

Wem Rural Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 9 April 2024 at Edstaston Village Hall starting at 7.10pm

Formal Meeting

Present:

Councillors: Peter Broomhall, Huw Edwards (Chair), Julia Goode, Jan Hilditch, Andy Matthews, William Minty, Denise Morgan, Jordan Page and Peter Slack

Shropshire Councillor: Edward Towers

Clerk: Helen McCabe

Members of the Public: 3

37/24 Public Participation Period:

A representative from Read Easy Group Telford and Shropshire spoke in support of their grant application. They offer free confidential coaching to adults that can't read. They have 2 readers in Wem and it costs £300 to set up a reader with a coach however they don't have any coaches yet.

Questions were asked on how people find out about them, what local connections they had and what area they cover which were answered.

A resident spoke regarding a number of issues included poor drainage and lack of litter bins on Soultan Road which has been reported on Fix My Street but not considered as urgent.

38/24 Apologies for absence:

Cllr John Britton (accepted)

Cllr Len Staines (accepted)

Cllr Liz Vernon (accepted)

39/24 Minute

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2024 were approved and signed.

40/24 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

- a. Members were reminded that they were required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, whether or not the interest was entered in the register of members' interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer.

Cllr Broomhall advised he would leave the meeting for agenda item 6b ii (Development in the Parish) due to the perception of bias and predetermination.

b. To consider any requests for Dispensation

Clerk: Helen McCabe

4 Bazeley Way

Wem

SY4 5QN

Tel. 07720 854185

Email: clerk@wemrural-pc.gov.uk

www.wemrural-pc.gov.uk

- Dispensation was granted to Cllr Slack, Goode and Edwards for agenda item 7 c
- c. Members were reminded that they are required to declare any acceptance of gifts and hospitality.**

41/24 Development in the Parish

a. Decisions Received: noted.

- i. 24/00508/OUT Homedene Farm Nurseries Aston Wem Shropshire SY4 5QJ
Outline application for the erection of an agricultural building (all matters reserved)
Decision: Refused
- ii. 24/00370/VAR 7 Lacon Holdings Soulton Road Soulton Wem Shropshire SY4 5RR
Variation of condition no.2 (approved drawings) attached to planning permission ref 23/04553/FUL to reduce the size of the approved ground floor single storey extension
Decision: Granted
- iii. 24/00233/FUL
Land To The East Of Horton House Farm Horton Wem Shropshire
Change of use and construction of 4 private equestrian stables, a 20m x 40m menage, parking, tack room and barn and incidental external works
Decision: Granted

b. Planning Applications Received - to consider response.

- i. 24/01057/FUL
Oak Barn Soulton Road Wem Shropshire SY4 5RP
Proposed garden room
Decision: It was resolved to support the application.
Cllr Broomhall left the meeting
- ii. 24/00952/FUL
2 Aston Wem Shropshire SY4 5JQ
Erection of three storey extension to side and replacement outbuildings
Decision: It was resolved to support the application.
Cllr Broomhall re-joined the meeting
- iii. 24/00906/AMP
Grange Villa Northwood Wem Shropshire SY4 5NP
Non-material amendment. Cottage and extension to be fully rendered instead of part brickwork relating to 23/04249/FUL.
Decision: Granted
- iv. 24/00899/FUL
Ulverley Aston Wem Shropshire SY4 5QJ
Alterations and Extension
Decision: It was resolved to support the application however without seeing dimensions on the application it was not possible to know if the extension is 50% larger than the property.

- v. 24/00865/FUL
 Damson Tree Cottage 68 Coton Whitchurch Shropshire SY13 3L
 Demolition of existing and erection of new garage, workshop and garden store
Decision: It was resolved to support the application subject to the buildings being tied to the original property to avoid any open market development.
- vi. 24/00844/FUL
 Soulton Trucks Unit D1 Wem Industrial Estate Soulton Road Wem Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 5SD
 Erection of HGV Workshop
Decision: Granted.

42/24 Parish Clerk Report

a. International Women's Day

The Clerk provided an update on International Women's Day event and circulated a report.

b. Meetings attended

The Clerk updated the council on recent meeting with WACA and Wem Town Council.

c. Upcoming Events

A discussion took place regarding future events:

- Business Networking Event on 22nd April at Wem Town Hall in partnership with Wem Town Council.
- It was resolved to apply for £500 from Freedom Fibre to host a Conversation Event, along with WACA on Saturday 15th June for The Big Green Week on
- WRPC to host Health and Wellbeing Event in partnership with Wem Town Hall in October.
- Charity Walk in aid of Macmillian is being held on Sunday 5th May at Soulton Hall. Tickets are £6 each

d. Rural Review

Articles for Rural Review to be sent to Clerk by end of April and to include articles from West Mercia Police.

43/24 Financial Matters:

a. Balances for information

Noted

b. Outstanding accounts

The following payments were approved:

H McCabe	£611.01
Community Heartbeat	£522.00
Edstaston Village Hall	£75.00

c. Community Grants

- i. SYA - Wem Senior Youth Club
It was resolved to grant £275.29.
- ii. Newtown Parish Church and Friends of Whitchurch Cemetery

It was resolved to grant £500 for both groups and to make recommendations to have a more relaxed view of grass-cutting and to either leave an area for wilding and/or not to cut grass during the No Mow May campaign.

- iii. St Mary's Church, Edstaston
It was resolved to grant £400 with recommendations above.
- iv. 1st Wem Scouts and North Salop Wheelers
It was resolved to grant £500 to both groups
- v. Edstaston Village Hall
It was resolved to grant £ 435.53 from CIL Neighbourhood Funds
- vi. NCRA
It was resolved to grant £1,500 from CIL Neighbourhood Funds when the bark next needs replacing and to make recommendations that they seek alternative sources of grants.
- vii. Wem Carnival
It was resolved to grant £500 and to make recommendations that they seek alternative sources of grants.
- viii. Wem Town Hall
It was resolved to grant £610
- ix. Read Easy Telford and Shropshire East
It was resolved to defer decision until they had volunteers needed.
- d. Replacement speed calming gate for Northwood.
It was resolved to spent £720 from CiL Neighbourhood Funds to replace the broken gate
- e. Website hosting upgrade
It was resolved to upgrade webhosting from £17.25 a quarter to £28.50 a quarter.
- f. Printing of Walking Guides and Waymarkers
It was resolved to spend £279 from Community Actions in order to release funds raised via Spacehive. The amount to be ringfenced to print Walking Guides and Waymarkers.
- g. Defibrillator training
It was resolved to spend £175 + VAT on training Northwood.

44/24 Action Plan

a. Updates

Updates have been noted and included a stronger focus on the environment.

45/24 Councillor Reports:

a. Parish Councillors

- i. Cllr Minty attended NSAC meeting and reported back on the roll out of the digital switchover and raised concerns over vulnerable people when there is power cut.
- ii. Cllrs Hilditch and Slack attended Freedom Fibre meeting and raised concerns over lack of coverage in the rural parish.
- iii. Cllr Minty requested training in rural planning.

- iv. Cllr Page provided information on possible locations for the new noticeboard in Barkers Green.
- b. **Shropshire Councillors:**
 - A written report was submitted and noted and the car parking at the Co-op was highlighted.

46/24 Parish Matters:

- a. Litter bins near Lower Lacon Caravan Park and Church Lane.
Previously covered in the public participation period.
- b. Residents concerns regarding Oakland Eggs
Contact details had been passed on to resident and is ongoing.
- c. Project Gigabit
Previously covered in Parish Councillors report.

47/24 Highway

- a. Road signs
The missing road sign for Edstaston has been reported.

48/24 Date of future meeting and to consider agenda items:

Tuesday May 2024

The Chair, Huw Edwards declared the meeting closed at 9.13pm

Signed.....

Date.....