

# WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
in the Village Hall which commenced at 8:00pm

## PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Tim Moody  
Councillor Judith Evans  
Councillor Steve Ludbrook  
Councillor Rob Noble  
Councillor Vicky Patmore  
Councillor Alistair Schofield

IN ATTENDANCE: Lorraine Ellis (Clerk)

**2020/01/001** APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillors John Cherry (other commitments), Matt Hale (other commitments) and Claire Mason (other commitments)

**2020/01/002** PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None.

**2020/01/003** TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT:

Councillor Patmore declared an interest in the planning application.

**2020/01/004** MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 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.

Councillor Patmore left the meeting at this juncture.

**2020/01/005** PLANNING:

Applications:

**Es Cana, 10 Munts Meadow, Weston** – Single storey side extension and replace existing UPVC cladding with composite cladding. **No objection.**  
Councillor Patmore returned to the meeting at this juncture.

NHDC Decisions:

**Weston Park, Damask Green Road, Weston** – Continued use of timber building to house wood chipping hopper unit. **Permission granted.**

**Bunbury Cottage, Fore Street, Weston** – Discharge of condition 3 – **Agreed.** Discharge of condition 5 - **Withdrawn.**

**2020/01/006** FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:

**a. Cheque signing and accounts for January 2020** - The accounts for January for £843.85 were duly approved.

**b. Hertfordshire week of culture programme – 25.01.20** - The Chairman reported that Sir Oliver Heald MP had agreed to open the new Weston Café/Book Exchange. Councillors **agreed** that they should have a presence at the event and that the work being undertaken on the traffic management plan should be on display.

**c. Communications and Media** – Councillor Patmore stated that Councillor Schofield had been added as an admin contributor.

**d. Correspondence** – Duly noted. It was **agreed** that consideration would be given to the Hertfordshire North Central Growth & Transport Plan at the February meeting.

**e. To agree a date for the Annual Parish Meeting** – Council **agreed** that the APM should be held on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April with the main topic being to **'environmentally improve the village and to make it greener'**. The Chairman **agreed** to check the availability of the village hall.

- 2020/01/007 **NEW HOUSING STRATEGY:**  
Nothing to report at this time.
- 2020/01/008 **VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT including FOOTPATHS and MAINTENANCE:**  
**a.Traffic management plan update** – The Clerk stated that Councillor Hale had reported that he was currently setting up a meeting with County Councillor Steve Jarvis and Gary Henning, the HCC Highways Engineer. It was noted that there was no further update on the grant application for funding from the Police & Crime Commissioner’s Road Safety Fund.  
**b.Village pond** – Council discussed the correspondence received from a resident regarding the condition of the village pond. It was reported that in November 2014 the Countryside Management Service had reported that water snails were present which indicates that there is good quality ground water in the pond. It’s generally empty during the winter and fills up in the summer. Natural ponds are seasonal. Another village had funnelled surface water into their pond but this is generally dirty water which is not ideal. If the pond were to be made deeper the Council would require permission to undertake this work.  
It was **agreed** that a volunteer group will be created to do some vegetation clearance to tidy up the pond and that consideration will be given to a substantial pruning of the Willow tree to reduce water take up. The area is too wet at present; therefore this item will be discussed further at the February meeting.
- 2020/01/009 **RECREATION GROUNDS and SPORTS FACILITIES:**  
**a.Jackson’s Lane car park and tree works** – The meeting agreed that the full removal of the Field Maple could not be justified on cost grounds but some pruning would be done. The Chairman was concerned that three Ash saplings leaning toward the Maple were potentially dangerous from the weight of ivy and he has asked a tree contractor for advice.
- 2020/01/010 **HIGHWAYS and LIGHTING:**  
**a.NHDC draft Parking Operational guideline document** – The Chairman **agreed** to draft a response for consideration at the February meeting.
- 2020/01/011 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**  
**a.Update on the Weston Café/Book exchange** – The Chairman reported that the coffee machine had been purchased and the books/shelving will shortly be installed in the reading room.  
**b.Litter pick event** – It was noted that the Keep Britain Tidy event was scheduled for 28<sup>th</sup> March 2020. Councillors **agreed** that their annual litter pick event should be held on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2020.**

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending. The meeting then closed at 9:10pm with the next meeting being held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2020 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.....**