) Shropshire Councillor report

The Annual Report of Cllr. C Wild was received and considered. Cllr Wild highlighted the increase in 'cuckooing' and urged Councillors to look out for vulnerable residents and report any suspicious behaviour that they noticed.

10) Annual Review of Policies, Procedures and Committee Appointments

a) It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the following:-

- i) Standing Orders
- ii) Financial Regulations
- iii) Risk Assessment & Asset Register

iv) Appointment of members to outside committees

It was **RESOLVED** to make the following appointments:-

Local Joint Committee	Cllr. Morgan
SALC Area Committee	Cllr. Ratcliffe

b) **To agree a schedule for review of policies and key documents**

The Clerk outlined a proposed schedule for review of policies and it was **RESOLVED** to adopt the proposed schedule.

11) Finance

a) To approve 2018/19 end of year accounts

- (i) Internal Auditor's report

It was **RESOLVED** to note the report, with no actions required.

- (ii) To approve the Certificate of Exemption 2018/19

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Certificate of Exemption 2018/19 and the Chair duly signed the Certificate.

- (iii) To approve the Annual Governance Statement 2018/19

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Annual Governance Statement 2018/19.

- (iv) To approve the Accounting Statements 2018/19

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Accounting Statements 2018/19 Annual Return.

- (v) To agree period for the exercise of public rights

It was **RESOLVED** to set the period for the exercise of public rights as Monday 17th June 2019 to Friday 26th July 2020, inclusive.

- (vi) To approve end of year bank reconciliation and budget report

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the end of year bank reconciliation and budget report, with the end of year balance being £9,930.98.

The Clerk would publish the required information on the website.

b) To approve payments made between meetings

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:

Ref	No	Payee	Item	Amount
P44-1819	SO	S Morris	Salary - March	£185.55
P1-1920	DD	N Power	Street lighting	£63.40
P2-1920	DD	N Power	Street lighting	£82.73
P3-1920	SO	S Morris	Salary – April	£193.20

c) To approve payment of accounts

It was **RESOLVED** to approved the following payments:-

Ref	No	Payee	Item	Amount
P4-1920	564	SALC	Affiliation fees 18/19	£143.58
P5-1920	565	Mrs J Griffith	Internal audit fee	£50.00
P6-1920	566	Post Office Ltd (Shropshire Council)	Playing field lease	£10.00
P7-1920	567	BestHost	Web domain renewal	£12.50
P8-1920	568	Mrs S Morris	Clerk expenses April/May	£47.37

d) To note income received

It was noted that the precept payment of £7,000 had been received.

12) Much Wenlock Area Place Plan

The draft Place Plan had been circulated with the agenda. It was noted that this was a live document which could be updated at any time by Parish Councils. It was **RESOLVED** to add the following items to the Place Plan:-

- Upgrade path through Buildwas churchyard;
- Increase availability of parking/drop-off area for Buildwas Academy e.g. installation of grass-crete and turning circle;
- Parking improvements at the top of Park View, Buildwas (nos. 20-26) to increase the availability of parking;
- Extend double white lines on A4169, Buildwas;
- Upgrade and widen footpath along B4380 Village Hall to Buildwas Academy and from Buildwas Academy to Buildwas Church to improve safety and accessibility;
- Traffic control measures on B4380 Buildwas to reduce speed of traffic;
- Potential to include pinch point to also act as safer crossing to bus stop;
- Install footpath/cycle path from Bridge Farm to Marnwood, Buildwas, to link to the existing footpath towards Ironbridge and new development;
- Improvements to Buildwas play area – upgrade/replacement of play equipment, install football goal;
- Install defibrillator at Buildwas Village Hall.

13) Planning matters

a) Notifications & updates on previously reported applications

None.

b) Applications for comment

None.

a) Applications received between meetings

Proposed residential development, Land at Devils Dingle

Comment submitted: The Parish Council raised concerns regarding the cumulative impact of this development, as Buildwas has exceeded its SAMDEV quota of 10.

19/01664/LBC, internal works to Grade II listed building

Comment submitted: Support.

14) Correspondence

a) SALC Information Bulletins

Noted.

b) PCC email re. Smart Water

Councillors agreed that the initiative would be of benefit to residents. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would investigate the cost to the Parish Council and present a proposal to the next meeting.

15) Parish Matters

a) Update and actions arising re matters previously reported

i) Buildwas Village Hall project. The Village Hall Committee was awaiting architects plans for a potential new building.

b) Reports of new parish matters and actions arising

None.

16) Meeting dates for 2019/20

It was agreed to move the meeting dates to the third Monday of the month where possible, the Clerk to send an updated list of dates to Councillors.

The meeting closed at 9:30pm.

DRAFT