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Minutes of the meeting of Westbury Parish Council on Wednesday 16th June 2021 at 8.00 pm at Westbury Village Hall

Present: Chairman James Stone (JS), Cllr Graeme Cook (GC), Cllr Cath Young (CY), Cathy Knott, clerk (CK), one member of the public and county councillors Patrick Fealey and Caroline Cornell

91/21 Questions or comments from the public

Cllr Fealey introduced cllr Cornell, our new ward councillor and gave an update on behalf of Buckingham Council (BC):

In 2020 five councils came together as one unitary authority. The boundary commission will review the current situation to decide if there are too many councillors – there are currently 147; three for each ward. Buckingham West covers the new Buckingham estates and 12 villages. The three ward councillors (Fealey, Cornell and Stuchbury) will discuss who is responsible for each area/element. Cllr Fealey will continue with planning issues as well as continue to look after Westbury and cllr Cornell is committed to Highways. Cllr Fealey is also the chairman of North Bucks area planning committee and will be involved in the joint strategic planning committee which looks after the larger developments, waste and schools etc.

Martin Tett has been re-appointed as leader of BC. Buckinghamshire is one of the largest unitary authorities in England and has a huge expansion programme. It employs 4,000 staff and covers 169 parish/town councils, it has a planned spend of £1.2 billion and is currently dealing with 12,000 planning applications. HS2 application for landscaping and highways (sections 4 and 17) are progressing with 16 packages of work being looked at. Any above ground building elements will go through BC planning. Current planned HS2 vehicle movements number are unacceptable and BC is working to mitigate issues.

BC will provide 543,000 mature trees over the next ten years. There are more details on the BC website at <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/news/a-tree-for-every-woman-man-and-child-in-buckinghamshire/>

The old Aylesbury Vale site will become the new BC centre. Old County Hall will be repurposed. Planning regulations have been relaxed by central Government allowing for example, conversion of bungalows to two storey dwellings without need for planning permission. Planning in principle enquiries have been coming through and cllr Fealey is concerned this does not engage with local democracy. There is a need to protect green belts and conservation areas. There is a huge push to build on brownfield sites, with expected Buckinghamshire population growth from 546,000 – 585,000.

92/21 To receive apologies for absence and welcome

Apologies accepted from cllr Vicky Webb (VW) and cllr Katy Wintour (KW).

93/21 To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the annual meeting of the parish council held on 12th May 2021

The minutes were approved and signed.

94/21 To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only

97/20 OPUS complaint – JS & GC have been unable to meet but will aim to get together asap. **Action: JS/GC**

59/21 the 'unknown Tommy' will be located on Main Street on Treebanks (the green triangle).

85/21 the broken wobble board has been removed and the new playpark bin has arrived. The clerk will obtain quotes for a concrete base and to erect the historic notice board.

85/21 TfB is unable to advise on traffic management so it was agreed to arrange a meeting with Beachborough to discuss strategies going forward. **Action: JS**

95/21 To receive declarations of interest related to business on the agenda

Chairman JS for item 98/21 – friend and neighbour of application 21/01890/APP.

96/21 Co-option; to discuss applications from interested parties and resolve to co-opt

Richard Tredwell has applied to join the parish council. All councillors resolved to co-opt him but unfortunately, he wasn't able to attend tonight so he will be formally co-opted at the next meeting on 7th July.

97/21 Finance:

a. Financial statement

Current account: £24,185.33

Business account: £16,578.72

b. To note payments received since the last meeting £

Interest	0.14
WPHC reimbursement for park bin	262.95
Bucks Council (S106 payment)	19,440.00

To note payments made since the last meeting

C. Knott (website hosting fee) 143.88 (VAT 28.78)

c. invoices approved for payment

C. Knott (salary and HMRC tax)	561.63
HMRC (tax)	3.80
S. Rodwell (mowing)	146.77
Open Space Concepts Ltd (using S106 monies)	14,626.33 (VAT 2,925.27)
Maddie Coxhill (website updates)	40.25

d. to receive an update from the internal controls' councillor

Cllr KW confirmed via email prior to the meeting that she had checked the following information and there were no discrepancies:

- Bank balances; as stated in the minutes.
- Cash book entries agree with the items noted in the minutes.
- The forecast planned spend remains within our precept budget limits.

98/21 To receive planning updates and recommendations:

Application 20/00496/APP: Land Off Biddlesden Road Westbury. Erection of 7 dwellings and associated works.

Parish council decision: objection. **AVDC decision:** awaiting decision

Application 20/04002/APP: SugaRich, Biddlesden Road, Westbury; Erection of an additional storage building for raw materials and relocation of the waste water lagoon 17/03745/APP (variation of conditions 2, 4 and 6 - reposition of lagoon).

Parish council decision: no objection **AVDC decision:** awaiting decision

(NEW) Application 21/01890/APP: The Ridings, Mill Lane, Westbury. Alterations and additions to existing house to include rear single storey extensions, 1no. new velux rooflight to rear, new front patio & French doors, 1no. new velux rooflight & 1no. new dormer window to front, new garage doors & 2no. new windows to front

Parish council decision: no objection **Buckinghamshire Council decision:** awaiting decision

99/21 To discuss/reassign councillor responsibilities

It was agreed to discuss at the next meeting in the hope we'll then have a full council.

100/21 To accept councillors reports on the following areas (if there is anything to report):

- Play Park** – the broken wobble board has been removed – thank you to SugaRich for actioning this. Some of the equipment is very squeaky; the chairman will grease. **Action: JS**
It was noted that cricket balls have landed in the park recently during a match. JS will discuss warning signage with Westbury Cricket Club. **Action: JS**
- Highways** – The school sign on Main Street has been replaced and GC has spoken with Paul Foot at TfB detailing all actions still outstanding. The clerk will forward the list to Highways to ask for urgent action. **Action: CK**
- Utilities** – OPUS have credited our account with £640.30.
- WVHA & WCSC updates** – WCSC has updated the space inside the shop to create more space. Air conditioning has been installed. Mel Cooper has taken over management and is backed by other staff and volunteers.

WVHA has started to re-open to regular hirers following Covid-19 guidelines. The hall is still closed for private bookings. The contract between WVHA and Westbury Cricket Club has been signed.

- e. **Neighbourhood plan** (on hold until the VALP is published)
- f. **Footpaths** – the clerk will ask for the vegetation to be cut back to the side of Manor Cottage (path running to the rear of School Close) and the gate at the bottom of Fulwell Road/Dr's Spinney. **Action: CK**
- g. **HS2** – Lucy Colls has left EKFB and will be replaced by Dave Butcher. A meeting will be arranged for July.
- h. **Action plan** – nothing to report.

101/21 Correspondence received

- Buckinghamshire Council updates.
- HS2 updates including a community update, Finmere Bridge demolition and Feather Bed Lane road closure notice.
- A number of concerns have been raised regarding the ongoing development at The Wilds on Brackley Road. The clerk will raise this with BC's enforcement team for investigation. **Action: CK**
- Verbal complaints regarding Beachborough parking and traffic management have been raised. It was noted that the Heyfordian coach blocked the road off on match day. It was agreed to write to Beachborough to invite someone to attend the next meeting to discuss road/pedestrian safety so we can resolve the issues together. **Action: CK**

102/21 Councillor questions

- Cllr CY advised it was Keep Britain Tidy Day on 4th July. It was agreed to purchase ten litter pickers and put a note out in the July Link.

103/21 Items for the July Link

- Details of the next meeting
- Details of Keep Britain Tidy Day on 4th July
- Watch this space for summer holiday activities
- Reminder to pick up after your dog
- HS2 updates
- Fix my street
- Join the village mailing list and Facebook group

104/21 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)
Nothing received.

105/21 Close

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 7th July 2021 at 8.00 pm at Westbury Village Hall. If you would like to attend, please register with the clerk beforehand at westburyclerk@aol.com

Agendas and minutes can be found on the village website at: www.westburyvillage.co.uk