

# WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 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 Rob Noble  
Councillor Vicky Patmore  
Councillor Alistair Schofield

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Lorraine Ellis (Clerk) and County Councillor Steve Jarvis

**2019/11/123** **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

None.

**2019/11/124** **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

None.

**2019/11/125** **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT:**

None.

**2019/11/126** **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 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.

**2019/11/127** **PLANNING:**

**Applications:**

None received.

**NHDC Decisions:**

**The Hollies, Fore Street, Weston** – T4 Willow – re-pollard back to previous points. **No objection.**

**Church Gate Cottage, Church Lane, Weston** – T1 Almond tree, nearly dead – fell. T2 Oak tree, overgrown - trim. **No objection.**

**Forge House, Maiden Street, Weston** – Two storey and part first floor rear extension, insertion of roof lights to existing rear-side roof slope and insertion of first floor window to existing side elevation. **Permission granted.**

**2019/11/128** **FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:**

**a. Cheque signing and accounts for November 2019** - The accounts for November for £4,980.51 were duly approved.

**b. Correspondence** – Duly noted. The Chairman asked Councillors to review his draft response to the HCC proposals to implement a HGV 7.5t weight restriction within Cottered along the A507 and throughout Baldock. It was **agreed** that the Clerk should submit this response to HCC by the due deadline.

County Councillor Jarvis joined the meeting at this juncture (8:12pm).

**c. Draft budget 2020/21** – Council considered the grant applications and the draft budget prepared by the Chairman and the Clerk.

The Chairman proposed that the tennis club application for funds be considered at this point. The Council agreed. Councillor Schofield presented a report on the quotations he had received for resurfacing the upper tennis court. The Council **agreed** Councillor's Schofield's recommendation on the

# WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019  
in the Village Hall Reading Room which commenced at 8:00pm

**PRESENT:**

Councillor John Cherry  
Councillor Judith Evans  
Councillor Steve Ludbrook  
Councillor Claire Mason  
Councillor Vicky Patmore  
Councillor Alistair Schofield

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Lorraine Ellis (Clerk) and County Councillor Steve Jarvis

**2019/05/047** **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Councillors Matthew Hale and Tim Moody.

**2019/05/048** **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN & DECLARATION OF THE CHAIRMAN'S ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE:**

Councillor Moody, having expressed an interest in continuing in the role of Chairman, Councillor Moody was proposed by Councillor Cherry and this was seconded by Councillor Evans, the Council **unanimously agreed** to Councillor Moody continuing as Chairman.

**2019/05/049** **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN:**

Councillor Cherry was proposed as Vice-Chairman by Councillor Evans and this was seconded by Councillor Mason. The Council **unanimously agreed** to Councillor Cherry continuing as Vice Chairman.

**2019/05/050** **TO AGREE COUNCILLOR RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- **Village Hall Representatives** – Council agreed that Ali Cormack should continue to be their representative. Suzie Lucas will replace Joanna Cherry and Mick Wall will replace Pom Coulson.
- **School Governor** – Councillor Moody
- **Planning** – Councillor Ludbrook with Councillor Hale as reserve
- **Finance** – Councillor Ludbrook
- **Village Environment including Footpaths and Maintenance** – Councillors Evans and Cherry
- **Recreation Grounds & Sports facilities** – Councillors Schofield and Mason
- **Highways & Lighting** – Councillor Hale with Councillor Patmore as reserve
- **Communications and Media** – Councillor Patmore

**2019/05/051** **TO CONSIDER CO-OPTION OF THE PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY:**

Council **agreed** that the vacancy should be advertised. The Clerk to place an advert in the noticeboard. Applications received will be considered at the June meeting.

**2019/05/052** **TO AGREE DATES AND START TIMES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS:**

Dates of meetings confirmed as 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month. Start time of 8:00pm with the proviso that meetings should finish by 10:00pm.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and the meeting then closed at 8:14pm. The next Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at 8:00pm in the Village Hall Reading Room.

**Signed..... Chairman**

**Date.....**

preferred contractor and agreed to pay £5,000 towards the cost. WTC have volunteered to pay the remaining 55% of the costs from their reserves. It was noted that the Council do not have a 'sinking fund' to undertake high value works to their assets and this could be a potential problem. It was agreed that Councillors Moody and Schofield should meet to consider the assets and their long term management.

The grants and budget will be further considered and agreed at the December meeting at which time it is hoped that the tax base information will be available from NHDC.

**d.Communications and Media** – Nothing to report at this time.

**2019/11/129** **NEW HOUSING STRATEGY:**

Nothing to report at this time.

**2019/11/130** **VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT including FOOTPATHS and MAINTENANCE:**

**a.Traffic management plan update** – The Chairman wished to take this opportunity to thank Councillor Hale for his report; an excellent piece of work.

Councillor Hale reported that a series of meetings have been held and the view was taken to try to implement the achievable goals. A funding application has been submitted to the Police & Crime Commissioner's Road Safety Fund scheme for improvements for pedestrian safety within the village, and that the further proposals, which we expect to be more controversial, would be put to the Council and village for approval. It is not known when a decision will be taken on the application.

Councillors reviewed the proposed traffic calming drawings and noted that HCC Consultants carried out a traffic review in 2003 and at that time residents indicated that they did not want speed humps and table tops.

It was agreed that Councillor Hale should arrange a meeting with Gary Henning, Herts Highways Engineer to discuss what he believes to be achievable from the draft proposals and report back to Council. Councillor Evans requested that Mr Henning be asked for his advice on how to stop motorists driving in the wrong direction along Post Office Row.

All agreed that construction traffic for the GA1 and GA2 developments should not come through Weston

Councillor Mason left the meeting at this juncture (9:42pm)

**b.To discuss the use of barbed wire to close off gateways** – Council considered the correspondence received from a resident. The Clerk to advise the resident that the access from Damask Close to the field adjacent to the cricket pitch is not a public footpath however the landowner will be asked to review the use of barbed wire.

**2019/11/131** **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

**a.Future of the Village Library** – The Chairman reported that he had held discussions with the WWH Committee Chairman on the possibility of using their premises for a book exchange for an initial 12 month period, it was noted that this will be discussed at their next Committee meeting. An expresso machine would be an added advantage.

**b.Xmas Tree lighting event** – Councillors were reminded that the Xmas tree lighting event will be held on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending. The meeting then closed at 10:01pm with the next meeting being held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 8:00pm in Weston Primary School. The agenda will be displayed on the noticeboard three days prior to the meetings.

**Signed..... Chairman**

**Date.....**