

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 Westbury Parish Council held at Westbury Village Hall on Wednesday 11th December 2019 at 8:00pm

Present: Cllr James Stone (JS), Cllr Graeme Cook (GC), Cllr Cath Young (CY), Cllr Katy Wintour (KW), Cllr Lindsay Webster (LW), Cathy Knott (Clerk) and four members of the public.

Questions/comments from the public

None received.

To receive apologies for absence

Apologies accepted from Cllr Vicky Webb.

153/19 To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2019. The minutes were approved and signed.

154/19 To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only
147/19 – Cllr GC has mended the rope on the multi play equipment at the park and will change the bolts to non-tamper bolts. It was agreed to remove the broken wobble board. **Action: GC**

148/19 – Chairman JS and cllr GC have looked at the footpath running alongside The Burrows, Mill Lane and have decided that gravelling the bottom part of the footpath won't add any value. JS will however cut the bush back and they have tidied up loose debris. It was noted that further up the path, a BT box sticks out and could be a dangerous trip hazard. The clerk will report it to Open Reach. **Action: CK**
All other matters are either on the agenda or are being dealt with.

155/19 To receive declarations of interest related to business on the agenda

None received.

156/19 Financial matters

(a) Financial statement

(b) Payments received

(c) Invoices to be paid

(d) To present the draft budget & precept for 2020.21

BANK BALANCES	£
Current	8,162.26
Business	23,226.32
TOTAL	31,388.58

Receipts since the last meeting	£	
Interest	0.89	
Invoices submitted for approval		VAT £
C. Knott (Nov salary and expenses)	573.45	10.69
Barbara Osborne (PAYE service)	64.50	0
AVDC (dog bins annual charge)	442.89	88.58
AVDC (park litter bin annual charge)	63.27	12.65

To present the draft budget & precept for 2020/2021

The chairman circulated the draft budget before the meeting and took councillors through the figures. A discussion ensued on the increases and decreases. JS advised that we haven't seen an increase in the precept over the past two years, partly due to more properties being built in the village and it would good if we didn't have to increase it next year.

After visiting item 158/19 and discussing the way forward with the streetlight replacement programme, the budget was agreed and the figure of £18,481.00 was approved for the precept.

Chairman JS advised that this figure means there won't be an increase in the precept for the next financial year. CK will submit a request to AVDC and put the information on the village website: <https://westburyvillage.co.uk/finance>

157/19 Planning updates & applications

Application	Address	Details	AVDC Update
19/02652/APP 19/02653/APP & 19/02654/APP	Mill Farm Mill Lane Westbury	Erection of straw, hay and fodder barn. Extension to cattle barn x 2	Parish Council: No objection AVDC: awaiting decision
19/03817/COUAR	Field Barn Farm Fulwell Road Westbury	Determination as to whether prior approval is required in respect of transport & highway impact, noise, contamination risk, flooding and locational considerations for the conversion of an agricultural building into two dwellings	Parish Council: No objection AVDC: awaiting decision
19/03954/APP	Manor Farm House Main Street Westbury	Demolish existing two garages and erect building to accommodate 3 garage bays, workshop and ancillary accommodation to include boot room, store, home office and home gym	Parish Council: No objection AVDC: awaiting decision

158/19 To agree costs for streetlight replacement programme phase 3 and 4

Chairman JS circulated information that he and cllr GC have been working on, prior to the meeting. JS advised that we successfully completed phase 1 and 2 of the replacement programme earlier this year but in order to keep a good consistency with the type of light output and colour, we need to think about completing the rest of the programme as soon as possible.

The price to replace phase 3 & 4, covering Biddlesden Road, Fulwell Road, Mill Lane, School Close and Manor Gardens will cost £5,417.80 (subject to a revised quote from Balfour Beatty). JS explained that to fund the final two phases of the project we would need to ensure sufficient budget within the 20/21 precept to support the cost alongside projected saving in energy running costs with any remaining monies coming from reserves, unless we look to increase the precept in 20/21 to fund some of the shortfall. A discussion ensued and various options were looked at before councillors unanimously agreed to go ahead with phase 3 and 4 asap and not to increase the precept but to use money from reserves. Cllr GC will contact Balfour Beatty and instruct them to carry out the work. **Action: GC**

159/19 To provide an update on the HS2 community environment fund submission

The clerk advised that after our initial application was rejected in March, a new application was submitted on 15th November. Groundwork (on behalf of HS2) have advised that our application is currently being assessed, and has requested further information. It looks promising and we hope to have an answer over Christmas.

160/19 To discuss arrangements to commemorate/celebrate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day on 8th May 2020

The clerk has circulated a village email calling for ideas and volunteers and has received two responses. Ian Towner has booked the jazz band. It was agreed to get a committee together in the new year.

161/19 To accept councillors reports on the following areas (if there is anything to report):

- a. **Play Park (KW)** a quote has been received from Kompan for a new picnic bench and bigger bin (funds to come from remaining section 106 monies). It was agreed to get two more quotes for comparison at the next meeting. **Action: KW**
- b. **Highways (GC)** The roundel has been repainted on Biddlesden Road. TfB has confirmed a jetting machine will be attending to the blocked drains on Main Street and to the soakaway (to the front of the Church) in Orchard Place before Christmas. Jobs have been issued by TfB for the faded school sign on Main Street; to repair the tarmac around the line of cobbles on Orchard Place/Main Street; to repaint the give way lines on Mill Lane and to action the bump on Biddlesden Road where the tarmac has sunk. The protruding white posts on Main Street have been removed. GC advised that the speed sign on Fulwell Road has been knocked and is now back to front; he will report to highways. Other items on the list will be followed up next year along with discussions over improving Mill Lane traffic. **Action: GC**
- c. **Utilities (GC)** GC will chase OPUS regarding our reduction (due to new lower energy replacements). He will also look into electricity quotes in January as our contract with OPUS ends in March. **Action: GC**

- d. **WVHA & WCS (VW)** The Big Switch On last Friday was well attended and successful. Village organisations worked together led by Sue and Cathy. The next event at the hall is the Wassail (with Brackley Wind Ensemble) on 20th December and the shop will be providing food. New Years Eve Party tickets are selling well (available at the shop and café). All events can be viewed on the village website at: <https://westburyvillage.co.uk/events/>
- e. **Neighbourhood plan (CY)** The next steering group meeting will take place on 7th January 2020. CK and CY have started to gather evidence.
- f. **Footpaths (VW)** noting to report.
- g. **Hs2 (LW)** see 159/19.
- h. **Action plan (CK)** no new updates.

162/19 Correspondence received

- Buckinghamshire Council latest update – circulated.
- Proposed expansion of London Luton Airport - consultation update circulated.
- Vandalism to recycling bin – noted.
- The creation of community boards – circulated.

163/19 Items for February's Link

Meeting dates

Speedwatch update

HS2 update

Neighbourhood plan

Fix my street

Keeping in touch

164/19 Councillor questions

JS advised that the overgrown hedge making the footpath difficult to access at the front of Grainge Close has not been actioned, despite reporting it to BCC and AVDC several times. The clerk will try to report it via a different means.

Action: CK

CK advised that the new grit bin outside the Church on Orchard Place needs grit. A budget of £100 was agreed to fill it up.

Action: CK

CK advised that she and two volunteers had taken part in speed watch training on Monday and would be getting used to the equipment and the process before training other volunteers next year. Once we have an active community speedwatch team we can display signs at the entrances to the village which will also act as a deterrent.

The chairman thanked everyone for all their hard work this year and wished everyone a very happy Christmas and New Year.

165/19 Public Participation session

Sue Barrett, Chair of Governors and Christian Pritchard, Headmaster attended the meeting on behalf of Beachborough School advising it had been an informative meeting. A representative from the school will endeavour to attend meetings in future.

166/19 Close

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 22nd January at 8.00 pm at Westbury Village Hall.