

PARISH OF WROCKWARDINE
Annual Parish Meeting

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 24th April 2017 at
Wrockwardine Parish Hall at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:

Cllr. – S C Rawlings – Chairman of the Parish Meeting
Mr. M. Goldstraw – Clerk to the Parish Meeting

Also in attendance: Cllrs. Mrs Jo Savage, Mrs E. Ballantyne and K. Ballantyne, Ms. Nadine Evans, I. Farrington, P. Bevis, Mrs. Jo Savage, Mrs. Sheila Turner and T. Kiernan, four members of the public and three representatives of Wellington Walkers Are Welcome.

The Chairman welcomed all to the 2017 Annual Parish Meeting.

The Chairman gave a brief outline of the purpose of and requirement (in law) for an Annual Parish meeting and reminded all present that this was not, as was sometimes mistakenly thought, a meeting of the Parish Council but a meeting of the Parish.

The Chairman stated that he would take questions after every agenda item.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Borough Cllr. Miss Jacqui Seymour.
Apologies were received from the Police.

2. Minutes of the Previous Annual Parish Meeting

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as a true record.

3. Presentation of the Annual Report of the Parish Council

Cllr. Rawlings presented his written report as Chairman of the Parish Council.
Annex A.

The Chairman answered several questions.

4. Borough Councillor's Report

It was noted that there were no Borough Councillor's reports because they had been advised to adopt a position of purdah due to the calling for a snap General Election on June 8th.

Cllr. Kiernan (Borough member for the Ward of Admaston & Bratton) answered questions relating to traffic calming and the proposed Allscott development.

The Clerk was asked to write to the police to request that speed equipment be used in the Parish.

5. Report from Local Organisations

There were no reports.

6. Presentation by Wellington Walkers Are Welcome

Mr. Bob Coalbran and colleagues gave details of their organisation and their tours along with details of walking festivals and local walks; leaflets and maps were made available to all present and several questions were answered.

7. Local Policing Report

There being no police officers present there was no report

8. Resolutions

There were no resolutions.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for their attendance and brought the meeting to a formal close at 8:10 p.m.

Signed.....
Chairman of the Meeting

Date.....

Annex A

Report of the Wrockwardine Parish Council
to the Annual Parish Meeting. April 24h 2017

Introduction

I am pleased to report that the Parish Council has this year continued its aim of helping members of the community and improving our Parish environment, within the constraints of our budget and our abilities.

Finances

The Parish Council has continued its policy of providing excellent value to all Residents, and delivering services to the Community at a lower cost or with an added value, to the local Council Tax payers. The Parish Council has once again delivered a carefully costed and considered Budget as it continues to balance the needs of managing its increasing commitments whilst keeping the precept as low as it can. A copy of the Council's Accounts will be available on the Website shortly.

Newsletter and Communication

Wrockwardine Parish Council has not recently published the Parish Newsletter but we hope to return to a more regular publication in the future. Our Clerk continues to place all our Minutes on our website and other documents relating to the working of the Council. The Council has ceased the recording of its meetings as monitoring showed that there were no record of listeners. The Parish council website is at <http://wrockwardine.org.uk>

Traffic

The Parish Council has had further discussions with T&W BC Officers and the developers of the land at Allscott with the aim of a Partnership bringing forward a traffic calming scheme in Admaston village after a full consultation with the local community. The Council has also had meetings with the Development team of the former Allscott site, to explore measures to alleviate and mitigate the effect of the traffic in Wrockwardine, from any development at Allscott. We are now eagerly waiting for T&W and the developers to meet, and we can then take this forward too. The Parish Council aim is to have measures in place prior to any development at Allscott starting... The proposed development by Gladman on Haygate Field looks as if it will be going ahead following their success in the High Court appeal, against the Borough Council. The Parish Council recognises that major junction works will take place near J7 of the M54 to alleviate some of the appalling congestion that takes place daily, however, we have not been party to the proposals at this time. The Parish Council will attempt to communicate and work with the Developers of this site which is in the parish. The other project that has recently attained a new lease of life, is the proposal to create a series of Quiet Lanes in the Parish. Little Wenlock Parish Council have successfully been the "guinea pig" for the area in creating the first, and the hope is that the creation of Quiet Lanes using a legal order and traffic calming measures will slow traffic and encourage drivers to recognise that the lanes are a shared resource that all users enjoy. The new car parking area in Wrockwardine on the playing field is almost completed with just the matting to install. We hope this measure will help the local residents by removing some of the poorly and dangerously parked cars.

Environment and Allotments

The Council recently awarded the Grass cutting contract for a further 3 years to the same company as before. We have been delighted with the quality of workmanship we get and we have also increased the area we have cut, by mowing some of the play areas in the Parish to a higher standard than previously done by other Contractors. The community orchard area has seen a slightly revised cutting regime which will allow more and more people in the community to enjoy this really lovely location. As can be seen, the Allotments now have a near 100% occupancy. Great news again. Street lighting is a topic that stirs little interest in residents, until it doesn't work! The Chairman and Clerk have recently been carrying out some preliminary investigations on the matter of street lighting within the Parish where the lights have been installed in the past by a Developer, but over time, maintenance (if any) has slipped, and the lights cease to work. The Borough Council will often not maintain these lights as they are not their property, but this is of little comfort to residents. The Parish Council will in the future be asked to consider if it should take over these street lights (subject to proper checks and funding) for the benefit of the parish residents. This topic also has relevance with the two large scale developments proposed in the Parish as well as a number of smaller ones. All these will have street lighting and the Parish Council, as a full lighting authority, can take these lights over on completion. The Council is content that it can offer a very cost effective service in this area for the benefit of the whole community who contribute to the Precept.

Grants

The Council has again made a number of Grants from its Budget to local bodies and organisations whose work or activities have a positive or supportive effect on members of our community. The Council considers Grant requests twice a year and asks that requests for Grant Funding be made to the Clerk using the form available from him, or on the website.

Council

The Council once again has a full complement of Councillors with the recent co-option of Cllrs Paul Bevis and Ian Farrington, both residents in Wrockwardine.

Thanks

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Clerk, Martin Goldstraw for his invaluable work for the Council over the past year.

Steve Rawlings

Chairman: Wrockwardine Parish Council. April 2017