

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 22nd January 2020 at 8:00pm

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

Questions/comments from the public

Sue Barrett, Chair of Governors at Beachborough School introduced Matthew Barrett, the new Deputy Headmaster who thanked the council for inviting him along.

Buckingham County Councillor Charlie Clare also attended the meeting and reported that water is causing an issue in the dip of the A422 (Buckingham Road) which is being monitored by Transport for Bucks (TfB).

He also said the whole stretch of Biddlesden Road will be resurfaced later this year now that it has been patched. Chairman JS advised Charlie that the drain on Main Street is still blocked. The soakaway clearance on Orchard Place was successful but the earth that was removed has been left outside the Church. Following a crash at the crossroads in Westbury, damage to the verge and debris from the vehicles has been left. Charlie agreed to chase all three outstanding issues with TfB.

01/20 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies accepted from Cllr Vicky Webb (VW) and Cllr Cath Young (CY).

02/20 To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meeting held on 11th December 2019. The minutes were approved and signed.

03/20 To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only

147/19 – Cllr GC has removed the broken wobble board which is currently being mended. **Action: GC**

148/19 – the clerk reported that Open Reach have put a safety barrier around the BT box that protrudes on the footpath running behind School Close.

158/19 – Cllr GC has instructed Balfour Beatty to replace (phase 3 & 4) streetlights but hasn't yet received a date for work to take place.

164/19 – the clerk has been assured by AVDC that the overgrown vegetation on the footpath to the front of Grainge Close will be actioned ASAP. All other matters are either on the agenda or are being dealt with.

04/20 To receive declarations of interest related to business on the agenda

None received.

05/20 Financial matters

(a) Financial statement

(b) Payments received

(c) Invoices to be paid

BANK BALANCES	£	
Current	6,527.59	
Business	23,227.31	
TOTAL	29,754.90	
Receipts since the last meeting		£
Interest (paid on 9 th)	0.99	
Invoices paid since the last meeting		VAT £
Mole Country Stores (rock salt for grit bin outside the Church)	80.00	16.00
OPUS (streetlight electricity direct debit Dec)	126.32	6.32

Invoices approved		
C. Knott (Dec salary and expenses)	567.72	3.67
OPUS (streetlight electricity direct debit Jan)	105.59	5.28

CLlr KW agreed to take on the role of Internal Controls Councillor and will report at the next meeting. **Action: CK/KW**

06/20 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 (Class Q(a))	Parish Council: No objection AVDC: REFUSED
20/00055/APP	Manor Farm House, Main Street, Westbury	Demolish existing two garages and erect building to accommodate 2 garage bays, workshop and ancillary accommodation to include boot room, home office and home gym	Parish Council: No objection AVDC: awaiting decision

07/20 To provide an update on the HS2 community environment fund submission

The chairman reported that Groundwork UK on behalf of HS2 has awarded Westbury Parish Council with funds amounting to £40,574.00. This means that with match funding from other funding streams and section 106 monies we will be able to install a permanent biometric gazebo, tarmac the side road and overflow carpark at the back of the hall and put in basket-ball facilities. We will also be revamping the historic trail booklet and providing an information board about the trail. Conditions need to be fulfilled before we can publicly announce the award and start work.

08/20 To discuss arrangements/updates to commemorate and celebrate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day on 8th May 2020

The clerk reported that Ian and Lorraine Towner have agreed to lead on arrangements and have discussed some great ideas with the charity trustees including music, fancy dress, classic transport, war poems, memorabilia boards, old films, old style games and commemorative items. Timings for the day have been agreed at 1.00 – 6.00 pm to include lunch and tea. If you would like to be involved, please contact Ian and Lorraine at: ianatwerner@hotmail.com or tel: 01280 704086.

09/20 To provide feedback on HS2's Common Design Element Survey

It has been noted that all constructions (bridges, viaducts etc) will be made of concrete and should last for at least 120 years. The sides can be patterned and coloured but only up to one meter high. HS2 has confirmed it will be responsible for treating graffiti. Westbury Parish Council have no further comment to make.

If you would like to take part in the survey (which ends on 30th January), please click on the following link:

<https://hs2inbucksandoxfordshire.commonplace.is/news>

10/20 To accept councillors reports on the following areas (if there is anything to report):

- a. **Play Park (KW)** a further quote has been received from Glasdon for a picnic bench and bin. It was agreed not to take any further action until works have started using HS2 funds.
- b. **Highways (GC)** The soakaway (to the front of the Church) in Orchard Place has been attended to by TfB with good results. Richard Haynes has replaced two street signs at Treebanks and Main Street. A collision took place at the crossroads at the beginning of January resulting in a bent 'give way' sign which has now been straightened. Our application to LAF for a new vehicle activated sign on Buckingham Road (A422) is still being processed by the Network Improvement Team (who sit within TfB).
- c. **Utilities (GC)** the OPUS contract ends in March and GC is looking for a better deal going forward.
- d. **WVHA & WCS (VW)** The next big event is the 50 Shades of Valentine' Evening on Saturday 15th February. All events can be viewed on the village website at: <https://westburyvillage.co.uk/events/>
Information and booking details for all classes and activities can be viewed at: <https://westburyvillage.co.uk/clubs-and-activities/>.

- e. **Neighbourhood plan (CY)** The next steering group meeting will take place on 19th February. Two teams have been set up to gather evidence. We are currently undertaking a call for sites and it is hoped to have a village breakfast on Sunday 29th March to consult with villagers.
- f. **Footpaths (VW)** the footpath running from the side of Hollywell House up to the dust houses is currently inaccessible due to being churned up. The footpath alongside the A422 (just along from Green Finches) is becoming narrower and harder to access. Both have been reported to BCC.
- g. **Hs2 (LW)** An invitation has been received from HS2 inviting two representatives from each council (in the area affected by HS2) to attend a meeting on 18th February to share information on the recent noise model and proposed mitigation relating to the operational raiing, landscaping proposals, construction information and local traffic management plans. It was agreed that cllr JS and cllr LW will attend along with the clerk.
- h. **Action plan (CK)** updates were circulated to councillors. Two main areas to concentrate on are the notice board (which is rotting) and the tree survey. Andy Knott has agreed to refurbish the notice board and cllr GC kindly said he would supply the marine plywood. **Action: CK/GC**

11/20 Correspondence received

- Buckinghamshire Council latest update – noted.
- Email regarding odours from Finmere landfill site – it was agreed not to put a notice out unless it becomes a problem in Westbury.
- Joint statement from AVDC and BCC following the publication of the draft Milton Keynes Council (MKC) strategy for 2050 – the statement was noted and it was agreed to support their concerns regarding MK growth bordering into north Buckinghamshire. The draft strategy can be found here: www.mkfutures2050.com/strategy-for-2050-engagement-page
- An email has been received asking if the council should send a warning message out to villagers regarding a dash cam film showing a car driving on the wrong side of the road between Mixbury and Fulwell (as reported in the news). Councillors agreed that because this was such a high-profile case, local people are aware of the dangers.

12/20 Items for March Link

Meetings

Lambing season - keep dogs on leads notice

Notice to keep dogs on leads in the Churchyard

Notice to use the dog waste bins appropriately

Neighbourhood plan information

VE Day information

13/20 Councillor questions

None received.

14/20 Public Participation session (Members of the public are invited to address the council. The session will last for a maximum of 10 minutes with any individual contribution lasting a maximum of 3 minutes. Members of the public should address their representations through the chairman of the meeting)

None received.

15/20 Close

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

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

Approved by James Stone, Chairman at the meeting on Wednesday 12th February 2020