



**Minutes of the Meeting of Lapley, Stretton & Wheaton Aston Parish Council held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021 held virtually via Zoom conferencing system**

**Remotely in attendance:**

CLlr T Noblett - **Wheaton Aston (Chairman)**  
CLlr W Millington - **Wheaton Aston (Vice Chairman)**  
CLlr R Nelson - **Wheaton Aston**  
CLlr A Anderson - **Stretton**  
CLlr V Renfrew – **Lapley**  
CLlr M Smith - **Wheaton Aston**  
CLlr S Whittingham - **Wheaton Aston**  
CLlr Sue Whittingham - **Wheaton Aston**

**Also in Attendance:**

Mrs A Watson - **Parish Clerk**  
CLlr M Sutton - **Staffordshire County Council**  
CLlr B Cox - **South Staffordshire Council**  
One member of the public present  
The member of the public did not wish to speak

**7.00pm standing orders imposed**

**Chairman read the virtual order of meeting**

**Apologies:**

CLlr V Jackson - **South Staffordshire Council**  
CLlr B Cross - **Wheaton Aston**

**Absent:**

CLlr E Dadd – **Stretton**  
CLlr M Griffiths - **Lapley**

**111. To consider apologies**

Apologies and reasons of absence were accepted from CLlr V Jackson and CLlr B Cross

**112. Declaration of Interest/Dispensation**

**113. Signing of the minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council virtual meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021 were agreed to be a true and correct copy. CLlr Noblett will sign a copy as soon as is practically possible.

**114. Clerks report**

**Lapley, Stretton and Wheaton Aston Parish Council**

**Clerks Report**

**Information**

SSC remain investigating the change of use at Broadholes lane play area for other facilities

Church Lane layby Lapley – The drawings have been signed off and now just awaiting a response from the Environmental team

Consultation in place to reduce the limit from 40mph to 30mph between Western- Under-Lizard and Blymill

Concern raised about potential flooding on Ivetsey Road, referred to SCC highways. Land adjacent is earmarked for future development, relevant SCC officer copied for info

2.2.21 Grit bin request placed with SCC to be located near the junction of The Avenue and A5 ref 4227464

Replacement key for WDP access ordered ref 3874013

4.2.21 Road breaking up/ potholes reported to SCC at Broadholes Lane junction with Ivetsey Road 4227970

23.2.21 Reported an open lighting column to Eon in School Road

23.2.21 Evaluation report returned to PCC giving an update on the CCTV project at Marston Field

**Police information**

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING CRIME REPORT.**

Public bodies can only disclose information if they have the power to do so. Section 115 of the Crime and Disorder Act provides a power to exchange information where disclosure is necessary to support the local Crime Reduction Strategy and Partnership in achieving the aims of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy and objectives outlined within it.

The degree of disclosure that takes place must be proportionate and relevant to the level of social ill or criminality it is intended to counter or prevent.

The information is only to be processed in relation to crime and disorder purposes. Information will be handled in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, the Human Rights Act 1998 and any other relevant legislation governing disclosures and will ultimately be disposed of in a secure manner.

This Police Report covers the dates from 21/01/2021 – 27/02/2021.

Rogue Traders have been in the Village targeting elderly vulnerable persons, saying that their homes need work doing to them when they don't. Once the home owner agrees to work being done the price quoted increases several times.

We've patrolled the village and Smart Alerts sent out at the time, if the council can please can you also put another warning out about this scam.

Police also know to a lady coming into the Village and knocking on canal boats and other properties causing harassment, alarm and distress.

We are working with agencies around this lady who are best suited.

The new crime trend at the moment is theft of Catalytic Converters, the main type of vehicle that is being targeted is Honda Jazz's. If any of the councillors have or know some-one who has this type of vehicle please can you let them know that there are aftermarket devices which they can buy from the dealer to help prevent loss.

Officers are dealing with a lot of jobs that are going down as ASB Covid Breaches. When officers attend each job and establish if a breach has occurred then fines have and will be issued.

Officers are also working with Covid Marshalls from the Council visiting shops and engaging with staff and customers to encourage the wearing of face masks and if anyone is in breach then fines are being issued.

If Councillors have any issues/questions please email us and we'll try our best to answer them.

## **Maintenance**

## **Consultations**

[£7.8m Cannock Chase conservation plan backed - Staffordshire County Council Newsroom](#)

[Project team continues to work at pace as latest phase of Stafford's growth boosting road scheme begins - Staffordshire County Council Newsroom](#)

[Small business and employee support set to be ramped up through Staffordshire councils partnership - Staffordshire County Council Newsroom](#)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/right-to-regenerate-reform-of-the-right-to-contest/right-to-regenerate-reform-of-the-right-to-contest>

[www.hs2.org.uk/phase2a](http://www.hs2.org.uk/phase2a)

## **Meetings/Events**

### **Training/CPD**

- 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb Procurement and Contracts (Clerk)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> March Parish online basics (clerk and A/clerk)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> March Parish online advanced (Clerk and A/Clerk )
- 15<sup>th</sup> March Risk assessment over view (Clerk and A/Clerk)
- 17<sup>th</sup> Feb MCHLG consultation working group
- Xmas working group meeting 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 7pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> March 5.30pm Locality Two forum

### **Items emailed to councillors**

20.1.21 SCC Community testing

21.1.21 SSC enabler details

21.1.21 SPCA newsbulletin

22.1.21 Cllr M Sutton details on parish information

27.1.21 Blymill PC speed reduction consultation details

27.1.21 SSC planning application 21/00076/FUL

28.1.21 SPCA newsbulletin

3.2.21 Planning application 21/00093/FUL

4.2.21 Microshade Kaspersky's update

4.2.21 SPCA newsbulletin

9.2.21 SSC Locality two forum details

9.2.21 SLCC response to Handsworth PC viral meeting

9.2.21 SPCA newsbulletin special

9.2.21 SSC Planning application 20/00748/FUL

10.2.21 SCC Enforcement notices

11.2.21 SSC planning application 21/00119/FUL

25.2.21 SSC Planning application 21/00163/FUL

25.2.21 SSC Planning application 21/00129/FUL

25.2.21 SSC Forest of Mercia info on creating woodlands

25.2.21 SPCA news bulletin

25.2.21 SSC IT guest verification details

### **Use of devolved powers**

Response to planning application 21/00076/FUL- LSWA PC does not have any objections to this application

Response to planning application 21/00093/FUL- LSWA PC does not have any objections to this application

Returned the request form to SSC planning for a site visit at Broadholes Lane

Responded to the NALC consultation on the Right to Regenerate as below:

The main consultation questions NALC will be responding to in this consultation are as below and NALC seeks the views of county associations and member councils in response to these questions to help inform its own submission to MHCLG:

### **Increasing the usefulness and effectiveness of the right**

Q1: Do you consider the Right to Contest useful?

No, the process is too difficult for success.

Q2: Do you think there are any current barriers to using the right effectively, and if so, how would you suggest they be overcome?

A balance needs to be found to ensure a rigorous process is still in place under the right to regenerate whilst also being simple enough for a higher rate of success on appropriate sites.

Applications need go the LA before MHCLG for local knowledge input and give LA's the opportunity to implement an intermediate use for allocated land in the local plan

### **Making it clearer when land is unused or underused**

Q3: Would a definition of unused or underused land be useful, and, if so, what should such a definition include?

Yes, a criteria should be implemented to identify areas or underused and unused land and should include a time scale for proposed use. Allotments and open spaces should not be included as an identifiable area

### **Extending the scope of the right**

Q4: Should the right be extended to include unused and underused land owned by town and parish councils?

No, Parish Councils are diligent with land and uses and are mindful of historical uses/implications of the land. Councilors are elected at local level and are entrusted to act appropriately and diligently for their parish

[NALC Supplemental Question: Do you think that this proposal could lead to a back way in for developers to acquire redundant council-owned land and buildings? Yes, it is concerning and open to fraudulent and corrupt behavior

### **Land where a public body has an intended use**

Q5: Should the government incentivise temporary use of unused land which has plans for longer term future use?

Yes, as per question 2 LA's should be encouraged to find an intermediate use for land whilst waiting for implementation of the local plan etc

### **A greater role for local authorities**

Q6: Should the government introduce a requirement for local authorities to be contacted before a request is made? Absolutely, local knowledge is imperative knowledge

### **Presumption in favour of disposal**

Q7: Should the government introduce a presumption in favour of disposal of land or empty homes/garages where requests are made under the right? No, all applicants should be viewed equally and without time constraints (to protect charities etc who may need time to raise a bid) LSWA PC feel that localism is being taken away with this proposal

### **Publicity and reporting**

Q8: Do you agree that the government should require these publicity measures where requests are made under the right? Yes, to adhere to transparency and accountability. This should not just be digitally as this is exclusive of many parishioners

### **Right of first refusal**

Q9: Should government offer a 'right of first refusal' to the applicant as a condition of disposal? No, as per question 7 all applicants should be viewed equally

### **Conditions attached to disposals**

Q10: Should the government impose conditions on the disposal of land? And if so, what conditions would be appropriate? Yes, conditions should be appropriate and follow local plans and any local constraints

Q11: Do you have any additional suggestions regarding reforms that could improve the effectiveness of the Right to Contest process? Yes, LSWA PC feel that brownfields and greenbelts sites should follow a separate process for consultation. Given the nature of the two areas it is difficult to consider what is appropriate for each are under the same rulings. What is appropriate for a brownfield site may not be appropriate for a greenbelt site.

## **115. District report**

Not available

## **116. County report:**

Recent motions passed at cabinet include:

- Implementation of updated policy on education infrastructure
- Special education needs and disability- a new strategy has been introduced over the next 5 years which details how services and support will be provided
- A bid to National lottery regarding the Stafford archive expansion has been made
- Council tax has been approved with an increase of 4.995- 3% increase for social care levy and 1.99% of council services. Total of SCC budget: £1.1billion. A large percentage goes to schools, 16 million is Covid 19 funding and public health matters received 572million pounds of which almost 400million is raised through council tax. 38% is on adult social care 23% on services 3% on transport 4% on Covid contingency 6% on highways – full details will be released with council tax statements
- Climate change strategy is being developed
- Suicide prevention scheme recently launched to encourage the community to be aware of suicide prevention. Suicide makes up around 1 percent of deaths in Staffordshire and is the 2<sup>nd</sup> most leading cause of death on 16-24 year olds. Most people are not known to mental health service. The scheme raises awareness on how to obtain support. There are 600 spaces available on a training programme, the community is encouraged to consider being involved. Social media details will be sent over. Concern raised that the referral can take too long for effective support, highlighted that the biggest issue is in the initial identification of those in need of support.
- Cllr expressed disappointment on the raise in the council tax demand
- Concern raised that there are many outstanding highways issues that are overlooked. A camera is being constructed which collects information on litter dropping .
- Fly tipping and litter dropping will form an agenda item at the Locality meetings

More details on recent cabinet initiatives can be found here: [Agenda for Cabinet on Wednesday 17th February 2021, 10.00 am - Staffordshire County Council](#)

**7.42pm Cllr Sutton left the meeting**

## **117. Financial matters**

The following financial matters were considered and it was resolved:

- a. To approve the expenditure for January 2021
- b. To receive the Financial Summary to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021
- c. To receive the Financial Comparison to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021
- d. To note payments/decisions made under delegated powers

#### **118. Planning recommendations**

**Resolved** to respond with the following comments:

- a) Planning application 20/00748/FUL- 'No objections however LSWA PC would like the speed limit of 30mph extending to incorporate the new development'  
Planning application 21/00119/FUL- 'No objection'  
Planning application 21/00163/FUL- 'No objection'  
Planning application 21/00129/FUL- 'No objection'
- b) One planning application has been received after the agenda papers distributed: Planning application 20/01090/FUL- 'No objections'

#### **119. Working group reports**

**Christmas: Resolved to accept the specifics for the tender for the LTA of three years as detailed below:**

Christmas:

- Recommend to appoint Contractor B and to ask for more choice on motifs.
- Recommend to purchase additional warm lights for Lapley (included in contract)
- Recommended to instruct contractor B to replace the timers at a cost of £1173 over the summer
- Reasons for excluding the other contractors, contractor C could not offer stress and pole testing and it would be preferred that they are conducted by the same company. Contractor A was equally as appropriate as Contractor B, Contractor B is local and there was a preference for the motifs
- Recommend to book event
- Recommend to consider holding a Christmas Lights competition at the end of summer

Maintenance:

The draft map board was considered and resolved to change some of the historical details, Clerk to action and send off another draft for review. Clerk to send to the Ramblers to check the location of footpaths is correct, the map was created from the ordnance survey maps and the rights of way determined at SCC and therefore should be correct but may differ to local knowledge. Once complete it will be sent to the Conservation officer for comments before an order is placed

#### **120. Speeding/road conditions on the A5**

Pothole issues: Clerk has contacted Cllr Sutton regarding speeding issues at Stretton; a lead officer has been tasked with addressing the issue

Cllr Anderson recently attended other local PC meetings. Brewood and Coven PC will support a speed review but due to the precept already being confirmed for 2021/22 this will be 2022/23 at the earliest.

A5 is on the agenda at the locality forum and there will be an opportunity to make representation on this. Suggestion to set up a traffic management working group to consider further

#### **121. Highways division fund**

Cllr Sutton encouraged the Council to prioritise issues in the parish for County to consider and build in the speed review in the four-year plan

#### **122. Canal bank**

Cllr Smith raised a concern that trees are being cut down along the tow path and is concerned that this will result in the bank becoming unsafe. Resolved to inform the Canal Trust

#### **123. Birkenshaw Lane**

No new information received

#### **124. Future use of Broadholes Lane**

An update was given from SSC, Clerk has submitted a request for a planner to assess the site and advise on potential uses. More information will be given in due course.

Following a poll with the question 'Should Broadholes Lane play area be opened for the season 2021?' (yes 71%, no 21% and 8% abstained) it was resolved to open the play area on 1<sup>st</sup> April and it shall remain open whilst the consideration for future use is ongoing.

Resolved to meet as a Maintenance group to consider the request from a resident near Broadholes play area who raised concerns about trees from the play area blocking light into their property and make a recommendation to council

**125.NALC Foundation Award for Quality Council**

Resolved to apply to the NALC accreditation Scheme foundation level

**126. Policy review**

Resolved, the following amended policies were accepted:

- Financial regulations
- Community Engagement
- Climate and Biodiversity

**127. Remote meeting provision**

Current legislation to hold remote meetings ends on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021. Resolved to write to the local MPS and Robert Jenrick, Secretary of state for MHCLG to request an extension.

A decision regarding bringing forward the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council to 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021 will be made on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2021

**128.MHCLG Consultation ‘The Right to Regenerate’**

Resolved to submit the same responses as submitted to the NALC consultation direct to the Government consultation

**129. 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.**

Divisional highways fund

Weight of vehicles travelling through Lapley Village

Future of Broadholes Lane

Tree planting

**130. Date of next meeting:** Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2021 at 7pm via Zoom meetings. The meeting ID and passcode can be found below

Meeting ID: 819 6199 2226

Passcode: 939186

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

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

**Meeting closed at 8.50pm**

**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

Date	RN	BC	MS	WM	TN	SW	SueW	ED	AA	VR	MG	Total Attendance
03/09	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ap	X	X	Ap	9/11
22/10	X	Ap	X	X	Ap	X	X	Ap	X	X	Ap	7/11
10/12	X	Ap	X	X	X	Ap	X	X	X	X	X	9/11
21/1	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ap	Ab	X	X	Ap	8/11
4/3	X	Ap	X	X	X	X	X	Ab	X	X	Ab	8/11

## Lapley Stretton & Wheaton Aston Parish Council

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

Tn no	Cheque	Gross	Heading	Invoice	Details	Cheque	
date							
222fp28435769	£300.00		180/3	30/01/21	St. Mary's First School - grant to ptfa for it support		£300.00
270121stpt							
223 fxcard	£12.99		170	31/01/21	Amazon - plastic wallets		£12.99
224£42.18			31/01/21		Amazon - headset for zoom meetings		
1 £35.99			170		headset for zoom meetings		
2 £6.19			170		insurance for headset		
225dd170121ee	£50.04		100/10	31/01/21	EE - MONTHLY CHARGES		£50.04
227fp19635398	£42.00		100/19/1	31/01/21	Microshade Business Consultants Ltd - monthly		£42.00
6mscharge less overpmt							
228fp34209308	£30.00		100/3/2	31/01/21	Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association - training		£30.00
81spcainvoice - planning Cllr Anderson							
229fp51433383	£216.00		160/1/1	31/01/21	Turnock Limited - xmas lights invoice- call out faulty		£216.00
0turno clock							
230fp43377852	£349.61		120/1/2	31/01/21	Ditton Services - repayment on inv 793 which has		£349.61
5dsbeen refunded due to miscalculation							
232fp50562254	£14.39		100/6/1	31/01/21	Mrs Amy Watson - zoom reimbursement		£14.39
6aw							
235fp29489581	£206.22		160/1/2	31/01/21	Staffordshire print Ltd. - xmas banners and cards		£206.22
sp							
236fp43798565	£2,896.80		160/1/1	31/01/21	Turnock Limited - lighting take down charge		£2,896.80
8turno							
237fp10470227	£1,237.00		120/1/1	31/01/21	Ditton Services - monthly charge		£1,237.00
5ds							
238fp19108331	£64.35		100/1	31/01/21	Staffordshire print Ltd. - flyers for lockdown advice		£64.35
0sp							
240fp23736955	£137.88		120/5	31/01/21	JRB Enterprises Ltd - dog bags		£137.88
9jrb							
246fo26159238	£260.00		100/2	31/01/21	South Staffordshire District Council - monthly rent		£260.00
5ssc							
Sub Total		£5,859.46					
£5,143.81			Confidential				
<b>Total</b>		£11,003.27					



# Financial Summary - Cashbook

Summary between 01/04/20 and 31/01/21 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
<b>Total</b>	<b>£95,993.22</b>

RECEIPTS	Net	Vat	Gross
Parish Council	£133,016.64	£0.00	£133,016.64
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>£133,016.64</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£133,016.64</b>

PAYMENTS	Net	Vat	Gross
Parish Council	£91,004.55	£7,740.65	£98,745.20
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£91,004.55</b>	<b>£7,740.65</b>	<b>£98,745.20</b>

Closing Balances

## Ordinary Accounts

Barclays savings account	£52,001.50
Fair FX prepaid card	£89.17
Unity Trust - Current Account	£50,450.33
Unity trust working reserves	£27,723.66
<b>Total</b>	<b>£130,264.66</b>

# Financial Budget Comparison

Comparison between 01/04/20 and 31/01/21 inclusive.

Excludes transactions with an invoice date prior to 01/04/20

2020/2021 Movements	Reserve	Actual Net	Balance		
<b>INCOME</b>					
4	FX card	£410.00	£0.00	£0.00	-£410.00
10	Precept	£118,067.00	£0.00	£118,067.00	£0.00
20	Grants	£0.00	£0.00	£170.00	£170.00
32	Unity Trust Bank Interest	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
33	Reserve Account Interest	£0.00	£0.00	£15.98	£15.98
40	Miscellaneous	£0.00	£0.00	£528.61	£528.61
45	Crime Prevention	£0.00	£0.00	£2,182.00	£2,182.00
50	Barclay's Savings Account	£0.00	£0.00	£56.92	£56.92
90	Prizes and Awards	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
99	Vat Refund	£0.00	£0.00	£11,996.13	£11,996.13
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£118,477.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£133,016.64</b>	<b>£14,539.64</b>	
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
100	General Administration	£24,457.00	£0.00	£14,857.09	£9,599.91
110	Salaries	£49,855.00	£0.00	£37,620.70	£12,234.30
120	Repairs & Grounds Maintenance	£28,750.00	£0.00	£17,707.67	£11,042.33
130	Villages' Improvements	£3,350.00	£0.00	£591.90	£2,758.10
140	Play Areas	£6,160.00	£0.00	£3,696.28	£2,463.72
150	Subscriptions	£762.00	£0.00	£701.00	£61.00
160	Christmas Celebrations	£10,351.00	£0.00	£7,274.61	£3,076.39
170	Debit Card - General Expenses	£460.00	£0.00	£507.52	-£47.52
180	Donations	£4,000.00	£0.00	£3,532.35	£467.65
190	CCTV	£840.00	£0.00	£1,563.68	-£723.68
200	Capital Expenditure	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00

201	councillor tablet	£3,500.00	£0.00	£2,951.75	£548.25
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		£132,485.00	£0.00	£91,004.55	£41,480.45
Total Income		£118,477.00	£0.00	£133,016.64	£14,539.64
Total Expenditure		£132,485.00	£0.00	£91,004.55	£41,480.45

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