



WESTBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on
Wednesday 9th March 2016 at Westbury Village Hall at 8.00 pm

Questions/comments from the public

No public present

27/16 Members present

Cllr Derek Crane, Chair (DC), Cllr James Stone (JS), Cllr Alison Boughton (AB), Cllr Graeme Cook (GC) and Cathy Knott (Clerk)

Apologies received from Cllr Vicky Webb (VW) & Cllr Sue Barrett (SB) due to vacation and Cllr Jeremy Banks (JB) due to work commitments.

28/16 To receive declarations of interest and requests for dispensation

Councillors to declare any non-registered pecuniary or personal interests relating to the Agenda – **none received**

To consider any written requests for dispensation – **None received**

29/16 Approve the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 10th February.

It was resolved to sign the minutes as a true record.

30/16 Matters arising

AB & CK circulated the parking notices they have been working on. All Councillors present agreed they should be distributed to all Councillors and organisations in the village to try and help with the inconsiderate parking problems.

Councillors have decided not to take up the offer of devolved services for this coming financial year.

GC has been in communications with BT/Open Reach regarding the overselling of broadband infinity in the village and will chase for more information.

31/16 Financial matters

(a) It was resolved that the following invoices be approved and were signed for payment in Council:

C. Knott (salary + 20 hrs) £644.00

C. Knott (expenses) £114.71

Sterngate System Support (hard wiring office) £45.00

Zurich (Annual Insurance) £1986.55 (not to be submitted until 01.04.16)

Martin Berrill (football goals) £599.34

E.Winks (cleaning) £40.00

County Rewinds (electric) £95.89

(b) Record the receipts:

Standing Order (fund raising) £25.00

Cricket Club payment (Feb) £150.00

DRAFT

32/16 Planning

16/00706/APP – 54 Brackley Road, Westbury. Creation of a new vehicular access.

Councillors had **no objections** to the application.

There has been no update on the land next to Reindeer House.

JS has measured the car parking space at Meadow View Development after concerns over the space not being wide enough for 3 cars as stated in the plans. The space is 7.2 m wide, which is wide enough for 3 cars. JS has also emailed Lodge Park regarding the paving and finish of the road but hasn't heard anything back as yet.

33/16 HS2

A letter has been received regarding deposit of the amended bill. CK will receive the bill w/c 21st March.

Councillors agreed to have an Open Afternoon in May/June to update the local community on the amendments.

34/16 Village Hall update

DC reported that the Parish Council have officially moved into the new village hall! Hand over from Edgar Taylor (Contractors) took place on 4th March, subject to a snagging list being completed. The village hall is now the responsibility of the Parish Council.

A formal agreement has been drawn up between the Parish Council and Westbury Parish Hall Charity (WPHC) which will be signed off before 31st March.

Leases have gone into the solicitors between WPHC and Westbury Village Hall Association (WVHA) and WPHC and Westbury Community Shop & Café. These will be approved at the Charity's first meeting in order for them to be granted.

Currently, utility costs incurred at the village hall are being borne by the precept payers.

We have a temporary supply of water at the moment until Anglian Water connect the pipe (which should happen this week).

A training day will take place between the contractors and the relevant people & key holders to find out how equipment works at the new hall (heating, lighting, alarms, etc). At the moment everything has been set by the contractors. There are 5 key holders to the building (following insurance guidelines).

AB has received complaints regarding the bright lights on the sign at the top of Playing Field Road. She has also heard concerns over the Halse FC signage and lack of Westbury FC signage.

DC advised that the lighting is fully controllable from the hall – it can be a softer shade and on a timer (this will be discussed on the training day).

With regards to the signage, DC explained that when the sign was commissioned, Westbury FC were unsure whether they would be playing next season. Since then they have confirmed that they will be and a sign has been ordered ready to be put up. Halse FC have been playing at Westbury throughout the Autumn season and are a good source of income as well as meeting the outcomes required from our grant providers. It has been great to see so many young people make use of and enjoy our facilities.

We have an amazing facility now that will be very well used by everybody in the community. It all looks fantastic and everything will be up and running for the soft launch on 1st April.

35/16 Reports

Shop/Café

AB circulated the latest minutes of the Community Shop & Café Committee meeting.

At least 120 people have bought shares (meeting the target). The share offer is now closed.

Members of the committee visited the Ewelme Community shop on 12/2/16. The team there gave very helpful advice. Negotiations are underway with Geoff who is taking over County Rewinds and has agreed to sublet the office space for £50 per month. This will give them space for stock storage, fridge/freezer and desk. Following the recruitment process for Shop Manager, the post has gone to Susanne Ashley and she has accepted. It was agreed to take the Shop/Café off the Agenda now as it is no longer a PC matter.

DRAFT

AB thanked Cllr JS for helping her cut down the willow. When the weather is right she will zap the roots. She would like to propose we put disabled equipment in the park and will look into grants for this. She would like to purchase a swing that a wheelchair can fix into and a roundabout suitable for disabled children. The fencing and baby swings also need some work. She will get quotes and approach Viridor for a grant. All Councillors present agreed and DC advised that we still had money from this year's budget that could go towards it. *Action: AB/CK*

Highways

AB reported that one pothole at the top of Mill Lane and 5 potholes on Biddlesden Road have been filled. DC advised that the one on Main Street (outside No. 4) was an urgent matter and a health & safety risk. AB will chase this and CK and JS will also register it online with BCC. *Action: AB/JS/CK*

The broken chevrons on Fulwell Road have now been repaired.

The smashed 50 sign post has been registered with TfB.

AB reported that a telegraph pole opposite SugaRich looks like a Maypole with high visibility tape all over it.

Out of Council

GC advised that this had been done by SugaRich because the pole keeps getting hit by lorries coming on site. He will make sure this is addressed.

Back in Council

Footpaths

JS has not yet met with ROW, but has reported a number of elements and issues using their new online portal.

One issue is the rotten footpath sign on Playing Field Road. DC advised that this footpath was decommissioned approximately 8 years ago as it used to go to the old school. JS reported that it still shows up on the footpaths map so he will raise it with BCC. Other issues reported were the missing footpath sign on Biddlesden Road and the locked gate on the footpath by the Dust Houses.

Utilities

JS has continually tried to communicate with Balfour Beatty but still hasn't heard if they will carry out the works as instructed for the 3 streetlight replacements on the Brackley Road and the 6 lights out in the village. It was decided to look into alternative suppliers.

GC may be able to help with the bulb replacements and will liaise with JS.

Action: JS/GC

36/16 Co-option

An advertisement to Co-opt has been ongoing due to DC retiring at the end of March, and a request has been received from Robin Bone. DC advised that he would strongly recommend Robin, as he personally thinks he would be a great asset to the Council. He has done a huge amount for the village in the last 2 years.

The majority of the Council voted in favour to co-opt Robin onto the Council. CK will write to advise him of this. *Action: CK*

37/16 Receive Correspondence

A letter has been received from a resident regarding the Parish Council's policy on dog access to the playing field. Some owners are allowing their dogs to roam off the lead and dog waste is being found more and more frequently. As the new village hall will attract more people, it is imperative that we try to do more to stop this.

Councillors discussed the different avenues that could be taken and agreed that we should ban dogs from the playing field because of the health risks to children from animal excreta. This is a real shame because it is only a small minority of owners that allow their dogs to foul and not clear up after them, despite the 2 dog waste bins next to the playing field.

38/16 Items of urgent business

The Youth Club will be meeting in the village hall every Wednesday between 6.30 pm and 8.30 pm.

Westbury Parish Council will still meet every second Wednesday of the month in the small meeting room.

DRAFT

39/16 Items for April Link

Dates of next meetings

Clean for the Queen update and thank yous.

Inconsiderate Parking notices

Dogs banned from the playing field

Keeping dogs on leads when walking on farmland.

The meeting closed at 9.22 pm

Next meeting: Wednesday 13th April 2016 at 8.00 pm at Westbury Village Hall