

**Minutes of the Meeting of Lapley, Stretton & Wheaton Aston Parish Council held on Thursday 17h October 2024 at Lapley and Wheaton Aston village hall**

**In attendance:**

### Cllr W Millington - Wheaton Aston (Chairman)

Cllr D Hodgkiss– **Stretton**

Cllr J Hodgkiss**- Wheaton Aston**

Cllr V Renfrew – **Lapley**

Cllr Sue Whittingham - **Wheaton Aston**

### Cllr R Nelson -Wheaton Aston (Vice Chairman) and South Staffordshire District Council

Cllr J Ford – **Wheaton Aston**

### Cllr A Anderson - Stretton

Cllr. M. Griffiths – **Lapley**

Cllr D Weate- **Wheaton Aston**

**Also in Attendance:**

Mrs A Watson **– Parish Clerk**

 3 police officers representing **Staffordshire Police** (part of the meeting)

 1 member of the public

**Public forum**

Resolved: agenda item 77 brought forward; police invited to speak

Car theft is on the rise, residents advised to use faraday bags. ASB has been reduced, a police initiative took place in WA to engage with youths.

PC member queried r incidents that have happened locally. There have been 6 calls for the area, all being investigated.

ASB at Marston Field and Primrose play area discussed

Parking issues in the village discussed, police need to be notified at the time of the incident

Cllr Nelson to share details of SID data with Staffordshire police for an assessment to be considered

Concern raised that children aren’t safely belted in vehicles, police to contact local school and raise awareness

Staffordshire police officers left the meeting 7.20pm

Standing orders imposed 7.20pm

**Apologies:**

Cllr M Sutton**- Staffordshire County Council**

Cllr M Smith - **Wheaton Aston**

**Absent:**

**Acronyms:**

LSWA PC: Lapley, Stretton and Wheaton Aston Parish Council

SSC: South Staffordshire council

SCC: Staffordshire County Council

Cllr: Councillor

CPD: Continuous professional development

SPCA: Staffordshire Parish Councils Association

PCSO: Police Community Support Officer SLCC: Society of local council clerks

NALC: National association of local councils

CMDR: Commander

WACFR- Wheaton Aston Community First Responders

FOM: Forest of Mercia

VO: Village Orderly

BKV: Best Kept Village

###  74.To consider apologies

Apologies and reasons for absence were received and approved from Cllr M Sutton and Cllr M Smith

###  75.Declaration of Interests

Agenda items 86- Cllr Millington, Cllr D Hodgkiss, Cllr J Hodgkiss, Cllr D Weate, Cllr Nelson, Cllr S Whittingham have a non-pecuniary interest on the Village hall grant as committee members

####  76. Approval of minutes

**Resolved** to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of Lapley, Stretton and Wheaton Aston Parish Council held on 5th September 2024 as a true and correct reflection

**77 Police matters**

**Discussed in the public forum**

**78.To receive report from Parish Council Clerk**

**Information**

Ladder visual check introduced to weekly inspections

Clerk attended manual handling and working at height training 4.9.24

Proposal to reduce speed limit on part of Ivestsey RD and all of Bellhurst Lane to 30mph

18.9.24 Obtaining quotes for Lapley Green Finger Posts and bollard

20.9.24 Vehicle collisions with finger post at Sunny bank. Police informed

27.09.24 Reported the deteriorate sign at the Air Field Memorial crossroads.

30.9.24 contacted highways regarding a new BT pole installed near a junction at Bellhurst Lane which is obstructing the view – they advised for the resident concerned to contact BT direct, info passed on

04.10.24 WMI Planned road closures upcoming programme of highway works related to the construction of the West Midlands Interchange Development.

As part of our construction of the temporary site entrance on A5 Watling Street, we will be completing pavement resurfacing works and installing verge drainage from 7pm on Monday 7 October to 5am on Tuesday 8 October.

To complete our work safely there will be a single lane temporary traffic light closure in place, with access to properties maintained.

08.10.24 Moles at Primrose play area, reported to pest control.

Notes from the Local Transport plan:

SCC plan to have the plan in place by March 2025 which will last through until 2050.  They are seeking the thoughts from local councils on what our three key concerns would be for the future.

The plan is to be net zero by 2050 and to do so they wish to eliminate the usage of cars in the county at the level they currently are. They hope to see less single use cars on the roads so will encourage carpooling, more use of public services and have highlighted that the use of electric cars will not be enough to meet the climate targets

The three key areas are:

Deter motorised travel

Strengthen community travel

Improve connectivity

They also wish to improve virtual connectivity as working from home etc sees less on the roads

They believe that the key to achieving this is to change behaviours

I asked about an electric tram infrastructure for the county and was told that there couldn’t be one due to the road infrastructure- roads not being wide enough to add a system on to

**Action plan item update**

Lapley green fingerpost- £560- applied to village centre improvement fund

Communications board is now installed

RBL are not producing poppies for lampposts

Allotments are complete and all plots taken, SSC advised there is still funding from the Prosperity fund, application made for two more raised beds at a cost of £2880

Allotment inspections have been completed, the joint shed has been delivered, a community is growing

Allotment committee meeting is required soon to complete required paperwork

**Christmas update**

Stalls have been taken in the inside and outside space, Over the Rainbow Bakery will be situated along Hawthorne Rd to join the two areas

The trees are to be delivered by Bradshaws on 8th November for installation by J Whittingham and Son on 10th November and then decorated on 11th November

Dobson fairs will be bringing two fair rides

**Consultations**

[Let's Talk Transport | Let's Talk Staffordshire](https://letstalk.staffordshire.gov.uk/let-s-talk-transport)

**Outstanding items update**

* Defib at Ivetsey Rd- Planning are waiting for the site to be handed over. Once this has been completed an officer will assess the site for installation. SSC are to be landowners and are aware LSWA PC wish to install on site.
* Lapley Green registration-. Awaiting update from Tedstone Solicitors
* Gated alley Broadholes/Pinfold-. No update on the proposal to reopen the alley from SSC.
* Post office – no premises found., this has now been taken on at district level.
* Marston Field Redevelopment – one tender received, MF group to consider

**Meetings/Events**

28.11.24 6pm online SSC locality forum

Lapley Tree festival 7th and 8th December

28th November 6pm SSC locality forum

Parish Summit 14th November

14th October BKV awards night

Police consultation open until 21st October 2024

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Day** | **Time** | **Event** | **Places** |
| **September** |  |  |  |  |
| 18th  | Wednesday | 10 am – 12 pm | Clerk’s Induction | 1 |
| 20th | Friday | 1 pm – 4 pm | Local Transport Plan | 65 – full |
| 25th | Wednesday | 10 am – 12 pm | CiLCA Autumn session 1 | 10 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **October** |  |  |  |  |
| 9th | Wednesday | 7 pm – 9 pm | Councillor Introduction | 20 |
| 16th | Wednesday | 10 am – 12 pm | Clerks – The Knowledge | 10 |
| 17th | Thursday | 10 am – 12 pm | Clerk’s Induction | 1 |
| 22nd | Thursday | 10 am – 12 pm | CiLCA Autumn session 2 | 10 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **November** |  |  |  |  |
| 6th | Wednesday | 10 am – 12.30 pm | Explore Chairmanship | 20 |
| 13th | Wednesday | 10 am – 12 pm | Clerk’s Induction | 1 |
| 18th | Monday | 7 pm – 9.30 pm | Councillor Development | 20 |
| 21st | Thursday | 10 am – 12 pm | CiLCA Autumn session 3 | 10 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **December** |  |  |  |  |
| 3rd | Tuesday | 7 pm – 9.30 pm  | Explore Chairmanship | 20 |
| 9th | Monday | 7 pm – 9.30 pm | Councillor Development | 20 |
| 12th | Thursday | 10 am – 12 pm | Clerk’s Induction | 1 |
| 16th | Monday | 7 pm – 9 pm | Councillor Introduction | 20 |
| 18th | Wednesday | 10 am – 12 pm | CiLCA Autumn session 4 | 10 |

**Items emailed to councillors.**

Lapley Church tree festival

12.9.24 SSC Locality forum info

12.9.24 Info re condolence book

12.9.24 SPCA training courses

13.9.24 County Council Open Day for Prospective County Councillors

16.9.24 SSC planning app 24/00643/FUL

17.9.24 Temporary Road Closure, The Avenue Stretton

17.9.24 Temporary Road Closure, Horsebrook Road, Brewood

19.9.24 Police and crime & Fire and rescue plan 2024-2028

19.9.24 SSC Parish summit date

24.9.24 Emergency Road Closure, Watling Street, Stretton

24.9.24 Temporary Road Closure, Pinfold Lane, Penkridge

24.9.24 Temporary Road Closure, Bungham Lane, Penkridge

2.10.24 WMI planned road closures

8.10.24 SSC planning application 24/00836/AGRFLX

9.10.24 SPCA Defib inquiry

9.10.24 SPCA October news

**Use of devolved powers**

£115.20 on 3 courses for use of ladders

Social media poll on bus usage to gain an insight to take to the local plan meeting 20.9.24

£134 upgrade charge for edge due to income level

**Response to planning comments:**

Planning app 24/00643/FUL ‘LSWA PC objects on several concerns. The current stable building is in poor condition and dilapidated suggesting a whole rebuild would be required. The area is in a flood zone site which gives more concerns to the condition of the stables and if they would sustain flooding as a residential dwelling.

There are very few details on the proposed usage which raises concerns that the property may be used for commercial gain. LSWA PC would suggest that this needs clarifying

The change from agricultural use to residential use- will there be an agricultural tie to the property?

LSWA PC has concerns that this development might lead to future expansion from this application.

The covering letter states that Wheaton Aston is within walking distance. This is not a safe route, there is not pavements for the entire length or streetlights covering the whole area.

Currently the bus service has been drastically reduced which may affect isolation’

**SSC Planning Decision**

24/00277/FULHH Approve subject to conditions –The Winners Park Lane Lapley STAFFORD ST19 9JT -
Replace sunroom roofs, first floor side extension to western side projection.

24/00504/FULHH – Approve subject to conditions - Park Farm Park Lane Lapley STAFFORD ST19 9JT, Conservatory to rear elevations

24/00651/TREE – Approve - Orchard House Park Lane Lapley STAFFORD ST19 9JT, Lapley Conservation Area: Goat Willows - crown reduction by up to 40%. Silver Birch - crown thin by up to 30%

24/00680/TREE – Approve - The Bower House Stretton Road Lapley STAFFORD ST19 9JP, Lapley Conservation Area: Variegated Acer - 30% crown reduction

A resident has raised concerns in Lapley over the size and speed of agricultural vehicles traveling through the village. Allegedly some vehicles are towing trailer above the legal widths- have enquired with SCC about a survey being conducted and about of parking restrictions would benefit pinch points

#### 79. To receive report from Staffordshire County Council

Unavailable

##### 80. To receive report from South Staffordshire Council

##### Resident survey- please complete and share

* Ward walk- items discussed were blocked drains, flooding, ( County issues) , trees at Marston Rd reported, Village Hall needs attention, pothole issues, parking issues, grass area at the rear of the church , dog fouling, bus service, path ways, land on Ivetsey Rd, SID post request down Ivetsey Rd, parking scheme trialled in Wombourne where photos were reported on illegal parking , it resulted in 270 letters being sent out for inappropriate parking. The scheme was discontinued because it was overwhelmed
* SID data has been divulged to police
* Metro count was considered, this would need support from the count member to take forward – clerk to email Cllr Sutton
* Contact made for a traffic enforcement officer to attend and view parking issues – needs a specific time and date for someone to attend. Council members to forward details for clerk to arrange
* Badgers End footpath will remain a public footpath within the new development
* WMI meeting – A449 road works due to start and last until mid-2025
* Members to notify Cllr Nelson if there is further work required that street scene can do
* Tree on village green has been shaped ready for the Christmas event

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##### 81.Financial matters

Resolved: (appendix 2)

* 1. To approve the expenditure for August/September 2024
	2. To receive the reconciled accounts for Unity Trust (main) Unity trust (reserves) Barclays Bank and Equals card
	3. To note payments/decisions made under delegated powers

**82. Planning recommendations**

To consider planning matters including

1. planning applications received:

Application 24/00728/FULM Lapley Wood Farm Lapley Wood Stretton Road Wheaton Aston ST19 9ND

|  |
| --- |
| FULL application for a prestige car facility encompassing storage together with conversion of traditional farm buildings for office, maintenance and valetResolved: ‘No objection on the conditions that the character of the buildings and integrity of the area are retained, the bats are not displaced, boxes for owls are made available, noise is at a level that does not displace any animals and the public footpath remains accessible and these conditions are checked’  |
| Application 24/00836/AGRFLX Longnor Mill Farm Wheaton Aston Road Longnor STAFFORD ST19 5QN Resolved: ‘LSWA PC has concerns over the lack of facilities for office workers- minimum amount of toilets and no kitchen. The flexible use is a concern’Prior approval for the conversion of two barns into a flexible use.Resolved: Application 24/00845/TTREE Proposed: TPO 54/1981 - G1 limes x 12 - crown lift by up to 5m T1 Western red cedar - Dismantle and remove T2 Western red cedar - Dismantle and remove T3 yew - Dismantle and remove T4 Western red cedar -Dismantle and remove T5 conifer -Dismantle and remove T6 pine - Dismantle and remove T7 pine - Dismantle and remove T8 pine - Dismantle and remove T9 silver birch -Dismantle and remove All as referenced on Location plan At: Lapley Hall Church Lane Lapley STAFFORD ST19 9JR Resolved: LSWA PC objects, the application should be resubmitted as it is not specific enough. For example The limes (G1) are a key feature of the village and conservation area and an individual details for each tree should be provided, in addition the application states that the trees are not TPO’d, LSWA believes that this is not the case’ |

 b) Planning applications received after the paperwork was sent out-none

**83.Community meeting outcome**

No suggestions brought forward by the community.

Members suggestions: Primrose Play Area to install a bench and a gate to Dirty lane

SID for Ivestsey Rd

**84.Christmas**

* update:

All stalls have been taken; the fair has confirmed that an additional ride will be brought this year. The road closure extends to the whole of Hawthorne Rd to enable activities to take place between the two locations. St Marys First Academy will be on stage once signing Christmas songs, Davies Dance academy will be on at the beginning dancing. Resolve to appoint to entertain two sets cost

The trees are to be delivered by Bradshaws on 8th November for installation by J Whittingham and Son on 10th November and then decorated on 11th November

The electrical tests are due by 31st October

TENS has been approved and license received to collect money

Both licenses have been approved

£50 donation has ben received from Co-op in Brewood towards cakes plus 60 mince pies form Spar Wheaton Aston , Greggs Codsall is supplying mince pies

* Resolved to adopt the plan for the event
* Resolved to employ a singer for a 45 minute set
* Lapley Tree festival

Resolved to enter a tree with a theme of ‘Christmas through the years’

**85. Office lease**

To consider the lease renewal for 3 years

 Resolved to renew the office lease for a further 3 years on a rpi linked cost beginning with £3800 annually

**86 Grant applications**

Resolved to offer the following grants:

St Marys Academy PTA £300

The Carnival Committee £300

WA Football Juniors FC £300

Brewood Voluntary Car scheme £1000

WA Luncheon Club £1000

Lapley and Wheaton Aston Village hall £1000

**87.Storage update**

Update given. Resolved to agree to amendment on the license agreement and clerk to sign. Hope to have the container on site for early November

**88. Marston Field**

Only one tender has been returned. Clerk has sought advice from both SLCC and SPCA and both advised that this tender can be considered providing it meets the requirements of the project.

Tender opened and considered

Resolved for the MF working group to assess the tender and report back at the December meeting

**89. Condolence Book**

Resolved: purchase a condolence book to be held by the Parish Council, Cllr J Hodgkiss will take ownership (£40 black leather) create a reserve for death of a monarch

**90. Police and crime & Fire and rescue plan 2024-2028 Consultation**

Members encouraged to complete the survey individually, clerk to respond collectively

**91. Policies**

Resolved to accept the updated policies:

* Grievance and Disciplinary Policy
* Memorial dedications Policy
* SID Risk assessment

**92. Local transport plan**

 Resolved that the three key areas affecting the parish are lack of infrastructure to support travel and growth, this

 needs to be tackled at planning level, lack of bus service, lack of EV charging points and lack of infrastructure to

 implement the points

 Cllr Anderson left the meeting

**Standing orders extended**

**93. Items for future**

Birkenshaw Lane update

**Councillors are respectfully** **reminded that this is not an opportunity for debate or decision making.**

**94.** **Date of next meeting**: 5th December 2024 at 7pm at Lapley and Wheaton Aston Village Hall . This is the precept meeting

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**Signed………………………………………….. Chairman……………………….**

**Meeting closed at 9.10pm**

#### Council Attendance

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date**   | **RN**   | **JH**   | **MS**   | **WM**   | **DW**   | **DH**   | **Sue W**   | **JF**  | **AA**   | **VR**   | **MG**   | **Total Attendance**   |
| 23/5/24  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | 11  |
| 18/7/24  | Ap  | X  | Ab  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | Ap  | Ap  | Ap  | 6  |
| 5/9/24  | X  | X  | X  | X  | Ap  | X  | X  | X  | Ap  | X  | Ap  | 8  |
| 17/10/24  | X  | X | Ap | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | 10 |
| 5/12/24  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

##### 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 2

Lapley Stretton & Wheaton Aston Parish Council

Expenditure transactions - payments approval list **Start of year 01/04/24**

 Payment

 No Payment Gross To pay Heading Invoice Invoice Details

 Reference Reference

 92 634045595 £239.09 £239.09 100/19/4 01/07/24 Cloudy It - Cloudy IT device management and support £239.09

 84 DD £59.94 £59.94 100/10 11/07/24 British Telecom - Monthly phone bill £59.94

 87 DD £35.00 £35.00 100/8 18/07/24 Information Commissioner's Office - Data Protection £35.00

 Fee

 90 469484419 £56.25 £56.25 100/18/1 18/07/24 Mrs Amy Watson - Mileage £56.25

 91 30331524 £63.00 £63.00 100/6/1 18/07/24 Wheaton Aston Village Hall Management Committee £63.00

 - Village Hall hire for PC meeting May

 93 145795219 £66.12 £66.12 100/9 18/07/24 Espo - Stationery (Printer paper) £66.12

 96 435064095 £117.94 £117.94 100/10 18/07/24 Npower Limited - Electricity £117.94

 97 168574766 £320.00 £320.00 100/2 18/07/24 South Staffordshire District Council - Office Rent £320.00

 98 142317208 £18.45 £18.45 100/18/1 18/07/24 Mr. Malcolm Bissell - Mileage £18.45

 99 799480302 £1,291.99 £1,291.99 120/1/1 18/07/24 Ditton Services - Grounds Maintenance £1,291.99

 100 636464075 £301.00 £301.00 100/2 18/07/24 South Staffordshire District Council - Outstanding £301.00

 Office Rent - Email not received

 101 DD £56.56 £56.56 100/10 18/07/24 EE - Monthly charges £56.56

 85 329762314 £521.99 £521.99 130/2/2 19/07/24 AED Donate - 5 x Bleed Control Kits £521.99

 86 175076920 £720.00 £720.00 100/20 23/07/24 South Staffordshire District Council - Legal retainer £720.00

Sub Total £3,867.33 £3,867.33

 £4,775.85 £4,775.85 Confidential

**Total** £8,643.18 £8,643.18

 No Payment Gross To pay Heading Invoice Invoice Details

 Reference Reference

 148 493944785 £1,291.99 £1,291.99 120/1/1 02/08/24 Ditton Services - August Invoice £1,291.99

 136 546093907 £72.18 £72.18 130/2/4 05/08/24 Weston Sawmill & Nursery - Allotment timber £72.18

 133 £521.99 £521.99 130/2/2 08/08/24 AED Donate - Bleed Control Kit

 134 £651.28 £651.28 130/2/4 08/08/24 Get Composting - Allotments

 145 594443698 £492.00 £492.00 100/19/4 14/08/24 Edge IT Systems Ltd - Financial systems EDGE £492.00

 accounting

 132 £59.94 £59.94 100/10 15/08/24 British Telecom - Office Landline

 135 594314824 £239.09 £239.09 100/19/4 15/08/24 Cloudy It - August Invoice £239.09

 142 £309.83 £309.83 100/9 15/08/24 Ricoh U K Limited - Printer ink

 143 129431184 £44.10 £44.10 100/18/1 15/08/24 Mrs Amy Watson - mileage £44.10

 144 673330971 £10.80 £10.80 100/18/1 15/08/24 Mr. Malcolm Bissell - Expenses Mileage £10.80

 146 759918987 £320.00 £320.00 100/2 18/08/24 South Staffordshire District Council - Office Rental - £320.00

 August

 147 392109412 £28,792.22 £28,792.22 130/2/4 27/08/24 Capital Sflu Group - Inv 3730 Allotments Groundswork £28,792.22

 141 1989200 £15.00 £15.00 130/2/4 28/08/24 Forest of Mercia CIC - Wildflower seed for allotments £15.00

 149 £60.68 £60.68 100/10 28/08/24 EE - august mobiles

 No Payment Gross To pay Heading Invoice Invoice Details

 Reference Reference

 117 941706049 £320.00 £320.00 100/2 02/09/24 South Staffordshire District Council - Monthly office £320.00

 rental

 123 £600.00 £600.00 130/2/3 03/09/24 SENstation -

 110 518992420 £1,291.99 £1,291.99 120/1/1 11/09/24 Ditton Services - Grounds maintenance contract £1,291.99

 1 monthly instalment

 112 £59.94 £59.94 100/10 11/09/24 British Telecom - Monthly Business Bill

 130 £96.00 £96.00 100/3/1 15/09/24 FairFx Pre Paid Card - Ladder safety course x 3

 131 £21.00 £21.00 160/1/2 16/09/24 FairFx Pre Paid Card - Temp Event Notice for

 Christmas even

 122 £550.00 £550.00 130/2/4 17/09/24 Bed Sheds Direct - Allotment Shed

 113 534457593 £378.00 £378.00 100/4/1 18/09/24 Pink Print - March 24 Newsletter £378.00

 119 670470315 £1,230.00 £1,230.00 160/1/2 18/09/24 Dangerous Sheep Events - Christmas Lights Switch £1,230.00

 On

 105 773402622 £720.00 £720.00 100/20 19/09/24 South Staffordshire District Council - Parish Annual £720.00

 Legal Retainer

 111 384596409 £239.09 £239.09 100/19/4 19/09/24 Cloudy It - Monthly payment for IT Contract £239.09

 114 574065508 £150.00 £150.00 100/4/1 19/09/24 Pink Print - July 24 Newsletter Distribution £150.00

 118 66013054 £504.00 £504.00 100/11/2 19/09/24 Mazars LLP - Accounting Limited Assurance Review £504.00

 120 292466401 £10.35 £10.35 100/18/1 19/09/24 Mr. Malcolm Bissell - Mileage £10.35

 No Payment Gross To pay Heading Invoice Invoice Details

 Reference Reference

 121 9094599q £90.00 £90.00 100/3/2 19/09/24 Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association - £90.00

 Chairmanship Course for Cllr

 125 £56.56 £56.56 100/10 19/09/24 EE - Monthly phone invoices

 127 815354398 £139.62 £139.62 100/12 19/09/24 Ricoh U K Limited - Office Printer £139.62

 128 £20.00 £20.00 170 19/09/24 FairFx Pre Paid Card - BKV Prizes

 115 12932217 £113.99 £113.99 130/2/2 20/09/24 AED Donate - Bleed control kit £113.99

 116 843657214 £111.06 £111.06 120/5 20/09/24 JRB Enterprises Ltd - Dog waste bags £111.06

 124 49890845 £65.00 £65.00 100/3/1 20/09/24 JLR Training Ltd - Manual Handling Wrking at Heighs £65.00

 course

 126 94602157 £42.30 £42.30 100/18/1 20/09/24 Mrs Amy Watson - mileage £42.30

Sub Total £39,690.00 £39,690.00

 £9,444.55 £9,444.55 Confidential

**Total** £49,134.55 £49,134.55

Bank Account Reconciled Statement

 **Unity Trust - Current Account** **1111559/2035784** **30-98-00**

 Statement Number 40 Bank Statement No. 40

 Statement Opening Balance £49,263.43 Opening Date 01/07/24

 Statement Closing Balance £27,719.93 Closing Date 31/08/24

 True/ Cashbook Closing £27,719.93

 Balance

 Date Cheque/ Ref. Supplier/ Customer Debit (£) Credit (£) Balance (£)

 12/07/24 Amy Watson 0.00 110.00 49,373.43

 18/07/24 July 2024 425.04 0.00 48,948.39

 22/07/24 allotment 0.00 55.00 49,003.39

 23/07/24 allotment 0.00 55.00 49,058.39

 24/07/24 allotment 0.00 55.00 49,113.39

 24/07/24 allotment 0.00 55.00 49,168.39

 24/07/24 South Staffordshire District 0.00 16,223.55 65,391.94

 Council

 25/07/24 allotment 0.00 30.00 65,421.94

 25/07/24 allotment 0.00 30.00 65,451.94

 27/07/24 allotment 0.00 30.00 65,481.94

 29/07/24 allotment 0.00 30.00 65,511.94

 30/07/24 allotment 0.00 30.00 65,541.94

 31/07/24 allotment 0.00 55.00 65,596.94

 31/07/24 allotment 0.00 30.00 65,626.94

 31/07/24 Staffordshire County Council 65,473.77

 Superannuation Fund

 31/07/24 Staffordshire County Council

 Superannuation Fund

 31/07/24 Staffordshire County Council 64,820.67

 Superannuation Fund

 31/07/24 HMRC 0.00 64,533.07

 63,877.31

 31/07/24 Staffordshire County Council 128.58 0.00 63,748.73

 Superannuation Fund

 31/07/24 142317208 Mr. Malcolm Bissell 18.45 0.00 63,730.28

 31/07/24 145795219 Espo 66.12 0.00 63,664.16

 31/07/24 168574766 South Staffordshire District 320.00 0.00 63,344.16

 31/07/24 175076920 South Staffordshire District 720.00 0.00 62,624.16

 Council

 31/07/24 30331524 Wheaton Aston Village Hall 63.00 0.00 62,561.16

 Management Committee

 31/07/24 329762314 AED Donate 521.99 0.00 62,039.17

 31/07/24 435064095 Npower Limited 117.94 0.00 61,921.23

 31/07/24 44256299 Mrs. Josie Morris 61,840.52

 31/07/24 469484419 Mrs Amy Watson 56.25 0.00 61,784.27

 31/07/24 606517898 Mr. Malcolm Bissell 61,401.64

 31/07/24 634045595 Cloudy It 239.09 0.00 61,162.55

 31/07/24 636464075 South Staffordshire District 301.00 0.00 60,861.55

 Council

 31/07/24 684639484 Mrs Amy Watson 58,839.31

 31/07/24 799480302 Ditton Services 1,291.99 0.00 57,547.32

 31/07/24 88472855 Jessica Shulman 57,135.26

 31/07/24 DD Multiple Suppliers/ Customers 151.50 0.00 56,983.76

 01/08/24 allotment 0.00 50.00 57,033.76

 02/08/24 0.00 20.00 57,053.76

 02/08/24 0.00 20.00 57,073.76

 05/08/24 0.00 55.00 57,128.76

 06/08/24 0.00 20.00 57,148.76

 08/08/24 0.00 20.00 57,168.76

 08/08/24 n 0.00 20.00 57,188.76

 14/08/24 capital phase 2 allo 0.00 7,769.97 64,958.73

 31/08/24 Mrs. Josie Morris 64,878.02

 31/08/24 Jessica Shulman 64,466.16

 31/08/24 HMRC 64,028.68

 63,577.38

 31/08/24 British Telecom 59.94 0.00 63,517.44

 31/08/24 Mrs Amy Watson 61,445.94

 31/08/24 Ricoh U K Limited 309.83 0.00 61,136.11

 31/08/24 Mr. Malcolm Bissell 0.00 60,746.13

 31/08/24 Get Composting 651.28 0.00 60,094.85

 31/08/24 EE 60.68 0.00 60,034.17

 31/08/24 Staffordshire County Council 59,094.77

 Superannuation Fund

 31/08/24 HMRC 58,997.37

 31/08/24 129431184 Mrs Amy Watson 44.10 0.00 58,953.27

 31/08/24 1989200 Forest of Mercia CIC 15.00 0.00 58,938.27

 31/08/24 392109412 Capital Sflu Group 28,792.22 0.00 30,146.05

 31/08/24 493944785 Ditton Services 1,291.99 0.00 28,854.06

 31/08/24 546093907 Weston Sawmill & Nursery 72.18 0.00 28,781.88

 31/08/24 594314824 Cloudy It 239.09 0.00 28,542.79

 31/08/24 594443698 Edge IT Systems Ltd 492.00 0.00 28,050.79

 31/08/24 673330971 Mr. Malcolm Bissell 10.86 0.00 28,039.93

 31/08/24 759918987 South Staffordshire District 320.00 0.00 27,719.93

 Council

 Uncleared and unpresented effects

 Total uncleared and unpresented 0.00 0.00

 Total debits / credits 46307.02 24763.52

Bank Account Reconciled Statement

 **Unity trust working reserves** **20419150** **60-83-01**

 Statement Number 31 Bank Statement No. 31

 Statement Opening Balance £51,227.05 Opening Date 01/07/24

 Statement Closing Balance £43,786.40 Closing Date 30/09/24

 True/ Cashbook Closing £43,786.40

 Balance

 Date Cheque/ Ref. Supplier/ Customer Debit (£) Credit (£) Balance (£)

 14/08/24 capital phase 2 allo 7,769.97 0.00 43,457.08

 30/09/24 Unity Trust Bank 0.00 329.32 43,786.40

 Uncleared and unpresented effects

 Total uncleared and unpresented 0.00 0.00

 Total debits / credits 7769.97 329.32

Bank Account Reconciled Statement

 **Unity Trust - Current Account** **1111559/2035784** **30-98-00**

 Statement Number 42 Bank Statement No. 42

 Statement Opening Balance £27,719.93 Opening Date 01/09/24

 Statement Closing Balance £97,089.67 Closing Date 30/09/24

 True/ Cashbook Closing £97,089.67

 Balance

 Date Cheque/ Ref. Supplier/ Customer Debit (£) Credit (£) Balance (£)

 06/09/24 allotment 0.00 20.00 27,739.93

 24/09/24 South Staffordshire District 0.00 65,254.00 92,993.93

 Council

 30/09/24 Staffordshire County Council 158.55 0.00 92,835.38

 Superannuation Fund

 30/09/24 British Telecom 59.94 0.00 92,775.44

 30/09/24 Staffordshire County Council 637.92 0.00 92,137.52

 Superannuation Fund

 30/09/24 EE 56.56 0.00 92,080.96

 30/09/24 Staffordshire County Council 156.78 0.00 91,924.18

 Superannuation Fund

 30/09/24 Untity Trust 30.00 0.00 91,894.18

 30/09/24 SENstation 600.00 0.00 91,294.18

 30/09/24 Bed Sheds Direct 550.00 0.00 90,744.18

 30/09/24 allotment 0.00 30.00 90,774.18

 30/09/24 South Staffordshire District 0.00 15,574.45 106,348.63

 Council

 30/09/24 HM Revenue & Customs 105,916.63

 Only

 105,424.61

 Only

 30/09/24 12932217 AED Donate 113.99 0.00 105,310.62

 30/09/24 292466401 Mr. Malcolm Bissell 10.35 0.00 105,300.27

 30/09/24 384596409 Cloudy It 239.09 0.00 105,061.18

 30/09/24 49881050 Jessica Shulman 104,610.32

 30/09/24 49890845 JLR Training Ltd 65.00 0.00 104,545.32

 30/09/24 5189924201 Ditton Services 1,291.99 0.00 103,253.33

 30/09/24 534457593 Pink Print 378.00 0.00 102,875.33

 30/09/24 574065508 Pink Print 150.00 0.00 102,725.33

 30/09/24 66013054 Mazars LLP 504.00 0.00 102,221.33

 30/09/24 670470315 Dangerous Sheep Events 1,230.00 0.00 100,991.33

 30/09/24 754682170 Mrs Amy Watson 98,932.04

 30/09/24 773402622 South Staffordshire District 720.00 0.00 98,212.04

 Council

 30/09/24 815354398 Ricoh U K Limited 139.62 0.00 98,072.42

 30/09/24 843657214 JRB Enterprises Ltd 111.06 0.00 97,961.36

 30/09/24 881765050 Mr. Malcolm Bissell 0.00 97,622.68

 30/09/24 890140513 Mrs. Josie Morris 97,541.97

 30/09/24 9094599q Staffordshire Parish 90.00 0.00 97,451.97

 Councils' Association

 30/09/24 941706049 South Staffordshire District 320.00 0.00 97,131.97

 Council

 30/09/24 94602157 Mrs Amy Watson 42.30 0.00 97,089.67

 Uncleared and unpresented effects

 Total uncleared and unpresented 0.00 0.00

 Total debits / credits 11508.71 80878.45

Lapley Stretton & Wheaton Aston Parish Council

Expenditure transactions - payments approval list **Start of year 01/04/24**

 Payment

 No Payment Gross To pay Heading Invoice Invoice Details

 Reference Reference

Sub Total £3,867.33 £3,867.33

 £4,775.85 £4,775.85 Confidential

**Total** £8,643.18 £8,643.18

Bank Account Reconciled Statement

 **equals card VO**

 Statement Number 2 Bank Statement No. 2

 Statement Opening Balance £100.00 Opening Date 01/04/24

 Statement Closing Balance £150.99 Closing Date 31/08/24

 True/ Cashbook Closing £150.99

 Balance

 Date Cheque/ Ref. Supplier/ Customer Debit (£) Credit (£) Balance (£)

 16/04/24 Transfer 0.00 350.00 450.00

 23/04/24 Transfer 30.00 0.00 420.00

 30/04/24 Rawlins Paint 26.55 0.00 393.45

 08/05/24 drill 100.00 0.00 293.45

 31/05/24 B&Q plc 70.28 0.00 223.17

 31/08/24 Weston Sawmill & Nursery 72.18 0.00 150.99

 Uncleared and unpresented effects

 Total uncleared and unpresented 0.00 0.00

 Total debits / credits 299.01 350

Bank Account Reconciled Statement

 **equals card VO**

 Statement Number 3 Bank Statement No. 3

 Statement Opening Balance £150.99 Opening Date 01/09/24

 Statement Closing Balance £150.99 Closing Date 30/09/24

 True/ Cashbook Closing £150.99

 Balance

 Date Cheque/ Ref. Supplier/ Customer Debit (£) Credit (£) Balance (£)

 No activity 0.00 0.00 150.99

 Uncleared and unpresented effects

 Total uncleared and unpresented 0.00 0.00

 Total debits / credits 0 0

**Fair FX prepaid card - Clerk** **5116561022250691**

 Statement Number 17 Bank Statement No. 17

 Statement Opening Balance £26.74 Opening Date 01/04/24

 Statement Closing Balance £401.37 Closing Date 31/08/24

 True/ Cashbook Closing £401.37

 Balance

 Date Cheque/ Ref. Supplier/ Customer Debit (£) Credit (£) Balance (£)

 16/04/24 Transfer 0.00 100.00 126.74

 23/04/24 Transfer 0.00 30.00 156.74

 24/04/24 Transfer 0.00 100.00 256.74

 30/04/24 equals card rawlins Rawlins Paint 30.15 0.00 226.59

 30/04/24 equalscardamazon Amazon 15.03 0.00 211.56

 30/04/24 fxcard230424canva Canva 99.99 0.00 111.57

 08/05/24 drill 0.00 100.00 211.57

 31/05/24 Amazon 7.19 0.00 204.38

 31/05/24 Amazon drill 99.97 0.00 104.41

 31/05/24 Amazon trolley 69.99 0.00 34.42

 30/06/24 Amazon laminating sheets9.98 0.00 24.44

 18/07/24 July 2024 0.00 425.04 449.48

 31/08/24 Amazon sticky remover 6.19 0.00 443.29

 31/08/24 Amazon padlock 28.00 0.00 415.29

 31/08/24 Amazon 13.92 0.00 401.37

 Uncleared and unpresented effects

 Total uncleared and unpresented 0.00 0.00

 Total debits / credits 380.41 755.04

Bank Account Reconciled Statement

 **Barclays savings account** **73219496** **20-08-64**

 Statement Number 38 Bank Statement No. 38

 Statement Opening Balance £55,387.13 Opening Date 01/06/24

 Statement Closing Balance £55,792.92 Closing Date 30/09/24

 True/ Cashbook Closing £55,792.92

 Balance

 Date Cheque/ Ref. Supplier/ Customer Debit (£) Credit (£) Balance (£)

 29/07/24 Barclays Bank 0.00 197.92 55,585.05

 30/09/24 Barclays Bank 0.00 207.87 55,792.92

 Uncleared and unpresented effects

 Total uncleared and unpresented 0.00 0.00

 Total debits / credits 0 405.79

Reconciled by Amy Watson

Signed

 Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer Chair

Date

 10/10/24 09:26

**To consider the updated Grievance and Disciplinary Policy**

1. **GRIEVANCES & DISCIPLINE**
	1. **Informal Grievances**

If you are unhappy with an element of your employment with the Council, you should initially discuss the matter with the Clerk/Chair of HR on an informal basis.

If you are uncomfortable about talking to the Clerk/Chair of HR, you should approach the Chair of the Council.

* 1. **Informal Conduct / Performance Investigation**

Should the Council be unhappy with either an Employee’s conduct or performance, they will initially discuss their concerns with that Employee on an informal basis.

The purpose of this meeting will be to provide guidance and support to address the problem. For this reason, notes will be taken during this meeting, and all present will be asked to sign the notes.

Normally, a Performance Improvement Plan will be produced, see Appendix 1.

A Panel from the Council and the Employee will attend this meeting. There will be no entitlement to be accompanied.

* 1. **Mediation**

In the event that an Employee is unhappy with the outcome of the Informal Grievance Procedure, or either party do not feel that performance / conduct issues are being addressed effectively, either the Employee or the Council request that the matter be subjected to mediation.

This will involve the use of a third party Mediator. In its simplest form, Mediation will involve the Mediator talking to either party individually, to listen to their side of the issue. If the Mediator feels that a resolution to the problem is possible, a meeting will be arranged between all parties at which the Mediator will set out their assessment of the issues and invite both parties to reach their own resolution.

The resultant action plan should have the agreement and support of both parties, be set out in writing and be signed by all involved in the Mediation process.

* 1. **Formal Grievances**

In the case of Grievances not being fully resolved at the informal stage, a formal written approach is required to the Council. As a consequence, a formal Grievance Hearing will be held to address the matter, within twenty-eight days of receipt of the Employee’s letter.

The Hearing will be conducted by a Panel of between two and three Elected Members who will be appointed by the Council or the HR Committee, should the Committee’s Terms of Reference require it to do so.

At this Hearing Employees are entitled – and encouraged – to be accompanied by a work colleague from the Council or Trade Union/ALCC Representative. Employees will be entitled to set out the reasons for the complaint, and what they want to happen to resolve. It.

Their Representative can present their Grievance and sum up on the Employee’s behalf. If the Grievance Panel have any questions they will be asked once the Employee has finished giving their side of events.

Employees will be informed in writing of the outcome of the meeting within seven days of the Hearing.

If the Employee making the grievance is unhappy with the response to the meeting, they can issue an Appeal, in writing. This Appeal must be submitted within seven days of receiving the response to the original grievance meeting.

**Please Note**

Any Formal Grievance complaint, which concerns the conduct of a Councillor, will be addressed as a Code of Conduct complaint by the Council, and will be referred to the District Council’s Monitoring Officer. This Council will not address the Employee’s Formal Grievance against an Elected Member. It will be addressed by the Monitoring Officer.

**The Process**

Upon receipt of any complaint, the Council or appropriate Committee will conduct an informal investigatory meeting with the Employee to establish if there are any issues that can be addressed by the Council, or is it solely concerned with the Code of Conduct. This investigatory meeting will be arranged within seven days of receipt of the complaint.

If there are non-Code related issues, such as work environment, or hours of work or pay, the Council could conduct a Formal or Informal Grievance process to address those problems, as detailed in s1.4.

However, Code of Conduct related complaints will be referred to the Monitoring Officer by the Council, in accordance with guidance from the Committee on Standards in Public Life’s.

The Council should keep the Employee fully informed of the progress of their complaint.

* 1. **Formal Discipline** **(this procedure only applies to Employees with two or more years continuous employment. Those with less may be subject to a short service dismissal for misconduct or poor performance).**

If an issue regarding an Employee’s conduct, behaviour or performance is not fully addressed at the informal stage, the Council will pursue the matter through its formal Disciplinary Procedures. Typical examples of areas of concern may be poor performance, unacceptable and unexplained absenteeism, poor conduct and behaviour at work, or lack of capability by an Employee to carry out their job.

There are four-steps to the procedure, which increase in severity of its outcome if the issue is not resolved at the previous step. Each step involves a Formal Hearing between the affected Employee and a Disciplinary Panel, from the Full Council or HR Committee. The Employee will be given every opportunity to put their side of the issue. Meetings will be conducted as soon as reasonably possible after the incident(s), which are being investigated to ensure that facts and witness statements are clear and up to date. At this meeting Employees are entitled - and encouraged - to be accompanied by a work colleague from the Council, or Trade Union/SLCC Representative.

The Employee will receive a letter of invitation to the Hearing, which will contain details of the allegations to be addressed.

All evidence that will be used in the Hearing will be included with the letter of invitation, and supplied to the Employee at least two days before the Hearing.

During the Hearing the Employee will be given every opportunity to present their response to the allegations. If the Panel have any questions they will be asked once the Employee has finished.

Their colleague or Union Representative will be able to present their case and sum up at the end, but not answer questions on the Employee’s behalf.

If the allegation of misconduct is proven, the meeting may result in the following action being taken by the Council Management against the Employee:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **STEP No** | **ACTION TAKEN** | **LIVE PERIOD** | **MANAGER RESPONSIBLE** |
| 1 | Formal Oral Warning | Six months. | Disciplinary Panel |
| 2 | Formal Written Warning | Twelve months | Disciplinary Panel |
| 3 | Final Written Warning | Twelve months | Disciplinary Panel |
| 4 | Termination of Contract of Employment | N/A | Disciplinary Panel |

Particularly severe acts of indiscipline may result in the Management bypassing Steps 1 and 2.

* 1. **Gross Misconduct (this procedure only applies to Employees with two or more years continuous employment. Those with less may be subject to a short service dismissal for misconduct or poor performance).**

Acts of Gross Misconduct, if proven after an appropriate investigation and a Disciplinary Hearing, will result in Dismissal without notice.

An informal investigatory meeting as detailed in s1.2 may or may not be conducted to establish the facts, depending on the circumstances.

Employees accused of Gross Misconduct will be suspended on full pay and receive a written invitation to a Formal Disciplinary Hearing, giving them details of the allegation they are to answer, the date, time and venue of the meeting, and also inform them of their right to be accompanied by a work colleague from the Council or trade union/SLCC representative. The letter will provide a minimum of 2 working days prior notice to the meeting. It will also advise the Employee that dismissal without notice pay is a possible outcome.

The Council recognises the following as acts of Gross Misconduct. (This is not an exhaustive list).

1. Theft.
2. Abusive or threatening behaviour of any nature.
3. Being under the influence of alcohol or drugs at work.
4. Serious/Gross dishonesty in dealings with Management.
5. Sexist, racist or any other behaviour against an individual, which could be classed as creating a hostile, intimidating or threatening environment.
6. Breach of confidentiality.
7. Failing to carry out reasonable Management instructions.
8. Fighting and acts of aggression.
9. Deliberately damaging Council property.
10. Deliberate breaches of Council Health and Safety procedures.
11. Unauthorised access to Council computer files, software or any other such breach of confidentiality.

Employees who have been dismissed for acts of Gross Misconduct do have a right to Appeal against their dismissal, as detailed in s1.7.

* 1. **Appeal Procedure**

Employees have the right to Appeal against a decision made at any Formal Disciplinary step. Appeals should be made to the Chair of the Council in writing, and submitted within seven working days of the disciplinary meeting having occurred.

A Formal Appeal Hearing, involving the Employee and an Appeal Panel. Members of the Appeal Panel must be able to demonstrate impartiality in conducting the Hearing, Ideally they will not have previous knowledge of the disciplinary action. However, it is acknowledged that this is not practical in small Councils. Therefore they need to demonstrate impartiality by assessing all of the evidence presented, asking wide ranging and evidence based questions, and providing a comprehensive, balanced and fact based outcome decision.

The Hearing will be held within fourteen days of receipt of the appeal request. At this meeting, Employees are entitled - and encouraged - to be accompanied by a work colleague from the Council or a Trade Union/SLCC representative.

The Employee making the appeal will be informed in writing of the outcome of the Appeal Hearing within seven days.

# Memorial Dedications Policy

Adopted by Lapley, Stretton and Wheaton Aston Parish Council on 24th October 2019

# OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY

Lapley, Stretton and Wheaton Aston Parish Council (subsequently known as LSWA PC/the Council ) recognises the need to allow memorials benches, trees and shrubs on land in its ownership or care. The Council will ensure that the issue is managed and regulated for the mutual benefit of all. The policy will be reviewed every five years and proposed amendments shall be submitted to the Council for approval. This policy will be made available to the general public and all applicants for memorial benches, trees and shrubs will be issued with a copy.

The policy will also ensure that only memorial benches, trees and shrubs are erected which are instigated by the next of kin, executor or an organisation with the permission of the next of kin and that benches have a common appearance, style and size which are appropriate for that location and will not cause offence to others.

The policy will establish responsibility for maintenance, repair and replacement.

The Council, through this policy, will endeavour to always offer the highest standard of service in undertaking its management and regulatory responsibility.

**LOCATION**

Land in the ownership of the Council is limited to land at Marston Field (off Marston Road), Badgers End, Primrose Play Area (off Primrose Close) Lapley Road (near Sunnybank Caravan Park) and Lapley Green (triangular shaped land off Church Lane, Stretton Road and Park Lane, Lapley).

The planting of Memorial trees and shrubs will only be carried out between November and February to ensure the most efficient growing conditions.

**MEMORIALS**

The Council will limit the number of memorial benches so that they shall not detract from their prime purpose. The Council reserves the right to refuse applications on this basis.

The maximum number of benches permitted at each area is:

Marston Field- 8 benches

Badgers End- 2

Sunnybank/Stretton- 2

Lapley Green- 2

Primrose Play Area- 2

Subject to there being a suitable location, LSWA PC can offer to site the following memorials:

* Memorial tree with or without a plaque
* Memorial shrub with or without a plaque
* Memorial bench with plaque
* Memorial plaque on an existing bench

The Council shall specify the type and number of benches, trees and shrubs to be installed/planted to be in keeping with the intended location.

**MEMORIAL DEDICATION PERIOD**

All memorials are based on a 10-year agreement, and can be renewed after this period if the applicant wishes. The fee covers the purchase, delivery and installation of the memorial, together with the ongoing maintenance for the 10-year period.

Upon the end of the 10-year period any memorial plaques shall be removed and may be collected by the applicant.

Ownership of the bench remains with the applicant. Following the ten-year period the applicant can renew the agreement with LSWA PC. If the agreement is not renewed LSWA PC reserve the right to remove and/or destroy the bench. The cost of this is to be considered on an individual basis dependant upon the condition of the existing bench.

**INSCRIPTIONS FOR BOTH BENCH & TREE PLAQUES**

Memorial plaques shall be affixed in the centre of the upper most lath of the back of the bench. In the case of trees and shrubs plaques shall be secured by a central pointed fixing.

The inscription on the plaque is to be “In (Loving) Memory of” the name of the person and the dates of birth and death. Further inscription will be at the discretion of the Parish Clerk.

**PROCESS**

Once an application has been received and location agreed, the Council shall arrange for the purchase and planting/installation of the preferred memorial.

The Council reserves the right to remove any memorial benches, trees or shrubs that have been damaged and are in the view of the Council beyond economical repair.

The Council accepts no liability for damage to any memorial benches, trees or shrubs from vandals, third parties or whilst the Council, or any third party on behalf of the Council, carries out routine maintenance.

The Council will not grant applications for memorial benches to pets.

No additional mementoes e.g. vases, statues, flowers, wreaths, balloons or other ornamentation etc., shall be permitted on or around the bench. These shall be removed without reference to the original applicant.

**PAYMENT**

Payment of £1,000 per bench (for ground preparation), £150 per tree and £50 per shrub is required with every completed application form. Cheques should be made payable to Lapley, Stretton and Wheaton Aston Parish Council.

Benches are to be approved by the Council and funded by the applicant

**CONDITIONS**

The Council reserves the right to refuse to plant trees, install benches or place memorial plaques where suitable, but will, where appropriate, accommodate requests.

Once planted/installed, the tree/shrub/bench cannot be repositioned or removed from the site. However, should a tree or bench become unsafe, the Council reserves the right to remove immediately in the interest of health and safety until repairs or replacement can take place.

The Council will maintain responsibility for the memorial and associated plaque during the 10-year period. This will include any preservation, treatment and minor repair works.

The fee is nonrefundable

Ownership of the bench remains with the applicant. Following the ten-year period the applicant can renew the agreement with LSWA PC. If the agreement is not renewed LSWA PC reserve the right to remove and/or destroy the bench. The cost of this is to be considered on an individual basis dependant upon the condition of the existing bench.

**ALTERNATIVE SITES**

LSWA PC will be pleased to contact either South Staffordshire Council or Staffordshire County Council on your behalf to assist in finding a suitable memorial location in other locations nearby, which are not in the ownership of LSWA PC.

Adopted October 2019

Reviewed October 2024

Next Review October 2029