

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at Westbury Village Hall, on Wednesday 13th March 2019 at 8.00 pm

Present: Chairman James Stone (JS), Cllr Vicky Webb (VW), Cllr Sue Barrett (SB), Cllr Mark Willis (MW), Cllr Cath Young (CY), Cllr Jodie Martin (JM) and Cathy Knott (clerk)

Questions/comments from the public

No public present.

29/19 Apologies and welcome

Apologies were received from Cllr Graeme Cook (GC).

30/19 To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meeting of the parish council held on 13th February 2019. The minutes were approved and signed.

31/19 To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only

All actions are included in the agenda or are being dealt with.

32/19 To receive declarations of interest related to business on the agenda

None received.

33/19 Financial matters

CK advised that the date for the internal audit has been changed to 14th May. It was therefore agreed to change May's meeting date to Wednesday 22nd May.

- (a) Financial statement
- (b) Payments received
- (c) Invoices to be paid

BANK BALANCES	£
Current	18,387.18
Business	15,794.13
TOTAL	34,181.31

Receipts (since 13.02.2019)	Amount	VAT
Interest	0.61	
Invoices approved for payment		
C. Knott (Feb salary & expenses)	603.04	0
Balfour Beatty (repairs to streetlights in Main Street)	298.19	59.64
OPUS (electricity direct debit)	94.14	4.71
Play Inspection Company (annual playpark inspection)	65.00	13.00

34/19 Planning updates & applications

Application	Address	Details	AVDC Update
17/04381/APP	Old Vicarage Orchard Place Westbury	Construction of a hard-surfaced tennis court with surround fencing. 10.07.18 tree report published	Parish Council no objection. Conservation officer requested additional screening from Church view. AVDC: Awaiting decision
Appeal ref: 18/00096/NONDET	Old Vicarage Orchard Place	Construction of a hard-surfaced tennis court with surround fencing.	Appeal lodge with the Secretary of State against AVDC's decision.
18/03828/AOP	Land at Biddlesden Road	Erection of up to 13 residential dwellings with all matters reserved other than access	Parish Council: Objection submitted 28.11.18 AVDC: Awaiting decision

APPEAL notice 17/04058/AOP	Land at Biddlesden Road	Appeal lodged with the Secretary of State against the Council's decision objecting to the erection up to 20 residential dwellings	WPC: Submitted further comments to planning inspectorate on 26.11.18 Awaiting decision
Application Ref: 18/00675/APP Appeal Ref: 19/00009/FTHA	The Stables Brackley Road Westbury	Insert window into south facing wall	Appeal lodged with the Secretary of State against AVDC's decision

It has been noted that a lot of work is being done in the field behind the Church (bordering Beachborough School) to tidy up the borders, including felling a mature oak tree. It was agreed to find out which trees in Westbury have tree preservation orders (TPO) as a matter of urgency. **Action: MW**

35/19 To discuss the Westbury Parish Hall Constitution (WPHC) regarding the parish council appointing members as trustees

Chairman JS explained that this is Cllr SB's last proper council meeting but she has expressed a wish to stay on as a trustee with Westbury Parish Hall Charity. The charity constitution (7.2) states that Westbury Parish Council shall have the right to appoint one committee member (the nominated member) in addition to the ex officio committee members (who for the avoidance of doubt it is confirmed shall be the chairman and clerk for the time being of Westbury Parish Council as set out in clause 1.13). Therefore, SB will continue in her role as chair of the trustees.

36/19 To discuss arrangements for the annual parish meeting on 10th April

It was agreed to have a more informal setting this year, by having one table for the clerk and chairman and for councillors to join the audience. Speakers will be asked to stand when giving their reports. CK advised that invitations have been sent out and she will encourage parishioners to attend via the village email system and Facebook.

37/19 To provide an update on the public rights of way in the Mixbury Parish

Cllr VW reported that orders have been made by Oxfordshire County Council to modify the definitive map and statement of public rights of way for Oxfordshire by adding two footpaths and one bridleway in the parish of Mixbury. The landowners now have an opportunity to appeal against the decision.

38/19 To provide an update on work to be carried out on Treebank (village green)

Cllr SB has taken delivery of a mature European Sweet Chestnut Tree which has been donated by Derek Crane in memory of his late wife and son (Lynette and Daniel) and Westbury Parish Hall Charity.

Richard Haynes has agreed to take out the old stump and prepare the ground before planting the tree. Cllr SB will also ask Richard to put steps into the side of the bank for easier access as Derek would like to place a bench next to the tree. CK will request a licence from Highways. It is hoped the works will be complete by the end of May.

Action: SB/CK/JS

39/19 To approve the design and costs for promotion of communication methods in Westbury and the neighbourhood plan, to be delivered to every household

CK circulated a postcard she has designed and advised that costs would be under £50.00 to have 250 printed. All councillors agreed to have it printed and to deliver it to every household in Westbury.

Action: CK

40/19 To decide whether to take part in the Great British Spring Clean (22nd March – 23rd April)

It was agreed that we should hold a litter pick after Easter and try to combine it with a village breakfast/brunch to promote the neighbourhood plan. CK will liaise with Ian Towner (WVHA chairman) and Cllr CY. **Action: CK/CY/JS**

41/19 Reports

- a. **Play Park** – JS advised that the majority of the fence is complete. The Play Inspection Company has carried out its annual inspection and everything is now all low risk.
- b. **Highways** – CK reported that the broken stile on the footpath between fields (going towards Red Barn) has now been fixed.
- c. **Utilities** – after further communications with Cllr GC, a revised quote has been received from Balfour Beatty for replacement streetlights and CK has instructed them to replace 14 lights asap. A broken bracket on a streetlight on Biddlesden Road has been reported and will be fixed as a matter of urgency.
- d. **WVHA & WCS** – The Annual Quiz night was extremely successful. BarVH has been opening regularly to watch the six nations rugby and has also been very successful. You can now pay at the bar using chip & pin and

contactless cards. The bar will be open again this Saturday after which Westbury Cricket Club will take over the bar during cricket season.

- e. **Neighbourhood plan** – see 40/19. Cllr CY has been in contact with AVDC to discuss initial plans.
- f. **Footpaths** – see 37/19.
- g. **HS2** – nothing to report at this time.
- h. **Action plan** – no updates.

42/19 Correspondence received

- Invitation to the opening of Egerton Hall in Brackley – CK will be attending on behalf of the parish council.
- Changes to household recycling centres in Buckinghamshire – CK has sent out information via the village email system and Facebook.
- Business rates bill for WCS from AVDC – no charge due to small business relief.

43/19 Councillor questions

Cllr CY reported that a pathway through the spinney on Biddlesden Road is difficult to access due to fallen trees. Cllr VW advised that because it isn't a public footpath we are unable to action this.

Because this is Cllr SB's last proper meeting, she would like to say she has really enjoyed her time on the parish council. She said it has been time consuming but very fulfilling. She has really enjoyed meeting many of the people in Westbury through doing parish council work and has been grateful for the opportunity to help the Westbury community (with the village hall and other projects) through the parish council. She feels the time is right to step aside and give someone else the opportunity to get involved with a role on the parish council.

As an aside, some of you may know that Sue recently took over as chair of governors for Beachborough School and has recruited a new headmaster. He and Sue have many new projects to work on, some of which involve Westbury; between them they have already moved things forward by inviting the village to the Beachborough Christmas Carol Concert (held at the village hall) and last month Beachborough invited several children from the village to a technology day. This presents an exciting new chapter that Sue wishes to commit more time to.

Chair JS and CK thanked Sue for the amazing amount of work she has put into the village during her time as parish councillor and will formally thank her at the annual parish meeting on 10th April.

44/19 Items for the April Link

- Next meeting date and change to Mays meeting date
- Salvation Army clothing bin thank you
- Footpaths update
- Neighbourhood plan village breakfast and litter pick
- Condolence message

45/19 Public Participation session

No public present.

46/19 Close

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

The next meeting will be the annual parish meeting which will be held on Wednesday 10th April at Westbury Village Hall at 8.00 pm