

WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 14th March 2019
in the Village Hall Reading Room which commenced at 8:00pm

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Tim Moody
Councillor John Cherry
Councillor Matthew Hale
Councillor Steve Ludbrook
Councillor Claire Mason

IN ATTENDANCE: Lorraine Ellis (Clerk) and County Councillor Steve Jarvis (from 8:16pm)

The Chairman reported that the Council wanted to express their thanks to Weston Rugby Club for their donation of a new noticeboard which has been located on the wall of the Manor House in memory of Alice Cherry. An excellent piece of work.

2019/03/025 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillors Wayne Dumbleton (illness), Judith Evans (holiday), Vicky Patmore (other commitments) and Alistair Schofield (holiday).

2019/03/026 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

The Chairman reported that a resident had requested that his communication be considered at this juncture of the meeting:-

- New noticeboard – the backing material on the noticeboard is too hard and it is difficult to push drawing pins into it. Would it be possible to arrange for the backing to be replaced?
- Road traffic incident – there has been a road traffic incident with a vehicle driving into the fence at Anchor House. Prominent warning signs are required before the bend. The Chairman reported that he has been in discussion with the HCC Highways Officer regarding this matter. The Clerk to log the issue on the HCC fault reporting system.

2019/03/027 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT:

None.

2019/03/028 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14th FEBRUARY 2019:

To take the minutes of the meeting as read and approve them as a true and accurate record. The minutes were then duly signed by the Chairman.

2019/03/029 PLANNING:

Applications:

None received.

NHDC Decisions:

Lynton, Fore Street, Weston – Single storey side extension. **Withdrawn.**

Update on the NHDC Planning Seminar:

The Chairman reported that with Councillor Ludbrook they had attended the Planning Seminar at NHDC. It was noted that NHDC will continue using the S106 system and not change to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). NHDC has recommended that Parish Councils have a priority project list which is reviewed annually. This in no way compromises any objections the Parish Council may have with future developments in Weston.

It was **agreed** that the Chairman should write to Simon Ellis (NHDC Planning & Development Manager) to request that if development goes

ahead on GA1 and GA2 then a percentage of the S106 funding should be awarded to Weston to improve infrastructure due to the increase in traffic.

2019/03/030

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:

a. Cheque signing and accounts for March 2019 - The accounts for March for £884.79 were duly approved.

b. Correspondence – Duly noted.

c. Annual Parish Meeting 4th April 2019 – It was noted that the Police have have accepted our invitation to attend the APM. Unfortunately the Baldock Fire Service has declined due to operational constraints. The Chairman suggested writing to the Hertfordshire Fire Authority to ascertain if they would be able to attend.

d. Rose Bowl nominations – The Chairman reported that the Rose Bowl was being inscribed in readiness for the APM and a grill top was being obtained.

2019/03/031

NEW HOUSING STRATEGY:

NHDC Local Plan main modifications: It was noted that NHDC had extended the deadline for comments on the main modifications to Thursday 11th April 2019.

2019/03/032

VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT including FOOTPATHS and MAINTENANCE:

Village Clean-up event: Council thanked Councillor Mason for organising the village clean-up event which was very successful. Thanks are also to go to Councillor Hale for organising volunteers to litter pick Halls Green. The Chairman reported that he had sent a letter of thanks to District Councillor Michael Weeks for NHDC’s assistance in supplying materials and for removing the collected waste.

2019/03/033

RECREATION GROUNDS and SPORTS FACILITIES:

a. Councillors Moody and Hale reported that the picnic bench for the Jackson’s Lane Recreation Ground play area has been installed.

b. Annual Rent review – Weston Tennis Club – Council **agreed** that the annual rent should be increased by 3%.

2019/03/034

HIGHWAYS & LIGHTING

a. Village entry gates: Councillor Hale reported that he will organise the replacement of the damaged village entry gates.

b. Friars Road/The Snipe traffic issues: The Chairman reported that he had not yet had the costings from the HCC Highways Officer for the sites highlighted as requiring attention. County Councillor Jarvis reported that these will provisionally be included in next year’s budget. Refreshing of the white lining will be undertaken to improve the parking issue.

2019/03/035

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Police resources – The Chairman reported that PCSO Braybrooke had reported that the Police were spending more time in Weston but unfortunately the Police are short of resources. Council **agreed** that a letter should be sent to Oliver Heald MP to request that Government provide additional resources for rural communities.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending. The meeting then closed at 8:45pm with the next meeting being held on Thursday 11th April 2019 at 8:00pm in the Village Hall Reading Room. The agenda will be displayed on the noticeboard three days prior to the meeting.

Signed..... Chairman

Date.....