



**NEWS**

**Speed Indicator Device**

Wellington Road Little Wenlock

After several teething problems the device is up and running. Data is being collected monthly to build up a picture of speed and numbers of vehicles driving along Wellington Road.

**Please inform clerk asap if it stops working.**

**Community Library**

A community library has been opened at the bus shelter on Malthouse Bank Little Wenlock.

Please feel free to borrow a book, or add a book.  
Enjoy a simple way of sharing books with everyone.

If you have any ideas or support you can offer for the playing field site

From time to time there will be opportunities to  
Volunteer in working parties on the site.  
please contact the clerk.

**PARISH COUNCIL CONTACTS**

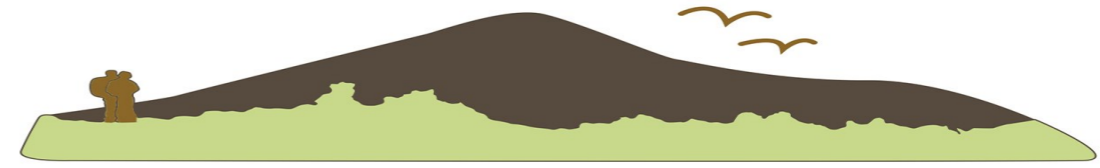
If you wish to enquire about anything in the Parish or raise an issue at a future meeting, please contact the Clerk, Jayne Madeley, at [clerk@littlewenlock-co.uk](mailto:clerk@littlewenlock-co.uk) or phone 01746 785 175.

Note Parish Councillor will change after May 4th 2023 Election.  
Any queries contact The Clerk.

All parishioners are welcome to sit in on Parish Council meetings which will take place in the Village Hall again as soon as it is safe usually at 7.30 pm on the second Monday of each month except August. There is a regular agenda item at the start of each meeting when members of the public are permitted to make representations, answer questions and give evidence in respect of any item of business in the agenda.

The date and agenda for the next meeting are always placed on the parish notice boards in the bus shelters at Little Wenlock and at New Works the week prior to the meeting. website — [www.littlewenlock-pc.co.uk](http://www.littlewenlock-pc.co.uk).

**LITTLE WENLOCK PARISH COUNCIL**



Spring 2023



**Annual Parish Open Meeting**

This is a meeting open to all residents and is not a Parish Council meeting.

Date: Monday 24th April 2023 Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Large Hall at the Village Hall

Come along and meet your parish councillors and enjoy some refreshments.

**Agenda**

1. Opening remarks by the Chairman
2. Chairman's Annual Report
3. Parish Accounts for 2022/2023
4. Question Time: Questions from the floor to the Parish Council.
7. Elections May 2023
8. Closing remarks

**Playing Field**

The Parish Council has taken over total management of the  
Playing Field Site, equipment and assets.  
The Parish Council is currently developing schedule of works to  
brighten the site up.  
Contact Jayne The Clerk

## The Chair's Annual Report 2023

2022 saw the Parish Council return to the normal in person meetings following the zoom meetings during Covid. Many thanks to our Clerk Jayne for steering us through the new technology of that period and keeping us on the straight and narrow since then.

The Solar Farm proposals continue to be a major issue in the Parish. The developers for the New Works proposal took the application to appeal which was held over 3 days in July 2022 at Meeting Point House before a Planning Inspector from Bristol. At the appeal hearing the Parish Council supported Telford and Wrekin in opposing the development. Many thanks to Councillor Dave Cooper for presenting the Parish Council's case at that appeal. It was decided (by the powers that be) that the final decision would be made by the Secretary of State on advice from the inspector who heard the appeal. His decision just announced was to over-rule the Inspectors view and allow the development.

The Steeraway application continues to be opposed by both the Parish Council and Telford and Wrekin Borough Council. That proposal has also gone to a 3 day appeal before an external planning inspector, but this time at The Buck's Head Stadium in Wellington. Thanks again to Councillor Cooper for presenting the Parish Council's case. We believe (at the time of writing) that the inspector will be authorised to make the final decision but we don't know how long that will take.

The other big issue for the Parish Council has been the playing field behind the Huntsman. This huge community asset was set up around 35 years ago by a group of volunteer mums with kids. The site behind the pub "emerged" from arrangements between the landowners at the time and the old unused village playing field site on Swan Farm. Our Clerk flagged up in 2019 that this very "grey" arrangement should be clarified and set out clearly for the future users and managers of the facility. This process took far longer than first thought, not helped by the 2 years of Covid disruptions to all our lives. The conclusion is that the Parish Council owns the facility, that ownership is now correctly registered with the Land Registry, and the Parish Council will be running and maintaining the facility in future. The volunteers from the village hall and others who have helped in the past have offered to continue to help the Parish Council in the future. We all recognise what an asset the Playing Field is to our community and I am confident we all want that to continue. I must particularly thank Jayne our Clerk for her perseverance and guidance in sorting this out and setting the Parish Council on what is likely to be a very steep learning curve.

We have continued to process a large number of planning applications in the Parish in our usual objective way and under the guidance of Jayne our Clerk.

The Speed Indicator device is working well and the data is reported regularly to the Parish Council. It seems to be effective in moderating the speeds through the village but we still get the occasional "rogue speeder" who probably won't be deterred by anything. Thanks to Councillor Cooper for changing the batteries.

The parking proposals for the Donkey Field by the Wrekin have been approved and we understand work will be starting soon. That should be a big help in resolving those long standing problems.

I must finally thank my fellow Parish Councillors Louise Pennells, Pauline Mack, Tim Stevens and Dave Cooper for their hard work and support over the year. Particular thanks also to Jacqui Seymour as she approaches the end of her long and diligent service as our Borough Councillor. She has been a fine example of community service to us all. And finally thanks to our Clerk Jayne Madeley whose knowledge of the finer points of council procedures keeps us on the straight and narrow. It has been a privilege to be chair of our council.

## Halfway House

Following on from Jenny Joy and the Halfway House CICs valiant bid to buy Halfway House, Yellow Ribbon a community chaplaincy has joined the venture to bring Halfway House into community ownership. This special location in our parish sits in a prominent position on the way to the top of the Wrekin. Halfway House sits on land of special scientific interest. Many of you like me must always be hopeful of a welcome cup of coffee, tea or ice cream as you walk up or down.

Our vision is to open a lovely cafe. Villagers have shared their childhood memories of using the Swing boats. It is our hope to bring the House and pavilion to life with activities for the young people of our neighbouring communities who haven't had the same opportunities that we have to reach our potential.

We are looking for local people who would be interested in volunteering or even donating to this great project. We have raised half the money to purchase to date. If you're interested in our plans, we will be sharing a presentation at the annual Parish meeting in the village hall on 24th April 2023.

## Coronation Afternoon Tea Party

3pm—5pm

6th May 2023

In the village hall.

## Coronation Evening Barn Dance

Evening Barn Dance to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III.

£10.00

Contact Information 505888

<http://www.littlewenlockvillagehall.uk>