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Minutes of the meeting of Westbury Parish Council on Wednesday 8th September 2021 at 8.00 pm at Westbury Village Hall

Present: Chairman James Stone (JS), Cllr Vicky Webb (VW), Cllr Katy Wintour (KW), Cllr Richard Tredwell (RT), Cathy Knott, clerk (CK) and county councillors Patrick Fealey and Caroline Cornell (who left the meeting at 8.30 pm).

122/21 Questions or comments from the public

County councillor Fealey reported on the latest news from Buckinghamshire Council, advising that the planning inspector for the VALP (Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan) has issued his final report to the council. The report finds the VALP to be a sound plan and is now being considered for adoption by the council as the local plan for the former Aylesbury Vale area of Buckinghamshire. The report can be viewed online at:

<https://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/section/vale-aylesbury-local-plan-valp-2013-2033>

Councillor Fealey also advised that next June marks the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, celebrating 70 years on the throne. The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) is a unique tree planting initiative which invites people from across the United Kingdom to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee". Buckinghamshire Council is encouraging tree planting throughout the county (during the planting season from October – March) and for groups to create their own unique way of marking this momentous Jubilee year.

The chairman advised councillor Fealey that we are waiting for a meeting to be organised with EKFB to discuss updates, issues and queries regarding work in the area. Cllr Fealey asked the clerk to send him the information and he will follow it up with Chris James (EKFB).

Action: CK

123/21 To receive apologies for absence and welcome

Apologies received and accepted from councillors Graeme Cook (GC) and Cath Young (CY).

124/21 To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meeting of the parish council held on 7th July 2021.

The minutes were approved and signed.

125/21 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**
All other actions are being dealt with or are on the agenda.

126/21 To receive declarations of interest related to business on the agenda

None received.

127/21 Finance: (different from agenda)

a. Financial statement

Current account: £7,413.82

Business account: £16,579.00

b. To note payments received since the last meeting £

WPHC (summer activities grant)	1150.00
VAT refund	3,792.27
Bank interest (for July & Aug)	0.28

c. To note payments made since the last meeting (approved out of council)

C. Knott (salary and HMRC tax)	561.63
HMRC (tax)	3.80
C. Knott (expenses – Microsoft 365 annual fee)	59.99
The Warehouse (remaining part of invoice for summer activities)	287.50 (VAT 57.50)
OPUS (streetlights) Direct debit - July	22.62 (VAT 1.13)
Barbara Osbourne (PAYE service April-June2021)	67.50
S. Rodwell (July mowing & weed treatment)	251.77

PKF Littlejohn LLP (external audit fee)	300.00 (VAT 60.00)
OPUS (streetlights) direct debit - August	23.01 (VAT 1.15)

d. invoices approved for payment

C. Knott (salary and HMRC tax)	565.43
C. Knott (expenses)	36.02 (VAT 6.67)
Buckinghamshire Council (fee for uncontested election)	94.67
S. Rodwell (village mowing)	91.12

e. Annual audit; to approve the end of year accounts and to note the external auditors report

PKF Littlejohn have completed their review of the annual governance and accountability return (AGAR) and a notice of conclusion has been put on the notice board and website. There were no matters raised by the external auditor.

128/21 To consider new planning applications (if there are any) and to receive an update on applications outstanding

UPDATES

Application 20/00496/APP: Land Off Biddlesden Road Westbury. Erection of 7 dwellings and associated works. **No change in information.**

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). **No change in information.**

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: no objection **Buckinghamshire Council decision:** approved.

Application 21/02386/APP: Beachborough School, Mill Lane, Westbury. New temporary/portable classroom, 40ft storage container and 1.8m high willow fencing.

Parish Council: objection to storage container. **Buckinghamshire Council decision:** awaiting decision

NEW

Application 21/02700/APP: The Old School House, Main Street, Westbury. Single storey infill orangery, single storey side extension and internal alterations.

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

129/21 To discuss updates since the July meeting

Beachborough: the chairman, cllr CY and the clerk met with Tracey Gascoigne (Beachborough's Estate Co-ordinator) and Kit Gordon-Stuart (Highways Inspector for Transport for Bucks) on 29th July to discuss traffic issues in the village. Tracey has put together a travel plan which will be shared with the senior leadership team at Beachborough this month (covering car sharing, mini-bus service, travel surveys (staff and parents), drop off times/drop and go).

Drains: we are waiting to hear back from Transport for Bucks (TfB) after they assessed the damage to underground pipes on Main Street at the beginning of the month.

New street name: The first road off the A422 (from Brackley) has been named Red Oak Lane.

HS2 Road Safety Fund: Westbury PC has submitted an application for funding for a pedestrian crossing and VAS on the A422 which has gone through to Stage 2 of the process. We should know by end of October whether we have been successful with this stage.

Children's summer activities: a climbing wall, caving experience and craft picnic were organised by Lindsay Webster (and WPC) and funded by Westbury Charity and were enjoyed by children from the village and further afield.

130/21 To agree on possible drainage solutions for the village hall carpark and Westworks building

The 'West Works' building at the bottom of Playing Field Road has a new owner; the building floods when it rains heavily due to surface water not being able to run off and drain away in the farm fields (now that area has been developed) and the owner has asked the parish council to address the lack of drainage at the bottom of Playing Field Road and the village hall carpark. The chairman has met with the owner to try to work out a solution and has received a quote from Richard Haynes to install a drainage system (quote circulated). Councillors resolved to accept the quote of £2680 (+VAT) and to have the work completed as soon as possible. Cllr GC will liaise with Richard Haynes and Cllr JS will liaise with the owner of West Works.

Councillors also agreed to contact Buckinghamshire Planning department to advise that this issue has arisen through no fault of our own, in part due to the new housing development to see if any compensation is available.

Action: CK/JS/GC

131/21 To adopt the Buckinghamshire Council Code of Conduct

It was resolved to adopt the code.

132/21 To discuss councillor responsibilities

Cllr RT has taken over Tree Management from the chairman and all councillors will be responsible for planning. All other responsibilities remain the same.

133/21 To accept councillors reports on the following areas (if there is anything to report):

- a. **Play Park** – the new bin is in situ. The wooden fencing to the side to both sets of swings needs replacing; the clerk will request a quote from Richard Haynes. The two remaining wobble boards need to be removed.
- b. **Highways** – Patching works to Orchard Place have been completed.
- c. **Utilities** – nothing to report.
- d. **WVHA & WCSC updates** – JS reported there has been a slight uptake in private bookings. The shop remains steady.
- e. **Neighbourhood plan** (on hold until the VALP is published)
- f. **Footpaths** – VW advised there have been no new updates from Oxfordshire Council – she will chase. The clerk provided an update on the Station House footpath; the owners are in communications with Buckinghamshire Council. They are going to create a pond where the spring is and fill and level the ground that is unlevel later this month. They are also replacing the stile with a gate for easier access.
- g. **HS2** – see 122/21.
- h. **Action plan** – the clerk circulated an updated plan.

134/21 Correspondence received

- Buckinghamshire Council updates – circulated via Mailchimp.
- Resident comments regarding Biddlesden Road speed limit – noted.
- Smoke nuisance – email circulated via Mailchimp and Facebook.
- Resident request for a mirror and white lines at Lormay Place entrance/exit – the clerk will follow up with Bucks Highways.

135/21 Councillor questions

- Cllr RT will dispose of the old park bin.
- Beachborough traffic management update.
- Thank you to Lindsay Webster for organising the children's summer activities.

136/21 Items for the Link

- Details of the next meeting
- HS2 updates
- Dog fouling
- Information on Fix my street & joining the village mailing list and Facebook group

137/21 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)

No public present.

138/21 Close

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th October 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