
Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council

Chairman of the Council: Councillor Mrs Sheenagh Unwin

MINUTES of the Annual Parish Meeting held on **Monday 25th April 2022** at Hollinswood Neighbourhood Centre. Attendance was also available via Zoom at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: Councillors S Unwin (Chairman)
S Snell
C Turley
J Johnson (arrived F22/4043)
L Ricketts
J Creed
S Vaughan-Hodkinson
T Wust

In Attendance: Cllr V Holt
Cllr G Sinclair
Cllr H Unwin
G Johnson (until F22/4046)
S Fisher
L Seabury
J Welch
Katrina Baker (Clerk)
Jackie Weaver (Guest Speaker – CALC) (until F22/4043)
6 Members of the public

F22/3046 WELCOME
Councillor S Unwin, Chairman, opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. This is a meeting of the residents of the Parish, with representatives of the Parish Council. A warm welcome was extended to Jackie Weaver, our Guest Speaker.

F22/3047 APOLOGIES
Councillor Dalby Leave of Absence
Glenn Atkinson Headteacher, Hollinswood Primary School
PC Sian Evans West Mercia Police

F22/3048 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD IN 2021
The Minutes had appeared on the website following the meeting. It was proposed by Councillor Snell and seconded by Councillor Turley, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the APM held on 19th April 2021, be signed by the Chairman as an accurate record of the meeting.

There were no matters arising.

F22/3049 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
The Chairman read her report. A copy had been distributed to all Councillors and it would be circulated to Members of Staff. It will also appear on the website.

Hollinswood Neighbourhood Centre, 7 Downmead, Hollinswood, Telford TF3 2EW Tel: 01952 567961
E-mail:- enquiries@harpc.org.uk Website:- www.hollinswoodandrandlaypc.org.uk

Hollinswood & Randlay Parish Council and Telford & Wrekin Council have signed up to a Parish Charter –
A commitment by all to work together for the benefit of the wider community.

SMU

Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council

Chairman of the Council: Councillor Mrs Sheenagh Unwin

F22/3050

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk reported that the balance brought forward at the start of April 2021 was £239,876 following a successful audit. Total income had been £346,563 including the agreed precept of £237,313. This was a positive position, especially when taking into consideration the restrictions due to covid which had resulted in the loss of a number of hall hire bookings from contract user groups and private hire functions. The total expenditure had been £316,283. This had resulted in a closing balance of £270,156, subject to completion of the audit for 2021/22.

F22/3051

BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2022/23

Members work together to create their Parish Strategy. This is part of our five year Action Plan. Members met in 2021 on two occasions to identify their priorities, to assess the previous Parish Strategy and to bring forward their aims and objectives for the coming year and the next five years.

This strategy is the basis for the Council's Budget and a series of meetings takes place to ensure that sufficient funds are allocated to support the strategy so that Members are confident that they will be supporting the local communities and enhancing the Parish for all to enjoy.

Towards the end of 2021, Members were aware of the difficulties experienced by many families due to the effects of the covid pandemic from 2019. Members were clear in their view that the Parish Council should not increase its precept for 2022/23 and therefore a budget was set that could achieve the aims and objectives of the Parish Strategy whilst working within the range of the current precept income.

At Full Council, it was unanimously agreed that the precept should remain at £235,273.00 for the coming 2022/23 financial year.

Members of the Finance and Audit Committee monitor the expenditure of the Parish Council and ensure that we continue to work within our budget whilst providing a range of services and activities for the community and enhancing the Parish including Hollinswood, Randlay and Stafford Park.

F22/3052

GUEST SPEAKER – JACKIE WEAVER

The Chairman welcomed Jackie Weaver to the meeting, via Zoom, and thanked her for accepting our invitation to attend. Jackie is the County Secretary of the Cheshire Association of Local Councils and recently became a viral sensation, due to a recording of a difficult meeting being included on social media and shared far and wide.

NALC has released a new video, starring Jackie and her presentation was based on 'Make A Change' – how to get more people involved in local (parish and town) councils.

Jackie's words of encouragement were inspirational and everyone thoroughly enjoyed her light-hearted but serious messages.

There was an opportunity for questions.

Councillor Johnson arrived

F22/3053

THE NEDGE WARD MEMBERS REPORTS

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SuU

Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council

Chairman of the Council: Councillor Mrs Sheenagh Unwin

Councillor C Turley and Councillor V Holt had prepared reports for the period from 2021 to 2022 and these had been circulated to all members and would appear on the website.

F22/3054

WEST MERCIA POLICE

Representatives of the local Safer Neighbourhood Team were to attend the meeting, but unfortunately, due to local work commitments, this has not been possible. A short report had been received and will appear on the website.

F22/3055

HOLLINSWOOD & RANDLAY PARISH YOUTH PROVISION PARTNERSHIP AND SPECIAL NEEDS ACTIVITY CENTRE

The Clerk presented a report regarding these two important projects, led by the Parish Council. A copy is available on the website.

G Johnson left the meeting

F22/3056

PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORTS

The school reports will appear on the website. Unfortunately, to the timing of the meeting, in relation to the Easter Holiday period, a report in time for this meeting had not been possible.

F22/3057

OUTSIDE BODY REPORTS

- a) Friends of Hollinswood & Randlay Valley
- b) TW Bus User Group
- c) Shropshire Association of Local Council (Wrekin Area Committee)

The Chairman thanked representatives for their reports, which had been circulated and will appear on the website.

F22/3058

PARISH MATTERS

- a) There had been no matters raised in writing, prior to the meeting.
- b) Other matters raised:
 - The delay in providing and installing the neighbourhood watch signs in Deepdale
 - A request for a 'Give Way' TRO in Deepdale
 - The road surface of the 'private road' within the Deepdale estate
- c) Thank you
The Chairman thanked all Members of staff for their tremendous support throughout another difficult year.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.12pm

Signed



Date

17/4/23

Please note that these minutes will remain DRAFT until confirmed as a true record at the next Full Council meeting on Monday, 16th May 2022.

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Chairman's Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

Last year my report explained the effects that the Coronavirus 19 had had on the work of the Parish Council. Who would have thought that we would still be suffering the effects another 12 months on, and have come through more difficult times with further restrictions and new variants.

Well, we are here and I would like to place on record my personal thanks, and the thanks of my fellow Councillors, to the staff of the Parish Council and to the many local residents who have worked together to continue to support members of our communities in many different ways.

I think, if one good thing has come from this terrible pandemic it is the way in which communities have come together, neighbours supporting each other and we have taken opportunities to get out and about in our local areas and enjoy the open and green spaces closer to home.

Despite some re-starts, and limited use of the facilities, the community buildings are now open and we are welcoming back a range of groups and activities in all our centres. Halls are also available for private hire, so if you would like a venue to celebrate a special occasion, we might be able to help you.

With regards to other ways in which we support our residents, businesses and visitors we have installed new Parish Namesigns and advertising signs on the Queen Elizabeth Avenue roundabout. Some of our pending projects remain delayed due to circumstances outside of our control – such as the installation of our Speed Indicator Device, but have been informed that this will appear in Dale Acre Way and Randlay Avenue very soon.

We have taken the opportunity, during the quietness of the year to decorate and enhance our community buildings and to undertake additional work with Friends of Hollinswood & Randlay Valley and our Special Needs Activity Centre at The Pavilion in Hollinswood. May I take this opportunity to thank the volunteers who help with these projects, this is very much appreciated. Have you visited Randlay Valley recently? It is worth a visit.

I am very proud and honoured to have represented all the residents of Hollinswood and Randlay Parish for another year. We continue to achieve so much more by working together with local groups and organisations and liaising closely with the residents.

Our Landscape Management Team (LMT) do a wonderful job, tidying up the Parish as well as helping our more vulnerable and older population with garden tasks. We do have some spaces, so if you know of someone who may appreciate a helping hand with the maintenance of their front garden, please do ask them to get in touch with us.

Our Full Council meetings take place on the third Monday of each month, the diary is available on the website. There is a public session at the start of each meeting and we really would like to see more people attend. Alternatively, we welcome your views and opinions on our projects and are always pleased to hear when you notice aspects of our parish that need attention. You are our eyes and ears and we are grateful when you let us know what

needs doing. We also hold Meet Your Councillor events where you can meet with your councillors to discuss local issues. When possible, we are joined by members of the Police Safer Neighbourhood Team – so pop along and share your thoughts with us.

Many of the issues you raise are not the responsibility of the Parish Council, but we do pass on the information to relevant partner organisations and we work together wherever possible to improve where we live, work or visit.

Overall, I think we have a Parish to be proud of and we really hope that you do too. We will be looking to continue our work but also to bring about new projects in the coming months. If you have any ideas, please do let us know.

May I take this opportunity to thank our Ward Members, and particularly Councillors Chris Turley and Vanessa Holt for their support with funding for some special projects (such as the allotment shed and bench and a new bench, with wheelchair access, at The Muddy. Also, all the Parish Councillors for their help and support throughout the year. I would especially like to thank the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of our Committees who put in a lot of time considering ways in which we can enhance Hollinswood & Randlay for everyone to enjoy.

Thanks also go to all our staff, Katrina, Stuart, Glyn, Liam, Jackie & John - we wouldn't be able to achieve so much if we didn't have such a dedicated team. We also have a number of volunteers, too many to mention individually, but they are all very much appreciated.

Finally, I would like to thank my husband for giving me the support and encouragement to represent the Parish Council as its Chairman.

We look forward to a successful year and the return of many of our events which are free to attend and available to all our residents. Two dates for your diary, this year's Fun Day has moved to the extra Bank Holiday on Friday, 3rd June and will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and on the Saturday, 4th June, at 10.30am we will be holding an outdoor service of thanksgiving and celebration in the Town Park, in the area near to the Memorial. Everyone is welcome.

Please keep safe and stay well!

Councillor Sheenagh Unwin.

Chairman.

	A	B	C	D
1	April 2021 - March 2022			
2				
3	Brought Forward 01/04/2021			239,876
4				
5				239,876
6	Add income	Community Centre Rentals	46,617	
7		Chairmans Charity	2,421	
8		Miscellaneous	659	
9		Project Grants	42,666	
10		VAT	16,826	
11		Interest	61	
12		Precept	237,313	346,563
13				586,439
14	Less Expenses	Administration	120,124	
15		Cllrs Allowance	1,200	
16		Miscellaneous	3,386	
17		Assets	140	
18		Community Centres	91,169	
19		Projects	99,464	
20		Grants	800	316,283
21	Balance 31/03/2022			270,156
22				
23	EARMARKED RESERVES 2022/23			
24	(To be agreed)	Free Reserve	30,000	
25		Randlay Valley Car Park	5,000	
26		Allotment Drainage	6,000	
27		Healthy Reasons to be outdoors	2,000	
28		Randlay regeneration	7,500	
29		The Muddy improvements	18,000	
30		Randlay Play experience	5,000	
31		RCC LED outdoor and toilets	3,500	
32		HNC replacement radiators	1,000	
33		Play areas	5,000	
34		Recycled benches	4,000	
35		Randlay outdoor gym	10,000	
36		YPP	3,000	
37		Holiday clubs	10,000	
38		Pavilion Windows	4,000	
39		FoHRV	1,000	
40		Solar Panels at RCC	15,000	
41		YPP SNAC support worker	32,000	
42		Partnership working	10,000	
43		Councillor's Pride Funding for projects	5,600	
44		FoDW	500	
45		Schools	1,600	
46		Salary Backpay	1,600	
47		Air Conditioners (3 sites)	4,000	
48		Contingency	84,856	
49				270,156
50				
51				
52	This report has been produced for information. However, it should be used as a guide only.			
53	Further information is awaited before the final end-of-year accounts can be produced.			

Hollinswood & Randlay Parish Council – report to the Annual Parish Meeting 2022

Confirmation of the budget for 2022/23

Members work together to create their Parish Strategy. This is part of our five year Action Plan. Members met in 2021 on two occasions to identify their priorities, to assess the previous Parish Strategy and to bring forward their aims and objectives for the coming year and the next five years.

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Katrina Baker

Clerk / RFO

April 2022

Annual Report May 2021 to April 2022

Councillor Chris Turley

During this period the pandemic continued but with caution and being advised by our medical professionals as to what we should do, I have adhered to. During previous period and this period, I have had the three main vaccinations and my spring booster and to date have not suffered with Covid so far – ‘touch wood’. Also, the facility of Zoom and Microsoft Teams began to reduce but, in some cases, continued as it was deemed more convenient.

For the period May 2020 to April 2021, I continued to represent:

- Telford and Wrekin Council
- Great Dawley Town Council
- Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council
- Stirchley and Brookside Parish Council

My Governance remit for Telford and Wrekin Council are:

- Chair of the Communities Scrutiny Committee
- Chair of the Armed Forces Covenant Partnership and Armed Forces Champion for Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin
- Vice Chair of the Licensing Committee
- Member of the Scrutiny Management Board
- Member of the Appeals Committee

My Outside Bodies remit for Telford and Wrekin Council are:

- Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership Board
- Granville Country Park (Local Nature Reserve) Management Committee
- Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust – Trustee
- Severn Gorge Countryside Trust, Company Director, and member of the Management Committee.
- Telford Park Academy Joint / Community Use Management Committee

In 2021 I donated my Ward Pride Fund of £5,000 to the following:

Hollinswood & Randlay:

- Signs on the Island by the Holiday Inn - £1000
- Youth Provision - £500
- Youth Shelter - £300
- Provision of Shed for Randlay Allotments -£200
- Interpretation Boards and Way Markers in Randlay Valley - £400

- Chit Chat Club - £250
- Wednesday Wizards - £250
- Redeeming Our Communities - £300

Stirchley:

- Independent Scout Group - £300
- Community Groups - £500
- Provision of a Community Orchard, Stirchley Allotments - £500
- Provision of a Community Orchard, Holmer Lake - £500

During this period, I attended scheduled meetings either face to face or via Teams / Zoom, subject Telford and Wrekin Council, Great Dawley Town Council, Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council and Stirchley and Brookside Parish Council.

In addition, I have dealt with resident concerns / issues either by phone, via emails or face to face.

Ward Walks have re-commenced by Ward members along with Officers from Telford & Wrekin and associated stakeholders and residents. Within the coming weeks look out for 'In Your Street' surgery cards, a chance for you to chat, raise issues / concerns on a Saturday morning between 10-1200 hours. You can also get in touch via chris.turley@telford.gov.uk and / or via 07479249901 or 07837116418

At the beginning of this year, I recommenced my Face to Face surgeries at Hollinswood Neighbourhood Centre, Randlay Community Centre and the Sambrook Centre. I have two Facebook Blogs: Christopher Robin Turley and Councillor Chris Turley and I also contribute to The Nedge Ward Councillors page.

Finally, I just hope we are finally coming out of this pandemic. That said please take care and stay safe.

Chris Turley

22nd April 2022

Annual Report from Cllr Vanessa Holt
May 2021- April 2022

This year has been a challenging year! Covid remains with us and continues to make life interesting. Although we are now seeing restrictions eased, we know that the virus will not be going away and still calls for caution.

Since April 2021, I, like so many others, have had challenges, with unexpected physical health issues (ending in a hospital stay late last year) and with my mental health, thanks to the worry of Covid. This has brought the need for support to the forefront of my mind and I have donated some of my Ward Pride Fund to supporting our local schools with mental health support.

I have helped with local ward issues, such building site development and maintenance of public areas. When it was safe to do so, we recommenced Ward Walks, both as Councillors and with officers to advise on local issues. We will be holding Street Surgeries in the coming months, so look out for our cards posted through your door. Any residents who wish to discuss anything with us should display the card in their window so that we can door it easily. I am aiming to hold evening surgeries, Covid, mental health and other commitments has got in the way so far. Locally, I have been dealing with individual cases, such as housing issues and flooding problems. I have also helped to plant new trees and hedges at the Muddy and to purchase accessible picnic tables for both the Muddy and the allotments.

As a Ward Member, I have been chosen to be Speaker of the Council for a second year. It's taken a bit of getting used to but I am honoured to be called Madame Speaker, helping to maintain order in Full Council meetings.

My responsibilities as a Ward Member include:

- Attendance to various committees
Current year:
 - Audit Committee
 - Communities Scrutiny Committee
 - Council Constitution Committee
 - Full Council
 - Health Scrutiny Committee
 - Scrutiny Assembly
- Board Member of Meeting Point Trust at Meeting Point House
- Council Speaker - leading Full Councils at The Place, Oakengates
- Paperless Champion
- Mental Health First Aider

This year I will be concentrating on Mental health and the environment, hoping to dust off my bike and cycle to work.

I aim to be a strong representative to our local residents and wish everyone healthy year ahead.

Cllr Vanessa Holt

24th April 2022

WEST MERCIA POLICE

REPORT TO ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Below is a short report, from speaking to the team we don't have too many pressing concerns at this time, so below is just a quick update.

We hope to be represented at the meeting, but just in case we are called to an incident, please accept this as our report.

On the 6th April officers conducted an operation in the Hollinswood area. Officers in full uniform and plain clothes conducted foot patrol in the area. A number of stop searches on individuals were completed and a quantity of cannabis was seized. From this Op intelligence is gained on who is in the local area and what they plan on selling. The local policing team continues to support local residents with high vis patrols and continued stop searches. We are committed to disrupt all persons who feel they can sell drugs in the local area. This affects vulnerable people but also when children get involved it is a real concern.

Unfortunately, we continue to have issues with off-road bikes. We are receiving more and more calls from residents in Hollinswood that individuals are riding dangerously. Officers get to the area at best speed but the bikes are usually long gone. We are asking for as many people to ring us as possible with sightings and also any information that people may have to where these bikes are being stored and who rides them. If officers see bikes out and about unfortunately it is very difficult to get hold of the offenders as we cannot pursuit them due to the safety of the riders and also other members of the public who are out and about.

The Nedge Safer Neighbourhood Team
April 2022

Hollinswood & Randlay Parish Council – report to the Annual Parish Meeting 2022

Youth Provision Partnership

Hollinswood & Randlay Parish Councillors identified, within the Parish Strategy, that they wanted to work with Partners to provide services and facilities for the young people of Hollinswood & Randlay and to support them, wherever possible, with life skills, educational support and the transition into the training and employment.

Resources were identified within the Budget for 2021/22 to offer activities and to provide support for all ages and abilities and to work with local residents to understand needs and to identify aims and objectives that will offer skills to support young people and to give them opportunities to try new activities and to experience different challenges.

The Parish Council is committed to working with the young people and to enable us to offer full support we will be working with partners such as The Police, Telford & Wrekin Council, University of Wolverhampton, TCAT and other providers such as Landau, My Options and Shropshire Youth.

Special Needs Activity Centre

With the support of Telford & Wrekin Council and by working with parents, carers and young people, the Parish Special Needs Activity Centre (SNAC@HARP) has been set up to offer a wide range of services and facilities for young people who have Special Educational Needs or Disabilities.

Based at Hollinswood Pavilion, we will be working with established providers to ensure that a full range of support, information and activities are available for local families, carers and friends. Part of our role will be to signpost to other service providers and to work with the young people and their families to identify gaps in provision within the local area.

We are already grateful to Telford & Wrekin Council for assistance with funding and we appreciate the support we are receiving from local businesses and Telford Rotary.

We will work to provide art and craft activities, music, play, outdoor events, equipment and activities, a sensory room and much more – using the outdoor space at Hollinswood Pavilion and making good use of the nearby Pavilion Field, Randlay Valley and The Muddy areas for enjoyable outdoor walks and activities.

By working together, we will be employing a Support Worker, dedicated to the Youth Provision Partnership and we welcome the opportunity to work with young people, parents and carers so that we can assist and support the young people of our Parish regardless of their age, ethnicity or ability.

Working with Partners

We are very proud of our strong partnership with Hollinswood & Randlay Primary Schools and TCAT – together we offer enhanced facilities and opportunities for the young people of our Parish. We are very grateful to the staff and pupils for their support and commitment to our work.

The strength gained from these partnerships and our close working relationship with external organisations such as the police and Telford & Wrekin Council enables the Parish Council to access external funding which assists us to provide additional services and support and enables us to provide activities and events for the young people, members of SNAC and families from across the Parish.

Katrina Baker

Clerk and SNAC Co-Ordinator

25th April 2022

FoH&RV Report for Annual Parish Meeting



Chairman's Report

April to November 2021:

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic along with the weather some of the planned works within the Valley have either been put on hold or delayed.

Work continued on the former mineral line and within the Woodland School. Sadly the 'fire pit' had to be removed as Telford and Wrekin Council would not permit fires even if controlled by user groups.

Work was undertaken to spread woodchip along various paths including the Woodland School and path edge clearance was undertaken along various paths leaving the paths much improved.

Due to weather the mowing of path edges did not take place as often as we would have liked. Some encroaching bush and trees have been removed and / or trimmed back.

Hopefully, within November the construction of a ramp into the Woodland School will commence led by Telford Woods.

A meeting was held between the Parish Council and Idverde with a view to undertake some of the maintenance (on a one-off basis) within the Valley over the winter months using machinery rather than hand tools.

We are still awaiting the formal declaration of Randlay Valley in becoming a designated Local Nature Reserve.

During the reporting period various events have taken place within the Valley an Easter and Halloween Trail and events run by Telford Woods with the Woodland School.

A big thankyou to the Chair of Hollinswood and Randlay Valley for providing a bench in the vicinity of the Woodland School.

Finally, a big thankyou to all the volunteers and Parish staff who were able to attend our volunteer days and here's hoping 2022 will be a better year.

November 2021 to March 2022:

This period has seen various works being undertaken such as, clearance of paths, cutting down 'small' trees / branches / overhangs blocking paths and improving drainage etc.

The construction of the ramp leading to the Woodland School continues along with improvements to the access / egress to the 'mineral line'.

Damage 'tree wise' was evident throughout the valley due to the storms with all being attended to in due course with one in particular within the Woodland Schools being undertaken by a contractor.

Continued improvement to the 'disabled path' by spreading wood chip is ongoing and post storm(s) some trees etc had to be removed cut back to allow access etc.

During the Christmas period a Winter Trail was well received along with a 'reduced' walk on 28th December due to ground conditions.

The highlight of this period has been the great improvement to the Dew Pond which will in due course will be home to 'Great Crested Newts' and other wild life / habitats along with flora and fauna. It is also hoped the improvements may alleviate the 'flooding' on 'bridleway 1'.

The bridleway has been walked and fallen trees / branches sorted along with a alternative access / egress location from the meadow improved. In addition, an alternative access / egress has been created from the Hollinswood end along with improvements to the path leading to the meadow. Also, the area around the stile has been cleared.

It is planned to highlight walks within the Valley with provision of interpretation boards, way markers etc. First walkabout is scheduled for Tuesday 5th April.

Finally, a big thank you to all who have helped out over the last few months in whatever capacity and to those who have gone above and beyond. Here's hoping 2022 will be good to us.

Councillor Chris Turley

Chair of The Friends of Hollinswood and Randlay Valley

4th April 2022

Bus User Group Report

Public transport for some is absolutely essential and their only way to get around the Borough.

The bus user group was formed to enable discussions between providers, Telford and Wrekin Council and users in order to understand the needs of the local communities in the area and also to provide conversations with providers such as Arriva to ensure the service provided meets the needs of the prospective users.

This group is attended by senior representatives of Arriva and Telford and Wrekin Council and throughout the year discussions take place regarding routes, timetables, new buses like the electric buses etc there is also opportunity to discuss local issues such as the regularity of the service and speed of vehicles.

During last year, Stuart Hyde, Transport Manager at TWC, retired – Stuart was a fount of all knowledge, bus related, and has been an essential link with the Parish Council and bus users for many years. We are pleased to welcome Kim Anderson to the meetings now, Kim is the Transport Commissioner at TWC.

Unfortunately, due to COVID our meetings have taken place by zoom which have been well attended. Our first face to face meeting was held last Wednesday with an option to attend by zoom.

Local services seem to be back to normal now with more bus usage, we look forward to what the future holds with new technology and the introduction (hopefully) of electric buses.

Thanks to representatives of Arriva, TWC, Parish and Town Councils and to bus users.

Wrekin Area Committee Report for
Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council
2021- 2022

For the last year, our Chairman and I have been the HARPC representatives on the Wrekin Area Committee and this is the report of activities.

I have had the honour of being the chairman for another year, assisted by our Clerk who is a superb organiser and Secretary to the Committee

The Wrekin Area Committee (WAC) is the parish and town council representative committee of The Shropshire Association of Local Councils (SALC). It gives a voice to the issues that matter to Telford and Wrekin Parish and Town Councils in Shropshire and nationally. As a result, we have regular attendance from Telford and Wrekin Cabinet members and officers.

As I stated in last year's report, the pandemic has caused the WAC to move to the use of virtual meetings and attendances have remained relatively high as result.

However, this year has been relatively quiet and we have had only 4 meetings this year.

Subjects discussed in the last year include:

Climate Change, inappropriate use of rural land, rural transport (or lack of it) and associated disappointments. T and W transport planning, boundary reviews and the London Bridge protocols have all appeared on our agendas. We have also been working towards the new Parish & Town Council Agreement, which will (when adopted) replace the Parish Charter as a joint commitment with TWC to work together for the betterment of the communities we represent.

As well as regular reports from Cabinet Members, WAC is now scheduling regular meetings with Telford and Wrekin's Chief Executive to discuss topics of interest for member councils Amongst them:

Climate change, development planning and the organisation of the 2023 elections

We are pleased that WAC has been able to arrange a series of presentations on updates to the planning process which are frequent and detailed. I have found these sessions to be very informative (although a little frightening at times, as the changes are quite significant).

Councillor Harvey Unwin

25th April 2022