**WERRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD MONDAY 13th OCTOBER 2025**

**AT WERRINGTON VILLAGE HALL**

**PRESENT**
Cllr K Griffiths (Chair)
Cllr J Morrison (Vice Chair)
B Hughes, K Whitehurst,
S Hill, L Ibbs
R Ward, M Fair (Co opted)
G Keiher-Knapper (Clerk)

SMDC Cllr P Hughes
There were 5 members of the public present and PCSO Lowdes.

**Cllr K Griffiths opened the meeting at 19.00**

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**
The Chair opened the meeting and invited the members of public in attendance to ask any questions they have. A member of public wanted to make sure that the Parish Council was aware of a situation in the UK where a Council has challenged a solar planning application and lost which resulted in the Council having to pay both parties legal fees.

Cllr R Ward added that SMDC did refuse three of the solar applications, but they went on to appeal to the inspectorate and then got passed.

The Chair invited PCSO Lowndes to give an update to allow her to return to duty. PCSO Lowndes informed the meeting that they were aware of the hate graffiti and regular smashed glass on Meigh Road playing fields. There were also aware of the individuals whose behavior resulted in the Youth Club ceasing. PCSO Lowndes again expressed the importance of reporting issues otherwise Werrington is not provided with any resources. The Clerk requested availability to advertise regular drop ins at the library and the Churches.

Public Question Time ended and PCSO Lowndes left the meeting at 1910hrs

**111/25 APOLOGIES**
Cllr D Shaw.

**112/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
None received.

**113/25 REGISTER OF INTEREST**
Councillors were reminded.

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**114/25 Co Option of Michael Fair onto Werrington Parish Council.**

Proposed: Cllr B Hughes Seconded: Cllr J Morrisson

For: 7 Against:0 Abstain:0

**115/25** The **minutes** of the following meetings were reviewed for accuracy and approved:

a) Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Monday 8th September 2025.
b) Neighbourhood Plan Working Group Notes Monday 29th September 2025.
c) Minutes of the Public Meeting reference Planning Application SMD/2025/0354.

**116/25 Accounts** The following accounts were reviewed for accuracy and approved:

a) September 2025 Bank Reconciliation.
b) Sept/Oct 25 payment schedule.
c) Noted 2024-25 Audit Report.

**117/25 Planning Applications**.
SMD/2025/0405, SMD/2025/0287, SMD/2025/0427 were discussed and there were no comments.

Werrington Parish Councils objection to application SMD/2025/0354 Erection of a 300 MW Battery Energy Storage System was also noted.

It was decided to regularly share planning links on the Parish Council website to ensure residents are aware of how to search for planning applications.

**118/25** The Following **Policies** were reviewed and approved:

a) The **CCTV** Policies all inclusive.
b) **Lone Working Policy and Risk Assessment**.
c) **Safeguarding Policy**.

**119/25** Werrington Parish Council received **reports** from:

a) Staffordshire Moorlands Councillors.

**Cllr P Hughes, Cllr B Hughes and Cllr R ward** informed the meeting that:

- SMDC is currently quiet as budget work is underway and finalising the report for Government reorganisation.

b) County Councillor

**Cllr W Mckenzie** did not attend.

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**120/25 Clerks Report**

Had been distributed to Parish Councillors. Key points include:

- The Wardens monthly jobs list was approved.
- Wardens' allotment inspections are working plot 12 just halved to 12 and 12a.
- Volunteers required for Speed Watch Group.
- CCTV on Meigh Road fully functioning.
- Graffiti and smashed glass issues from before CCTV was operating.
- Councillors agreed to obtain quotes to investigate moving email provider.

**121/25 Neighbourhood Plan.**

a) Survey Inputting bring devices Monday 20th October 1800hrs in the library.
b) Next meeting Monday 10th November at 1000hrs in the library.
Councillors are required to complete Local Green Space Assessment each and bring to the next meeting.

**122/25 Allotments**

Update provided in the Clerks report.

**123/25 Meigh Road Playing Fields**

Updated provided in the Clerks report.

**124/25 Sports Ground**

Update provided in the Clerks report.

**125/25 Bowling Club**

Nothing to report.

**126/25 Asset of Community Value**

Werrington Parish Council submitted an application for the Red Cow, but SMDC required a map including the boundary Cllr D Shaw assisting the Clerk to submit a map.

**127/25 Chairman's Report**

The Chairman thanked all Councillors including newly co opted Councillors for their work and urged councillors to consider chair ship as May is fast approaching.

The Chair informed the meeting of a complaint he had recently received and reminded the meeting that the Parish Council is non-political.

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**128/25 Correspondence**
The Chair informed the meeting that there are continuing to be be accidents in Winterfield Lane and the Chair has put the residents in touch with the Hilderstone Speed Campaign Group.

Minutes were agreed for transparency of the meeting between the Parish Council and co-op representatives and will be shared on the Parish Council website for residents to view.

Lansdowne Crescent issues continue that are nothing to do with Werrington Parish Council.

Residents have been in contact with regards to Draw-Well Lane and efforts are being made by the Parish Council to ensure landowners carry out their responsibilities.

**129/25 Councillor Updates/Items**
Cllr B Hughes informed the meeting that she had attended the Parish Assembly which was mostly about the Local Plan.

Cllr K Whitehurst informed the meeting that she met with the head at Moorside and PCSO Goodwin and hopes to make it a monthly meeting to include Werrington Primary School Head teacher to work together to support each other moving forwards.

Cllr B Hughes asked the Parish Council if they would like to contribute a tree festival at the Methodist Church. Werrington Parish Council approved Cllr B Hughes, Cllr S Hill and Cllr L Ibbs to work on the project with a budget of £50. Cllr K Whitehurst agreed to share the information with the local schools.

**Confidential Items (public and press excluded)**

**130/25 Christmas**
Werrington Parish Council approved £300 donation to Werrington Volunteers for the Christmas Tree and Lights this year.

**131/25 Youth Club**
PCSO Goodwin is meeting with the Youth Club lead to see if anything can be done to reinstate the Werrington Youth Club with additional support from the PCSOS and Parish Councillors.

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**132/25 Wardens Tender.**
Werrington Parish Council approved the advert and appointed Cllr Hill and Cllr Morrison to be the lead with the requirement to appoint and start 1st December to allow time for a handover.

**133/25 Grant Application**
Werrington Parish Council approved the Grant Application for Ash Café annual Christmas Lunch.

**134/25 Meigh Road Drainage Consultations**
Cllr R Ward informed the meeting that he has further questions for the two companies that have submitted quotations and will feedback next month.

**135/25 Site suggestions for the Local Plan**
None

**136/25 Items for the next agenda**
Budget
Staffing report and Staffing Committee
Drainage
Emails

**137/25 Date of next meeting is Monday 10th November 2025**

**Meeting Closed at 2030hrs**