

WROXETER & UPPINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Wroxeter Vineyard Visitor Centre, Wroxeter on the 9th September 2019 at 7:30pm

Present: Councillors Mr B Nelson (Chairman), 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)

1. PUBLIC SESSION

There were no members of the public present.

2. TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllr V Amos.

3. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS & DISPENSATION REQUESTS

None.

4. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 15th July 2019 and the Chairman duly signed the minutes.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

The following matters arising were discussed and actions recorded:-

- Leak on road, Eyton to Dryton. No further update had been received from Severn Trent Water. **ACTION:** Clerk to follow up.
- Flooding from guttering at Norton Farmhouse. This was understood to be resolved.
- Falling stones at the Lodge. Repairs had been completed.
- Repairs to Back Lane road surface. No response had been received from Severnside Housing. **ACTION:** Clerk to follow up.
- B4380 road surface. The Clerk had reported Councillors' concerns and received no response.
- Strategic Sites Consultation. The Chairman had attended the consultation event and drafted a response which had been circulated to Councillors and amended to include comments received. The Chairman had submitted the response to Shropshire Council.
- Grass verge cutting. Councillors confirmed that the cutting carried out under the contract appeared to be sufficient.
- Hedge cutting at ruins crossroads. The hedge from the bus stop to the visitor centre car park was reducing visibility at the crossroads. **ACTION:** Clerk to report to English Heritage.
- Flooding issues. Councillors had reported the locations of flooding via My Shropshire and Shropshire Council had rectified the problems.

6. SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR REPORT

Councillor Wild was liaising with Harworth to arrange a meeting between the parishes surrounding the Ironbridge Power Station development and Harworth traffic engineers, to discuss the implications of the development on the surrounding road network. This was likely to take place in November. It was noted that the Parish Council response to the Strategic Sites consultation had included concerns about the condition and speed of the B4380. It was also discussed that speed cameras could be requested for this road, which may also deter users from using it as a route. Councillors discussed that 50mph would be a suitable speed

for most of the road, reducing to 40mph at key points such as the two junctions, and the stretch of road by Donnington where a number of cars have left the road in recent months.

Residents had reported to Councillor Wild a smell from the reed bed behind the access lane to the rear of Brookside, and an overgrown tree and hedge which were causing obstruction and damage to cars around the access lane to the rear of Brookside. The hedge was being cut back by the Raby Estate. The tree was in the garden of a Severnside property and was the responsibility of the tenant. Severnside had arranged for an inspection of the reed bed and remedial works had taken place.

Councillor Wild gave further information about the Smart Water initiative and how this has been rolled out with support from West Mercia Police in other parishes.

Councillors highlighted the closure of the Horseshoes Inn and queried whether this land could be used for new build housing, as the Parish was classified as Open Countryside. Councillor Wild suggested that an application for housing could be made as the land would be classed as a brownfield site, and it would be difficult to argue the case for the economic viability of the pub, or its status as a community asset given the location.

Councillor Wild left the meeting.

7. SMART WATER INITIATIVE

At the previous meeting, the Parish Council had agreed to make an application to the Smart Water initiative. The criteria had since changed and parishes were required to sign up to 80% coverage or above, which increased the cost of the scheme. The new cost for the parish was £913.14. It was noted that if this additional amount was spent, the projected end of year reserves would still allow for around 12 months of normal operations. The Parish Council therefore **RESOLVED** to move ahead with the application to the Smart Water / We Don't Buy Crime initiative at the increased cost (Proposed: Cllr P Davies, Seconded: Cllr M Millington, all agreed).

8. DEFIBRILLATOR

The Clerk fed back the information that she had received regarding defibrillators. The key points noted were:-

- Various suppliers were available. The Community Heartbeat Trust could provide a defibrillator and unlocked cabinet for £1675 plus VAT, or with a locked cabinet for £1920. UK Pad Sites could provide a defibrillator and unlocked cabinet for £1450.
- Installation could be carried out by any qualified electrician at a cost of around £200. There were examples of parishes where this work had been given for free or reduced cost by a local tradesman as a contribution to the community.
- The on-costs of a defibrillator were around £50 a year for replacement of batteries and pads. The equipment required a 5amp electricity supply to prevent freezing, the costs of which were under £10 per year.
- The equipment would be insured for damage or loss on the existing insurance policy at no additional cost.
- The Raby Estate had indicated willingness to contribute towards the cost of the equipment and to support finding an appropriate location for a defibrillator in Uppington.

Councillors discussed potential locations for the defibrillator/s, with suggestions including the English Heritage visitor centre, the entrance to the Wroxeter Hotel, and outside the Raby Estate office in Uppington.

The Parish Council agreed to move forward with conversations with the Wroxeter Hotel and Raby Estate to discuss the potential locations for a defibrillator, and potential joint funding.

9. ANNUAL PLAY AREA INSPECTION

The inspection report had been received on the day of the meeting; the item was deferred to the November meeting.

ACTION: Clerk to circulate report by email so that any urgent items could be identified and addressed.

10. ASSET REVIEW

It was **RESOLVED** that Councillors Nelson, P Davies and I Sherwood would inspect the bus shelters and noticeboards. The play area would be considered as part of the annual play area inspection. Councillors to report back to the Clerk for inclusion at the next meeting.

11. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Planning notifications – for information only

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

(b) Planning applications for comments

(c) Planning applications received between meetings

19/03471/FUL Phoenix Lodge, Norton Comment submitted: No objections raised.

12. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) To note income received

The following income was noted:-

Date	Amount	Source
12.7.19	£180.00	Shropshire Council (Environmental Maintenance Grant)
16.7.19	£6.75	Buildwas Parish Council (Clerk's Training Agreement)

b) To approve payment of invoices

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

Cheque Number	Payee	Description	Amount
513	Sarah Morris	Salary and Expenses Aug/Sept 19	£425.50

c) Online banking – progress report

The Clerk had received the equipment for Cllrs Amos and J Davies to access online banking. The Clerk presented a form to authorise her access to the online banking. The Chairman would arrange for his authorisation form to be signed following the meeting. The Clerk/Chairman would liaise regarding the move to online payments once access was in place.

d) Noticeboard repairs

The Chairman presented three quotations for replacement of the Perspex in the Wroxeter noticeboard. All three companies approached had recommended fitting toughened glass to reduce the risks of liability claims with regular glass. The quotations, inclusive of VAT, were:-

Monkmoor Glass	£24
Salop Glass	£26.98
Mathews and Peart	£25

It was **RESOLVED** to use Monkmoor Glass to carry out the replacement of the glass at a cost of £24.

It was further **RESOLVED** to put some additional fixings on the door to prevent damage by ensuring that the door remains closed. The Chairman would purchase and install these fixings.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Under the Wrekin Magazine – email 1.8.19

Councillors noted the invitation to attend the community meeting regarding the future of Under the Wrekin magazine. Councillor Amos had indicated that she would attend if possible.

b) NALC Financial Regulations template – email 1.8.19

The Clerk had reviewed the new template regulations against the current Parish Council Financial Regulations and recommended no changes.

14. PARISH MATTERS

a) To consider the implications of the closure of the Horseshoe Inn, Uckington

This had been discussed at item 6 on the agenda with Councillor Wild.

The following parish matters were also noted:

Pavement parking, Uckington. The car sales business was blocking the pavement with vehicles for sale. **ACTION:** Councillor P Davies to report directly to Shropshire Council.

Deer warning signs. The signs which had been agreed earlier in the year had not yet been installed. **ACTION:** Clerk to follow up with Shropshire Council.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 11th November 2019 at 7:30PM Visitor Centre, Wroxeter Vineyard

The meeting was declared closed at 8:28pm.

Signed (Chairman):.....

Date:.....