WERRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD MONDAY 10th NOVEMBER 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 , D Shaw
T Latala (Co opted)

G Keiher-Knapper (Clerk)

SMDC Cllr P Hughes
There were 8 members of the public present and PCSO Long.

Cllr K. Griffiths opened the meeting at **19:00** with a **two-minute silence** for **Remembrance**.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME
A member of the public read out a statement with regards to objections for SMD/2025/0376 388 Ash Bank Rd Certificate of lawfulness to demonstrate that no development is occurring in the change of use from a dwelling to a children's home.

A second member of the public informed the Parish Council that they had not been notified. The Clerk advised the member of the public to contact SMDC and make them aware that you were not aware and request that they accept you late comments.

A third member of public recently moved into the new houses also informed the Parish Council of their concerns.

The **Chair extended Public Question Time** and informed the meeting that a request for an extension had been made and rejected because this is not a planning application therefore consultation is not compulsory and that if the residents feel that it is a change of use not a certificate of lawfulness they need to make that complaint to SMDC Planning Department as soon as possible

Public Question Time ended at 1945hrs

138/25 APOLOGIES
None.

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139/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None received.

140/25 REGISTER OF INTEREST
Councillors were reminded.

141/25 Co Option of Trevor Latala onto Werrington Parish Council.
Proposed: Cllr J Morrisson Seconded: Cllr B Hughes

For: 9 Against:0 Abstain:0

The Chair invited **PCSO Long** to give a report so that he could return to duty. PCSO Long informed the meeting that they have recently carried out a bike marking event over half term. They have Op Sector starting soon where they will be attending schools to educate the students on knife crime. Also, PCSO Goodwin has drop in surgeries at the library planned for the rest of the year.

PCSO Long left the meeting

142/25 The **minutes** of the following meetings were reviewed for accuracy and approved:

a) Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Monday 13th October 2025.

143/25 Accounts The following accounts were reviewed for accuracy and approved:

a) October 2025 Bank Reconciliation.
b) Nov/Dec 25 payment schedule.
c) 2026/27 Budget.

144/25 Planning Applications.
No planning applications had been received for Werrington Parish Council however the Clerk made the meeting aware of the following applications as they are close to the boundary:
SMD/2025/0451, SMD/2025/0440, DOC/2025/0440 and DOC/2025/0082
No comments were made.

145/25 The Following **Policies** were reviewed and approved:

a) Training and development Policy.
b) Publication Scheme.

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146/25 Werrington Parish Council received **reports** from:

a) Staffordshire Moorlands Councillors.

Cllr R ward informed the meeting that:

- SMDC meet next week which will mostly revolve around Government reorganisation and the North Staffordshire Unitary proposal. Staffordshire County Councils proposal is East West. 29th November proposals have to be in to the Secretary of State. Decided in January 2026 with a further three months consultation. May 2027 a shadow authority will be formed and 2028 that shadow authority will take over.

Cllr B Hughes and Cllr D Shaw have nothing further to add.

Cllr P Hughes informed the meeting that Severn Trent are the last link regarding the replacement of the bus shelter and that SMDC are now supporting. The Chair thanked Cllr P Hughes for continuing work on having the bus sheltered returned.

b) County Councillor

Cllr W Mckenzie did not attend.

147/25 Clerks Report

Had been distributed to Parish Councillors. Key points include:

- The Wardens monthly jobs list was approved.
- Volunteers required for Speed Watch Group. A resident volunteered.
- St Johns Wetley Rocks request approved to use the Sports Ground.
- CCTV on going.
- New play equipment installation December 25.

148/25 Neighbourhood Plan.

a) The Working Group met in that morning. Main priorities are:
    - Inputting NHP Surveys
    - Completing Green Space templates.

b) Next meeting Monday 15th December 0930hrs at Werrington Library.

149/25 Allotments

Update provided in the Clerks report.

150/25 Meigh Road Playing Fields

The Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to write to the resident with regards to boundaries.

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151/25 Sports Ground
Leek Rugby Club looking to make a hiring and possible cricket hirings going forward.

152/25 Bowling Club
Still looking to improve disability access.
Safeguarding training has been fulfilled so looking to recruit young people to play.

153/25 Asset of Community Value
Werrington Parish Council has submitted an application for the Red Cow.

154/25 Chairman's Report

- Thanked all Councillors for their continued efforts.
- Reminded Councillors to only contact the Clerk on her working days.
- Church will open for the Christmas Light switch on for younger children to play games out of the cold and elements. The Chairman proposed that he uses the Chairmans Allowance to purchase the games for the children to play, the Parish Council agreed.

155/25 Correspondence
Nothing received.

156/25 Councillor Updates/Items
Cllr L Ibbs and Cllr S Hill informed the meeting that they have only used £5 of the £50 budget to enter the Methodists Church Christmas Tree Event.

Cllr J Morrisson shared a picture of the proposed replacement Vice Chair Chain which was approved by the full Council and Cllr J Morrisson will place the order.

Cllr D Shaw informed the meeting that the Village Life magazine will be making a comeback in Spring 2026.

The members of the public left the meeting

Confidential Items (public and press excluded)

157/25 Christmas
Werrington Parish Council approved the appointment of a replacement contracted Warden to start on the 1st of December. Cllr Fair made the Parish Council aware that he is connected with the successful application, but it can be confirmed that Cllr Fair had no involvement interviewing or managing the contractor going forward.

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158/25 Youth Club
Unfortunately, the Youth Club will not return however Cllr D Shaw has contacted Support Staffordshire to investigate other providers.

159/25 Tree Works.
Werrington Parish Council approved a contractor to carry out the required tree works at Meigh Road Playing Fields and Cote Hill but the work required at the Sports Ground has been deferred until the Highways Department respond about ownership.

160/25 Facias and soffits at the Sports Ground
Werrington Parish Council decided that the Parish Councillors should attend the Sports Ground to assess the facias and soffits before deciding.

161/25 Meigh Road Drainage Consultations
Cllr R Ward has looked into both quotations and further costs are required with each. Cllr Griffiths to make contact with Mr Day for historical information. The Clerk to provide CCTV footage to Cllr Ward to continue investigating.

162/25 Staffing
Werrington Parish Council approved Cllr K Whitehurst, B Hughes and Cllr J Morrison for form the Staffing Committee and to meet with the Clerk quarterly starting in January to record annual leave and sickness. It was agreed that Cllr K Whitehurst would hold Werrington Parish Council Staffing File.

Cllr K Whitehurst also gave her findings of no further action following an investigation carried out by herself and Cllr B Hughes.

163/25 Email address providers
Deferred until December giving newly appointed Cllr T Latala time to review the quotations and make recommendations.

The Clerk insisted that all Councillor must go into 2026 using Parish Council email addresses.

164/25 Items for the next agenda
Facias and Soffits
Drainage
Emails
School updates
ASB

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165/25 Date of next meeting is Monday 8th December 2025

Meeting Closed at 2110hrs