



St Georges & Priorslee Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 19th December 2023 commencing at 7pm at The School Hall, St Georges C of E Primary School, London Road, St Georges.

Chairman: Cllr Richard Overton

Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer: Kate Southgate

Administrative Assistant: Catherine Lane (taking minutes)

Present:

Councillors: R. Cadman, E. Dabbs, S. Handley, A. Harrison, S. Harrison, J. Little, R. Overton (Chairman), G. Singh, J. Smart, P. Thomas, R. Tyrrell.

In attendance: J. Ellis PS Officer

Welcome from the Chair: The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. The room was informed that the proceedings would be voice recorded and destroyed once the minutes had been agreed.

114/24 Apologies: There were no apologies.

115/24 Declarations of Interest:

Cllrs S Handley and P Thomas declared an interest as substitute Members of the Borough Planning Committee and reserved their right to speak and/or vote on planning matters.

Members agreed that they would make any other declarations if they arose during the meeting. Cllr R Overton declared a non-pecuniary interest as Telford & Wrekin Cabinet Member with responsibility for strategic planning and said that he would not take part in any discussions about strategic planning matters.

116/24 Public Session: 15 minutes is allowed for members of the public to raise their concerns.

There were seven members of the public present.

The following matters were raised:

- Residents enquired if there had been any progress regarding the turning point on Albion Street and the painting of yellow lines there, which is an ongoing concern. Cars are parking in the turning head which is causing other vehicles to drive onto residents' driveways in order to turn around. On one occasion a heavy lorry did just that and sank into the driveway. The inconsiderate behaviour caused by cars blocking the turning point is also affecting vehicles such as the bin lorries and delivery vans who are struggling to turn around and would affect emergency vehicles too.
- The Parish Council is aware that the Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO's) have commenced and TWC go through a period of consultation on all proposed orders. the Parish Council will ask the Clerk to write to TWC Highways to enquire about an update on the matter and what can be done in the meantime about enforcement.

117/24 Minutes:

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21st November 2023 having been circulated, be agreed, and signed.

118/24 Clerk's update on any matters arising from the previous meeting:

(a) Disabled access to the Flash – Having spoken to highways, the Clerk reported the original quote to allow disabled access to the flash from Durrent Road didn't conform with regulations as the gradient wouldn't be able to be altered, although handrails could be provided.

(b) Loneliness – The Clerk reported on a very positive meeting with Age UK who are hoping to book our rooms to hold monthly sessions for elderly residents in the area starting in spring. They are also looking for more volunteers to help with their "Befriending Service" They currently have residents in the local area who have requested a buddy to either visit or call them on a weekly basis. A DBS check and training would be provided. More information can be found on the Age UK webpage if you would like to volunteer or know someone that could benefit from the service.

(c) Repair to the rocker sea saw – An emergency repair was carried out by Rod Carter overseen by TWC to make safe the handle that had been vandalized on the Freeston Avenue Playpark.

(d) Pathway to clock on Priorslee – This is on ongoing project.

(e) CCTV – An update was given on the locations of the current CCTV in the area, with locations being: Freeston Avenue /Hazel Way alley way, Hazel Way Junction, Stafford Street / Church Street, St Georges underpass /Durrant Road, Freeston Avenue MUGA, Wordsworth Way Priorslee.

(f) Volunteering pop up – An event is planned for Wednesday 21st February 3pm in the school hall where residents can get more information and sign up for a number of different volunteering opportunities in the local area, from many different providers such as scouts to snow wardens, Crisis Support to Craft and Chat.

(g) First Point Roadshow – TWC held an event at the Parish Centre on 5th December between 9am – 1pm for residents to speak to the team about any issues they had about anything. Although the event was publicised by TWC the Parish Council commented that going forward it would be better to have more notice to publicise the event.

(h) St Georges Primary School– wrote to thank the Parish Council for their support with the use of the council rooms for their Santa's Grotto this year, which was a huge success.

(i) Grit Bins – The Clerk updated councillors on the grit bin request for the Cloisters estate, both Taylor Wimpy and Tiller Homes are happy to have a bin located in the area. TWC have now been tasked with organizing this. The Clerk was informed that there was in fact some damage to the current grit bin at the Cloisters, the lid had been broken off and it needed re-filling, this would be reported to TWC.

(j) Community Action Team (CAT) – Cllr Paul Thomas commented that tomorrow at Lakeside there would be a CAT Team Engagement drop in session to educate and gather intel and support resident with any enquires – van has seating area for residents to sit and chat to officers.

119/24 Planning:

Note: for every planning application it will be considered whether any proposed climate change mitigation measures are adequate.

Applications:

TWC/2023/0851

Site address: Land between, Castle Farm Way and A5, Priorslee, Telford, Shropshire

Description of proposal: Reserved matters application pursuant to outline planning permission TWC/2014/0980 (layout, scale, landscaping and external appearance) for the erection of primary

school and nursery comprising of a two storey building with hard and soft landscaping, external play areas with parking and ancillary works.

Comment: Support subject to conditions:

The Parish Council is extremely concerned about the lack of parking provisions in the new development both in the short and long term. Parking especially around the start and end of the school day causes huge problems at the existing primary schools (and secondary) and out into the wider neighbourhood with complaints about parking (streets becoming congested and residents being blocked in) being a constant reminder of the issues parking and schools' cause. With the opportunity of developing a site from scratch or using a blank canvas, so to speak and we would welcome the use of a community car park / park and stride site for the school – a car park with a safe and short walking access to the school site.

TWC/2023/0852

Site address: 1 The Timbers, St Georges, Telford, Shropshire, TF2 9UY

Description of proposal: Erection of single story side extensions and replacement front porch

Comment: No comment.

Permissions Granted:

TWC/2023/0717

Site address: Site of Tzigane, Freeston Avenue, St Georges, Telford, Shropshire

Description of proposal: Erection of 2no. single storey dwellings and associated landscaping

Decision: Full Granted 15.11.23

TWC/2023/0762

Site address: 15 George Wynn Way, Priorslee, Telford, Shropshire, TF2 9TH

Description of proposal: Erection of a rear veranda (Retrospective)

Decision: Full Granted 24.11.23

Permissions Refusals: None

Any other planning matters:

PE/2023/0651 – For Information Only

Site address: Land between, Castle Farm Way and A5 (Local Centre), Priorslee, Telford, Shropshire,

Description of proposal: The above Provisional Enquiry has been received by Development Management for 'Development of local centre with convenience store, ancillary retail unit, cafe with associated car parking and landscaping work.' All appropriate documents have been attached to this email. No additional information is available.

TWC/2023/0870 – For Information Only

Site address: 12 Wordsworth Way, Priorslee, Telford, Shropshire, TF2 9RW

Description of proposal: Application under section 192 for a certificate of lawfulness for a proposed conversion of integral garage to habitable accommodation.

TWC/2023/0777 – Withdrawn 15.12.23

Site address: Land between, Castle Farm Way and A5 (Phase 1), Priorslee, Telford.

Description of proposal: Variation of condition 7 (deposited plans) of planning application TWC/2022/0144 (Variation of conditions 4 & 8 of planning permission TWC/2019/0864 erection of 455no. dwellings, associated infrastructure and public open space) to facilitate amended layout and house designs to plots 272 to 455 (S.73 Application)) to allow amendments to previously approved plans.

120/24 Finance:

(a) To approve payments of accounts due in December 2023

Resolved: to approve all payments for the December Schedule.

Updated Expenditure Approvals List for Parish Council meeting on 19 December 2023

Name	Particulars	Amount (£)	Detail
Poundland	Christmas Craft Supplies	10.30	Debit Card
J Ellis	Kate & Jess Subsistence Chester	29.65	Bank Transfer
J Ellis - Aldi	Coffee Morning Supplies	8.64	Bank Transfer
J Ellis	The Works/Card Factory Craft	19.87	Bank Transfer
J Ellis - Argos	Laminates	9.99	Bank Transfer
Co-op	Milk for Coffee Morning	1.65	Debit Card
Staff Salaries	Salaries & Wages Dec 23	3,496.17	Standing Order
HMRC	Tax & NI in Dec 23	689.62	Bank Transfer
Pension Fund	Pension Contributions Dec 23	1,108.03	Standing Order
Post Office	Postage Stamps	14.50	Debit Card
J Ellis - Aldi	Milk/Toilet Rolls	10.55	Bank Transfer
Total		5,398.97	

Expenses Awaiting Authorisation For Payment:

Name	Particulars	Amount (£)
Rialtas	Accounts Package Training	300.00
TWC	Visual Check 39 Columns	224.30
Stevenson Carter	Freeston Rocker Handle Repair	186.00
Transolutions Shrop ltd	Window Cleaning 11th Aug 23	45.00
TWC - WI Cllr Pride	Return of Funds To G Denning	5,000.00
Idverde	Playground Inspections Nov 23	156.00
Lightwire Electrical	1st Installment of Festive Lighting	11,371.80
SALC	Staff Training - Budget/Procurement	60.00
TWC	CAT/NEO Contribution 23/24	16,760.00
		34,103.10

£
Payments Total 39,502.07

(b) Budget comparison report for the eight months to 30 November 2023 – Noted.

(c) Council to consider quotes for 2024 Hanging Baskets

Resolved: to approve the recommended quote and appoint Limetree Nursery's. £4988 for 43 baskets supplied and watered and feed for 16 weeks.

(d) Report from St Georges Partnership regarding Christmas Lights Event

The members received a breakdown on what the grant moneys had been spent on at the Christmas Lights 2023 Event.

(e) Chester Report. The Chester 2023 coach trip was a success with three coaches going to the Christmas Markets. Cllr Gurdip Singh reported that quite a few residents had enquired about alternative destinations. It was suggested that we put an article in the next Parish Newsletter asking residents for their suggestions and feedback.

(f) Council to consider Budget and Precept for 2023/24

Resolved: that the precept request for 2024/25 is set at £259625. Based on Band “D” equivalents this represents an increase of 17.2%

The Clerk was thanked for her hard work and comment made that this was possibly the best budget proposal yet.

(g) Survey of grass cutting service in 2023 and quotations for grass cutting in 2024

Cllr S. Handley declared a none disclosable pecuniary interest, being that one of the quote’s is from the gardener he uses at home. He abstained from the discussion and vote.

The Deputy Clerk gave a brief explanation of the free lawn mowing service we offer, the changes we will be making to the 2024 gardening year and why we are supporting the no mow may initiative.

Resolved: to go with the quote from Jones Handyman Service which will come out of the £5500 budget, allowing for around 10 cuts a year.

121/24 Environment/Public Realm:

(a) Community Action Team Enforcement. Noted.

(b) Community Action Team Public Realm - The Clerk updated the Council on issues that the CAT team had been dealing with such as clearing ally ways, gritting the underpass in Priorslee, and clearing the brook behind Priorslee Academy Primary School. Councillors commented that the CAT team do a great job and are an asset to our parish, whether it is cutting back obstructing hedges or clearing leaves they are swift to act and get the job done.

122/24 Gower Project: Verbal update on project from Gower Working Group: Cllr Cadman was able to update that the hard standing for the road was now in place, which allows for equipment and vehicles to access the site properly. There is now a working link from the Parish Council website which takes you to the latest update from Telford and Wrekin Council on the project.

123/24 Christmas Lights: The feedback from the public regarding the Christmas lights this year was positive, although there were a few issues with some of the lights that were going out, this was quickly rectified by the contractor.

124/24 Policy Review: Council to review the Staff Expense Policy

Resolved: that the Council adopt the Staff Expense Policy.

125/24 Community Projects & Events:

Report from the Community Projects & Events Officer – Noted.

Cllr Paul Thomas reported that the Priorslee Residents Association Christmas Event which was held on Saturday 9th December at Lakeside Garden Centre was a huge success with lots of stalls, a grotto and even a brass band.

126/24 Correspondence received:

(a) St Georges Cricket Club, request for a large grant

The Clerk would forward the Grants Form to the Cricket Club

(b) Bee U, request for use of the Parish Centre

The Clerk would write to Bee U to confirm use of the room.

127/24 Date of Next Meeting –Tuesday 16th January 2024

The Meeting closed at 8.30pm

Chairman.....20.02.24