

WROXETER & UPPINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Wroxeter Vineyard Visitor Centre, Wroxeter on the 11th November 2019 at 7:30pm

Present: Councillors Mr B Nelson (Chairman), Mrs V Amos, Mrs J Davies, Mr P Davies, Mr M Millington, Mr K Rowlands and Mr I Sherwood
In attendance: Councillor C Wild (Shropshire Council), Mrs S Morris (Clerk), Mr T Williams (West Mercia Police, to end of item 2)

1. PUBLIC SESSION

There were no members of the public present.

2. SMART WATER

19 residents had attended the session immediately prior to the meeting to register Smart Water kits. A further session was planned for 16th November and Mr Williams reiterated that his team would support Councillors to register kits door-to-door if necessary to achieve the required coverage. Councillors discussed the preferred size of signage and expressed that signs should not detract from the village setting. It was agreed that the smallest size of sign would be sufficient alongside the window stickers in individual properties. Councillors Nelson and P Davies would liaise with Mr Williams to identify suitable locations for the signs to be installed to ensure that there was sufficient coverage across the parish and on the main routes into the parish.

Mr Williams left the meeting.

3. TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

All present.

4. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS & DISPENSATION REQUESTS

None.

5. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2019 and the Chairman duly signed the minutes.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the previous meeting which were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

7. SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR REPORT

Ironbridge power station development. Councillor Wild reported that the planning application for the power station development was anticipated by the end of the year, and the demolition of the cooling towers was expected in the near future. Councillor Wild was arranging for the affected parish councils to meet with the Harworth traffic engineers and the Shropshire Council transport officers, and hoped that this would take place by the end of the year. Network Rail had agreed to carry out the work necessary for the rail bridge to be used for removal of gravel from the site.

Road surface. Councillors again raised the poor condition of the road surface on the Ironbridge Road near the junction with Ishmore Lane. Three residents had mentioned this issue at the Smart Water distribution session, and Councillors expressed concern that the section of road would become more dangerous through the winter, and that the condition

would deteriorate further as a result of winter weather. **ACTION:** Clerk to refer the concerns to Ian Walshaw, Shropshire Council, cc. Councillor Wild.

Flooding on road at end of Ishmore Lane. This had been reported in July but the problem had not been resolved, despite a visit by the Shropshire Council officer. **ACTION:** Clerk to follow up with Jonathan Ingleby, cc. Councillor Wild.

Councillor Wild left the meeting.

8. DEFIBRILLATOR

Feedback indicated that there was a will from residents for a defibrillator in Uppington and the Raby Estate had expressed willingness to contribute financially towards this. Councillors suggested that the phone box was not sufficiently central to be a good location for a defibrillator and discussed potential alternatives, including the Church and the Vicarage.

Councillors were supportive in principle of installing defibrillators. However, it was noted that there was not one location in either part of the parish which would place a defibrillator close to a large number of houses, given the low population density of the parish. Councillors queried whether there was a recommended number of houses within a certain radius of a defibrillator that would mean a defibrillator would be more effective than calling an ambulance.

Councillors discussed potential to site a defibrillator at the English Heritage Visitor Centre or the Wroxeter Hotel, as the equipment would then be available to a larger number of potential users.

ACTION: Clerk to seek further guidance from West Midlands Ambulance Service regarding suitability of defibrillators to rural parishes and recommendations regarding siting.

9. ASSET REVIEW

Councillors had reviewed the condition of parish council assets since the previous meeting. The bus shelters were generally in good condition and structurally sound; the noticeboard at Uppington had been replaced last year and was in good condition, and new glass had recently been fitted to the Wroxeter noticeboard; the ROSPA report identified some low risk recommendations regarding the play area.

ACTIONS: Cllr Sherwood to remove weeds from around Lower Longwoods bus stop;
Cllr Amos to source quotations for repairs to the play area stepping stones.

It was queried whether the resident group had identified which new piece of play equipment they wished to purchase, as the Parish Council had agreed to contribute to the purchase of this.

ACTION: Cllr Amos to liaise with resident group re. new item of equipment.

10. TELEPHONE BOX CONSULTATION

The Parish Council discussed the consultation circulated by email.

Residents had indicated that there was no need to retain the phone box in Uppington for telephone use. However, some residents had expressed a wish to adopt the phone box for other uses, e.g. to house a defibrillator or a book exchange. As discussed under item 8, the Parish Council concluded that this was not a sufficiently central location for a defibrillator. Councillors also raised concerns about potential for vandalism if the phone box was retained for an alternative use.

It was noted that the Wroxeter phone box was not on the current list of proposed removals, however, it had been on a previous longlist. While the phone box was used extremely rarely, Councillors noted that it was sited near a junction at which there had been previous traffic accidents, so there may be a need for the phone in an emergency. The phone box was not in a central position and so would not be recommended for adoption to house a defibrillator.

It was **RESOLVED** to submit the following comments to the consultation:-

The Parish Council supports retaining the phone box at Wroxeter. The Parish Council supports the adoption of phone box at Uppington for an alternative use.

11. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Planning notifications – for information only

Reference: 19/01196/FUL 4 - 5 Dryton, Wroxeter, SY5 6PR

Proposal: Erection of a replacement dwelling with detached single garage following demolition of existing house and outbuildings; refurbish 1no outbuilding

Decision: Grant Permission

Reference: 19/00989/FUL The Watchoak, Lower Longwood Decision: Grant Permission

(b) Planning applications for comments None

(c) Planning applications received between meetings None

12. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) To approve bank reconciliation and budget report

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Quarter 2 bank reconciliation and budget report.

b) To approve payment of invoices

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

Cheque Number	Payee	Description	£ Amount
514	S Morris	Salary and expenses:Oct & Nov	£439.60
515	Under the Wrekin	Contribution to Under the Wrekin	£50.00
516	Smart Water Technology Limited	Smart Water packs	£1112.04
517	S L Bott	Maintenance contract	£360.00
518	Uppington PCC	Contribution to churchyard maintenance	£100.00

c) Online banking – progress report

ACTION: Councillors J Davies and V Amos to register for online banking, and to liaise with Councillor Nelson and the Clerk to put in place the relevant payment authorities.

d) Draft budget 2020/21

The Clerk circulated a draft budget for 2020/21 for consideration before approval at the next meeting. It was noted that the projected end of year balances would reduce by around £1,000 following the purchase of Smart Water, however balances would remain within the recommended limit of providing for 6-9 months of running costs.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

a) PCC Rural Crime Strategy Consultation

There were no comments to submit to the consultation.

14. PARISH MATTERS

Flooding at Norton Farmhouse. Councillors again raised concerns about the flooding of the road due to the direction of drainage from the guttering. **ACTION:** Clerk to follow up with National Trust Building Surveyor and Estate Manager.

15. EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

The Clerk's report was noted. It was **RESOLVED** to approve an increase of one pay point to the Clerk's salary, with effect from 1st December 2019 (Proposed: Councillor P Davies, Seconded: Councillor V Amos, all agreed).

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 13th January 2019 at 7:30PM Visitor Centre, Wroxeter Vineyard

The meeting was declared closed at 8:38pm.

Signed (Chairman):.....

Date:.....