

Wem Rural Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 12 November 2024 at Edstaston Village Hall starting at 7.00pm

Formal Meeting

Present:

Councillors: Huw Edwards (Chair), John Britton, Peter Broomhall, Julia Goode, Jan Hilditch, Andy Matthews, William Minty, Dee Morgan, Len Staines, Jordan Page and Liz Vernon

Shropshire Councillor: Cllr Edward Towers

Clerk: Helen McCabe

Members of the Public: 7

127/24 Public Participation Period:

A member of the public addressed the council on behalf of local residents, raising concerns about the Oaklands plant. They reported having attended a site visit where it was noted that the plant had been shut down, but was restarted on 20th October, resulting in noise, smoke, and unpleasant odors. The resident had contacted the Environment Agency, which carried out an inspection. It was also noted that the plant was burning wood pellets, which they believe may not be covered by the plant's existing license. Residents have been asked to document any occurrences of what they see, hear, and smell. Several questions were raised by the public, all of which were answered, and they were encouraged to report any suspected criminal activities immediately, as well as to continue engaging with the Environment Agency.

Another resident raised concerns about flooding in Barkers Green, which has resulted in water entering their home. This issue is believed to be caused by problems with local drainage pipes, a matter which both Highways and Drainage departments have been made aware of in the past.

128/24 Apologies for absence:

None

129/24 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2024 were approved and signed.

130/24 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

a. Members are reminded that they are 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 is entered in the register of members' interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer.

b. ***To consider any requests for Dispensation***

None

Clerk: Helen McCabe

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- c. **Members are reminded that they are required to declare any acceptance of gifts and hospitality.**

None

131/24

Development in the Parish

- a. Planning Decisions received – noted
- i. 24/03193/FUL
Horton House Farm Horton Wem Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 5ND
Conversion of redundant agricultural building to tack room, storage/ workshop, therapy space and annex bedroom/ ensuite
Decision: Granted
 - ii. 24/03174/FUL
High Park Lodge Edstaston Park Wem Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 5RD
Demolition of existing property and erection of replacement dwelling
Decision: Granted
 - iii. 24/03677/AGR
Land North Hornspike Road Northwood Wem Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 5NP
Erection of a portal steel framed agricultural storage building
Decision: Prior Approval Required and Refused
- b. Planning Applications Received - to consider response.
- i. 24/03881/VAR
7 Lacon Holdings Soulton Wem Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 5RR
Remove Condition no. 16 (tie development to adjacent residential dwelling) attached to planning permission ref 23/04880/FUL
Decision: It was resolved to support the application.
 - ii. 24/03772/BHE
Tilley Green Cottage 3 Tilley Green Wem Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 5PL
Application for prior approval under Schedule 2 Part 1, Class AA of the Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) for the erection of one additional storey over original dwelling
Noted

132/24

Parish Clerk Report

a. Resignation of Cllr Slack

The Clerk advised she had received the resignation of Cllr Slack and thank you letter will be sent.

b. Christmas Edition Newsletter

The Clerk confirmed that it is being delivered.

c. Upcoming Events and Training

The Clerk provided an update on the following events:

- i. First Aid Training on 26th November with tea and coffee served at 6.30pm
- ii. Christmas Business Networking on Monday 25th November
- iii. Accessible Walk around Wem on 12th December.

d. Community Drop-Ins

There was a discussion around a monthly community drop-in and it was resolved to start in January on the third Wednesday of the month, 10am at Edstaston Village Hall.

e. SLCC Conference Report

Noted

f. Becoming an Age-Friendly Community

There was a discussion about becoming An Age-Friendly Community and it was resolved to start the process.

g. International Women's Day 2025

There was a discussion around the Spacehive campaign.

h. Joint Farmers Event with WACA

There was a discussion about hosting a joint event with WACA.

i. Anti-bullying campaign

There was a discussion regarding the Anti-bullying campaign, and it was resolved to support the campaign as part of our Civility & Respect Pledge.

j. Noticeboard

The Clerk provided an update regarding Men in Sheds.

k. President's Award

There was a discussion regarding the President's Award as the council are runners up and a certificate will be presented.

133/24

Policies

a. Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct was reviewed and it was resolved to re-adopt the LGA Code of Conduct.

134/24

Financial Matters

a. Balances for information

Noted

b. Outstanding accounts

The following payments were approved:

i. H McCabe - £1,639.59

ii. Edstaston Village Hall - £145

iii. Community Heartbeat - £198

c. Bank reconciliation

CLlr Vernon reported she had agreed and signed the bank reconciliation

d. Budget 2025/2026

The proposed budget was reviewed and discussed.

e. Public Sector Deposit Fund (PSDF)

It was resolved to seek further information once money has been transferred to Unity Bank

135/24

Consultations

a. The future of Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service Consultation was discussed and will be completed by CLlr Edwards.

136/24

Action Plan 2024/2025

a. Noted.

137/24

Councillor Reports - to report on meetings attended

a. Parish Councillors

i. CLlrs Edwards, Hilditch and Vernon attended the Freedom Fibre Webinar. CLlr Edwards to write an update to remind people about how to register interest.

ii. CLlr Vernon provided an update on the party at Edstaston Village Hall to celebrate the work completed.

b. Shropshire Councillors

i. A report was submitted.

There was a discussion regarding replacing the lights in Ash Grove and flooding in Church Lane.

138/24

Parish Matters - to bring to the attention of the Parish Council matters of interest or importance.

a. Residents' concerns regarding 23/01761/FUL Proposed Agricultural Building North Of The Lowe Wem Shropshire – noted.

- b. Horsefield – noted.
- c. ***School Children walking home – there was a discussion regarding the dangers of school children walking home at night in the dark and it was resolved to purchase high vis accessories with Community Actions budget.***

139/24 **Highways - to bring to the attention of the Parish Council matters of interest or importance.**

- a. ***There was a discussion regarding speed calming measures and it was resolved to look into buying speed signs and mobile posts with CiL funding.***
- b. The increase in work lorries in Barkers Green was noted.

140/24 **Date of future meeting and agenda items**
3 December 2024

The Chair, Huw Edwards declared the meeting closed at 9pm.

Signed.....

Date