WERRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD MONDAY 14th JULY 2025

AT WERRINGTON VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT
Cllr J Morrison (Acting Chair)
L Ibbs, B Hughes, S Hill, D Shaw
G Keiher-Knapper (Clerk)

SCC Cllr W McKenzie
SMDC Cllr R Ward
2 PCSOS
There were 2 members of the public present.

Cllr J Morrison, as the acting Chair, opened the meeting at 19.00

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME
A resident issued Cllr J Morrison with a written Freedom of Information request and left the meeting.

No other residents wished to raise any questions.

Public Question Time ended at 1905hrs

The Chair invited the PCSOs to give a report:

- Increased patrols covering Meigh Rd.
- Additional PCSO to cover the area.
- Agreed to enquire about anti vandalism recommendations for signs.
- Agreed Police Drop-in Clinic Saturday 2nd August 10-12.
- Agreed to show support for SPACE and Youth Club

056/25 APOLOGIES
Cllr K Griffiths and Cllr K Whitehurst.
SMDC Cllr P Hughes.

057/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None received.

058/25 REGISTER OF INTEREST
Councillors were reminded.

059/25 The **minutes** of the following minutes were reviewed for accuracy and approved:

a) Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Monday 9th June 2025.
b) Neighbourhood Plan Working Group Notes.
c) Meigh Road Playing Field Working Group Notes.

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060/25 Accounts The following accounts were reviewed for accuracy and approved:

a) June 2025 Bank Reconciliation.
b) June/Jul 25 payment schedule.

061/25 Planning Applications.
SMD/2025/0275 , SMD/2025/0193, SMD/2025/0290, SMD/2025/0284 and SMD/2025/0325 were discussed, and no comments were made. Cllr L Ibbs declared an interest for SMD/2025/0290.

SMD/2025/0250 Land off Leek Road EIA Screening WPC agreed to support Caverswall Parish Council by submitting the same grounds for objection.

062/25 The Following **Policies** were reviewed:

a) The **CCTV** Policy was deferred until Sept 25.
b) **Complaints and Whistle Blowing** Policies was approved.

063/25 Werrington Parish Council received **reports** from:

a) Staffordshire Moorlands Councillors.

Cllr R Ward informed the meeting that he has been working on:

- Several BESS planning applications.
- On Wednesday SMDC met and discussed and a named vote took place for 4 options for Devolution and option D got a majority vote with 26 to 17 for merging with Stoke on Trent, Newcastle Under Lyme and parts of Stafford Borough Council. There is a petition for residents against merging with Stoke on Trent. Final decision will be heard in November then residents will be consulted.

Cllr D Shaw is still working towards the care at home project in the Moorlands.

b) County Councillor

Cllr W Mckenzie introduced himself to the Parish Council as newly elected and thanked Cllr R Ward for all the hard work he had done before him.
Cllr W McKenzie informed the meeting that he is here to act on what the residents request of him therefore he has been working on objections for the BESS sites.

The Clerk asked Cllr W McKenzie to support with finding out the programmed dates for when Leek Road will be resurfaced as it was originally the start of Summer 25.

Cllr S Hill requested support with getting double yellow lines re-instated n Cote hill.

Cllr D Shaw requested a response to his emails reference Care at Home and support the project.

Cllr W McKenzie, Cllr R Ward and the member of public left at 2000hrs

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064/25 Clerks Report

Had been distributed to Parish Councillors. Key points include:

- The Wardens monthly jobs list was approved.
- SPACE Update
  Stoke City multi sports Tuesdays 11-12 at Meigh Rd Playing Fields age 8-17
  Staffordshire Wildlife Trust 31st Jul, 7th Aug, 14th Aug and 21st Aug 1330-1530hrs booking required.
- Werrington Parish Council agreed to create a Helicopter landing request policy and proforma to include: Booking personal details, Insurance, Risk assessments, Payment in advance and no refund policy. Notifying neighbouring landowners. Finally further investigation reference highways.

065/25 Neighbourhood Plan.

Werrington Parish Council agreed with the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group Recommendations following Monday 23rd June meeting:

- Purchase of banner.
- Launch of Household questionnaire and Housing Needs Assessment with Drop in Clinics for residents.
- Next Neighbourhood Plan meeting Monday 4th August at 10am in Werrington Library
- WPC agreed to campaign against the withdrawal of NHP Grants by the Government.

066/25 Allotments

No report received this month.

067/25 Meigh Road Playing Fields

Cllr L Ibbs gave a report on Meigh Road Playing Fields:

- Deterioration of the footpaths. The Clerk and Cllr D Shaw agreed to look at possible disability grants for improvements.
- Hanging branches now removed.

068/25 Sports Ground

Septic Tank has been emptied. Deep clean has taken place.
WPC agreed a junior football team request to have a fun session in their usual booking allocation providing inflatable public liability insurance was provided etc.

069/25 Bowling Club

No report.

070/25 Asset of Community Value

Werrington Parish Council approved submitting an application for the Red Cow.

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071/25 Chairman's Report
Cllr J Morrison is looking to replace the Deputy Chairmans Chain and Werrington Parish Council agreed to remain with tradition and have the wording Vice Chairman not Vice Chair.

072/25 Correspondence
Werrington Parish Council discussed an item of confidential correspondence and as a result Werrington Parish Council confirmed that it wishes to keep the perimeter of Meigh Road Playing Fields well established therefore the Ground maintenance contract is to continue as arranged.

073/25 Councillor Updates/Items
Cllr D Shaw updated the Parish Council with regards Blue Bell Wood that he is awaiting photographs from the Parish Wardens.

Cllr B Hughes updated the Parish Council that she has been accepted onto the Parish and Town Councils Committee.

Comfort Break 2050hrs-2100hrs

Confidential Items (public and press excluded)

074/25 Meigh Signage Quotation
Werrington Parish Council approved a full aluminium sign for Meigh Road but to investigate if any anti vandalism spray was possible.

075/25 Meigh Road Play Equipment Repairs
Werrington Parish Council approved Meigh Road Working Group recommendations following the Working Group Meeting on Monday 23rd June 2025 to carry out repairs on:

- Junior Unit Bridge – rotting timber - £220 +VAT + Labour
- Removal of protruding screws on pump track signage.
- Wet Pour under swings repair.
- Swings – Chain connectors - £130 + VAT + Labour
- Wet pour moss/algae removal - £90
- Self-Closing gate.

076/25 CCTV Contract Renewal
Werrington Parish Council approved a quotation to manage Meigh Road Playing Fields CCTV cameras by tidying up existing installations, insert 21 days of storage and ensure cameras are higher, they rotate. Help Clerk t set up secure monitoring and annual maintenance visit one per year. The Parish Council also approve 2 data SIMS for 50GB to begin with with the option to increase if required.

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077/25 Meigh Road Drainage Plan
Deferred until September Parish Council meeting following further questions with regards to quotations.

078/25 Youth Club
Werrington Parish Council (WPC) reviewed the documentation provided by Transform Communities Staffordshire regarding the establishment of a Youth Club in Werrington. The Council approved the necessary provisions, including liability insurance, the Safeguarding Policy, Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks, and the Health and Safety Policy.

WPC expressed its gratitude to the Werrington Young Persons Support Group for generously funding the hire of the Methodist Church for the initial six-month trial period.

Following these approvals and arrangements, WPC has agreed to launch the Youth Club, which will operate during term time only, starting in September 2025.

079/25 Items for the next agenda
Community Asset
Village Life

080/25 Date of next meeting is Monday 8th September 2025

Meeting Closed at 2120hrs

Signed _____ **Date** _____