WERRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD MONDAY 13TH MAY 2024
WERRINGTON VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT:

Cllrs B Hughes, J Morrison, S Hill, N Meakin, L Ibbs, P Brown, C Brownsword, K Griffiths, D Brindley

Zoë Grindey (Clerk), Gemma Keiher-Knapper (Deputy Clerk)

There were 5 members of the public present

Cllr B Hughes as the current Chair opened the meeting at 19.00

AMC001/24 ELECTION OF THE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL

Cllr J Morrison nominated Cllr B Hughes. Cllr N Meakin seconded Cllr B Hughes and 3 Councillor voted for Cllr B Hughes.

Cllr S Hill nominated Cllr K Griffiths. Cllr C Brownsword seconded Cllr K Griffiths and 5 Councillors voted. For Cllr K Griffiths.

Cllr K Griffiths became Chair of Werrington Parish Council by a majority vote.

Cllr D Brindley thanked Cllr B Hughes for her time as Chair and wished Cllr K Griffiths all the best.

AMC002/24 ELECTION OF THE VICE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL

Cllr B Hughes nominated Cllr J Morrison. This was seconded by Cllr J Fryer and carried unanimously.

AMC003/24 ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The Acceptance of Office forms for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair were signed accordingly and witnessed by the Clerk.

AMC004/24 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A member of the public raised concerns that Werrington Parish Council have still not commented on the Middle Tree Meadow planning application. The member of public is looking for the Parish Councils support as it is an application to develop on green belt land.

Another member of public raised their concerns about the lack of policing in Werrington and a discussion about policing was held.

A third member of public asked about Meigh Road playing fields pedestrian gate and if it is going to be open all the time. The Clerk responded that currently the pedestrian gate will remain open at all times, but the main car park gates close in winter at 1900hrs and Summer at Dusk. There is a second CCTV camera being installed to try to reduce the issues of anti-social behaviour and fly tipping if this doesn't not work then the Parish Council will investigate fully closing Meigh Road playing fields of an evening including Penmere entrance and by the Scout Hut.

The member of the public went on to inform the meeting about the ongoing issue with motorbikes on the playing fields. The resident has made reports to the police, but it is still on going and only a matter of time before a child is killed. Also, Meigh Road pump tracks actual car park needs to be better advertised as people are parking in Penmere to use it.

AMC005/24 County Councillor Report

Did not attend.

AMC006/24 APOLOGIES

Cllr L Ibbs – Accepted, Cllr D Normington – Accepted, Cllr P Nixon – Not Accepted

and Cllr P Brown – Accepted.

AMC007/24 MINUTE OF LAST MEETINGS

The minutes of the following meetings were reviewed for accuracy.

a) The last Annual Meeting held 15th May 2023
b) Full Council Meeting held 8th April 2023

Cllr J Morrison proposed that the minutes were approved. This was seconded by Cllr J Fryer and carried.

AMC008/24 ACTIONS

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Chief Executive of Staffordshire Moorlands with all the correspondence reference the missing bus shelter, it was also agreed to include the County Councillor.

AMC009/24 REVIEW OF DELEGATION ARRANGEMENTS

It was agreed that current delegation arrangements for committees and the Clerk will remain the same.

AMC010/24 TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference for the Planning and Risk & Asset Management Committees were reviewed. It was agreed that these would remain the same.

AMC011/24 COMMITTEES AND PANELS

a) Planning Committee – Full Council.
b) Risk & Asset Management Committee – Full Council.
c) Highways Working Group –All welcome.
d) Housing Development Working Group – Cllrs N Meakin and P Brown.
e) Antisocial Behaviour Working Group – Full Council.
f) Disciplinary Panel – Chairman, Cllr J Fryer and Cllr D Brindley.
g) Grievance Panel – Chairman, Cllr Morrison and Cllr S Hill.
h) Appraisal Panel – Chairman and Vice Chairman

AMC012/24 REPRESENTATIVES

The following representatives were appointed:

a) Wetley Moor Committee – Cllr J Morrison
(Cllr Hughes to investigate if this Committee still exists)
b) Parish Assembly – Cllrs B Hughes, J Fryer
c) Village Hall Committee – Cllrs S Hill, L Ibbs

AMC013/24 LEAD COUNCILLORS

The following Councillors were appointed as contacts for the following:

a) Allotments/Memorial Stone/Notice Board/Flagpole – Cllr K Griffiths
b) Footpaths - (North) Cllr P Nixon and (South) Cllr D Normington
c) Meigh Road Playing Fields – Cllr L Ibbs and Cllr P Nixon
d) Sports Ground – Cllr D Brindley
e) Land off Whitmore Avenue – Cllr B Hughes and Wardens
f) Delivery of flowers to residents 90+ - Cllr K Griffiths
g) Nrighbourhood Plan – Cllr J Morrison

AMC014/24 DOCUMENT REVIEW

a) Standing Orders – these were agreed.
b) Financial Regulations – Deferred awaiting NALC update release.
c) Code of Conduct – these were agreed.

AMC015/24 ACCOUNTS

The following accounts were reviewed and approved.

a) April accounts (circulated via email)
b) Next month's payment schedule (circulated via email)

AMC016/24 STAFF REPORTS

a) Clerk's report – an update was provided.
   CCTV second camera due to be installed.
   D Day Bench delivered.
   New website on going.
   Audit on going.
   Grounds maintenance course completed for Football Foundation funding.
   On going issues with EON
   5 year plans on going.
   Allotment rents are coming in.
   Kings Portrait has been received and needs handing to the Village Hall.
   Wardens have reported the terrible conditions of Meigh Rd park every morning.

b) Deputy Clerk's report – circulated via email
   Privacy fence at allotments erected.
   Asbestos at allotments removed.
   Quotes for fencing at allotments.
   Sports Ground fire extinguishers checked.
   Sports Ground annual renewals.
   Quote for kerbing at Meigh Rd

c) Village Warden's report – an update was provided.

AMC017/24 FIVE YEAR PLAN – MEIGH ROAD was considered and adopted.

AMC018/24 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Werrington Parish Council re affirmed to adhere to Standing Orders.

AMC019/24 D DAY ANNIVERSARY

Werrington Parish Council agreed that the bench and flag will be in place for Thursday 6th June. The Parish Council also approved to support the Werrington Volunteers if they so wished with live music.

AMC020/24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

A discussion was held with regards to planning application SMD/2024/0147 Springfields Farm Change of use from retail to mixed use retail and café within classes E(a) and E(b). After a vote was held it was decided not to comment on the application.

AMC021/24 CORRESPONDANCE

a) Highways Freedom of Information request to be shared on Facebook.
b) Rubix Risk Assessment of Meigh Road Playing Fields to be uploaded onto the website.
c) It was agreed at the Methodist Church could use Meigh Road Car Park 25 May until 2130hrs as a trial then possibly again on the 28th Sept until 2130hrs and 26th Oct 2200hrs.

AMC022/24 COUNCILLOR UPDATES

Cllr S Hill informed the Parish Council Werrington Volunteers do not require any help from Werrington Parish Council for D Day.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS (PUBLIC AND PRESS EXCLUDED)

AMC023/24 QUOTES FOR ALLOTMENT FENCING

A discussion was held and Werrington Parish Council approved Trentham Fencing for the cheaper option to fence the exposed side of the allotments.

AMC024/24 STAFFING

a) The Clerks appraisal was discussed and after a discussion it was decided to carry out further research before awarding a further incremental increase.
b) The Clerk presented a report of pay scale that had been incorrect, and the Parish Council approved the back pay of the amounts.

AMC025/24 QUOTES FOR KERBING ON MEIGH ROAD CAR PARK

Werrington Parish Council discussed the quotes provided to install a kerb at the top of the lengthsmans hut track to preserve the newly installed tarmac car park. Werrington Parish Council approved DJC to carry out the work using the remaining contingency of the S106 grant.

AMC026/24 QUOTES FOR THE MILLENIUM ROCK

After a discussion Werrington Parish Council agreed not to continue with lighting up the Millenium Rock at this time because providing electricity to the location was too expensive and the solar alternatives did not look to be adequate.

Werrington Parish Council did agree with the quotation to install the D Day Bench.

AMC027/24 QUOTES FOR EQUIPMENT TO RECORD MEETINGS

After a discussion it was agreed with a majority vote to purchase one microphone and wide angled camera to begin to video Parish Council meetings. Cllr Brownsword agreed to research prices for video hosting.

MEETING CLOSED AT 21:45

DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL IS MAY 2025 (TBC)

DATE OF NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING IS 10TH JUNE 2024