

WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Weston Parish Council held in Weston Village Hall
THURSDAY 10th February 2022 at 7:30pm

DRAFT

PRESENT:

Cllr Alistair Schofield (Chairman)	Cllr Judith Evans
Cllr John Cherry	Cllr Matthew Hale
Cllr Tim Moody	Cllr Steve Ludbrook
Cllr Jacky Jones	Cllr Alison Williams
Cllr Stewart Clifford	

IN ATTENDANCE:

Kelly Johnson (Clerk).

2022/02/013 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were sent by County and District Councillor Steve Jarvis.

2022/02/014 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Cllr Moody raised the subject of the village pond on behalf of a Member of the Public. Cllr Moody has received an expression of concern, and an offer of help, regarding maintenance of the village pond. This item to be placed on the March Agenda.

Cllr Schofield raised the subject of the Weston Voluntary Car Service banking arrangements on behalf of a Member of the Public. This item to be placed on the March Agenda.

2022/02/015 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None

2022/02/016 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13th January 2022 were approved and duly authorised by the Chairman.

2022/02/017 **PLANNING:**

(a) Planning Applications: No Applications considered.

(b) Correspondence: Windows in "Highgate" Mill Lane Weston. Cllr Moody reported that he has written to the Planning Department at North Hertfordshire Council (NHC) on behalf of some residents of Mill Lane. There are concerns that the extension may not be following the conditions of the planning permission.

2022/02/018 **FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:/**

(a) Cheque signing. The following items were approved for payment:

- Clerk Salary (January 2021) - £259.56
- The Hearn Training Co (Minute 2022/01/009) - £1,464.00
- Weston Luncheon Club (Minute 2022/01/006) - £100.00
- Alistair Schofield Expenses (Minute 2022/01/010 & litter picking bags) - £103.60

(b) Governance Documentation:

- The draft Standing Orders were discussed. Amendments were agreed to Paragraph 3(e-f) regarding Public Participation. Cllr Schofield to update the Standing Orders and re-distribute. Approval of the Standing Orders deferred to March Agenda.
- As part of the grant application to the London Luton Airport Community Trust Fund, WPC requires a Safeguarding Policy. It was unanimously agreed to adopt the draft Safeguarding Policy. To be reviewed at the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

(c) Review of Asset Register. The draft Asset Register was unanimously agreed with the following amendments: Addition of two flowering cherry trees at Forge End, and the removal of the village gates as risks and responsibilities of ownership lie with HCC.

(d) Review of Reserves Policy. The Reserves Policy was unanimously agreed.

(e) Annual Parish Meeting. To be held in June. Date, theme, and unsung hero award to be discussed at the March Meeting.

(f) HAPTC Basic Councillor Training: The Clerk to arrange training for Cllr Clifford, Cllr Williams and Cllr Jones at a cost of £14 per person.

2022/02/019 **PROJECTS:**

(a) Community Wood Proposal. Nothing to report.

(b) Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022. WPC are delighted to have been invited to contribute to the Flower Festival and agreed to do so.

(c) The Snipe Play Area. Cllr Schofield reported that the grant application for £10,000 to the London Luton Airport Community Trust Fund was submitted in January. The application is scheduled to be reviewed in April. All supporting documentation has been supplied aside from the Safeguarding Policy agreed at this Meeting. Cllr Schofield to forward the Policy. The Council expressed their thanks to Cllr Schofield for processing the application.

2022/02/020 **NHC LOCAL PLAN:** Nothing to report.

2022/02/021 **VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT including FOOTPATHS and MAINTENANCE:**

(a) Footpath Maintenance and Litter Picking. This Council wishes to express their thanks to all those who took part in the litter pick on the 5th February.

(b) Gully Inspections. Cllr Schofield reported that he has written to the Director of Environment and Infrastructure at Hertfordshire County Council (HCC). The Parish Council undertook a gully survey in December and January, which consisted of conducting a survey of every gully marked on the HCC GIS map of the Parish. In total, this Council identified 38 blocked gullies that require digging out and reported them to HCC at the beginning of February. This Council expressed a wish to meet with HCC to jointly formulate a plan that targets resource at solving problems rather than simply following a cleaning schedule.

(c) Reported items:

- Dog waste bin in Halls Green. Cllr Schofield reported that he has contacted NHC for an update. A report is expected at the end of February.
- Number of dog waste bins at the Recreation Ground. Cllr Schofield and Cllr Moody to remove the extra bin.
- Pavement damage at The Snipe - AF398726557 (NHC) / 401002506389 (HCC). A Member of the public reported to this Council damage caused by a bin lorry on the 1st February. NHC contacted their Waste and Recycling Contractor who were unable to confirm any damage caused by their lorries. The matter has been referred to HCC by NHC.

(d) Defibrillator in Halls Green. To be installed at The Rising Sun. Training will be held Wednesday 23rd March at 1900 at The Rising Sun.

(e) Roadside Hedges. Individual residents to be contacted by Councillors to request cutting back where hedges are overhanging roads or pavements.

(f) Allotments. Cllr Moody and Cllr Cherry reported that they had received communications from a Member of the Public about the state of the allotments. Cllr Moody and Cllr Cherry liaised with the Allotment Society who are taking remedial action.

2022/02/022 RECREATION GROUNDS and SPORTS FACILITIES:

(a) **NHC Playground Reports.** Cllr Schofield has obtained wet pour to repair damage to the play area surface in the Recreation Ground. The work will be carried out when the weather is warmer and drier.

2022/02/023 HIGHWAYS and LIGHTING:

(a) Traffic Calming and Section 106 Monies. Cllr Steve Jarvis due to discuss the proposals with Gary Henning (HCC). Cllr Schofield to contact Cllr Steve Jarvis regarding resurfacing works at the Maiden Street/Damask Green Road junction.

(b) Village Gates. There was historically a seventh gate at the entrance to Halls Green. Cllr Schofield to contact Cllr Steve Jarvis to see if Highways could include the replacement of this gate in the work scheduled to take place in the 2022/3 financial year.

(b) Traffic Congestion at Weston Village Primary School. Cllr Moody has discussed this issue with the school.

2022/02/024 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

Thursday 10th March 2022 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

Agendas will be displayed on the Parish Noticeboard 3 clear days prior to meetings.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 20:55

Signed..... Chairman

Date.....