**LITTLE WENLOCK PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY**

**9th. NOVEMBER, 2015, AT 7.30 p.m. IN THE VILLAGE HALL, LITTLE WENLOCK.**

**11/15/01** **Members Present:**

Councillors: Cllr. J. Esp (Vice Chairman), Cllr. S. Hutchison, Cllr. A. Lees, Cllr. R. Drakeley.

**In attendance:**

Mr. KC Jewell – Clerk & RFO to Little Wenlock Parish Council.

**Members of the Public:**

2 x members of the public were present.

**11/15/02** **Apologies:** Cllr. J. Davidson. T&W Borough Cllr. J. Seymour.

**11/15/03 Declarations of Interest:** None.

**11/15/04 Public Session:**

Mr I Jones spoke about footpath 189 and wished to know why the Parish Council had not ever contacted him about the ownership of the land that the path may possibly be diverted through which had been owned by his family for over 40 years. He wanted to know why the footpath could not be reinstated to its original line. He thought that the number of questions about the ownership of the land was unfair and unjust and that the Parish Council was making assumptions about who owned the land.

The Vice Chair replied that the Parish Council were waiting for advice from Andrew Careless about footpath 189 and would inform Mr Jones of any outcome as soon as it was informed.

It was also reported by a member of the public that the light on the lamppost outside the Village Hall was not working properly. It was **resolved** that Cllr. Lees would inform E.ON.

**11/15/05 To confirm the minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 5 October 2015.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th October 2015 were **approved and signed.**

**11/15/06 Highways:**

* 1. **Quiet Lane update.**

No update – to be brought forward to the next meeting.

* 1. **TCO at Church Lane/Wellington Road and Parking on Church Lane bend.**

Nick Kitchen the Senior Traffic and Streetworks Engineer has confirmed that this was in response to a complaint from a resident which was then incorporated into a legal order for a wider area which was sent to various Parish Councils for consultation. The latest date to raise an objection has passed so it will now go ahead.

Some residents have complained vehicles parking on the Church Lane bend. This was considered dangerous as cars could not see oncoming traffic. It was **resolved** to include an item in the next Parish Council newsletter about consideration when parking.

* 1. **Dropped Drain Cover – Wellington Road.**

This problem was reported again on 21 October and will be monitored by the Clerk.

* 1. **Other highway issues.**

Cllr. Hutchison reported that Leighton Lane had now been cleared and a very good job had been done. It was **resolved** that the Clerk send a letter of thanks to Adrian Corney on behalf of LWPC.

It was reported by Cllr. Drakeley that the well just off Malthouse Bank was spilling water onto the road which could be very dangerous on that road in particular if it froze in the winter. It looked as though there was a blockage stopping the runoff from going into the drainage ditch. It was **resolved** that the Clerk find out who owned the ditch with a view to clearing the blockage.

The waterspout on Spout Lane above Holly Cottage was also spilling water and it was **resolved** that the Clerk report this to TWC Highways Department.

A number of complaints have been received about vehicles parking on the junction of Spout Lane and Wellington Road right on the junction lines. It was **resolved** to include this in the next newsletter as a generic reminder about parking on bends in the village.

**11/15/07 Footpaths & Bridleways:**

1. **ROW – Meeting with Andrew Careless.**

No update as yet – to be brought forward to the next meeting.

1. **Footpath 189.**

Still awaiting advice from TWC - Andrew Carless. To be brought forward to the next meeting.

1. **Footpath 186.**

Work is still required to the kissing gate.

1. **Swanpool Permissive Footpath.**

To be brought forward to the next meeting.

1. **Swanpool Path Invoice.**

The final invoice has been received and will be paid as per accounts to pay serial 11/15/19.

1. **Swanpool Boardwalk.**

This has now been removed and we are now waiting to see what the path diversion is, if any.

1. **Volunteers for footpath maintenance.**

This item is to be carried forward to the meeting in February 2014.

**11/15/08 Parish Plan/ Neighbourhood Plan.**

LWPC is still trying to arrange a meeting with TWC Planning department to find out what will influence planning applications if the Parish Plan has no legal status and there is no neighbourhood plan. An email requesting a meeting has been sent but no reply has yet been received. It was **resolved** to send another request to try and instigate a meeting as soon as possible.

**11/15/09 Benchwalk Benches’:**

1. **Tom’s Bench.**

No update the Council is still waiting for a decision from the 2 families involved.

1. **Repositioning of waste bin at Lady Roberts bench.**

There is a meeting with Adrian Corney planned for 10 Nov to discuss waste bins so this item is to be brought forward to the next meeting in Dec.

1. **Repositioning of waste bin in Buildwas Lane.**

As per Item **b.** Above.

**11/15/10 Village Playing Field maintenance.**

Cllr. Lees attended the Village Hall Committee meeting and presented the options to reduce the costs to the VHC. Although the VHC expressed some surprise at how much the maintenance of the village playing fields was costing they declined to contribute to the cost as in their view it should be part of the Parish precept. They agreed however that there should be a reduction in the number of times the football field should be cut. It was **resolved** that Cllr. Leesprepare a new annual schedule of maintenance for the village playing fields with a view to putting the contract out to tender for the financial year 16/17.

**11/15/11 TWC Street Lighting Maintenance Contract.**

TWC are currently working towards the re procurement of their area street lighting maintenance contract which is anticipated to start in 2017 and have offered to include LWPC. At present LWPC has its own contract with E.ON on an annual contract basis at a cost of £383.86 per annum. It was **resolved** that the Clerk would ask TWC to provide costs if LWPC were included in the overall contract in order that a comparison can be made.

**11/15/12 Community Newsletter.**

Headings and articles were discussed and the final submission date to the clerk was agreed as 15 Nov. There was a discussion about how often the Newsletter would be printed and how many copies would be needed and it was agreed that at present the current system should continue.

**11/15/13 TWC Ward Grant Scheme.**

Councillors were reminded that the Ward grant scheme for the financial year was £1000 in a general fund and £1000 in an environmental fund. The Ward covers 4 x Parish Councils.

**11/15/14 David Hutchison Bench Repairs.**

The damage to the David Hutchison Bench has now been successfully mended after suggestions made by Cllr. Lees

**11/15/15 Clerk’s Report:**

* + 1. **To report on actions taken since the last meeting.**
       1. **TCO at Church Lane/Wellington Road.**

Nick Kitchen confirmed that action was taken in response to a complaint from a village resident.

* + - 1. **Dropped Drain on Wellington Road.**

The dropped drain on Wellington Road was reported via the pothole website on 4 Aug. Cllr. Hutchison reported seeing it being cleaned but there appears to be no repair work done to date. I reported this again on 21 Oct 15 incident number i-552836.

* + - 1. **Ms Miller email reference Windhover Planning Application.**

I have answered this on behalf of the Council and have had a reply which has been seen by all Parish Council members.

* + - 1. **Waste Bins.**

A meeting has provisionally been agreed with Adrian Corney on 10 Nov at 0930hrs, Chair to host.

* + - 1. **Proposed Closure of Buildwas School.**

I was overtaken by events as the School has apparently been saved by becoming part of an Academy therefore no letter of support was sent.

* + - 1. **Christmas Tree Purchase.**

The tree has been ordered and will arrive on either 1 or 2 Dec at the Village Hall car park where Roy Parsons and his team will erect and decorate as usual.

* + - 1. **Parish/Neighbourhood Plan.**

I have emailed TWC Planning Department and am awaiting a reply.

**11/15/16 Borough Liaison.**

No update as Cllr. Seymour was away on other business.

**11/15/17 Planning:**

1. **New Planning Application.**

TWC/2015/0941 Fair Acre, Buildwas Lane – Erection of a first floor and two storey side and single storey rear extension. It was **resolved** that there was no objection to this application.

1. **There are still 3 x planning applications ongoing:**

* TWC/2015/0505 Lower Huntington Farm (consultation).
* TWC/2015/0661 Upper Coalmoor Farm (consultation).
* TWC/2015/0694 Halfway House, The Wrekin (rejected).

**11/15/18 Individual Councillors reports and updates.**

**Village Hall Committee Meeting (Cllr. Alan Lees).**

Cllr. Alan Lees emailed a report to all councillors - a copy is available on request from the Parish Clerk**.** Cllr. Lees is not available for the next meeting on 5 Jan 16 but Cllr. Drakeley agreed to stand in for him.

**LAF (Cllr. Alan Lees).**

Cllr. Alan Lees emailed a report to all councillors – a copy is available on request from the Parish Clerk. The next meeting is 23 March 2016.

**Geo Village Update (Cllr. Jayne Davidson).**

As Cllr. Davidson was away there was no update given. This item will be carried forward to the next meeting.

**Wrekin Forest Partnership Meeting (Cllr. Jayne Davidson).**

As Cllr. Davidson was away there was no update given. This item will be carried forward to the next meeting.

**11/15/19 Finance:**

1. **Bank balances.**
   1. Business Current Account (Community Fund) with all cheques cleared: £10,341.62
   2. Business Savings Account (Base Rate Account): £32,469.03.

**The balance on the following ring-fenced money is as follows:**

**New Works Street Lights**

New Works Street Lighting UK Coal Grant = £33870.05

Invoices total = £33021.18

Balance remaining = £848.87 (to be given to St John’s Church) + VAT refund of £5503.53 (to be sent to TWC).

**Swanpool Footpath Upgrade:**

Total confirmed cost £29940.00. Grant to date £15135.00 awaiting final grant from Veolia of £8149.00 before final payment to Brockton House Farm Ltd can be made.

1. **Accounts to pay as listed in the Clerk’s report.**

It was **resolved** to pay the following accounts:

SALC Jewell Budget Trg £20.00

KC Jewell Salary £221.13

HMRC PAYE £55.08

Brockton House Farm Final Bill – Swanpool Path £29940.00

K Smith Contracting Grass Cutting £823.20

1. **Reserves.**

**LWPC** Reserves stand at £13,000.00 (recommended amount in reserves is at least 6 -12 months precept) the actual breakdown is as below:

Current Account £1282.21

Savings Account £10469.03

Veolia Grant £8149.00

VAT Refund £4990.00

Total £24890.24

TWC VAT Refund £5503.53

St John’s Church £848.67

Anticipated further Parish costs £5200.00

Total £11552.20

£13338.04

**10/15/20 Date of the next meeting:**

Monday 14th December 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.