
Minutes of the meeting of Westbury Parish Council held on Wednesday 9th March at 8.00 pm at Westbury Village Hall

Present: Chairman James Stone (JS), cllr Graeme Cook (GC), cllr Cath Young (CY), cllr Pierre Jeannes (PJ), Cathy Knott, clerk (CK), one member of the public and Caroline Cornell, Buckinghamshire Council (for item 34/22)

34/22 Questions or comments from the public

Cllr Cornell reported that Greg Smith, the conservative member of parliament for the Buckingham constituency will be visiting the A422 HS2 compounds this Friday with HS2's director Rohan Perin and other members from HS2 and EKFB. They will be dropping into Westbury Village Hall to showcase their new mobile visiting centre (a touring information bus) that will be visiting villages to share updates and answer questions members of the public may have. Cllr Cornell requested that any questions we'd like to raise, be forwarded to her beforehand.

Other news from Buckinghamshire Council:

- 85,000 drains and gullies have been cleared throughout the county which will help prevent flooding.
- A job fair will be coming to Buckingham soon.
- There will be no free Covid tests after 1st April.
- Martin Tett, Leader of Buckinghamshire Council says "we stand in solidarity with Ukraine and its people. The Gateway building in Aylesbury has been lit up in blue and yellow, the colours of the Ukrainian flag, and we will be flying the Ukraine flag from a number of our buildings this week, as a very clear and public sign of our support. We know many Buckinghamshire residents want to offer financial support too to help the people of Ukraine and the refugees being forced to flee their country. The [British Red Cross](#) and [UNICEF](#) have both launched appeals, the details of which can be found online. As a Council, we stand ready to offer practical support to Ukrainian citizens here and those who may arrive as a result of this terrible situation".

35/22 To receive apologies for absence and welcome

Apologies received and accepted from cllr Vicky Webb (VW), cllr Katy Wintour (KW) and cllr Richard Tredwell (RT). Patrick Fealey (County Councillor) also sent his apologies. The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

36/22 To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meeting of the parish council held on 9th February 2022

The minutes were approved and signed.

37/22 To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only

21/22 – County councillor Fealey has requested an update from the planning manager regarding applications 20/00496/APP (Biddlesden Road) and 17/02835/APP (pathway from Mill Farm).

22/22 – Further concerns have been raised by villagers since the clerk circulated the letter from Beachborough school, regarding bad parking and coaches continuing to park outside the school with their engines running. The clerk will write to the estates co-ordinator.

25/22 – to be discussed at the next meeting.

All other matters are on the agenda or have been dealt with.

38/22 To receive declarations of interest related to business on the agenda

Cllr PJ for item 41/22 – Oltco quote.

39/22 Finance:

a. Financial statement

Current account: £4,577.73

Business account: £22,443.17

b. To note payments received since the last meeting £

Bank interest

0.18

c. Invoices approved

C. Knott (salary and HMRC tax)	565.43
C. Knott (expenses)	40.40 (VAT 8.08)
OPUS (direct debit for streetlight electricity)	31.15 (VAT 1.56)

40/22 To consider new planning applications (if there are any) and to receive an update on applications outstanding

New:

22/00587/APP - The Wilds Brackley Road Westbury. Householder application for outbuilding with storage in the roof space (retrospective)

WPC: no objection

Bucks Council: Awaiting decision

22/00378/ALB - Manor Cottage Mill Lane Westbury. Listed building application for Re-roofing the main dwelling. See attached design and access statement.

WPC: no objection

Bucks Council: Awaiting decision

No change to information

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

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

Application 17/02835/APP: Mill Farm, Mill Lane, Westbury. Variation of condition 2 attached to planning permission 17/02835/APP (erection of four dwellings) to allow drawing 1703-03E to be approved.

Application 22/00394/APP - Kilburn House, Fulwell Road, Westbury - Installation of 2 air conditioning units in side passage.

41/22 To approve quotes for tarmacking (HS2 community environment fund project)

The clerk circulated quotes prior to the meeting and the chairman proposed to accept R.S. Haynes quote for £20,785; all councillors in attendance agreed. The clerk will submit forms to HS2.

42/22 To provide an update on the HS2 Road Safety Fund application

Transport for Buckinghamshire has carried out feasibility work and has shared draft plans with the parish council for a puffin crossing over the A422. We will be updated further at the beginning of April.

43/22 To discuss the format of the annual parish meeting on 13th April

It was agreed to have an informal meeting without reports this year. EKFB/HS2 will be in attendance to give a presentation on work happening in the area and councillors will be available to mingle to share updates and information. It was agreed to open the bar and commence the meeting at the earlier time of 7.30 pm. The clerk will arrange for an invitation to be delivered to all households, groups and organisations in the village. **Action: CK**

44/22 To approve sites for planting trees for the Queen's Jubilee

It was agreed to plant the trees to the side of the village hall.

45/22 To provide an update on the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations

A meeting was held on 23rd February and a volunteer working party has been formed. On Thursday 2nd June there will be a village BBQ at the village hall and we will light our beacon to join in with lighting up the UK and Commonwealth. On the afternoon of Friday 3rd June, there will be a giant cream tea on the playing field with organised activities, music etc. St. Augustine's Church will have a four-day flower festival. It was agreed to hold the next meeting on Wednesday 30th March at 7.30 pm.

46/22 To report back on the Brackley LCWIP workshop Chris Donoghue attended on 4th March

Chris Donoghue attended the meeting on our behalf. It was noted there are three possible options for a track from Westbury to Brackley (following PROW and bridleways or via the A422). It was agreed a link via the A422 was the better option. The next stage will be to refine the proposals then undertake prioritisation. A draft final report will be produced which will be circulated to all concerned.

47/22 To accept councillors reports on the following areas (if there is anything to report):

- Play Park** – the chairman has fixed the broken steps up to the zip wire. Cllr GC advised he is still trying to contact Wickstead regarding Zebedee. The clerk noted the fencing around the sides of the park needs replacing; cllr PJ agreed to obtain quotes. A new receiver is needed for the gate drop bolt; cllr GC agreed to action this. **Action: PJ/GC/JS/CK**

b. Highways – Cllr GC advised there are two broken manholes on Biddlesden Road which he will report. Speed watch update; cllr CY has registered Westbury on the new programme and has completed her training. She is now in the process of inviting volunteers to complete their training. CY proposed to purchase some correx lamp post signs from the community speed watch programme to remind people of the speed limit. Councillors agreed to purchase a number of 20mph and 30mph signs (using funds from WPHC).

Action: CY/CK

c. Utilities – cllr GC has negotiated a good price with OPUS and we have signed up to a fixed contract for the next two years.

d. WVHA & WCSC updates – cllr PJ advised there are no issues. Donations are being made to the Ukraine appeal this Friday and Saturday.

e. Neighbourhood plan (on hold until the VALP is published).

f. Footpaths – it has been confirmed that a public enquiry will take place at the village hall on 24th and 25th August this year. It was noted that the wi-fi signal might not be strong enough, so this is being looked into.

Action: JS/CK

g. HS2 – see item 34/22

h. Action plan – no new updates.

48/22 Correspondence received

- Buckinghamshire Council updates – circulated to parishioners via Mailchimp.
- HS2 updates - circulated to parishioners via Mailchimp.
- National Highway updates - circulated to parishioners via Mailchimp.
- Letter of thanks regarding drainage work on Playing Field Road read out to councillors.

49/22 Councillor questions

None received.

50/22 Items for the Link

- Invitation to the annual parish meeting
- The Queen's Platinum Jubilee details
- Save the date – Mixbury footpath hearing 24/25th August
- Main Street drain works reminder
- Sheep worrying
- Spring clean – Keep Britain Tidy
- HS2 updates
- Information on Fix my street & joining the village mailing list and Facebook group

51/22 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.

52/22 Close

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

The next meeting will be the annual parish meeting on Wednesday 13th April 2022 at the earlier time of 7.30pm at Westbury Village Hall.

Signed: James Stone

Dated: 11th May 2022