



Minutes of the Meeting of Lapley, Stretton & Wheaton Aston Parish Council held on Thursday 3rd September 2020 held virtually via Zoom conferencing system

Remotely in attendance:

Cllr T Noblett	Wheaton Aston (Chairman)
Cllr W Millington	Wheaton Aston (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Sue Whittingham	Wheaton Aston
Cllr R Nelson	Wheaton Aston
Cllr A Anderson	Stretton
Cllr M Smith	Wheaton Aston
Cllr S Whittingham	Wheaton Aston
Cllr V Renfrew	Lapley
Cllr B Cross	Wheaton Aston

Also in Attendance:

Mrs A Watson	Parish Clerk
Cllr V Jackson	South Staffordshire Council
Cllr B Cox	South Staffordshire Council

Two members of the public from 7pm and a third member of the public from 7.33pm

Apologies:

Cllr. M. Griffiths	Lapley
Cllr E Dadd	Stretton
Cllr M Sutton	Staffordshire County Council

Absent:

Members of the public were invited to speak which was declined.

Standing orders were imposed 7.00pm

41. To consider apologies

Apologies and reasons of absence were accepted from Cllr M Sutton, Cllr E Dadd and Cllr M Griffiths

42. Declaration of Interest/Dispensation

Cllrs confirmed that there is nothing to declare

43. Signing of the minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council virtual meeting held on 2nd July and the extra ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 21st July 2020 were agreed to be a true and correct copy. Cllr Noblett will sign a copy as soon as is practically possible

24. Clerks report

Clerks Report

Information

- The pension regulator re-declaration has been submitted dated effective from 1st June 2020
- SSC have been successful in receiving a grant for flood recovery which will be distributed to those affected.
- Rope climber rope burnt. Reported to 101 Ref: 21200036946
- Temporary Road Closure notification https://one.network/downloads/tm/1118/rg_road-closure-ttro-second-notice_117257687_3249515_820bd37a3c.pdf
- Temporary road closure notification https://one.network/downloads/tm/1118/rg_road-closure-ttro-second-notice_118190361_3252014_95c785aae4.pdf
- A concern has been raised about the possible obstruction of a footpath in Lapley, SCC rights of Way team have been engaged to identify the correct route and lawfulness of the obstruction

Maintenance

- Pot hole at far end of Marston Field reported as urgent
- Re-install Skateboard Covid-19 guidance sign that had been pulled off the skate park.
- Top of Lapley Telephone/Defibrillator Kiosk repainted – Spare paint passed by contractor to village orderly.
- New planter built and installed at Stretton. (ref: 166)
- 11 Smart Water signs installed on road side posts on entry roads to the three villages plus one in the centre of Wheaton Aston and one on or close to A5 (ref:167)
- Damaged Fly Tip sign replaced
- Sand and woodchip replaced on Marston Field (ref 170/3)
- Covid-19 play park re-opening signage installed on Primrose Play Park pruned trees overhanging footpath and obscuring road sign close to junction of Broadholes Lane and Ivetsey road. (ref: 176/7)
- Fenton House Lane road sign lifted from concrete, reported to SSC for repair
- Temporary repair made to Wheaton Aston Village Green low wooden fence (ref 179/180) Reported to SSDC for repair.
- Lapley Green wall has crumbled in one place, several companies have been contracted to tender for the work
- Burnt Rope climber at Marston Field– rope taped up (ref: 181/2)
- Hammock at Marston Field - Brackets on the posts tightened as were loose due to wood shrinkage.
- Two seats on Pendulum swing and one on rope swing replaced.
- Scratched arm of new metal bench touched up (ref:183/4)
- Increase in split on wooden play equipment has been reported and sent to The Play Inspection Company for advice (11/8/20)
- Sign installed on Marston Field asking dog walkers to just take one bag at a time due large number of dog bags taken from the dispenser. (ref: 192)
- Moles on Marston field reported to Contractor.
- Damaged Fenton house Ln road sign at the junction with Marston Rd reported to SSDC ref 185/6
- A resident has been referred to SCC with concerns on rusting drain covers on Long Street
- Assisted resident with flooding in property due to blocked rain
- Dog bags are being taken to set fire to
- 11.8.2020 Concerned raised of an increase in one if the splits of the wooden play equipment, emailed the Play Inspection co for advice- advice is to remove equipment from use and arrange an inspection-actioned
- Large branch fell at Badgers End, Afeb removed
- Afeb contacted to cut back trees for SID installation

Consultations

- Changes to the current planning system (NALC deadline for responses 17th September)
- Planning for the future - the planning white paper (NALC deadline for responses 15th October)

- Transparency and competition: a call for evidence on data on land control (NALC deadline for responses 16th October)

Meetings/Events

- 8.7.2020 Clerk and Environmental Health officer
- 15.7.20 Parish meeting with environmental health
- 11.08.20 – Induction for return to work at the Business hub – Clerk & Assistant
- 12th-16th October Virtual national conference. Clerk to attend
- Tuesday September 29th – Budgets and Precepts 7-9pm
- Monday October 12th – VAT – 7-9pm

Training/CPD

- 11/8 Signposting and resources
- 12/8 (A/Clerk) accessible document training
- 25/8(A/Clerk) accessibility statement writing
- 18/8 Communications and safeguarding
- 1/9 Committee and trustee roles
- 8/9 Assistive technology and digital skills
- 9/9 signposting and resources
- 14/9 writing policies and procedures
- 16/9 & 17/9 Communication and safeguarding
- 23/9 & 24/9 Assistive technology and digital skills
- 30/9 involving volunteers
- Morelock training on SID-

Items emailed to councillors

- 7.7.2020 SPCA news bulletin
- 7.7.2020 SPCA training session
- 8.7.2020 SCC Update on Birkenshaw Lane application
- 13.7.2020 Street Scene update
- 16.7.2020 R Taylor, Broadholes Lane
- 16.7.2020 SPCA newsbulletin
- 22.7.2020 SSC Flood scheme recovery grant
- 10.08.2020 LCR survey on holding remote meetings
- 10.8.2020 SC Supportive communities list of training dates
- 10/8/2020 planning app 20/00596/FUL
- 10/8/2020 SCC temp road closure https://one.network/downloads/tm/1118/rg_road-closure-ttro-second-notice_117257687_3249515_820bd37a3c.pdf
- 13.08.2020 SPC newsbulletin 1
- 13/8/2020 Planning app 20/00624/FUL
- 13/8/2020 SSC Local plans update
- 17/8/2020 Planning application 20/00657/FUL
- 19/8/2020 Cllr Nelson , obstruction of footpath at Lapley
- 20/8/2020 Cllr Sutton parking restriction info
- 20/8/2020 details on cctv
- 20/08/2020 SPCA newsbulletin

Use of devolved powers

- Agreed highways scheme outside Lapley Cemetery to concrete the highways to improve access. Expected costs to be shared with Cllr Sutton member fund £1500-£2000
- £300 wired to it Microshade for councillor tablet IT

- Play area signs (covid-19) ordered £216
- Survey has been sent to all Lapley residents outlining the agreed options for tree planning on Lapley Green
- The boggy path area of Marston Field copse is to grow over as it cannot be maintained
- The crowns on the kiosk at Lapley green are to be painted gold
- Afeb removed a fallen branch from Badgers END
- Cllr Sutton is assisting the Pc to find out who owns land off Ivetsey Road as some trees need cutting back for the SID installation
- Planters have been made for Stretton and Lapley and planted up
- Finger post painting and repairs to be carried out £550
- Comment on planning application 20/00596/FUL- 'no objection'
- Comment on planning application 20/00611/FUL- 'no objection'
- Comment on planning application 20/00624/FUL- 'no objection'

SSC Planning Decisions

- 19/00904/FUL- Approved Subject to Conditions
- 20/00200/FUL- Approved Subject to Conditions

45. Policing matters

No report

46. District report

Cllr Cox was invited to speak.

- All updates from SSC can be found in the weekly newsletter 'roundup'.
- SSC accounts for 2019/20 have been published and completed the statutory period of public inspection. The audit will follow.
- There have been may subscriptions for the green waste bin emptying

47. County report:

Cllr Sutton sent the following updates:

Drainage issues at Long Street: I have visited and spoken to residents on two occasions the second visit with the Highways drainage engineer and Severn Trent water (STW), I understand there are further visits planned to understand the issues

There are some complicated issues here that are being investigated and the residents are being kept informed Libraries are open again although with reduced hours and on a collection only service. That said some of the larger libraries are now allowing browsing, so things are slowly getting back to normal.

Schools are now fully open and parents are asked to if possible to walk to school with their children and where this is not possible allow extra time and park away from the school and walk the last ¼ mile or so. This will help to reduce congestion around schools and thus improve safety as well as being a healthier option

Local Members Grant

Member funds are still available for community groups to assist with recovery post COVID. For example I've supported guides and scouts who have not had any other financial assistance and still have expenses to pay but with little or no income.

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Coronavirus/I-can-help/COVID-19-Support-Fund/COVID-19-support-fund.aspx

48. Financial matters

Resolved to accept financial matters including:

- To accept the expenditure for June and July 2020
- To receive the Financial Summary to 31st July 2020
- To note payments/decisions made under delegated powers

49. Planning recommendations

Resolved to respond with the following comments:

- a) Planning application
20/00596/FUL- 'no objection'
20/00657/FUL- 'no objection'
20/00671/FUL (received after papers sent out) - 'no objection'
20/00661/FUL (received after papers sent out) - 'no objection'
- b) To respond to the following consultations:
 - Changes to the current planning system
 - Planning for the future
 - Transparency and competition: a call for evidence on data on land control

Resolved to delegate the response to the planning working group comprising of Cllr Noblett, Cllr Millington, Cllr Smith, Cllr Renfrew, Cllr Dadd, Cllr Sue Whittingham and Cllr Griffiths

50. Policies

Resolved to accept the following policies:

- a) Lone Worker Risk Assessment
- b) Lone Worker Policy
- c) Open Spaces Policy
- d) Safeguarding Policy
- e) Risk Assessment & Management
- f) Litter Picker Risk Assessment
- g) Grant Application Policy
- h) Co-option Policy & Procedure
- i) Website Accessibility Statement
- j) Website Privacy Policy
- k) Training and development Policy
- l) Filming, Videoing, Photography and Audio Recording at Council Meetings
- m) Dignity at Work / Bullying and Harassment Policy
- n) Health and Safety Policy

51. Working group reports

Christmas:

- Not to hold this event due to Covid-19
- To meet with St Marys School about holding a virtual event for the children to engage with the community
- Savings made from this year's event are to be divided between ring fenced funds for next year's event which will have a positive impact on the precept next year and the remaining donated to the following groups who normally hold stalls- Scouts, PTFA, CFRs, Carnival Committee
- The tree is to be installed on 9th November
- Lights on 14th Nov with the hope of a virtual event taking place that evening
- No information received from St Marys Church regarding the offer of support for a raffle to raise funds

Maintenance:

Future of Broadholes Lane:

- To begin a consultation process with residents about the use of the area. A first stage consultation will be conducted with residents in the immediate vicinity to obtain thoughts on changing the area into either an allotment or outdoor gym, thoughts are to be returned for consideration at January's meetings
Second stage: will be share these results with the rest of the village and obtain wider views. This will be a long process and further consultations with plans etc. will be required
- Repair to Lapley Wall Ditton Services (£450) to be appointed
- Tree planting at Lapley Green: A survey has been hand delivered to each residence in Lapley requesting that three options are considered: no trees, one tree or two trees (trees either plum

or cherry) closing dates for responses is 9th October and a consideration will be made at the October meeting. A concern has been received that this is not a counted vote, Council feel that data collection is not justifiable as the survey is to aid the decision rather than determine it

- In order to engage better a post box for suggestions/correspondence will be installed at each village for parishioner use. Maintenance group to consider the most appropriate box, costs vary: £41.99 ea. (Taylors) £81.41ea.(Amazon) or £245 ea.(Seton)
- Board walk at Marston: agreed to let the area grow over as the board walk isn't viable. Ditton service to be notified immediately
- The three remaining planters are to be replaced and replanted ahead of the winter planting, expected cost of the materials is £125 plus labour
- Other information:

Update on tree cutting for the SID. Cllr Sutton is working with the land registry and highways as it appears that the land where the SID is to be installed at Ivetsey Rd is not registered and the trees need to be cut back. Whilst this is being investigated Afeb will arrange for the trees to be cut back enough to install the SID.

A large branch has come down at Badgers End, Afeb have removed it and SSC notified about the damage to the bin and street sign

Resolved: reports and actions accepted

52. Speed review support on the A5 **WITHDRAWN**

To be considered under item 57. Duplicated agenda item

- 53. Thankyou event for volunteers. 7.33pm a member of the public entered the virtual meeting room** Resolved to hold an 'afternoon tea' event to thank volunteers for their support during Covid-19. This is to link up with the Support Staffordshire event that has been previously agreed

54. Request for support of double yellow lines on High Street

An anonymous request has been received to apply to SCC for yellow lines to be added to a stretch of Long Street following the installation of a wall. Council considered the request and **resolved** that yellow lines would not be an appropriate addition to the stretch of road and therefore not to further this request. Historically a wall has been in the area for some time.

A concern was raised that the previous wall was built before the post-box was installed

The addition of double yellow lines could have significant impact on the area due to delivery vehicles being forced to park elsewhere.

It was noted that parked vehicles on pavements are a nuisance and, in cases, an obstruction, Clerk to ask the PCSO's to be vigilant.

55. Footpath

The council have been notified that footpath 0.997 running through Lapley is possibly being diverted. The Rights of Way team and Cllr Sutton have been notified and the correct pathway is being ascertained. The right of way also forms part of The Staffordshire Way and is a bridle way. It has been confirmed that a bridle way does run through Lapley Manor and this needs to remain accessible. This will form an agenda item when more details are available. LSWA PC would like to keep the footpath open in its current format and will support any application to do so.

The Ramblers Association have also opened an investigation.

56. WMI Freight hub update

An update was received Cllr Anderson:

- No new information to report
- Clerk advised that there has not been a response from SSC about participating in the community group

57. A5 speed issues

Cllr Anderson outlined some of the issues experienced by residents living on the A5 including noise levels, most common time for speeding and concerns for individual property due to speeding vehicles.

Clerk has contacted Blymhill PC requesting information on their plan for speed reduction within the Parish, a response is outstanding.

As an individual, Cllr Anderson has reported many incidents that she has been made aware of to the local MP's, Police and levels of local authority. She will continue to do so and will collate all of the information. She feels that near misses aren't reported and therefore not taken into consideration when addressing the severity of the issues caused by speeding vehicles. Suggestions for the future would be to conduct a speed restriction review, weight restriction review and junction improvement. SCC highways have confirmed that a speed restriction review is being considered in the budget. It is thought that there will be a proportion of cost required from the neighbouring Parish Councils in order for this to go ahead, costs are outstanding.

Other members of the council feel that in addition to the concerns raised individually by Cllr Anderson, the turning leaving Wheaton Aston on to the A5 at the Bradford Arms need to be addressed as it is proving more difficult to safely exit right from Ivetsey Road.

The A5 is often used as a diversion point for the M54 which adds to the issues.

Cllr Anderson (as an individual) has submitted a FOI request to Shropshire Council to enquire why traffic lights have been erected at Crackley Bank.

Resolved: Clerk to write to SSC, SCC and the two local MP's highlighting the issues that are found along the A5 and request support. Cllr Anderson will forward the details of incidents that she has reported to provide evidence.

58. Items for future

Each councillor may use this opportunity to report on matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise items for future agendas. **Councillors are respectfully reminded that this is not an opportunity for debate or decision making.**

- Birkenshaw Lane
- The future of Broadholes Lane
- Community Meeting
- Speeding through WA
- Additional waste bins

59. Date of next meeting: Thursday 22nd October at 7pm via Zoom conferencing systems

PC Surgery: a representative from the Council will be available on line from 6.30pm for parishioners to raise any concerns.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89681758443?pwd=UnJBOFY1V3pvS291TXJQYnVxVVBudz09>

Meeting ID: 896 8175 8443

Passcode: 148157

Meeting closed 8.15pm

Signed..... Chairman.....

Council Attendance

Date	RN	BC	MS	WM	TN	SW	SueW	ED	AA	VR	MG	Total Attendance
28/5	X	Ap	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ap	Ap	8/11
2/7	X	Ap	X	X	X	X	X	Ap	X	X	Ap	8/11
21/7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ap	X	X	X	10/11
03/09	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ap	X	X	Ap	9/11

Expenditure transactions - payments approval list start of year 01/04/20

Tn no	Cheque	Gross	Heading	Invoice	Details	Cheque	
							date
44fp2689220s		£431.00	150/2	22/06/20	Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association - annual subs		£431.00
45fp20439092		£420.00	120/6	22/06/20	Stafford Borough Council - annual pest control		£420.00
48fp911171014		£137.88	120/5	22/06/20	JRB Enterprises Ltd - dog bags		£137.88
49fp716594837		£390.94	160/1/1	22/06/20	Npower Limited - annual charge		£390.94
50dd170620		£73.98	100/10	22/06/20	EE - monthly costs		£73.98
51fp93985064		£414.00	130/3	22/06/20	Kirkland Painters - painting of phone box		£414.00
52fp30129725		£5.85	100/18/1	22/06/20	Mr. Malcolm Bissell - expenses April		£5.85
53 dd		£6.01	100/10	22/06/20	Mainstream Digital Ltd. - charges		£6.01
56fp585574393		£1,237.00	120/1/1	22/06/20	Ditton Services - monthly charge		£1,237.00
63fp910982626		£150.00	130/3	22/06/20	Simon Wall - Lapley post painting		£150.00
64fp186.3788		£17.10	130/2/3	22/06/20	Mr. Malcolm Bissell - may expenses		£17.10
66fp72983566		£260.00	100/2	22/06/20	South Staffordshire District Council - rent		£260.00
67fp667275865		£100.20	100/19/1	22/06/20	Microshade Business Consultants Ltd - monthly		£100.20
69dd170720		£6.12	100/10	14/07/20	Mainstream Digital Ltd. - monthly charges		£6.12
70dd17/7/20		£107.70	100/10	17/07/20	EE - monthly charges		£107.70
72fp57305553		£216.22	100/11/1	17/07/20	Black Rose Solutions Ltd - audit		£216.22
73fp543423698		£260.00	100/2	17/07/20	South Staffordshire District Council - rent		£260.00
75fp424323			100/19/1	17/07/20	Microshade Business Consultants Ltd - monthly charge		£139.80
76fp95340813		£998.00	100/23	17/07/20	South Staffordshire District Council - yearly business rates		£998.00
86fp46968815		£43.48	130/2/3	17/07/20	Weston Sawmill & Nursery - decking for planters		£43.48
87dd170720		£35.00	150/5	17/07/20	Information Commissioner's Office - annual charge		£35.00
88fp974385745		£141.77	100/12	17/07/20	Ricoh U K Limited - last bill (Old copier)		£141.77
90fp31052828		£21.60	100/18/1	17/07/20	Mrs Amy Watson - July expense		£21.60
91f142411305		£18.24	17/07/20		Mr. Malcolm Bissell - June expenses		£18.24
					1 £6.75 100/18/1 mileage		
					2 £11.49 130/2/3 cutters for clamps (signs)		
68fp372506819		£28.78	100/19/4	20/07/20	Mrs Amy Watson - refund for zoom paid via PayPal		£28.78
46fp87176037		£3,066.90	201	22/07/20	Horizon Telecom - councillor tablets		£3,066.90
54fp168+32421		£475.20	201	22/07/20	Microshade Business Consultants Ltd - annual fee for security		£475.20
55fp516210536		£180.00	140/7/1	22/07/20	Ditton Services - bark removal Broadholes		£180.00
65fp57764786		£3,555.60	100/25/1	22/07/20	Morelock - SID purchase		£3,555.60
84fp543607428		£1,237.00	120/1/1	17/08/20	Ditton Services - monthly charge		£1,237.00

Financial Summary - Cashbook

Summary between 01/04/20 and 31/07/20 inclusive.

Balances at the start of the year

Ordinary Accounts

Barclays savings account	£60,450.58
Fair FX prepaid card	£71.66
Unity Trust - Current Account	£18,978.30
Unity trust working reserves	£16,492.68
Total	£95,993.22

RECEIPTS	Net	Vat	Gross
Parish Council	£73,265.63	£0.00	£73,265.63
Total Receipts	£73,265.63	£0.00	£73,265.63

PAYMENTS	Net	Vat	Gross
Parish Council	£35,871.11	£2,721.82	£38,592.93
Total Payments	£35,871.11	£2,721.82	£38,592.93

Closing Balances

Ordinary Accounts

Barclays savings account	£60,450.58
Fair FX prepaid card	£392.30
Unity Trust - Current Account	£53,880.36
Unity trust working reserves	£15,942.68
Total	£130,665.92