



St Georges & Priorslee Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16th January 2024 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 and wished them a happy new year.

128/24 Apologies: There were no apologies.

129/24 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.

130/24 Public session: 15 minutes is allowed for members of the public to raise their concerns. There were four members of the public present.

The following matters were raised:

- Residents from Urban Villas raised concerns regarding the volume of parked vehicles belonging to contractors working at the Gower site. There is a small parking area for residents which workman are using but it is the parking in the turning head which is causing the most concern.
- Due to the road closure on Furnace Road cars are being redirected along Cannongate at excessive speeds. Care is also not being taken when pulling out of Priorslee Road with drivers not looking left as they assume the road is closed, however there are still several vehicles coming from Hazel way etc.

131/24 Minutes:

Resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th December 2023.

Resolved to re-approve the minutes of October 17th and November 21st 2023 for which the expenditure approvals lists had been omitted.

132/24 Clerk's update on any matters arising from the previous meeting:

- (a) **TRO Albion Street** – The following response from TWC was received: *Albion Street is in this coming year's programme to look into – It would be expected to be out to consultation in late*

summer of 2024 with any proposals. TWC are currently transitioning our traffic regulation order management system over to a new provider so there is currently a moratorium on new traffic orders at the moment while we get everything moved across – hence the late summer expectation as opposed to anything earlier.

(b) Cloisters New Grit Bin – The Clerk confirmed that a new Grit bin would be installed asap.

(c) Cloisters Damaged Grit Bin – Confirmation has come from TWC that the grit bin was owned and maintained by the developer.

(d) Volunteering pop up – The Clerk reminded everyone that the volunteering Pop-up will be taking place in the school hall at 2.45pm on Wednesday 21st February 24 where residents will be able to attend to get more information and sign up for volunteering opportunities in the local area.

133/24 Planning:

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

Planning Applications & Decisions notified by Telford & Wrekin Council.

Applications: None.

Permissions Granted:

TWC/2023/0827

Site address: 2 The Grove Estate, St Georges, Telford, Shropshire, TF2 9JH

Description of proposal: Replacement of a single storey side extension

Decision: Full Granted 19.12.23

TWC/2023/0836

Site address: 4 Lapwing Gate, Priorslee, Telford, Shropshire, TF2 9SU

Description of proposal: Erection of a replacement porch

Decision: Full Granted 21.12.23

TWC/2023/0852

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

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

Decision: Full Granted 11.1.24

Permissions Refusals: None.

Any other planning matters: None.

134/24 Finance:

(a) to approve payments of accounts due in January 2024.

Resolved to approve all payment in January's expenditure sheet.

Expenditure Approvals List for Parish Council meeting on 16 January 2024

Name	Particulars	Amount (£)	Detail
Staff Salaries	Salaries & Wages Jan 24	3,630.06	Standing Order
HMRC	Tax & NI in Jan 24	761.62	Bank Transfer
Pension Fund	Pension Contributions Jan 24	1,158.82	Standing Order
BT	Line Charge Jan-Mar 24	139.61	Bank Transfer
SALC	Clerks VAT Training	30.00	Bank Transfer
Total		5,720.11	

Expenses Awaiting Authorisation For Payment:

Name	Particulars	Amount (£)	Detail
B Dempsey	Craft Supplies - Xmas 23	22.19	
		22.19	
		<u>£</u>	
	Payments Total	5,742.30	

(b) Budget Comparison Report for the 9 months ended 31st December 2023 – Noted.

(c) To approve 24/25 CAT Team 5-year contract costing £33,445 per year

Resolved to proceed with the CAT team 5 year fixed contract costing £33,445 per year.

(d) To sign TWC Precept request for 24/25 as agreed in December 2023.

Resolved to sign the precept request for £259,625 for the 24/25 financial year.

(e) To approve Rialtas accounting software year end closedown.

Resolved to purchase the Silver Scheme end of year service costing £853.00 plus VAT.

(f) To approve additional bank account.

Resolved to open a Unity Trust Bank account. The Clerk will continue to research other options for a further account.

Resolved that Cllrs S. Handley, A. Harrison, S. Harrison, R. Overton, P. Thomas, become signatories for this account.

135/24 Environment/Public Realm:

(a) Community Action Team Enforcement Report – The Chairman reminded Councillors' that should they have any suggestions or know of problem areas that the NEOs could assist with, to let the Clerk know.

(b) Community Action Team Public Realm – The CAT team were keeping up with their routine work, however the oversight of weeding in the square was noted along with the importance of ongoing maintenance visits to the brook in Priorslee.

136/24 Gower Project: Cllr Cadman updated the committee on works so far. Water connection will be looked at next month and Gas connection was being started this week. The hording has been taken down due to all the adverse weather conditions of late. These will be reinstated when works on the new retaining wall have been completed.

137/24 Christmas Lights: Cllr Handley echoed what was said at December's meeting that overall, the feedback regarding the Christmas lights had been very positive and that we had done very well. Cllr Thomas commented that the chosen contractor had been superb, with reaction to dealing with any issues being very prompt. There were some LED strips that were broken which the contractor is trying to repair rather than replace. There was a hope that Pride funding could be spent on additional lights for Priorslee ready for Christmas 2024. The Clerk was thanked for her work in organising the installation of the pole in the square.

138/24 Domestic Abuse Champion: - Cllr Tyrrell gave a brief report on Domestic Abuse, its statutory definition and highlighted some of the training she has recently undertaken. She provided a handout which had useful information on it for anyone seeking further guidance.

139/24 Policy Review:

(a) Lone Working Policy review

Resolved to adopt the Lone Working Policy.

(b) Annual Leave Policy review

Resolved to adopt the Annual Leave Policy.

(c) Sickness & Absence Policy review

Resolved to adopt the Sickness & Absence Policy.

(d) Smoking Policy review

Resolved to adopt the Smoking Policy.

(e) Fire Safety Policy review

Resolved to adopt the Lone Working Policy.

140/24 Community Projects & Events:

(a) Report from the Community Projects & Events Officer – An update was given on current room bookings. Members were invited to attend a community litter pick taking place on 24th January between 10am – 12pm meeting at the Parish Centre.

(b) Priorslee Clock Proposed Footpath – Cllr Thomas updated the members regarding the unofficial monument at the Clock in Priorslee and the need to have a footpath installed to allow the community to lay the wreaths for remembrance without tackling the mud. Following a site visit, TWC officer Angelia Collier will take the lead on gaining quotes that suit the required specification.

(c) War Memorial Remembrance Plaques – We believe that the plaques are made from a die bond cast meaning they can't be polished. There was much discussion on other possible ways to improve the finish. Further investigation is required.

(d) Flower beds in St Georges Square – Cllr Handley requested that in order to keep the flower beds in St Georges Square looking nice all the year round that we put in place a regular planting program for spring, summer and winter.

(e) CCTV at Priorslee Skate Park – Members were updated on reports of antisocial behaviour coming from the skate park next to Kesworth Drive. It was felt that generally the behaviour of users was superb and very often older children were seen supporting / teaching younger ones. TWC had suggested that the Parish Council fund a fixed camera at the park, however it was decided that it would be better to watch and wait to assess the situation. The local SNT and NEO's often patrol the area and it was requested they be contacted to arrange additional visits to the area.

141/24 Correspondence received:

(a) Proposed Christmas Meals for Pensioners – A letter from local resident was received thanking the Parish Council for a very nice lights display for Christmas 2023. The need for a Christmas meal / gathering for the O.A.P's of the parish for 2024 was also highlighted. Cllr Singh made comment on another Parish he is on, for two consecutive years, the day in which the Christmas meal was held it happened to snow. This resulted in around 50 residents not turning up because of the bad weather. It was suggested that we include an article in the Parish Newsletter asking residents their views on Christmas meals.

Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 20th February 2024

The Meeting closed at 8:25pm

Chairman.....20.02.24