

**Minutes of a meeting of Lapley, Stretton and Wheaton Aston
Parish Council held in Vernon Lodge Hall, Stretton on
Thursday 6th May 2010 at 7.30 pm.**

Present: Mrs. B. Cox in the chair Mrs. E. Morgan-Williams
Mr. P. Elson Cllr. R. Wright
Mrs. S. Gould
Mr. T. Noblett
Mr. P. Timson

Clerk: Mrs. D. Bate

Apologies: PCSO A. Price PC A. Smith
Cllr. R. Roberts Mr. A. Monckton
Mr. N. Barnsley Mrs. D. Wildman

278 Election of Chairman

Mrs. B. J. Cox was elected as Chairman until May 2011.

279 Election of Vice-Chairman

Mr. T. Noblett was elected as Vice-Chairman until May 2011.

280 Revision of Bank and Building Society Mandates

It was resolved to leave the mandates unchanged as follows:

Lloyds TSB Treasurer's Account	Debra Bate
	Barbara Cox
	Peter Timson
	Roy Wright
	Philip Elson
Lloyds TSB 30 Day Notice Account	Debra Bate
	Barbara Cox
	Peter Timson
	Roy Wright
	Philip Elson
Nationwide Treasurer's Account	Debra Bate
	Barbara Cox
	Peter Timson

281 Appointment of Representatives

It was resolved to maintain the representatives unchanged as follows:

Lapley & Wheaton Aston Village Management Committee
1. Mrs. E. Morgan-Williams
2. Mr. T. Noblett
3. Mr. R. Wright
4. Mrs. S. Gould
5. Mr. N. Barnsley
Lapley & Wheaton Aston Recreation Ground Committee
1. Mr. R. Wright

Staffordshire Parish Councils Association (S. Staffs Area Committee)
1. Mrs. S. Gould
Lapley & Wheaton Aston Old Peoples' Welfare Committee
1. Mrs. D. Wildman
2. Mrs. E. Morgan-Williams
South Staffordshire Sports Council
1. Mr. R. Wright
Wheaton Aston Community First Responders
1. Mr. N. Barnsley
Wheaton Aston Youth Forum
1. Mrs. B. Cox
2. Mr. T. Noblett
3. Mr. P. Timson

282 Appointment of Trustees to Parish Charities

It was resolved that Cllr. R. Wright would be a trustee until May 2014.
 The other Parish Council trustees are: Mr. P. Elson (appointed 2009 to 2013) and Mr. T. Noblett (appointed 2008 to 2012).

283 Appointment of Working Groups

It was resolved that Mrs. Cox would join the Christmas Lights Working Group and Mr. P. Elson would join the Parish Maintenance Working Group, otherwise the working groups would remain unchanged as follows:

Parish Maintenance
Mrs. B. Cox
Mr. P. Elson
Mr. T. Noblett
Mr. P. Timson
Mrs. D. Wildman
Cllr. R. Wright
Mr. M. Fox
Mrs. S. Gould
Summer Holiday Play Scheme
Mrs. B. Cox
Mr. P. Elson
Mr. T. Noblett
Mr. P. Timson
Forward Planning & Finance
Mrs. B. Cox
Mr. P. Elson
Mrs. D. Wildman
Mr. T. Noblett
Mr. P. Timson
Cllr. R. Wright
BKV
Mr. N. Barnsley
Mr. P. Elson
Mr. M. Fox
Mrs. S. Gould
Christmas Lights
Mrs. B. Cox

Mr. P. Elson
Cllr. R. Wright
Mr. N. Barnsley
Wheaton Aston Play Strategy
Cllr. R. Wright

284 Public Participation

7 members of the public attended.

Two representatives from Wheaton Aston Sports and Social Club Trustees asked the Parish Council to support the application that they had recently made to South Staffordshire Council's Capital Grants and Loans Scheme. They reported that the flat roof is leaking and needs replacing and that the cellar is costly to keep cool. Planning applications have been submitted for both pieces of work.

They also stated that the club has been in place for 40 years and is used by all ages for cricket and football. They are looking to involve more children and widen the range of activities available. They have found it difficult to attract grant funding because of the lack of minority groups in the local population. The charity has funds in the form of shares which they will use for the rest of the cost and entertainment will be more widely advertised to raise extra revenue.

The Chairman thanked the representative for attending and assured them that the matter was on the agenda and would be considered during the meeting.

Mrs. Gould raised the issue of the gnome that has appeared at Stretton bus shelter. It was agreed that the children at the school should be asked to name it and Mrs. Gould could arrange to cement it in.

285 Apologies

The apologies were accepted.

286 Declarations of interest

Cllr. Wright & Mr. Noblett: Wheaton Aston Recreation Ground's application to South Staffordshire Council Capital Loans and Grants Scheme.

Mr. Elson: Grant request from Friends of Motte Meadows

287 To approve the minutes of 1st April 2010

The minutes were approved and the Chairman given permission to sign them at the end of the meeting.

288 To receive report from Clerk

The Clerk gave the following report:

- **252**

The Clerk has forwarded details to Friends of Motte Meadows as requested.

- **256**

The two columns at the car park have been cut and painted. The planters have arrived and Mr. Cadman will be planting them next week.

- **258**

The clerk has met with the Village Agent. A consultation day (funded through the Village Agent) will be held in Lapley to find out residents concerns, issues, hopes and aspirations. The clerk has suggested that it is a joint event and that the information collected will be used to feed into the parish plan.

- **Fairview Court**

The clerk was contacted by a resident complaining about landscape contractors for Fairview Court blowing leaves etc... into the road. The clerk has contacted Cameron Homes and complained and they have dealt with the employee responsible and assure the council that it won't happen again.

- **Deadline for items for the May meeting**

24th May 2010

- **Work priorities for May**

- Run 2008/9 year end on Edge accounts system
- Enter 2009/10 accounts so far onto Edge accounts system
- Year end
- Produce News and Views
- Renew insurance policy

The report was accepted.

289 To receive police report and consider policing matters

The Chairman gave the following report which had been received from PC A. Smith:

CRIMES IN THE AREAS OF WHEATON ASTON, LAPLEY & STRETTON
FROM 31ST MARCH 2010 TO 5TH MAY 2010

1. BURGLARY DWELLINGS. None Reported.
2. BURGLARY OTHER. None Reported.
3. ATTEMPT BURGLARY. 1 Reported (Wheaton Aston).
4. THEFT FROM VEHICLE. None Reported.
5. THEFT OF VEHICLE. None Reported.
6. DRUGS. None Reported
7. VIOLENCE. None Reported.
8. ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR. 1 Reported (W/A).
9. CRIMINAL DAMAGE. 1 Reported (Wheaton Aston).

OTHER ITEMS OF ATTENTION.

1. PC SMITH will be unable to attend the meeting due to being on a day shift. PCSO PRICE will be unable to attend the meeting due to being on rest days.
2. The anti-social behaviour incident was regarding youths being loud by the church next to the spar shop in Wheaton Aston back on 4th April.
3. The attempt burglary was to a garage in Marston Road back on 7th April. No entry was gained, nothing stolen but damage caused to the lock. No witnesses or CCTV.
4. The criminal damage was to the vacant shop next to "Split Endz" on 24th April (Was recently the antique shop). Unknown persons identified, no witnesses and no CCTV.
5. A Police Surgery will also be taking place on Monday 24th May outside the village hall Wheaton Aston from 1.30pm to 2.30pm. This is a chance for any residents to find out how we are Policing the village and to offer any form of advice or reassurance.

The Chairman urged everyone present to report everything to the police no matter how small it may seem. Concern was raised that two incidents that were reported to the police didn't show on the report.

Mrs. Morgan-Williams had received a report that a car had parked by the side of the skate park and was suspected of dealing drugs. The Chairman reiterated that incidents should be reported to the police and not the Parish Council.

Speeding vehicles along Marston Road was also reported.

It was resolved that Clerk should raise the issues with PC Smith.

290 To receive report from the County Councillor

County Councillor. Roberts was unable to attend and there was no report.

291 To receive report from District Councillor

District Councillor Roy Wright gave the following report.

Cllr. Brian Cox was Chairman of the Planning Committee

Cllr. Roy Wright is Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee

Weston Estates are preparing a planning application for country park chalets and an access road.

292 To consider planning matters:

Following discussion the following responses were agreed:

10/00248/FUL	Oaklands Farm	No objection
10/00279/FUL	Stable Cottage	No objection
10/00338/FUL	Wheaton Aston Cricket & Sports Club	No objection
10/00326/FUL	Longnor Mill Farm	

No objection but the clerk was asked to raise environmental concerns (bats & nesting birds) and the effects on local wildlife.

The following decisions were reported:

10/00083/FUL (9 High Street, Wheaton Aston) – Granted

10/00121/REN (Lodge Park House, Lapley) – Refused

10/00124/COU (Castlecroft Garage, Watling St) – Refused

10/00123/FUL (Lock Cottage, Long St) – Refused

The Clerk also reported that the alleged unauthorised car wash and associated fly posting is being investigated by South Staffordshire Council & Staffordshire Highways.

293 To consider an application under the Licensing Act 2003 for Bengal Fusion

It was resolved that the Parish Council had no objection to the application for opening hours and licensable activities, which include recorded music and the supply of alcohol from 17.30 to 23.00 Tuesday to Sunday.

294 To receive year end accounts

It was resolved to accept the draft year end accounts summary and annual return.

295 To consider the Parish Council insurance cover

Cllr. Wright declared a personal interest as a family member is a director of Aviva (one of the insurance companies who had provided a quote).

It was resolved to delegate power to the Clerk to make a decision on the insurance company to be appointed following consultation with the Forward Planning & Finance Working Group (FP&FWG).

It was resolved that the extra legal cover for councillors should be taken out.

296 To consider a grant request from Friends of Motte Meadows

It was resolved to request a visit from a representative from Natural England to discuss concerns about the impact of the development of Motte Meadows and provide some assurances about their planned management of the area.

297 To approve payment of accounts

The accounts on the attached list were approved.

298 To consider supporting an application to South Staffordshire Council's Capital and Loans Scheme by Wheaton Aston Recreation Ground.

Following a lengthy discussion it was resolved to approve to a grant of £10,000 and a loan of £8,000 from the scheme. It was also resolved that the subject should be put on the agenda of the next FP&FWG meeting so that other potential projects for the parish could be identified and funds applied for. The Clerk was asked to write to South Staffordshire Council and send a copy to Mr. Brian Punter.

299 To consider Staffordshire County Council Highways matters

The Clerk presented an update on the motorcycle casualty reduction work on the A5.

The Clerk informed councillors that she had been approached to take part in a trial of a new Highways website to be used for reporting and viewing highways problems.

The Clerk informed councillors that she and the Chairman had been invited to a meeting at South Staffordshire Council regarding the planning for the V-Festival and associated traffic.

It was reported that speeding vehicles has become a problem in Marston road, Wheaton Aston and that the risk is much higher now that more children are using the playing field. Stretton is still suffering from speeding traffic. The Clerk was asked to write to Highways and the Police about possible speed reduction measures (possible flashing speed signs). The Clerk was also asked to put an article in News & Views asking residents to drive more slowly.

300 To consider matters of parish maintenance

a) Primrose Bank Play Area

The Clerk reported that the Village Orderly would be using excess soil to cover the safety matting at Primrose Bank Play area that has become exposed.

It was resolved that the clerk should organise a one day RoSPA course for the clerk, village orderly, volunteer inspector and any interested councillors on inspecting play equipment at a cost of c. £700.

It was agreed that the litter picker will collect for half an hour day during May, June & July.

b) Marston Road Field

The clerk reported that the annual RoSPA inspection took place early (in April) to protect the Parish Council from legal action. It was resolved that the inspections should revert back to August in 2011.

The clerk reported that the litter picker had agreed to work an extra half an hour a week during May, June and July. The Clerk also presented a letter from Mrs. Morris complaining about the litter at the skatepark. A similar letter from another concerned resident was also presented. The clerk reported that South Staffordshire Council had agreed to move two bins to the skate park, one to the youth shelter and install a new one by the entrance to the field.

The clerk reported that the bench next to the skatepark had been re-sited and the overhanging branches of a nearby tree trimmed back. It was resolved to bolt down a bench that had been moved to the skatepark area and to carry out tree surgeon work to the tree in September.

The clerk reported that wording for the skatepark sign had been sent to the sign maker and should be installed in the near future. She also reported that the sign was being made free of charge by Best Sign.

The clerk reported that since the skatepark had been installed the barbed wire fence had been damaged and cars have been parked down the track between the field and the school grounds. The track and fence belong to Mr. Swift. It was resolved that the Parish Council should repair the barbed wire, install a metal fence on its land and plant a hedge in front of it. The clerk was asked to obtain quotes and write to the farmer suggesting that a gate is put at the end of his track and that the Parish Council would be prepared to share the cost.

The clerk reported that she had identified an opportunity to have the developments at Marston Road Field documented photographically at no cost. It was resolved that the clerk should proceed.

c) Empty Property (former Indian/French restaurant)

The clerk reported that she had written to the owner asking him to arrange for the frontage to be kept tidy and had received an email asking for assistance to occupy his property. The Clerk was asked to write to South Staffordshire Council to request a tidy up order on the property with a copy to Cllr. Wright.

d) St. Mary's Church

The Clerk reported that Bloomin' Gardens had agreed to box off the grass at the churchyard at no extra cost. It was resolved to accept the quote of £60 to scarify the grass.

The clerk was asked to send Mr. Fox contact details for Bloomin' Gardens so that he could inform them of dates/times of funerals etc... at All Saints church.

The clerk was asked to request that Bloomin' Gardens pick up the leaves in the churchyard and box cut the grass.

It was agreed that AFEB should lay the hedge in September as planned in 2009.

Cllr. Wright commended the planting of the conker trees at Wenlock Bank and the dog poop bag dispensers.

The clerk was asked to instruct the Village Orderly to clean traffic and road signs in the parish.

Mrs. Gould reported a pot hole in the Avenue at Stretton and agreed to report it directly to Clarence.

301 To consider a report from the Annual Parish Meeting

A copy of the Chairman's report was given to all members and it was agreed that it should go in the summer issue of News & Views as an insert.

302 To receive reports from representatives to other meetings

Meeting: WAPSWG

Mr. Noblett reported that they were working on grants for developments at Broadholes Lane and would be holding a consultation on 10th July. He also reported that the volume of litter at the skatepark had reduced and that the bins would be bolted down. Julie Jones had met with the local youths to emphasise that they need to keep the skatepark area tidy.

He and Mrs. Doyle had met with the provider of equipment for Marston Road Field and had agreed the fine details of the project and were planning a meeting with Pat Davies at South Staffordshire Council to finalise plans. Cllr Roberts was to be asked to cut the ribbon at the official opening ceremony.

They had been unsuccessful with the grant application for a BMX track but would obtain feedback and reapply in July. The Youth Capital Fund would also be targeted.

Meeting: St. Mary's First School

Mrs. Cox reported that she had attended the opening of the new fitness trail at the First School and had been invited to cut the ribbon.

303 To receive correspondence

Members were asked to note the following correspondence:

Community Council of Staffordshire	LINK consultation
Wheaton Aston Carnival	Thank you email for grant
SSC	Draft Policy Consultation
SCC	Pensions Consultative Forum (Change of date)
Wheaton Aston CFR	Thank you letter for grant
Mr. MacDonald	Email and response
Staffordshire Health Scrutiny Committee	Local health services

The Clerk was thanked for her response to Mr. MacDonald's email.

304 Any other brief matters of report

It was reported that St. Mary's First School and Brewood Middle School were considering whether to become federated. From September Mrs. Wesley will work part-time as Headteacher and Mr. Swift will become Executive Head teacher until Easter 2011 when Mrs. Wesley will retire. Mr. Swift will then become Headteacher of both schools. This is not uncommon in rural schools. A federation committee will be created comprising governors of both schools.

It was reported that the Old People's Welfare AGM would take place on 10th May at 3pm in the village hall.

The Chairman closed the meeting to members of the public.

305 To consider provision for holiday/illness cover for the Clerk & RFO

It was resolved that a system be set up to cover leave of longer than one week of the clerk with the use of a locum clerk for 8 hours per week at the same rate as the permanent clerk is paid. The locum would open post, answer telephone calls/messages, check emails, receive play

equipment inspection reports, hold the Parish Council mobile phone and be a point of contact for staff, councillors and contractors.

306 To consider security issues

It was resolved to accept the quote from Chubb for a security system at a cost of £1089.55 + £407.70 for the remote units.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.30pm

Signed..... Date: 3rd June 2010

DRAFT

Payment of Accounts

Accounts paid during the month

None

		£ including VAT
Salaries & associated costs	Salaries, PAYE & Pension Payments	£1002.98
Cash	Top up of petty cash	£247.58
ESPO	Cable ties	£ 9.87
ESPO	Office stationery	£ 60.18
ESPO	Office stationery	£ 19.44
South Staffordshire Council	Removal of post at car park	£118.26
Kallkwik	Spring 2010 newsletters	£185.00
Suttons	Summer seeds for car park	£ 18.04
AFEB Ltd	January 2010 maintenance	£158.62
Wheaton Aston Village Hall	Hall Hire	£ 83.60
NALC	LCR Subscription	13.50
Blachere	Hire of Christmas Motif Lights	1756.63
NPower	Christmas illuminations	50.89
M. Bissell	Expenses	16.00
Plantscape	Lamppost planters	150.17
Play Safety	RoSPA Inspection	306.68