

Parish Office
10 Orchard Place
Westbury
Northamptonshire
NN13 5JT

Telephone: 01280 308580
E-mail: westburyclerk@aol.com
Web: www.westburyvillage.org



Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at Westbury Village Hall, on Wednesday 14th November 2018 at 8.00 pm

Present: Chairman James Stone (JS), Cllr Sue Barrett (SB), Cllr Graeme Stone, Cllr Mark Willis (MW), Cllr Cath Young, Cathy Knott (clerk) and nine members of the public

Questions/comments from the public

No comments received.

135/18 Apologies and welcome

Apologies were received from Cllr Vicky Webb (VW) and Cllr Jodie Martin

136/18 To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meeting of the parish council held on 10th October 2018. The minutes were approved and signed.

137/18 To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only

Bulbs to be planted around the village with a budget not exceeding £200.00.

ACTION: VW

CK has spoken to a member of the PCC regarding cleaning the war memorial.

Issues around the leylandii trees to the back of the village hall are under discussion.

138/18 To receive declarations of interest related to business on the agenda

Cllr SB for Beachborough School.

139/18 Financial matters

- (a) Financial statement
- (b) Payments received
- (c) Invoices to be paid
- (d) To receive an update from the internal controls' councillor
- (e) To discuss the budget and precept for 2019.20

BANK BALANCES	£
Current	6,721.69
Business	20,791.88
TOTAL	27,513.57

Receipts received since 10.10.2018	Amount	VAT
interest	1.53	0
Defib contribution from WVHA & Simon Dean (to be transferred to WPHC account)	140.00	0
Invoices approved for payment		
C. Knott (Oct salary & expenses incl. transcend fee for website)	587.20	16.80
OPUS (Streetlight electricity)	90.75	4.54
AVALC voluntary contribution	25.00	0
Balfour Beatty (streetlight repairs x 4)	275.81	55.16
Focus Paving Ltd (PF Rd line repairs to be reimbursed by WPHC)	495.00	99.00
Cath Young (new councillor training)	38.32	0

OPUS (streetlight electricity)	105.99	5.30
Zurich Insurance (premium re: new playpark assets)	56.00	0

d. To receive an update from the financial controls officer

The clerk confirmed that Cllr MW had checked the following information:

Bank balances; as stated in the minutes.

Cash book entries agree with the items noted in the minutes for financial year to date.

The forecast planned spend remains within our precept budget limits.

e. To discuss the budget and precept for 2019.20

Chairman JS advised that we hope to be able to keep the precept the same as the current year but because of potential election costs, escalating street lighting costs and future tree costs we will have to cut back on other areas of spending. He will present a draft budget at December’s meeting for approval in January.

140/18 Planning updates & applications

Because concerned residents of Biddlesden Road and Brackley Road were in attendance it was agreed to **suspend standing orders** in order to discuss application 18/03828/AOP – the erection of up to 13 residential dwellings with all matters reserved other than access.

Cllr MW outlined the application and showed plans. He advised that the planners believe they have mitigated previous issues regarding their first application by only building on half the land and reducing the number of dwellings. However, it is still evident that all issues are still very relevant. A discussion ensued with residents expressing their main concerns around:

- Footpaths
- Traffic
- Safety
- Ecology
- Village confines

Councillors advised that if residents wish to comment on the application, they should use hard facts. Details of the application are available to view at: <https://publicaccess.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=PHD084CLIDE00> where you can also comment before 30th November 2018.

Reinstate standing orders

Chairman JS asked councillors their views and they unanimously opposed the application. Cllr MW will submit our response.

ACTION: MW

Application	Address	Details	AVDC Update
17/04381/APP	Old Vicarage Orchard Place Westbury	Construction of a hard-surfaced tennis court with surround fencing	Parish Council no objection. Conservation officer requested additional screening from Church view. AVDC: Awaiting decision 10.07.18 tree report published
18/00675/APP	The Stables Brackley Road Westbury	Insert window into south facing wall	Parish Council: no objection AVDC: REFUSED
18/02243/APP	SugaRich	Alterations to boundary treatment by removal of earth bund & provision of concrete wall with fence on top	Parish Council: no objection AVDC: APPROVED
18/03828/AOP	Land at Biddlesden Road	Erection of up to 13 residential dwellings with all matters reserved other than access	Parish Council: comments to be submitted by 30.11.18

141/18 To make arrangements for the clerk's appraisal

Chairman JS will arrange a date with Cllr VW.

ACTION: JS/VW

142/18 To discuss the parish plan

Cllr CY explained the differences between a parish plan (which doesn't influence county planning) and a neighbourhood plan (which does influence county planning). She has looked at grants available to fund a plan and advised that Community Impact Bucks offers advice and support throughout the process.

Survey Monkey costings for the consultation process are £372.00 per annum or £35.00 per month with unlimited usage.

Cllr CY has looked at Evenley's and Silverstone's parish plans which are both very useful.

Councillors agreed that we should prioritise a neighbourhood plan going forward and asked Cllr CY to meet with Community Impact Bucks in the first instance and to seek costings so we can apply for funding.

ACTION: CY

143/18 To discuss the wish list for the HS2 Community Environment Fund

Chairman JS advised that after speaking to various organisations in the village we have put together a joint wish list. Some of the projects don't meet the criteria so we are seeking advice from Cher (our HS2 liaison officer) before we submit the application. We are also waiting for quotes to be firmed up. It is hoped to have the application ready for approval at December's meeting.

ACTION: CK/JS/SB

144/18 To approve the meeting dates for 2019

The meeting dates were approved and circulated. CK will place on the website and notice board.

ACTION: CK

145/18 To provide an update on the meeting with Beachborough School

Chairman JS reported that he and CK had met with the new Headmaster, Christian Pritchard and Charlotte Wallace (Bursar) on 5th November. They wish to continue to develop our good relationship and have offered to liaise with Westbury Youth Club leaders, inviting them to use their facilities. It is hoped to arrange some theme-based evenings including a tech night, a forest evening and a sports night.

They would also like to help support the older generation in the village and are putting on a Christmas concert at Westbury Village Hall on the afternoon of Thursday 13th December, where tea and cake will be served.

Some of the issues discussed included:

- Vehicle movements in the village including speed, numbers and parking
- Maintenance of hedging, fencing and trees around the boundaries.
- Busses
- Footpaths and dog fouling

It was agreed to meet again in two – three months' time.

146/18 Reports

- Play Park** – Chair JS reported that the park will be closed from 20th to 26th November to install the last piece of equipment (the net twister) and to carry out snagging. The fence is now well underway. Thank you to Kompan contractors who have agreed to repair the rope causeway (one of the older pieces of equipment) as a gesture of goodwill. They will also tidy up the landscaping.
- Highways** – nothing to report at this time.
- Utilities** – Cllr GC has received quotes from Balfour Beatty. To replace lights (with no other issues) with LED fittings would cost between £315.59 and £333.18 each. To replace the bent light on Mill Lane will cost £1404.00 as a new pole is needed. To replace the four lights that need to be isolated (3 on Orchard Place and one at the top of Mill Lane) will cost £731.93 each. Councillors agreed to try and replace the four old style lights that need to be isolated first. GC will check that Balfour Beatty will not be increasing their prices. The light outside Reindeer House has been reported as faulty.
- Village Hall & WVHA** – A committee meeting was held on Monday 12th November. Sky TV has now been installed at the hall and the village hall bar is open for the next two Saturdays to watch the rugby on the big screen. There are dates in the diary for next year including a Quiz Night and Westival. A card machine will soon be available for use at the bar.
- Community Shop & Café** – Hellen is doing a great job managing the shop and café and is getting involved in the Saturday VH Bar events by selling pies etc.

ACTION: GC

- f. **Footpaths** – Cllr VW has received a response from Alex Humphreys (Oxfordshire County Council’s Officer for Countryside & Highway Records) regarding the parish council’s applications to record two public footpaths and one bridleway in the Mixbury parish, advising that her report will be submitted to her legal department this week and it will be a further one to three months for checks to be carried out. The department will then make the order, which can still be appealed against.
- g. **HS2** – Chairman JS reported that councillors had met with Cher Snudden (the Community Engagement Manager for HS2) and Chris James (the Community Engagement Manager for Eiffage Kier) to receive an update and to ask questions. CK will arrange to meet them again in March.
- h. **Action plan** – Chairman JS went through items outstanding on the action plan:
- Location of gym equipment – after consulting with Westbury Football Club and Westbury Cricket Club it has become apparent that the playing field is not a suitable location. Alternative land is being looked into with one possibility being the grass verge towards the bottom right of Mill Lane. Bucks Highways do not own the land so Beachborough are looking at their plans to see if they own it. Once we have confirmed who it belongs to, we will consult with residents, Highways and Kompan to see if it is a suitable spot.
- Identify areas in the village needing work - Cllr MW has received a quote from A.C. Miskimmon Agricultural & Fencing Contractors for £60.00 to repair the wooden bollards around the grass verge on Mill Lane.
- Traffic calming & signage – Chairman JS circulated photos of village entrance signs advising we have included this as part of the HS2 CEF application. We need to ask Bucks Highways for prices of installation. **ACTION: CK**

147/18 Correspondence received

- Trisha Lightfoot from Tingewick parish council has contacted the parish council asking for our support in challenging the appeal regarding the Gladman development proposal for Water Stratford Road (75 houses) that AVDC & Tingewick PC both strongly opposed and fought against earlier in the year. Cllr MW has submitted objections.
- Trisha has also asked us to meet with Tingewick PC and other parishes concerned, regarding the Upper Great Ouse Valley West which has been reclassified and downgraded as being of the local landscape value. She has suggested we all work together to in a joint effort to have the original LLA designation reinstated, prior to the final publication and acceptance of the VALP. Chairman JS has agreed to meet.
- Bucks County Council have written to ask if there are any areas in Westbury that would benefit from electric car charging points. CK has responded that because of the strict criteria there are currently no areas, however we would like to be kept informed with future updates on this.
- An email has been received from a resident, thanking families in Westbury for their efforts in welcoming trick or treaters at their homes over Halloween.
- The Secretary of State has announced his decision on the way forward for local government in Buckinghamshire – a district-led single unitary council. You can view the Secretary of State's full statement at: <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2018-11-01/HCWS1058/>
- Communications have been received from a Playing Field Road resident regarding speeding along the road, advising he would like to see 5 mph signs installed. Councillors agreed that a better approach might be to contact group leaders at the hall asking them to remind members to be considerate and drive carefully. We will also have some signage made with the message: “Please respect our neighbours when leaving the village hall by keeping to the 5mph limit”. **ACTION: JS/SB**

148/18 Councillor questions

- Cllr SB encouraged all councillors to attend the Christmas Fair, Big Switch On and carol singing accompanied by the Buckingham Ukulele Group on Friday 7th December. Invitations will be going out to the village next week. Westbury Parish Council’s last Chairman, Derek Crane is kindly donating a Christmas tree and lights, SugaRich has donated a tree stand, Richard Haynes has donated his time and support and Beachborough are donating delicious donuts - It is set to be a great event.
- There is a Connells For Sale sign attached to the fence at the entrance to Playing Field Road which looks as if the village hall is for sale! It was agreed to ask for it to be removed. **ACTION: JS**

- Chairman JS advised that the gates have been repaired at the entrance to the playpark. He would like to paint them green (to match the fencing). We also need to add more shingle to the private carpark adjacent to the village hall. He will send an email out to gain approval for spending.

149/18 Items for the December Link

Meeting dates

Playpark update

Halloween thank you

Invitation to the Christmas Fair, Light Switch On and Christmas Carols on 7th December at 6.30 pm

Invitation to the Beachborough Brass Band and Carol Concert at Westbury Village Hall on 13th December at 2.30 pm

Happy Christmas message

How to report issues

150/18 Public Participation session

A resident asked why we didn't have double yellow lines on Playing Field Road to stop parking. Cllr SB advised that members/supporters of Westbury Cricket Club and the football clubs sometimes need to park there.

A resident advised that the footpath to the front of the playing field is very narrow and hard to walk on. Chairman JS has spoken to WVHA about this and will chase. She also asked if it would be possible to continue the footpath up further to join the new road? Councillors agreed this was a good idea but we would have to gain permission from the landowner and Bucks Highways. CK will try to get some information together to see if it's plausible. **ACTION: CK**

151/18 Close

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th December at Westbury Village Hall at 8.00 pm