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## Minutes of the meeting of Westbury Parish Council held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023, 7.30pm at Westbury Village Hall

Present: Chairman James Stone (JS), cllr Graeme Cook (GC), cllr Katy Wintour (KW), cllr Pierre Jeannes (PJ), cllr Richard Tredwell (RT), Cathy Knott, clerk (CK) and one member of the public.

Also, in attendance from Buckinghamshire Council for item 38/23 were Caroline Cornell and Robin Stuchbury

### 38/23 Questions or comments from the public

Cllr Cornell advised Buckinghamshire Council have had £5 million released as extra to the budget for pothole repairs (on top of the £100 million already allocated). HS2 has also agreed to repair the roads they have damaged.

Twelve new highways contractors (split into three frameworks) have been awarded with the new contract from 1<sup>st</sup> April. Cllr Stuchbury advised Buckinghamshire Council has been failing in Education for some time and there's no improvement at the moment. The budget is very tight for the coming financial year and Health is struggling particularly around social, child and elderly care.

After cllr GC explained our issues regarding the permissive path relating to application 21/04043/APP to Cllr Stuchbury, he agreed to investigate it on our behalf.

### 39/23 To receive apologies for absence and welcome

Apologies received and accepted for councillors James Watson (JW) and Jonathan Newman (JN). The chairman thanked everyone for attending.

### 40/23 To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the annual meeting of the parish council held on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

The minutes were approved and signed.

### 41/23 To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only

141/22 – following the last meeting, the clerk met with cllr Cornell on site to discuss the issues with the closed permissive path (relating to application 21/04043/APP). It was agreed going forward, we need one or two councillors wholly responsible for planning who should be trained to ensure future decisions and comments are upheld by Buckinghamshire Council's planning department.

151/22 – cllr GC will remove the stile halfway down the path adjacent to Hollywell House and the owners will remove the one further down – still to be actioned. **Action: GC**

29/23 – the clerk has secured funding for the gate and fence at the playpark (including two benches) using S106 monies relating to applications 09/00501/AOP and 16/04155/APP.

33/23 – Oxfordshire Council's ROW team has advised the new bridge (from Beachborough's field) may take some time to action, but it is in hand.

### 42/23 To receive declarations of interest related to business on the agenda

None received.

### 43/23 Finance (different from agenda)

#### a. Financial statement

Current account: £ 9,956.25

Business account: £26,280.68

#### b. To note payments received since the last meeting £

Bank interest	15.85
VAT refund	7,657.22

#### c. to approve invoices submitted:

C. Knott (March salary & tax)	588.05
C. Knott (expenses Jan/Feb/March)	75.00
Tesco (retired councillor present)	17.50 (VAT 3.50)

OPUS (streetlight electricity)	62.26 (VAT 3.11)
Buckinghamshire Council (dog waste collection services annual charge)	469.91 (VAT 93.98)
O'Neil Homer (Neighbourhood Plan consultants)	3,025.00 (VAT 605)
O'Neil Homer (Neighbourhood Plan consultants)	275.00 (VAT 55)
Barbara Osborne (PAYE service Jan-Mar23)	67.50
Zaun Ltd (park gate)	1245.00 (VAT 249)
Westbury Community Shop & Café Ltd (NP breakfast)	100.00 (VAT 20)
S. Rodwell (tree trimming)	500.00
Tesco (stationary)	19.21 (VAT 3.84)

#### **44/23 To consider new planning applications (if there are any) and to receive an update on outstanding applications**

Applications with no change to information

**Application 21/04043/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 22/00378/ALB:** Manor Cottage, Mill Lane, Westbury. Listed building application for re-roofing the main dwelling. **Appeal lodged 25.01.23 ref: 22/00121/NONDET**

**23/00299/APP** - Barn House, Orchard Place. Householder application for conversion of existing ancillary detached outbuilding into games/gym/study and alterations to external elevations

Regarding **22/03857/WIGD and 21/00303/CONB** – The Cabin, The Wilds, Brackley Road. A pre application has been submitted to Buckinghamshire Council setting out some options for addressing concerns raised by the Inspector in the appeal decision letter.

#### **45/23 To receive a report from the neighbourhood plan steering group**

Cllr PJ advised the community engagement event on 4<sup>th</sup> March was very successful and well attended. Information and an electronic questionnaire have been circulated via village email and Facebook and can be found on the village website at: <https://westburyvillage.co.uk/westbury-parish-council/>. All feedback will be consolidated (after 17<sup>th</sup> March) and fed into a single dataset to share with our consultants Oneil Homer. The steering group will discuss the next phase and expectations and will meet monthly going forward. The chairman thanked Jonathan and the steering group for their great work.

#### **46/23 To provide an update on the HS2 community fund project**

The tarmacking work to the back and side of the village hall has been completed. We still have £675 for safety fencing and we are in the process of obtaining quotes. It was agreed not to use the £600 allocated for flood lighting.

We have requested more funding to be able to purchase solar panels on the village hall roof to help with utility costs at the village hall.

#### **47/23 To discuss councillor responsibilities**

Deferred until the next meeting.

#### **48/23 To provide comment on Highways Act 1980 section 119 diversion of public footpath no. 11 Westbury**

Councillors agreed the proposed diversion was a better layout and much more accessible.

#### **49/23 To provide comment on the Local Plan for Buckinghamshire – Infrastructure Baseline**

The clerk will respond with information taken from the settlement review comments submitted last month.

#### **50/23 Insurance - to note our long-term agreement with Community Action Suffolk ends on 14.04.2023**

The clerk will request quotes from three providers and circulate information to councillors once received.

#### **51/23 To discuss arrangements for the King's Coronation celebrations**

Only one resident has responded to our call for volunteers to help organise a community event on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Cllr PJ will liaise with Beachborough's Deputy Head Simon Preece with a view to organising some children's games alongside a big BBQ.

A budget of £600 was agreed to purchase a Coronation bench and we will discuss a fund for some activities.

***ACTION: PJ***

**52/23 To accept councillors reports on the following areas (if there is anything to report):**

- a. **Play Park** – the annual inspection took place on 7<sup>th</sup> March, identifying some missing fixings on the climbing net attached to the Kompan Glider Structure. **ACTION: GC/JS**
- b. **Highways** – GC will request a meeting with the new local area technician Simon Scullion. The clerk is waiting for an update on Main Street drains from the Highways capital drainage team.
- c. **Utilities** – GC has chased Balfour Beatty again for a quote to replace the three streetlights on the A422 and the four lights at the bottom of Mill Lane.
- d. **WVHA/WCSC updates** – see 46/23.
- e. **Neighbourhood plan** – see item 45/23.
- f. **Footpaths** – the clerk has spoken to Tracey from Oxfordshire Council's Countryside Access Team regarding the replacement bridge adjacent to Beachborough's field (Mixbury footpath). This is not going to be a quick fix but it is in hand.
- g. **HS2** – diversion of bridleway 303/4. All updates are on our village website at: <https://westburyvillage.co.uk/full-steam-ahead-on-hs2/>
- h. **Action plan** – no new updates.

**53/23 To note correspondence received that requires discussion**

- HS2/EKFB notice of bridleway known as 303/4 will be diverted from early March 2023.
- Station House, Fullwell Road: parking advice requested.
- National Grid Wayleave consent – Playing Field Road.
- Bucks Council – notice of new Highways contractors.

**54/22 Councillors Open Forum**

No questions/comments.

**55/23 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 questions/comments.

**56/23 Close**

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

**The next meeting will be a short annual parish meeting followed by an ordinary meeting on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7.30 pm at Westbury Village Hall.**

**Signed: James Stone**

**Dated: 12.04.23**