

WESTON RHYN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Weston Rhyn Parish Council held on Monday, 14th June, 2004 at 7.00 p.m. in St. Johns Church, Weston Rhyn.

PRESENT: The Chairman (Cllr. Mrs. A. Garton-Jones),
Councillors B. Ashton, C. Bowers, E.R. Cooper,
G. Davies, D. Franklin, J.A. Hughes, J.G. Jones,
I. Williams.

Also in attendance: P.C. French

25. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors G.Evans, Mrs.R. Law, B.R. Oakley, Mrs. J. Smith, County Councillor J. Stevens.

26. COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICE/POLICE REPORT

The Community Support Officer and P.C. French were due to attend the meeting to discuss her role within the Parish. P.C. French reported she was unfortunately unable to be present.

27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of personal and prejudicial interests on any item included on the agenda in accordance with Section 50-52 Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Authorities (model Code of Conduct) (England) Order 2001 were invited. Also a guidance note was circulated.

RESOLVED to note no declarations of Interest were declared with the exception of:

Councillors E.R. Cooper and J.G. Jones declared personal interests in agenda item 9 donations; Bowling Club, being Club Members

Councillor G.Davies declared a personal interest in agenda item 9 Donations; Choir, being a Choir member.

28. MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting held on 17th May, 2004 were confirmed and signed.

29. REPORTS

RESOLVED to note reports as presented by Councillor B. Ashton and P.C. French.

Arising from the reports it was further **RESOLVED** the following;

- to note The Chairman was to attend a site meeting at Moreton Hall tomorrow to discuss footpath diversions.

30. PLANNING

Consideration of schedule of planning applications (PA 04/13229, 13245, 13253).

RESOLVED no comment be made on the applications received.

RESOLVED further to note draft plans as submitted for refurbishment of the former Alan Jones upholstery property by the railway line in Preesgweene, the plans as yet to be formally submitted.

Further **RESOLVED** to note Oswestry Borough Council had refused planning permission to strengthen Pontfaen bridge.

31. HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE

- a. **RESOLVED** to note a letter from Shropshire County Council in response to a request for Station Road to be classified as a "B" Class road . In being in disagreement with Shropshire County Council's refusal to consider reclassification it was further **RESOLVED** to pursue the matter going above Shropshire County Council's head if necessary.

- b. Highway Maintenance Plan 2004/05

RESOLVED to note a copy of the Plan relating to areas in Weston Rhyn.

32. DONATIONS

Councillors were invited to apportion their donation budget of £450 this evening.

Applications to date had been received from the Choir, Bowling Club (towards purchase of a new mower costing £2500), Yurt

Project, Homelessness in Oswestry Action Partnership, MacMillan Cancer Relief, Hope House, Marie Curie Cancer Care, West Shropshire Talking Newspaper for the Blind, Citizens Advice Bureau, Shropshire Playing Fields Association, No Panic, Shropshire and Mid Wales Hospice.

RESOLVED the below donations be made;

Weston Rhyn Choir £150
Weston Rhyn Bowling Club £150

The remaining £150 be held in reserve and the Yurt Project and Good Companions to be invited to submit applications with supporting balance sheets in due course.

33. **APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES**

RESOLVED the below representatives be appointed for 2004/05;

- i. Oswestry Area Committee (The Chairman and Vice Chairman)
- ii. Police Consultative Committee (The Chairman)
- iii. Weston Rhyn and St. Martins Trust (Cllr J.G. Jones and G. Davies)
- iv. Shropshire Association of Local Councils (The Chairman and Vice Chairman).
- v) Parish Hall Management Committee (Councillor Mrs. R. Law)
- vi) Emergency Advisers (Councillor Mrs. R. Law).

Planning – Councillors E.R. Cooper, Mrs. A. Garton-Jones, G. Evans, D. Franklin.

Roads - Councillors B. Ashton, C. Bowers, G. Davies, J.G. Jones, I. Williams.

Lighting - Councillors B.R. Oakley, G. Evans, E.R. Cooper, D. Franklin, Mrs. A. Garton-Jones

Housing - Councillors Mrs. J. Smith, J.A. Hughes

Footpaths - Councillors C. Bowers, Mrs. A. Garton Jones (Also Mrs. J. Kenyon).

Finance Councillors D. Franklin, C. Bowers, G. Evans

Transport Councillors G. Davies, J.A. Hughes, Mrs. J. Smith, B. Ashton.

34. **BURIAL LAW QUESTIONNAIRE**

Included at the request of The Chairman.

RESOLVED The Chairman with assistance of Councillors D. Franklin and B. Ashton complete the document.

35. **RECOGNITION OF PARISH ACHIEVEMENTS**

Included at the request of Councillor J.A. Hughes. Councillor J.A. Hughes informed the Council of the achievements of a 6 a-side football team from the Primary School who had won several major competitions at County and national level over the past season.

Councillor Hughes asked the Council to consider purchasing a Special "Achievement of the Year" shield for presentation to the team.

The Award could be presented annually to members of the local community deserving of such. Individual members of the team could get an individual shield to keep as a memento.

RESOLVED to agree to the suggestion and a budget of £150 be allocated from existing reserves to fund such. Councillor Hughes to be asked to investigate design and purchase in consultation with the Chairman. Awards to be presented at the last Assembly of the school year.

36. **DOGS ROAMING FREE/FOULING**

Included at the request of Councillor C. Bowers. Concern was expressed regarding the number of dogs roaming free in the Parish and also fouling on pavements being a nuisance and health hazard.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** to note Councillor Bowers concerns with advice being provided that the dog warden should be contacted to deal with stray dogs.

37. **COUNCIL HOUSING – EMPTY PROPERTIES/LENGTH OF TIME VACANT/ CRITERIA FOR FILLING**

Included at the request of Councillor C. Bowers. Following concerns expressed by Councillor Bowers over the length of time properties remain empty and the criteria for filling properties and the undesirable elements housed in the village, members provided a background to steps being taken by Oswestry Borough Council to improve the situation.

RESOLVED the information be noted.

38. **WEB SITE**

Included at the request of Councillor G. Davies.

RESOLVED Councillor G Davies be appointed the Councils web site representative.

39. **CARNIVAL COMMITTEE – FINANCE**

Included at the request of Councillor E.R. Cooper.

RESOLVED Mrs. L. Nicholson of the disbanded Carnival Committee be asked to update the Council on proposals for balances held by the Committee totalling £2400 with a request that if funds are allocated to good causes they be limited to Parish Organisations in view of the fact that the Council had donated £1000 in the first year and £700 per annum thereafter. It to be suggested that the Committee may wish to transfer the money back to the Council for disposal to village organizations or alternatively it be kept in Trust as and when a new Carnival Committee is formed.

40. **SHROPSHIRE WASTE LOCAL PLAN 2002-2014**

RESOLVED to note advice had been received from Shropshire County Council that the Gledrid site had been recommended for deletion from the Plan by the Inspector.

41. **COLLECTION OF USED NEEDLES**

Letter from Oswestry Borough Council highlighting the problem of used needles in the vicinity of Community Centres and offering a free "sharps box" and gloves to ensure safe collection and disposal.

Oswestry Borough Council collect the box.

RESOLVED to note the offer.

42. **ANNUAL PASSENGER TRANSPORT CONFERENCE**

Invite to attend the above on Friday, 25th June, 2004 at the White House Hotel, Wellington 10 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.

RESOLVED to note the invite.

Councillor C. Bowers to enquire with Councillor Mrs.J. Smith whether she would be free to attend.

43. **QUINTA CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL TRUST**

Letter from the Company Secretary in response to representations made.

RESOLVED to note the letter and respond advising that the Council is pleased something is at last being done to the Sunday School and asking to be kept informed.

44. **ACCOUNTS 2003/04**

The Council was asked to adopt a Receipts and Payments Analysis for 2003/04.

RESOLVED to adopt a Receipt and Payments Analysis for 2003/04 and confirm signing by The Chairman of the Annual Return.

45. **PRIMARY SCHOOL – CAR PARKING**

Letter from The Chair of Governors in response to representations made.

In noting no funds were available to provide parking on the playing field it was **RESOLVED**

to contact Shropshire County Council asking that they revisit the issue with a view to providing a dedicated car parking site as a public safety measure.

46. **WATER CHARGES**

Letter from Offwat in response to representations made.

RESOLVED to ask Councillor B.R. Oakley to be the Council representative to lead a campaign against Welsh Water in consultation with Mr. R. Allison of St. Martins Parish Council.

47. **CONTENT OF AGENDA'S**

Letter from Shropshire Association of Local Councils providing advice as requested on the make up of agenda's.

"The topic you query was in fact one of the subjects covered at a recent training event we held here at Shirehall. At that event the leader, Mr. Ian Ridgway, recommended clerks issued 2 Agenda's. The first one would include all the subject matter but without mentioning sensitive names, addresses etc. This type of agenda would be used for display on notice boards, distribution to press, district and county councillors etc. No papers would be included with this agenda (with the exception possibly of the minutes of the previous meeting if desired).

The second agenda would be identical to the first in its content but would contain much more detail and accompanying paperwork. This agenda would be distributed to Parish Council Members only. It is important that Parish Council members receive full information to enable them to make decisions at the meeting, and also to decide whether or not they may have a personal or prejudicial interest in an item. It is an idea to include on the members agenda an indication of the type of decision they will be expected to make when the item has been discussed.

In essence the Agenda's would be identical and as indicative of the topics for discussion which it would not be prudent to make public before the meeting has been held, these would only be included with the Members agenda.

Under the Freedom of Information Act Local Councils must make the majority of their paperwork available to the public, however this is only on request and does not mean that Council's are under an obligation to distribute everything to everybody".

"RESOLVED" the above recommendation be adopted by the Parish Council.

48. SHROPSHIRE DEBATE 2004

Invite to attend the above hosted by Shropshire County Council at Royal Shrewsbury Hospital 6.30 p.m. 15th June, 2004.

RESOLVED to note the invite, The Chairman to attend if possible.

49. STREET LIGHTING

Letter from V. & W. Electrics detailing costings totalling £850.78 for outstanding repairs to lights in Weston Rhyn.

RESOLVED to confirm acceptance of the quotation less 4 x £18 for cutting back of overgrown vegetation from poles which is not our responsibility.

The revised quotation to be £796.78, Councillor E.R. Cooper to meet V. & W. Electrics to discuss the repairs.

50. PARISH PLAN

RESOLVED to note an update report as provided by Mr. J. Mattocks.

51. PAYMENTS

RESOLVED to confirm payment of the below:

R.A. Dyke (Telephone Rental)	£57.49
R.A. Dyke (Clerks Salary June 2004)	£355.00
Oswestry Borough Council (Parish Renumeration Panel Expenses (divided between Parish Councils)	£ 27.28
Mrs. L.M. Potter (Internal Audit 2002/03)	£124.00

52. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Old Chirk Road/Bypass – access	Cllr. D. Franklin
Bowling Club – Room Hire	Cllr. D. Franklin
Bench Seat – Chirk Bank	Cllr. J.G. Jones

53. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

12TH July, 2004.