

LITTLE WENLOCK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY
19th SEPTEMBER, 2011 AT 7.30 p.m. IN THE VILLAGE HALL, LITTLE WENLOCK.

- 09/11/01 Election of Chairman:**
Cllr. Sheila Hutchison was elected as Chairman. Proposed by Cllr. A. Lees and seconded by Cllr. J. Esp.
Cllr. S. Hutchison signed and made the formal declaration of acceptance of office which was counter signed by the Proper Officer of the Council.
- 09/11/02 Members present:**
Councillors Mrs. S. Hutchison (Chair), Miss J. Esp, Mr. E. Roberts and Mr. A. Lees.
Mr. J. F. Marcham – Parish Clerk.
- In attendance:**
T&W Borough Councillor J. Seymour.
- Members of the public.**
4 members of the public were present.
- 09/11/03 Apologies for absence:**
T&W Borough Councillor T. Kiernan.
- 09/11/04 Declarations of Interest:**
None were made.
- 09/11/05 Election of Vice Chairman:**
Cllr. Ed Roberts was elected as Vice Chairman. Proposed by Cllr. S. Hutchison and seconded by Cllr. J. Esp.
- 09/11/06 Public Session:**
- a. Peter Whittle inquired as to when the T&W affordable housing survey would be sent out as it had been on the agenda since February 2010. Cllr. Lees responded.
He also inquired about the financial balances in the council's accounts and what was the expected expenditure for the remainder of the financial year. The Parish Clerk gave the present financial balances.
 - b. Marilyn Pietroni explained to the council the details relating to the proposed Trundle route from Lawley to New Works and addressed the issues that had been raised by Peter Thomas in his recent letter to the Council and the coal liaison committee.
 - c. Jan Meese Robinson asked the Chairman to respond to the recent rights of way document she had given the chairman and also asked what the council would do about the miss-matched paths.
 - d. Peter Thomas had previously written to the council outlining his reasons why he was against the bridle path and why he wanted a footpath from Lawley to New Works. He stated that no one had heard about the Trundle and that he wanted

the footpath upgraded and stiles installed. Also a survey should be carried out to ascertain the support for the Trundle proposal.

It was pointed out that the Trundle had been talked about widely, a presentation has been done at the Parish Open Meeting and an article had been written in the Community Newsletter; it was also pointed out that recently 100 people had signed a petition in support of it.

It was **resolved** that the Huntington Lane Surface Mine liaison Committee should look at the issues raised by Peter Thomas as the request for funding the route was to be made to them and not the Council.

09/11/07

Minutes:

The minutes of the council meeting held on 11th July 2011 and the extraordinary council meetings held on 25th July and 4th August were **approved** and signed by the Chairman.

It was stated that advice had been given not to make draft minutes public until they had been formally approved. It was therefore **resolved** that the minutes would only be published after they had been approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

09/11/08

Election to fill vacancy:

The Clerk reported that an election would be held and that the appropriate notices had been put up. He reported that the closing date for nomination papers was noon on 23rd September and that the election would take place on Wednesday 5th October.

09/11/09

Affordable Housing:

Cllr. Lees reported that there had been no response to his email sent to Fiona Stewart on the 13th July in relation to a statement that the council felt was not necessary for the objective of the survey.

T&W Cllr. J. Seymour stated that the questions included in the survey were needed and therefore could not be changed as the survey form had to be consistent with other responses. She agreed to pursue the matter with T&W Council.

09/11/10

Financial bids to the Huntington Lane Surface Mine Community Liaison Committee regarding street lighting and signage:

Cllr. Lees produced a summary sheet which is appended to these minutes.

- a. He stated that with regards to the signage this had been generally accepted and that phasing in the development was to be considered. It had been suggested that LWPC part fund the project.

It was **resolved** that LWPC would fund £1000 towards the project.

- b. With regards to street lighting, the high cost in relation to the benefit to the community was questioned. An alternative proposal to install part night switches was considered and this to be part funded by LWPC. The cost of each switch is £75 and that there were approximately 15 lights needing the switches.

It was **resolved** to put the new proposal forward for consideration at the next appropriate Community Funding Liaison Committee.

09/11/11

Placement of the Public Session on the Agenda:

It was **resolved** that the public session would be placed, as it always had been, near to the start of the meeting.

09/11/12 Progress on projects at New Works:

- a. Daffodil bulb planting: this would be done in November.
- b. Siting of bench: the Clerk had written to UK Coal for permission to place the bench on their land but had not yet received a reply.
- c. Grit Bin: the Clerk had corresponded with Vernon Plim and had sent an email to David Bell at T&W requesting the grit be moved to the proposed new location.
- d. Bus Shelter: Veolia were resistant to allowing the bus shelter to be constructed on the desired site which is on the bus route. It was **resolved** that the Clerk write to T&W planning department to ask if there is any guidance as to where a bus shelter should be placed in relation to the actual route of the bus.
- e. Flower Planters: These have now been installed.

09/11/13 Highways:

- a. Traffic Issues:
 - i. Cllr. Lees expressed his on-going frustration with trying to get anything done in relation to the traffic problems at the foot of The Wrekin. A date for the first meeting to discuss the problems had not yet been set. He also informed the meeting that the bid by T&W to the Department of Transport for funding improvements for the road around The Wrekin had not been successful and there was therefore no funding available for any projects.
 - ii. Cllr Esp asked why had T&W put up a brown direction sign to The Wrekin at the junction of Coalmoor Road and Wellington Road at Horsehay which directs traffic through the village when we are trying to reduce the traffic flow.
 - iii. There is a continued risk of accidents in the area and it is not a question of if, but when! A number of near misses, especially to horse riders had occurred and had been reported to the police. There had also been one fatal car accident and a number of other car incidents
 - iv. T&W Cllr. Seymour stated that there should be a meeting to discuss the issues – What is the problem? What are the solutions? What signage is required? What happened to the Quiet Lanes Project? What about clear future speed limits?
 - v. It was resolved to write to Mark Pritchard MP to elicit his support in resolving the local traffic issues.
- b. Flooding on Coalbrookdale Road:
Julia Owen had reported this (minute 07/11/07 c) and following on from T&W resolving the short term issue by cleaning the gullies there was to be a meeting to discuss the long term issues but Julia Owen had not responded to Cllr. Lees email.
- c. Patching, resurfacing and kerbing Coalmoor Road:
Cllr. Lees reported that this had been an on-going nightmare; he and the Clerk had met with Amanda Roberts (T&W) and a schedule of work had been drawn up but part way through the contractor could not meet the programme. A flyer to update the community had been requested but not everyone had

received it and Cllr. Lees had also emailed residents with the updated schedule. He reported that most people were finding their way around the problem and that the kerbing should be completed by 30th September. Surface dressing would take place in 2012 over the whole route.

09/11/14

Parish Plan:

The Parish Plan is ready as a hard copy for printing and on a CD. It will be on the web site but the maps will not be included because of the size of the files.

It was **resolved** to obtain a quote from Madeley Print Shop for the printing of 20 full copies.

It was **resolved** to place an article in the Newsletter informing the parishioners of the availability of the plan on the web site and to state that any one who could not access the internet could obtain a printed copy from the Clerk.

09/11/15

Clerk's Report:

- a. The white sticks in the verge on Wellington Road had been removed.
- b. Winter gritting: it was **resolved** to grit Spout Lane up to "Severnvale"
- c. Cllrs. Hutchison and Esp would attend the ALC AGM and Conference on 5th November at the Shirehall at a cost of £20 each.
- d. The letter from Phil Holden, Shropshire Hills AONB, was put in the circulation pack.
- e. It was **resolved** to put an article in the Newsletter requesting volunteers to train in the use of a defibrillator.

09/11/16

Newsletter:

The following items for the next edition were suggested:

- a. Update on coal site and grants.
- b. Wrekin Trundle update and reply slip
- c. Roads and winter gritting and driving.
- d. Walkers: be seen – be safe.

09/11/17

Rights of Way:

- a. Footpath from New Works to Lawley. See minute 09/11/06b.
- b. Upgrading footpath to Swan Pool: it was reported that this gets flooded and needs improved drainage. It was suggested that the ditches be cleared by volunteers. It was resolved to research the problem and use planeings to raise the surface.
- c. Peter Whittle (Chair HLSMCLC) reported that there was no longer a need for the Council to formally approve the footpath proposal for Coalmoor Road so long as the council agrees to take over the administration of the contract should the funding be approved.
- d. The Clerk reported that he had received a written complaint about 2 stiles in the parish one of which was not in the parish and the other not now accessible because of the mining. The Clerk would respond.

09/11/18

Planning:

- a. No planning applications had been received since the publication of the agenda.

- b. The Council had raised no objections to the planning application TWC/2011/0679 in relation to the Old Hall.
- c. The Council had received comments on the UK Coal restoration plan from Jane Bushell, T&W Group Landscape Architect, and Pete Lambert, Wrekin Forest Officer, Shropshire Wildlife Trust.
- d. The Council had been informed that the planning application for 39 Coalmoor Lane had been withdrawn.

09/11/19

T&W Borough Liaison:

The Clerk read out a letter from T&W Cllr. Shaun Davies in relation to the rural communities of T&W. Cllr. Davies has given consent for it to be published in the Newsletter and this was agreed.

09/11/20

Individual Parish Councillors updates:

- a. Cllr. Lees had previously updated the council on street signs and lighting (minute 09/11/10).
- b. Cllr. Hutchison reported that Peter Thomas and Jon Philpin (Environmental Agency) had visited the DP Site (Nature Reserve) and were very pleased with the ponds and regeneration. The Smalley Hill and DP site bridleway creation orders have now been signed. Leachate levels are still in compliance at the land fill site and Peter Thomas has inspected the site and all is well. The gas odours and flies, which are a problem for residents of Simpson's Walk, are to be monitored. Veolia has agreed to contribute £15,000 towards upgrading Coalmoor Road. The siting of the bus shelter at New Works, on Veolia owned land, still has to be agreed.
- c. Cllr. Lees reported on the last two HLSMCLC meeting and his report is appended to the minutes.
- d. Cllr. Esp reported that a willow tree needs looking at on Wellington Road, she reported that she had reported her concerns to the landowner but no action as yet had taken place. She also expressed concern regarding overhanging trees on Willowmoor Bank and the fact that their roots were exposed. It was **resolved** to write to T&W Highways department to ask them to investigate the concerns.

09/11/21

LWPC Future developments:

- a. It was **resolved** , because of lack of time, to discuss the short, medium and long term planning goals for LWPC at the October meeting.
- b. The Clerk asked councillors to have some thoughts regarding the 2012/13 budget.

09/11/22

Finance:

- a. Report on external audit by Mazars: The external auditor's report (Mazars) states: "On the basis of our review, in our opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met". Dated 29th July and signed.
- b. Display of audit notice: The notice of conclusion of the audit and right to inspect the Annual Return (Section 14 of the Audit Commission Act 1998 –

Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 (SI 2011/817) was placed on the Parish notice boards on 8th August for a period of 14 days, along with Sections 1, 2 and 3 of the audit return.

- c. The balance in the Community fund on 19th September was £3,653.24 with all cheques cleared, the balance on the Business Reserve Account is £5,786.92, £0.72p having been added as interest.
- d. The Clerk reported that Barclays Bank had sent the incorrect mandate form and a new had now to be signed. The new mandate was signed by councillors authorised to sign council cheques.
- e. It was **resolved** to approve the payments made by cheque on 4th August 2011.

LWVH&PFC	Hire of hall twice	£22.00
J.F. Marcham	Clerk's salary	£238.58
HMRC	PAYE	£59.65

K. Smith Contracting	Playing Field etc	£576.00
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- f. It was **resolved** to accept the quotation from Madeley Print Shop to print the Community Newsletter.
- g. It was **resolved** to accept the quotation from Ken Smith Contracting to grit the roads in adverse winter conditions with the addition of including Spout Lane to "Severn Vale".
- h. It was **resolved** to purchase 100 metres of Union Jack bunting for the Jubilee celebrations from Portfolio Display at a cost of £7.80 per 9m length plus VAT and p&p.

- i. It was **resolved** to pay the following accounts:

ALC	Course fees	£40.00
Playsafety Ltd	Equipment Inspection	£133.20
J.F. Marcham	Clerk's salary	£238.58
HMRC	PAYE	£59.65

J.F. Marcham	Quarterly expenses	£128.31
G. Chancellor	Newsletter	£12.00

- e. It was **resolved** not to make a grant to either Wellington Cottage Care or "No Panic".

09/11/23

Date of the next meeting:

The next meeting will take place on Monday 10th October at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Report from Cllr. A Lees re: Huntington lane Surface Mine Community Liaison Committee:

HLSMCLC News Update September 2011

The site is on programme with coaling almost complete in Area A. Approximately 250,000 tonnes of coal have been recovered so far.

Two prime movers are now being utilised on site. Coal is being transported off site at a rate of approximately 6,000 tonnes per week.

Four coal seams are being worked including the Flint, Clod Best and Randle.

There has been no discharge of water from the site so far.

Campaigners against the UK Coal site had constructed living quarters and lookout points at a makeshift camp which was set up in February 2010. They were evicted from the surface mining site and their camp was destroyed, by a team working on behalf of UK Coal on Friday 19th August. Tents and platforms were set on fire, and the protestors escorted from their campsite.

Residents said "The eviction was very quiet, I've not seen anyone leave and there were no police. Residents generally but not exclusively decided that they had had as much as they could with the protestors and wanted to work with UK Coal to get the job done as quickly as possible. The application had already been passed, they couldn't do anything about it, they were a nuisance. They would leave rubbish down the lane and take up parking spaces"

HLSM Community Fund Meeting Notes 5th September 2011

A total of 11 additional applications for funding from the Community Fund Committee have been received, and preliminary assessment was carried out at a Funding Committee meeting on Sept 5th. Final approval or otherwise will take place at a further meeting on November 7th.