

WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 8th August 2019
in the Village Hall which commenced at 8:00pm

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Tim Moody
Councillor John Cherry
Councillor Judith Evans
Councillor Matt Hale
Councillor Steve Ludbrook
Councillor Claire Mason
Councillor Alistair Schofield

IN ATTENDANCE: Lorraine Ellis (Clerk) and Chris Hall (Hertfordshire Trail Riders Fellowship)

2019/08/088 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**
Councillors Vicky Patmore (other commitments) and County Councillor Steve Jarvis (other commitments).

2019/08/089 **TO MEET WITH CHRIS HALL, HERTFORDSHIRE TRAIL RIDERS FELLOWSHIP:**

The Chairman welcomed Chris to the meeting.
Chris thanked the Councillors for the opportunity to talk to them. He reported that he is meeting with all the relevant Parish Councils asking if they would object to the Trail Riders Fellowship (TRF) using particular byways. He reported that every 10 years HCC review all Permanent Traffic Regulation Orders (PTRO) that are currently imposed on some BOATS. The last review was in 2009. The TRF is lobbying for changes to the PTROs to allow access to these BOATs for TRF members only. TRF would wish to use Weston 039 known as the Roman Road. The 400 members of whom there are only 50 who are regulars have a code of conduct that they have to adhere to. The maximum speed permitted is 25mph. They also comply with noise regulations. All riders have to be taxed and hold a MOT certificate; there would be no more than 8 riders at a time.
Chris explained that after 2006 approximately half of the legal byways (20% of the network) have been lost.
It was noted that Weston 039 was previously open but it became rutted by 4 wheel drive vehicles and other bike users would access this route. At times it was impassable and too dangerous for horses due to the rutting.
The Countryside Management Service (CMS) will hold a formal consultation process and decide on whether or not to recommend a change to the RTO.
Councillors thanked Chris for attending the meeting and he left at this juncture. (8:20pm).

2019/08/090 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**
A resident reported that he had written to NHDC in support of the Bunbury Cottage planning application however he had two issues that related to the water supply to his property and waste disposal. Currently the water supply to Bunbury Cottage and Rosemary Cottage is shared resulting in low water pressure in times of high usage. Also, when previous extension work was being carried out the foul water was connected to the storm water drain that runs under Rosemary Cottage; consequently flooding of the ground floor took place. The pipe has blocked on a number of occasions and rodding is required. Given that the proposed extension of Bunbury Cottage increases the

- potential usage of water and discharge of sewage, the resident suggested that both a separate water supply and sewage discharge pipe should be installed.
- 2019/08/091** **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT:**
The Chairman and Councillor Hale declared an interest in the Bunbury Cottage planning application.
- 2019/08/092** **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11th JULY 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.
- 2019/08/093** **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**
Traffic Management plan update: Councillor Hale reported that due to holidays no further meetings had been held. A map listing all of the salient points is being compiled and will be circulated to all attendees. Good steady progress is being made. It was noted that County Councillor Jarvis had been attending the meetings.
On behalf of the Council the Chairman wanted to take this opportunity to thank Councillor Hale for the work he has undertaken so far.
- 2019/08/094** **PLANNING:**
Applications:
Cherchez Bien, Mill Lane, Weston – Single storey front extension following removal of existing conservatory. **No objection.**
11 Hitchin Road, Weston – Open sided front porch. **No objection.**
The Chairman left the meeting at this juncture. Councillor Cherry stood in as Chairman at this point.
Bunbury Cottage, Fore Street, Weston – Two storey side extension, two and single storey rear extensions. Single storey side extension. Extension to detached garage to provide car port and store. Alterations to fenestration. **No objection.** The comments received from the resident regarding water supply and sewerage pipes being inadequate were noted and supported.
Councillor Hale left the meeting at this juncture (8:47pm).
Councillor Moody re-joined the meeting (8:48pm).
NHDC Decisions:
Princess of Wales Cottage, Post Office Row, Weston – T1 Willow – fell to ground level, T2 Weeping Willow – reduce height by 10-15ft and bring sides into shape. **No objection.**
Reservoir Cottage, Hatch Lane, Weston – Single storey side extension and front porch. **Permission granted.**
Tower Cottage, Mill Lane, Weston – Single storey rear and side extension. **Conditional permission.**
Friends Green Farm, Friends Green, Damask Green Road, Weston – Creation of vehicular access. **Refused.**
Councillor Cherry left the meeting at this juncture (8:52pm)
- 2019/08/095** **FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:**
a.Cheque signing and accounts for August 2019 - The accounts for August for £3,687.24 were duly approved.
b.Quarterly review of the accounts Mar-May 2019 – Councillor Ludbrook reported that the accounts were in order. He recommended that funds be transferred from the current account to the savings account for future projects. The Clerk to write to the Bank providing them with the authority to transfer the funds.
c.Parish Councillor vacancy – It was noted that no applicants had yet come forward. The deadline set is 15th August 2019.
d.Communications and Media – Nothing to report at this time.
e.Correspondence – Duly noted. It was noted that a resident had written to NHDC and the Council objecting to the planning application at 3 Frays

Cottage. This objection has been noted. The Chairman reported that a complaint had been received relating to the condition of the crab apple tree on The Green; he stated that he would arrange for the removal of the lower limbs, this work would greatly assist the grass cutting contractors.

2019/08/096

NEW HOUSING STRATEGY:

Nothing to report at this time.

2019/08/097

VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT including FOOTPATHS and MAINTENANCE:

Cutting vegetation in School Lane – Councillor Evans reported that the work had been undertaken; the side growth on the lime trees at Forge End had been trimmed where it overhangs the road, the resulting arisings will be removed shortly.

2019/08/098

RECREATION GROUNDS and SPORTS FACILITIES:

Jackson’s Lane car parking – The Chairman reported that the marking out of the car parking spaces had not yet been carried out.

Following complaints from users of the hall the Chairman has written to Weston Park Farms to request that they instruct their tenants to park their vehicles beyond the tree to resolve the car parking issue. Councillor Schofield and the Chairman to weed spray the area.

Update on recreation ground storage – Councillor Schofield reported that he had ordered the shipping container and that groundwork preparation will be undertaken shortly. The tree works still need to be carried out.

Rugby Club agreement – Councillor Schofield reported that the agreement has now been signed by Weston Rugby Club.

2019/08/099

HIGHWAYS & LIGHTING:

It was noted that the broken drain in Munts Meadow had still not been repaired. The Clerk to request that C.Councillor Jarvis pursues the matter on behalf the Council.

2019/08/100

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

a.Assets of Community Value update: Councillor Schofield reported that the documentation had been completed and accepted by NHDC for the village shop, the Cricketers and the Rising Sun to be assets of community value for a further 5 years.

b.Councillors agreed to hold a social event to note the departure of Bea & Sonney from the village shop at which time the new owners will be welcomed into the community. A date in September will be agreed shortly.

At this juncture the Chairman wished to thank resident Gary Barker for making the Council aware of the new publication ‘The Village Survival Guide’. An excellent publication suggesting ways to help villages build inclusive communities in the 21st century. A copy will be available to borrow from the village library.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending. The meeting then closed at 9:15pm with the next meeting being held on Thursday 11th September2019 at 8:00pm in the Village Hall Reading Room. The agenda will be displayed on the noticeboard three days prior to the meetings.

Signed..... Chairman

Date.....