

**Minutes of a meeting of Lapley, Stretton and Wheaton Aston
Parish Council held in Wheaton Aston Village Hall on
Thursday 19th September 2011 at 6.00 pm.**

Present:	Mrs. B. Cox	Wheaton Aston (Vice-Chairman)
	Mr. P. Elson	Wheaton Aston
	Mr. T. Noblett	Wheaton Aston (Chairman)
	Mrs. D. Wildman	Wheaton Aston
	Ms. S. Whittingham	Wheaton Aston
	Cllr. R. Wright	Lapley
	Mr. G. Mitchell	South Staffordshire Council
	Mrs. U. Bennion	South Staffordshire Housing Association

Parish Council Manager: Mrs. D. Bate

Apologies:	PCSO A. Price	Staffordshire Police
	PC A. Smith	Staffordshire Police
	Mrs. J. Squire	Wheaton Aston
	Mr. M. Fox	Lapley
	Mr. T. Whittingham	Wheaton Aston
	Mrs. S. Gould	Stretton
	Mr. B. Wells	Stretton
	Mrs. J. Wright	Village

209 Public Participation

3 members of the public attended.

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting.

No issues were raised.

The Chairman imposed standing orders.

Mrs. B. J. Cox arrived. (6.05pm)

210 Apologies

The apologies were accepted.

211 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

212 To consider commissioning a Housing Needs Survey for Lapley, Stretton & Wheaton Aston

The Chairman introduced Ursula Bennion from South Staffordshire Housing Association and Grant Mitchell from South Staffordshire Council.

The Chairman reminded councillors that a Housing Needs Survey was carried out in April 2008. The response rate was poor and the Parish Council disputed the report's findings.

The Chairman explained to councillors that in July he had met with Grant Mitchell Head of Housing and Regeneration at South Staffordshire Council and Ursula Bennion of South Staffordshire Association along with the Vice-Chairman and Parish Council Manager to discuss how to ensure that any future housing in the parish was appropriate and needed.

It was agreed at the Parish Council meeting, on 1st September 2011, that the existing Housing Needs Survey is now out-of-date and if residents were surveyed again it would give a more accurate picture of what housing is needed. It was also agreed that the findings of such a survey would help to inform the Parish's Community-led Plan.

As a number of planning applications have been approved in recent years for new dwellings and developers are showing interest in building new homes in the parish the Parish Council agreed to consider whether to ask South Staffordshire Council to carry out a new Housing Needs Survey.

South Staffordshire Council's Housing Needs Surveys are carried out by an independent professional. South Staffordshire Housing Association contributes to the cost of this but does not have any influence over the interpretation of the results.

A discussion took place regarding the possibility of a Housing Needs Survey for the parish and it was resolved to commission a Housing Needs Survey in order to ascertain the need for both private and social housing.

It was resolved that a working party would work with South Staffordshire Council and South Staffordshire Housing Association to tailor the standard affordable housing survey to the parish and to include private housing.

The working party would consist of the following:

Mr. T. Noblett
Mrs. B. J. Cox
Mrs. D. Wildman
Mr. B. Wells
Cllr. R. Wright
Parish Council Manager, Mrs. D. Bate

It was resolved that the survey should be posted out with an SAE for replies.

It was also resolved that Mr. Lancaster would visit the Parish Council to explain the results and that the results should be communicated back to the community.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.0pm

Signed..... Date: 6th October 2011