



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

You are here by summoned to attend a meeting of Lapley, Stretton and Wheaton Aston Parish Council, which will be held on Thursday 7th April 2022 at 7.00pm at Lapley and Wheaton Aston Village Hall.

The Council, members of the public and the press may record/film/photograph or broadcast this meeting when the public and the press are not lawfully excluded. Any member of the public who attends a meeting and objects to being filmed should advise the Parish Council Manager (in advance) who will instruct that they are not included in the filming.

In order to comply with the Data Protection Act 2018, all persons attending this meeting are hereby notified that this meeting will be recorded by the Parish Council. The purpose of taping is that recordings act as an aide-memoire to assist the Parish Council Clerk in the compilation of minutes. The recording will be deleted once the minutes have been approved

Please ensure that all mobile phones are switched to silent during the Parish Council meeting.

We kindly request that all councilors, employees and members of the public planning on attending the meeting take a lateral flow test at least thirty minutes before entering the meeting place. In the event of a positive result please do not attend and follow Government advice

This meeting is subject to change due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Public Forum

- Democratic thirty minute period/public discussion time: From 7.00pm residents are invited to give their views to the Parish Council on items on this agenda or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the Chairman. Members of the public may not take part in the Parish Council meeting itself. (standing order 3 f)
No member of the public may speak for more than five minutes (standing order 3g)

100.To consider apologies

-Decision

101.Declaration of Interests

-Information

To declare any interests any on agenda items

102. Approval of minutes

-Decision

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of the Meeting of Lapley, Stretton and Wheaton Aston Parish Council held on 3rd March 2022

103.To receive report from Parish Council Clerk. Appendix 1

-Information

104. To receive report from South Staffordshire Council appendix 2

-information

105. To receive report from Staffordshire County Council

-information

106.To receive report from Staffordshire police

-information

107.Financial matters

-decision

To consider financial matters including: **Appendix 3**

- a) To receive the Financial Summary to 31st March 2022
- b) To receive the Financial Comparison to 31st March 2022
- c) To note payments/decisions made under delegated powers

108. Planning recommendations

-decision

To consider planning matters including

- a) planning applications received
planning application 22/00192/FUL
Planning application 22/00113/FUL
- b) Planning applications received after the agenda papers distributed

109. Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations

-decision

To receive an update and request for support from the PTA of St Marys First School

110. Allotment update

-information

To receive an update from the parish clerk

111. Forward Planning and Maintenance

To consider the following maintenance items:

- Pendulum report and repair at Marston Field **appendix 4**

- Allotment working group
- Map board
- Goal post request for Marston Field

112.WMI update

-information

To receive an update from Cllr Anderson

113. A5 update

-information

To receive an update from Cllr Anderson

114.Dog fouling

115. Defibrillator committee update

-information

To receive an update from the committee

116. Policies for Review

-decision

- Climate Change Policy
- Community Engagement
- Disciplinary Policy
- Grievance Policy
- Litter Picker Risk Assessment
- Mobile Phone Policy
- Pension Policy Statements
- Snow Clearance Emergency Plan
- Risk assessment

117. Change of Broadband/Phone Supplier

-decision

To consider moving to BT at a cost of £56.95 a month + one off cost of £9.99 for router.

CONFIDENTIAL AGENDA

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

In pursuance of the powers contained in section 1 of the above act, I move that the press and public be now excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the business about to be transacted is of a confidential nature and that publicity will be prejudicial to the public interest

118. Employee request

-decision

- To consider the request for payment for external body meeting attendance
- To consider the request to roll over annual leave

119. 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.**

120. Date of next meeting: 19th May 2022 at 7pm at Lapley and Wheaton Aston Village Hall preceded by the Annual Parish meeting at 6pm

Mrs A Watson Parish Council Clerk

Crime and Disorder Implications

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a duty on local authorities to consider the crime and disorder implications when exercising its functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions and to do all that is reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area. Where relevant any decisions made at the Parish Council meeting have taken this duty of Care into consideration

Appendix 1

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

Information

- Some large cans full of waste oil were dumped in the springe opposite the bottom entrance to Marston Field. Reported to SSDC Street Scene and removed by Afeb.
- VO removed barbed wire from Primrose play area
- Lapley lane road closure in effect from 12th April 2022 for Severn Trent works
- S106 funding from The Bridge Farm development is not available
- Kiddemore Green is closed and traffic diverted through the Parish 11-14 April
- Fore reported at Marston playing field, shards of glass have been left in the sand, VO has uncovered as much as possible and a warning notice has been erected and notice given on social media

Correspondence actions

Maintenance

- Missing fixings on Youth Shelter replaced by village orderly.
- Village orderly has re-seeded around the Christmas tree post at Lapley Green
- Loose barbed wire removed from hedgerow at Primrose play area
- Broken kissing gate at Primrose play area reported to the ROW team at SCC, officer to raise job to replace gate
- Repairs at Primrose for Playdale equipment ordered 15.3.22- lead time of 10-12 weeks for action

Outstanding items update

- Use of Broadholes Lane update- update due in April meeting
- Birkenshaw Lane update- members have made the recommendation to add the lane to the definitive map. This will now progress the next stage
- Stretton right of way update- No update
- Defib at Marston Field- School has agreed that the install can go ahead, clerk to action
- Lapley Green registration-no new information. All work to be complete before registering. Open reach have completed the work at Lapley Green
- Map board- decision due in April meeting

Consultations

Meetings/Events

28.2.22 Sustainability and climate change

28.3.22 Clerk- legal powers update

National Training Event	Emotional resilience skills for council officers	14/04/2022	10:00
National Training Event	Freedom of Information for Local Councils	14/04/2022	19:00
National Training Event	Strategies to identify and recruit new local councillors	19/04/2022	18:30
National Training Event	Building an effective council communications and engagement strategy	20/04/2022	14:00
National Training Event	Dealing with local and regional media	20/04/2022	18:30
National Training Event	Dealing with a crisis: planning ahead and managing crisis communications effectively	21/04/2022	18:30
National Training Event	Building a two-way conversation with your community	28/04/2022	10:00
National Training Event	Creating accessible council documents and content	28/04/2022	12:00
National Training Event	Creating a social media strategy for your council	28/04/2022	14:00
National Training Event	Public Speaking Skills for Councillors	28/04/2022	19:00
National Training Event	Improving internal council communications	29/04/2022	10:00

Training/CPD/ SPCA Upcoming courses

Items emailed to councillors

28.2.22 SPCA news bulletin

8.3.22 spca news bulletin

8.3.222 ssc planning app 22/00197/VAR

10.3.22 SPCA training bulletin update

14.3.22 Spca news bulletin

15.3.22 spca Ukraine update

16.3.22 Road closure details at Lapley Lane

22.3.22 SCC road closure (kiddemore green)

28.3.22 SPCA newbulletin

29.3.22 SSC Boundary review details

31.3.22 SSC Planning application 22/00192/FUL

Use of devolved powers

Office 365 package for office computers £79.99 (annual)

£1570 transferred from working reserve account to main UT account for costs of Greenbarne notice board

£19.96 additional red bunting material

£21.98 additional thread for bunting

Response to planning comments:

Planning app 22/00197/VAR closing date 29.3.22

SSC Planning Decisions

21/01031/OUT - Withdrawn

Appendix 2

District Report

The problem has still not been resolved regarding the rubbish being thrown into the pool on Soudley Green. One resident has explored every avenue in an effort to get someone to take responsibility but to no avail. No one you contact about this will offer any assistance, Soudley Authorities insist that it is not down to them to do anything about it.

Not sure who else to contact, if the Parish Council can suggest anything I would be most grateful.

The Eyesore on the Ivestsey Road I am sorry to say still remains there.

In my last report following an email from County Councillor Mark Sutton advising me that the County Council Officers had visited the site, and that the person had been told to remove the offending items.

I was really hopeful that it was just a matter of time before the verge was cleared of all rubbish, and I passed this information on to the residents who had been complaining.

The person who has put the rubbish there and is ignoring County Council the question is being asked by the residents, why County are not taking stronger action to see that the rubbish is removed.

County seem extremely reluctant to take the matter further.

I have email Mark Sutton and advised him of the situation.

It has now become a talking point in Wheaton Aston.

The matter of the heavy plant vehicles constantly parked in Caspian Way, it appeared that there were no vehicles parked there following the complaints by residents. A discussion with the residents followed and it was decided that no further action was necessary as the problem seemed to have resolved itself.

Appendix 3

Financial Summary - Cashbook

Summary of receipts and payments between 01/04/21 and 31/03/22 inclusive. This may include transactions with ledger dates outside this period.

Balances at the start of the year

Ordinary Accounts

Barclays savings account			£52,002.85
Fair FX prepaid card			£89.17
Unity Trust - Current Account			£36,145.22
Unity trust working reserves			£27,723.66
Total			£115,960.90

RECEIPTS	Net	Vat	Gross
Parish Council	£118,243.29	£0.00	£118,243.29
Total Receipts	£118,243.29	£0.00	£118,243.29
PAYMENTS	Net	Vat	Gross
Parish Council	£111,031.33	£9,993.59	£121,024.92
Total Payments	£111,031.33	£9,993.59	£121,024.92

Closing Balances

Ordinary Accounts

Barclays savings account			£52,008.05
Fair FX prepaid card			£32.78
Unity Trust - Current Account			£13,294.74
Unity trust working reserves			£47,843.70

Total £113,179.27

Financial Budget Comparison

Comparison between 01/04/21 and 31/03/22 inclusive. Includes due and unpaid transactions.

Excludes transactions with an invoice date prior to 01/04/21

	2021/2022	Reserve Movements	Actual Net	Balance
INCOME				
Parish Council				
4	FX card	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
10	Precept	£105,561.00	£105,561.00	£0.00
20	Grants	£0.00	£3,950.00	£3,950.00
32	Unity Trust Bank Interest	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
33	Reserve Account Interest	£0.00	£29.70	£29.70
40	Miscellaneous	£0.00	£3.72	£3.72
45	Crime Prevention	£0.00	£14.00	£14.00
50	Barclay's Savings Account	£0.00	£8.30	£8.30
90	Prizes and Awards	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
99	Vat Refund	£0.00	£8,679.67	£8,679.67
Total Parish Council	£105,561.00	£0.00	£118,246.39	£12,685.39
Total Income	£105,561.00	£0.00	£118,246.39	£12,685.39
100	General Administration	£23,840.00	£13,106.85	£10,733.15
110	Salaries	£51,355.00	£46,525.49	£4,829.51
120	Repairs & Grounds Maintenance	£22,750.00	£22,754.86	-£4.86
130	Villages' Improvements	£8,045.00	£8,707.45	-£662.45
140	Play Areas	£6,615.00	£1,886.60	£4,728.40
150	Subscriptions	£760.00	£814.00	-£54.00
160	Christmas Celebrations	£10,351.00	£11,836.14	-£1,485.14
170	Debit Card - General Expenses	£410.00	£725.44	-£315.44
180	Donations	£4,000.00	£3,400.00	£600.00
190	CCTV	£840.00	£979.43	-£139.43
200	Capital Expenditure	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
201	councillor tablet	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
202	queens jubilee celebrations	£0.00	£295.07	-£295.07
Total Parish Council	£128,966.00	£0.00	£111,031.33	£17,934.67
Total Expenditure	£128,966.00	£0.00	£111,031.33	£17,934.67
Total Income	£105,561.00	£0.00	£118,246.39	£12,685.39
Total Expenditure	£128,966.00	£0.00	£111,031.33	£17,934.67

Appendix 4

Marston Field Pendulum Survey 15th March 2022

Due to concerns regarding the overall safety of the pendulum, a high level survey of the pendulum was carried out, including the disassembly and examination of the universal swing hangers. The condition of the individual parts of the pendulum is reported below, followed by a summary assessment. Numbers in brackets refer to the photographs supplied separately, with a composite image of all the photos included below to allow quick identification. My records show that the first weekly safety inspection was carried out 2nd March 2011.

Upper pendulum

The upper pendulum arm had already been condemned due to wood rot, The Children's Playground Co. Ltd previously having added an oversize washer to the universal swing hanger fixing bolt intended to spread the load (14)

Lower pendulum

After the removal of the lower pendulum arm universal swing hanger bolts, it was found that the wood surrounding the two bolt holes appears to be reasonably sound. However the arm has multiple longitudinal cracks, with further cracks radiating from the centre of both ends of the arm. For instance the N.E. end of the pendulum arm has a crack about 40mm deep on the upper surface and one about 60mm deep on the end, while the S.E. end has a 50mm crack on the lower surface. (1-5)

Vertical Supports

There are numerous longitudinal cracks in all three vertical supports.(6-13). For example one measured about 55mm deep (6), while a crack that runs beneath a pendulum arm support swivel, is about 60mm deep (10,11). There is also rot in the pocket of, what I assume, was the location of an original branch in one vertical support (9).

Universal Swing Hangers

The disassembled Universal Swing Hangers were generally in good condition, as far I could ascertain (14-15). There was some slight wear on the swivel hanger bolts (15) and the nylon bushes through which the bolts passed had a small amount of play with some surface ends worn. Neither of which would not compromise safety.

However I have not been able to remove the chain support clevis (16,17), which allows the chain, and hence seat, to rotate 360 dg, from the lower swing block. It would appear the shaft is captured in the lower swing block and cannot be examined. Given that the weight of chain, seat and rider is supported by the shaft of the clevis, the inability to confirm condition of the shaft is of concern.

Summary Assessment

I understand the intention is to replace the top pendulum arm and that presumably the bottom arm could also be replaced, subject to cost. However there are other issues to consider. In the 2021 inspection, carried out at low level by The Play Inspection Company, they advised several actions including: *monitor timber to ensure the splits do not cross through fixing points of the structure and/or cause any instability.* (which many cracks do) and *undertake a Resi-PD survey to establish the condition of the beams at their core.* (which would be an expensive process). The measurements I have indicated for the approximate depth of cracks does not allow the inevitable extensions of hairline cracks deeper in to the timber. While the opinion of the The Children's Playground Co. Ltd appears to be that a longitudinal crack does not weaken the structure, it is self evident that a number of cracks must render the structure less strong. Lastly the safety of the chain clevis support cannot be ascertained.

I believe that even with two new pendulum arms, should the cost be justified, given the pendulum age and future plans for the area, the safety of the pendulum is compromised by the cracks in and the general condition of the vertical supports and the concerns regarding the chain clevis support. I suggest the remaining structure be removed and the area repurposed.