



## ***FULL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES***

**MINUTES** of the Wrockwardine Wood & Trench Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2009 at the Parish Council Centre, Church Road, Wrockwardine Wood at 7pm.

**PRESENT:** Cllr's. K.R. Watkins – Chair, J. Thompson – Vice Chair, L.T. Brayne, K. Hanmer, M. Hanmer, D. Plant, C.F. Smith, S.A. Watkins and J.S. Uppal.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** George Kinnell - Telford & Wrekin Council, Telford & Wrekin Councillor Bob Groom and 13 members of the public.

### **09/1697 Apologies for Absence**

**RESOLVED** – to accept apologies from Cllr. D. Pearce (illness)

### **09/1698 Declarations of Interest**

The Chair Cllr. Keith Watkins said that he is aware that issues will be raised regarding the allotments and will declare an interest and leave the room when this subject is discussed.

### **09/1699 To present a grant to Wellington Cottage Care**

The Clerk read out a letter received from Wellington Cottage Care apologising that they are unable to attend and asking if we can post their grant. It was AGREED to post the cheque.

### **09/1700 To receive George Kinnell, Community Project Manger, Telford & Wrekin Council**

George informed members that the proposed Parish Charter has been revised on three occasions after a request in Summer 2007 to update it as it was deemed not to be working. George said that the reason for the charter not working was not the wording but actually living up to the constitution. George said that rural parishes in particular feel they have no connection with T & W, particularly if they do not have any councillors in common with T & W. George said that T & W want to improve partnership working and there is a long list of areas of work where we could pull together. In Spring 2008 an updated draft of the Charter was considered at the Parishes Forum and an offer was made by T & W to come and talk to parish councils. In January 2009 the Charter was considered at another Parishes Forum where it was decided that in the light of the recession it is important that we pull together for the future benefit of the community. Since then the view has come from Parish & Town Councils that the draft charter is perceived to be a T & W document. Stirchley & Brookside Parish Council sent out an example document that parish councils would want T & W to sign up to. George said Katrina Baker noticed from Stirchley & Brookside's document, that this would mean 26 different charters, one for each parish, so she has produced a final draft charter backed by the T & W Cabinet Member that symbolises a new willingness to explore what we can do jointly. George said that he recommends on behalf of T & W and the Cabinet Member that we seriously consider giving the new draft document our support.

Cllr. C.F. Smith pointed out that the Cabinet Member who George confirmed is Steve Bentley is the partner of Katrina Baker who drew up the Charter.

Cllr. Uppal commented that it is a pity we need such a document to enable us to work together.

Cllr. Brayne said that we have always looked after our community so why should we sign up to the Charter.

Cllr. Anne Watkins pointed out that a Charter has been in existence for twelve years and said that she has no problem signing up to it.

Cllr. C.F. Smith said that he has no problem with signing up to the Charter, but is concerned that planning applications are going to be consulted on electronically, which means we will have to look at plans on a screen rather than receiving hard copies.

The Chairman, Cllr. K. Watkins pointed out that at the last Parishes Forum in January only 7 out of 30 in attendance were from Parish Councils, all others were representatives from the Borough Council.

The Chairman thanked George Kinnell for attending and excused him from the remainder of the meeting.

### **09/1701 Public Session**

a) Three residents were in attendance from Chapel Terrace and they expressed concerns about the lack of parking outside their properties. The residents said that there are eight bungalows, a total of twelve vehicles and only 4 car parking spaces available. One resident said that two years ago she contacted Kevin Price from T & W and he told her that they do not have sufficient funds to provide more spaces, although there is land available. The residents say that the problem is causing conflict between neighbours and recently an ambulance was unable to gain access to one of the bungalows. It was AGREED to contact Telford & Wrekin Council regarding this matter.

b) A resident said he came to see us several months ago about the bollards by the Duke of York not being replaced. The resident said that cars are parking both sides of Trench Road, half on the pavement near to Costcutter. The resident said that on 15<sup>th</sup> January he was knocked off his bicycle when he was passing one of the parked cars whose driver opened the door and hit him. The police informed the resident that there is nothing they can do about cars parking both sides of the road and he should consult his parish council. The resident said that he is concerned that the parked vehicles are causing pedestrians and people with pushchairs to go out into the road to get around them. Cllr. C.F. Smith said that regarding the bollards at the Duke of York – Stuart Freeman of T & W is trying to get the brewery and the developer to eliminate the danger and replace the bollards. It was AGREED to write to the Police Superintendent about the cars parking both sides of Trench Road and point out that pedestrians should be able to use the footpaths safely.

***Cllr's. L.T. Brayne, C.F. Smith, K.R. Watkins and S.A. Watkins who are members of Trench Allotment & Leisure Gardeners Society declared an interest in the following item that concerns Stanmore Drive Allotments and left the meeting.***

***The Vice Chairman, Cllr. J. Thompson took the Chair for the following item only.***

c) Members of the Trench Allotment & Leisure Gardeners Society expressed concerns about the state of some of the allotment plots and asked if some of the larger plots could be divided into two and any tenants with more than one plot could be asked to consider giving one up. Cllr. Thompson said that he has received a letter from the Allotment Society addressed to him as Chair of the Allotment Committee which also requests that we divide the large plots, that we consider the terms and conditions of the tenancy agreement and that we consider having a joint meeting once a year with the Society. It was AGREED that the committee will meet as soon as possible to consider the Allotment Society's requests.

d) A resident said that the drains outside Peppers Restaurant on Trench Road are flooding and forming a small lake and there is still a litter problem. The resident suggested that a letter should be sent to the local school regarding the children hanging around the shopping area.

e) A resident said that the No. 55 bus does not stop at the railway station after 4pm. Cllr. S.A. Watkins pointed out that the bus should stop at the station between 9.30am and 4.30pm and the driver should inform passengers if they ask for that stop. The Highway Authority says that it is too dangerous for

buses to stop there any more. Cllr. S.A. Watkins said that the No. 55 timetable has been revised to try to keep this bus running regularly.

09/1702 The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2009 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### 09/1703 Correspondence

The following correspondence was copied to members

- a) **Telford & Wrekin Council** – Notices & Plans of a Stopping up Order re. Donnington Railfreight. It was pointed out that the stopping up areas are not in our Parish. It was AGREED to write to T & W to ask that they ensure that the Perry Way cycle path is not affected.
- b) **Telford & Wrekin Council** – Notification of planning applications electronically.
- c) **Telford & Wrekin Council** – Notice of a Planning Seminar at Civic Offices on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 6pm – 9pm.
- d) **Telford & Wrekin Council** – Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment.
- e) **Telford & Wrekin Council** – Event on Putting People First – Emerging Options on 19<sup>th</sup> February at The Place, Oakengates.
- f) **Standards Board for England** – Satisfaction with Advice & Guidance Research 2009 – Survey of Authorities.
- g) **Grant Thank You Letters** – from No Panic and Marie Curie Cancer Care.
- h) **NALC** – Legal Briefing on The Power of the Promotion of Economic Social or Environmental Well Being and the Parish Councils (Power to Promote Wellbeing) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2008.
  - Legal Briefing – Financial Update VAT and Local Councils.
  - Policy & Parliamentary Consultation – Publication of candidates' addresses at UK Parliamentary elections.
  - Consultation response on whether the voting age should be lowered to 16.
- i) **SALC Training Sessions** – Back to Basics – 21<sup>st</sup> February. Chairmanship Modules 5 & 6 – 24<sup>th</sup> February. External Audit & HMRC – 5<sup>th</sup> March. SALC Training Programme – 2009.
- j) **SALC** – Invitation to Buckingham Palace Garden Parties 2009.
- k) **SALC** – Advert for Assistant to the Clerk at Great Dawley parish Council.
- l) **SALC – Wrekin Area Committee** – Next meeting at High Ercall Village Hall on 12<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm.

The Clerk brought members attention to the following correspondence which was received after the agenda had been sent out:

- i. A letter was received from Mal Yale, Telford & Wrekin Council regarding our Village Green Application. Mr. Yale says that a meeting has been held with T & W Council Officers, local Ward Members, Shrewsbury Catholic Diocese, Headteachers and governors of St. Luke's and Wrockwardine Wood Junior School. Mr. Yale outlined proposals from the meeting that included the school having formal unrestricted use of the field, plans to fence off an area of the field be withdrawn, current arrangement for the community to have access to the whole playing field continue and the Parish Council withdraw the Village Green Application. The letter goes on to say that the Children & Young People Portfolio would submit a formal objection to the proposal in order to support St. Luke's interest in the field and they have been legally advised that there are a number of elements of the application that may be successfully challenged by them and any one of these could result in rejection of the application.

**RESOLVED** – to adjourn the meeting to allow T & W Cllr. Bob Groom to make the following comment:

*Cllr. Groom said that if this application went to a tribunal it would prove very costly and pointed out that we need an agreement from T & W in writing outlining the above*

*proposals. Cllr. Groom asked for a copy of the letter.*

Cllr. C.F. Smith pointed out that he was not invited to the meeting that Mal Yale mentions in his letter. Cllr. Smith suggested that we should reply and say that we will consider putting our application on hold once we have a firm agreement in place. The Clerk pointed out that we will need to consult further with the residents who have supported the application. It was **RESOLVED** – to place this item on the agenda for consideration at the next meeting and to write to Mal Yale saying that we will need a firm written agreement before we consider putting the Village Green application on hold. Further **RESOLVED** – to hold an open meeting for residents and to invite Mr. Yale to attend.

- ii. A letter was received from Shropshire War Memorials Association asking if we would consider purchasing a new memorial plaque for Holy Trinity Church in honour of Marine Damian Davies who was killed in action in Afghanistan on 12 December 08. The letter says that the two Rolls of Honour in the Church are full. It was **AGREED** to put this item on the agenda for consideration at the meeting in March.
- iii. A letter was received from Telford & Wrekin Council inviting us to submit our views on issues relating to bus services. It was **AGREED** to put this item on the agenda for the next meeting.
- iv. A letter was received from Ian Goffe, T & W regarding St. Georges Road/Wrockwardine Wood Way junction. Ian says that he would be happy to meet with the Chair, Clerk and one or two members of the Council and suggests a date in April as he is currently in the process of obtaining a detailed design and costings for the scheme and will have more information then.
- v. A letter was received from Jonathan Eatough, Telford & Wrekin Council informing us that he is our new Monitoring Officer.
- vi. A letter was received from Newport & District Visually Impaired Persons Association giving details and photographs of their activities over the past twelve months and thanks to the Parish Council for the grant towards these activities.
- vii. An invitation was received from Katrina Baker to Telford Hope House Ball on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2009. Tickets are £25 each.

#### Correspondence placed on the table

**Telford & Wrekin Council** – Team Talk – Bulletin for Telford & Wrekin Partnership. Information on the reduced gritting operation to conserve stocks for peak travel times and forecast snowfall. Including residents hotline numbers.

**Shropshire Council** - Update Newsletter. Consultation on the Core Strategy Issues and Options document. Highways & Traffic Newsletter. Safeguarding Children in Shropshire Conference – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March at Shrewsbury Town Football Club.

**Ministry of Justice** – Managing the safety of Burial Ground Memorials – Practical advice for dealing with unstable memorials. Leaflets & Brochures.

#### 09/1704 Payments to be Issued

##### Payments issued outside the meeting to be confirmed

010566	Marie Curie Cancer Care	150.00	Grant
010567	No Panic	50.00	Grant
010568	British Telecom	82.86	Telephone, Alarm & Internet
010570	Sunray Cleaning Services	18.00	Window Cleaning
010571	T & W. Council	716.12	School Hall Lettings

##### Payments to be issued

010573	K.R. Watkins	600.00	Chairs Allowance
--------	--------------	--------	------------------

010574	HM Revenue & Customs	1185.78	Tax & NI – January
010575	G. Regan	150.00	Churchyard Maint. – January
010576	Shires Fire & Safety	27.98	Refill Extinguisher
010577	Initial Washroom Solutions	122.95	Nappy & Sanitact Units
010578	Hammonds Catering Services	104.60	Tablecloths
010579	British Telecom	78.05	Telephone, Alarm & Internet
010580	Wellington Cottage Care	200.00	Grant
010581	Lockley Security	39.10	Keyholding 24/11 – 12/12
010582	npower	182.49	Electricity 31/10 – 03/02

**RESOLVED** – that all the above payments be approved.

**09/1705 To receive and approve a Statement of Accounts for January 2009**

A Statements of Accounts for January 09 was tabled (copy attached to office Minutes). **RESOLVED** – to approve and accept the Statement of Accounts for January 09.

**09/1706 To elect a representative to the Youth Club Committee**

The Clerk informed members that the police have asked for a representative from the Parish Council to sit on the committee for the youth club held in the School Hall. The Committee usually meets once a term.

**RESOLVED** – to elect Cllr. S.A. Watkins to the Youth Club Committee.

**09/1707 Fun Day at Pinewood Avenue**

The Chairman informed members that a Fun Day organised by the Police is to be held at Pinewood Avenue on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2009 and we have been asked for any ideas for activities at this event. Cllr. M. Hanmer said that he may be able to arrange for Telford United F.C. Mascot, Bobby the Buck to attend.

**09/1708 To elect two representative to the School Hall Lettings Committee**

The Clerk informed members that the committee has not met for several years and our original representative were Ken Coulbeck and Norman Pickering.

**RESOLVED** – to elect Cllr. C.F. Smith and Cllr. S.A. Watkins to the School Hall Lettings Committee.

**09/1709 To consider the adoption of a document entitled “Climate Change Action Plan”**

**RESOLVED** – to adopt the document entitled “Climate Change – Action Plan” which encourages a reduction in energy consumption, recycling and reducing paper waste at the Parish Council Centre. This document will be made available to all users of the Centre.

**09/1710 To consider the provision of grit bins in the Parish**

It was **AGREED** to ascertain costs for the provision of grit bins inside the gate at Holy Trinity Church, at the top of Briggs Way and in Lincoln Road.

**09/1711 To consider the Borrowing Approval Application**

The Clerk informed members that the application for borrowing approval for £34,850 over 4.5 and not over 5 years has been submitted to SALC, together with a Financial Statement and Balance Sheet to show that the projected end of year balance for 31.03.09 will be £25,532.12 (copy attached to office minutes). **RESOLVED** – to approve this application and attached figures.

**09/1712 To consider the experimental closure of Horton Lane**

Members were informed that one or two residents who are new to the Horton area have requested the experimental closure of Horton Lane. It was **RESOLVED** – to strongly object to this closure because of the effect on other residents, access to emergency vehicles and the likely increase of traffic on the A442 and at the Clocktower roundabout.

**09/1713 Any Items of Information or Items for the next Agenda.**

- a) It was AGREED to place the following items on the agenda for the meeting in March:
  - Notification of Planning Applications Electronically
  - Parking Spaces outside the Parish Council Centre
  - Speaker system for the school hall.
  
- b) The council AGREED to Cllr. C.F. Smith's request to have a précis rather than a photo copy of all correspondence.

**09/1714 Date & Venue of the Next Meeting**

The next Full Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2009 in the School Hall at 7pm.

Signed.....  
Chairman

Date.....