

## **WESTON RHYN PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of Weston Rhyn Parish Council held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023, at Weston Rhyn Village Institute.

**PRESENT: Cllr A Hughes (Chairman)**

**Cllr P Barnett, Cllr S Barnett, Cllr S Haskell, Cllr P Herbert, Cllr A Layland, Cllr J Mattocks, Cllr P Manley, Cllr M Rowlands, Cllr P Smith, Cllr J Wallace (11)**

**Also: Shrops Cllr R Macey**

### **588/23 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

Members of the public were invited to question Councillors or raise any issues of concern for a period of 15 minutes.

Mr Steve Kynaston was present to inform the council about his Planning Application 23/01456/FUL (temporary safari tent), change of use of land from agriculture to tourism.

**Cllr Paul Herbert arrived 7.07pm.**

### **589/23 APOLOGIES**

Cllr P Ryan (personal), Cllr J Bavin (holiday)  
Shrops. Cllr M Jones (council meeting).

### **590/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive declarations of disclosable interests on any item included in the agenda in accordance with Section 30(3) of the Localism Act 2011.  
None declared.

### **591/23 MINUTES**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023 were confirmed and signed. **RESOLVED.**

### **592/23 REPORTS**

**RESOLVED** to note reports as presented.

### **POLICE**

The Police had sent a report which had been included in the Clerk's Report. Cllr P Barnett said that he had phoned PCSO Hughes re. suspicious activity at 6 Aqueduct Cottages, and was disappointed at not having had a reply.

### **SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLORS**

Cllr R Macey gave a verbal report.

- The ICT and Digital Strategy will become evident. There had been a Scrutiny Improvement review, which was positive. The Shropshire Plan; there are four different themes involved in it.
- Look out for a Local cycling and walking infrastructure consultation.
- There would be more help for owners of empty properties, however it was explained that No. 6 Aqueduct Cottages was going through a different process.
- Wern Turn; The Parish Council had previously been asked to leave this matter in the hands of SC. As this was some months ago WRPC would like an update.
- Sawmills; Cllr Macey had asked for this to be discussed at committee. This issue was still around access. Cllr Mattocks explained that this was not for the Planning Committee to consider, but for Highways and that Shropshire Council should not confuse the two. Speeding in the Wern; Cllr Macey had visited the area and there is some agreement with what might work here.
- Drainage; it was agreed that John Bellis is the person to talk to. Cllr A Hughes would help with the information that John Bellis requires re. the "Ceiriog Option". Cllr Macey needed accounts from residents who had experienced flooding.
- Cllr Macey was asked about un-culverting streams and it was mentioned how maintenance around drainage was extremely important for it to work.

#### **CHAIRMAN**

There was no report.

593/23

#### **IT, WEBSITE AND LOGO**

- It was **RESOLVED** to accept the black logo on white background with minor amendments. The Clerk was thanked for paying for this logo.

**Action: Clerk.**

594/23

#### **PLANNING ISSUES AND APPLICATIONS**

##### **1 – Reference: - 23/00886/FUL**

Proposal: - Installation of a spiral staircase to balcony at rear of property

Address: - Crossfield, 21 Berwyn Avenue, Chirk Bank, Wrexham, Shropshire.

**No comments**

##### **2 - Reference: 23/01358/FUL (validated: 28/03/2023)**

Address: Tyn Y Fron, Wern, Weston Rhyn, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY10 7LH

Proposal: Proposed alterations including single storey rear extension and new front porch. **No comments**

##### **3 - Reference: 23/01052/FUL (validated: 22/03/2023)**

Address: 5 The Woodlands, Weston Rhyn, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY10 7RD

Proposal: Erection of detached domestic garage. **No objections**

##### **4 – Reference: 23/00981/FUL**

Address: North Gate Quinta Weston Rhyn Oswestry Shropshire SY10 7LU

Proposal: Existing single-storey replaced with proposed two-storey side extension, amendments to roof over garage. **No comments**

**5 – Reference: 23/01163/FUL**

***Cllr Haskell declared an interest.***

Address: Mount Villa Upper Chirk Bank Chirk Bank Wrexham Shropshire LL14 5DY

Proposal: Demolition of existing garden room. Proposed single storey extension to front and side of dwelling together with ancillary alterations. ***The building comes very close to two oak trees, which council will bring to the attention of the planning committee. Action: Clerk.***

**6 - Reference: 23/01456/FUL (validated: 03/04/2023)**

Address: Plas Onn, Quinta, Weston Rhyn, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY10 7LW

Proposal: Proposed change of use of land from agricultural to tourism use for the siting of 1 no. temporary safari tent, construction of an associated parking area and all associated works. ***Support. Action: Clerk.***

**7 – Reference: 23/01482/VAR**

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED - Variation of Condition Number 11 (removal of tree) of Application Reference Number: 21/00520/FUL Date of Decision 28/05/2021

LOCATION: - The Bungalow, Rhoswiol, Weston Rhyn, Oswestry, Shropshire. ***Council would like to know what species of tree it is, how old it is and why it needs removal. Action: Clerk.***

595/23

**PLANNING DECISIONS**

A list was included in the Agenda Pack.

596/23

**CIL FUNDING**

The Clerk would contact the previous clerk for information on previous spending. ***Action: Clerk.***

597/23

**NO. 6 AQUEDUCT COTTAGES**

Activity has been seen at the property. Police had been informed. Shropshire Cllr R Macey will email the relevant authorities with copies to the Clerk and Cllr S Barnett.

**COMMUNITY**

598/23

**BUS SERVICES AND BUS SHELTERS**

**Bus Service** – The Clerk was asked to request a reply from Arriva Buses.

**Bus Shelters** – Cllr J Mattocks would report to the June meeting with his ideas. ***Action: Clerk, Cllr Mattocks***

599/23

**PLACE PLANS**

Cllr M Rowlands had attended a Zoom meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> April with Shropshire Council. She was disappointed to find that although nothing had happened since 2019, councils now had 6 weeks to put plans in writing. An email and a Powerpoint presentation would soon arrive with the Clerk, who was asked to send it to members immediately. An emergency meeting would

possibly then need to be arranged.

## **REPORTS**

### **600/23      REPORT FROM GREEN SHOOTS**

It was **proposed** that Weston Rhyn Parish Council supported the Climate and Ecology Bill, presented in a separate document. Cllr Smith asked if this would involve WRPC in any financial commitment and was assured that this would not be so. **RESOLVED.** The Clerk would confirm this with Helen Morgan. **Action: Clerk.**

### **601/23      REPORT FROM WESTON RHYN TRUST**

Report noted.

### **602/23      REPORT FROM WESTON RHYN VILLAGE INSTITUTE**

No report.

### **603/23      DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE ISSUES IN THE PARISH**

Responses to the letter sent out to various parties on 7<sup>th</sup> March, had been positive and it was possible that a site meeting would soon be arranged with John Bellis (SC Drainage & Flood Risk Mgr) and Welsh Water. Cllrs P Barnett and P Smith would pursue this issue. Cllr P Barnett had also attended a Flood Meeting organised by SALC.

**Action: Cllrs P Barnett/Smith.**

### **604/23      WATER ISSUE AT THE BOTTOM OF TRAP BANK**

There had been some activity in the last few days and the problem, (which is intermittent) appears to have been alleviated for now. Cllr P Barnett would contact Nigel Tomkewycz and John Bellis regarding this issue.

**Action: Cllr P Barnett.**

### **605/23      BENCHES**

The benches had been installed and would be paid for as soon as an invoice arrived. The Clerk would post photos onto social media. Thanks again to Cllr P Smith. **Action: Clerk, Cllr A Layland**

**Shropshire Cllr R Macey left the meeting at 8.24pm.**

### **606/23      FINGER POST**

Cllr P Barnett would contact the Canal and River Trust.

**Action: Cllr P Barnett**

### **607/23      S.137 GRANTS TO LOCAL GROUPS**

**RESOLVED** that the application form could be advertised and sent out with a date extending past the Annual Community Meeting.

The Clerk would give all Weston Rhyn Trust receipts to the treasurer so that a report could be finalised. **Action: Clerk**

608/23 **DOG BINS IN THE PARISH**

A request had been received for a Dog Bin to be placed at the top of Oaklands Road, near a grassed area, not next to the bench. The Clerk would write to Shropshire Council about this. **Action: Clerk**

609/23 **CAR PARK ADJACENT TO POACHER'S PUB**

A metalwork sculpture celebrating the heritage site had disappeared from the car park next to the Poachers Pocket Pub. Cllr M Rowlands would contact the Ellesmere Sculpture Trails to inform them. **Action: Cllr Rowlands**

610/23 **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – ANNUAL COMMUNITY MEETING**

The poster was approved, with minor amendments, and the Clerk thanked. This could be printed and posted onto social media.

Edward West would be in attendance at the meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

Cllr J Mattocks would be leading the section about the Neighbourhood Plan, to assess whether there is enough interest in the community and enough volunteers. He would explain the working groups that would be needed.

**Action: Clerk, Cllrs Mattocks and Haskell**

611/23 **OVERHANGING FOLIAGE**

The Clerk would report the issues to Andy Wilde, Highways, Shropshire Council to deal with. **Action: Clerk**

**HIGHWAYS**

612/23 **WERN TURN VISIBILITY ISSUE**

This item was covered under 592/23

613/23 **HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE ISSUES**

None other than already mentioned elsewhere.

**PONT FAEN BRIDGE**

Damage to the bridge. Whilst the geographical boundary between England and Wales is the mid-way position in the River Ceiriog, the civil understanding between Wrexham City boundary and the Shropshire boundary is at the point where the riverbank on the English side slides into the water. It was agreed between the two authorities years ago. As the road and bridge are sloping down towards the Welsh side, all the damage is on Welsh side.

***Council voted to continue with the meeting after 9pm.***

614/23 **STREETLIGHTING ISSUES**

The lights at Gledrid and at Holly Grange were still not working and the Clerk would progress this. **Action: Clerk**

## **FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE**

615/23

### **PAYMENTS**

**RESOLVED** to confirm payment of;

	To authorise the payments as per the schedule below				
	NW = Nat West		UT = Unity Trust		
17.4.23	Scottish Power	375.73	DD NW	Streetlighting Energy	
17.4.23	Clerk	718.79	UT	Administration for April 2023	
17.4.23	HMRC	193.89	UT	Tax and Employer's NI Period 12	
17.4.23	NEST pension	35.48	DD NW	Pension contribution 'ees and 'ers	
17.4.23	Clerk for EE DD	20.76	BACS UT	Clerk's phone for March	
17.4.23	Clerk	5.00	UT	Compensation from NatWest (£40 already paid)	
17.4.23	SALC	30.00	Chq NW	Training – Cllr P Herbert	
17.4.23	2Commune (inc £400 VAT)	1908.00	UT	Website setup, training, 14 emails, gov.uk domain, annual hosting	
17.3.23	SALC	30.00	Chq NW	1846 – Training – Pam Manley	
17.3.23	Highline	116.40	Chq NW	5713 - Institute light – Feb repairs	
17.4.23	WR Institute	24.00	Chq NW	Room hire for April meeting	
		<b>3458.05</b>			

It was **RESOLVED** to make the payments.

616/23

### **PART 2 – STAFF APPRAISAL**

The Clerk's appraisal was held on 30<sup>th</sup> March with the Clerk and Cllrs A Hughes, P Barnett, S Haskell, P Smith in attendance. A report was presented to Council, and it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk's pay-grade rise be approved.

The Clerk would ask the Institute Committee about the Wi-Fi in the building, which didn't appear to be working. **Action: Clerk.**

617/23

### **PART 2 – CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Code of Conduct was distributed which was to be reviewed in May. In future, policies would be distributed and signed for.

There followed a discussion about Social Media.

618/23

### **CO-OPTION APPLICATION PROCESS FOR NEW MEMBERS**

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the application form for the co-option of new members, following a few minor amendments and addition of new logo.

**Action: Clerk.**

619/23

### **TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS**

On which at least 48 hours' notice has been given, no discussion to take place thereon.

None to answer.

620/23

**GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

The main items of correspondence had been shared with the council.  
The Clerk would send Llangollen Eisteddfod a grant application form.

***Action: Clerk.***

621/23

**ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

Parking near to the school.

Biodiversity – Cllr Herbert.

622/23

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED** the next meeting to be held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 7pm,  
at Weston Rhyn Village Institute.

**MEETING CLOSED at 9.30pm**