

WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Weston Parish Council held in Weston Village Hall THURSDAY 13th January 2022 at 7:30pm

<u>PRESENT:</u>	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

IN ATTENDANCE: Kelly Johnson (Clerk).
County and District Councillor Steve Jarvis.

2022/01/001 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**
Apologies were sent by Cllr Stewart Clifford.

2022/01/002 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**
None

2022/01/003 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**
Cllr Schofield declared an interest in Planning Application 22/00008/FPH.

2022/01/004 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**
The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9th December 2021 were approved and duly authorised by the Chairman.

2022/01/005 **PLANNING:**
NHDC Decisions:
(a) 21/02816/LBC. Woodvine Cottage, Damask Green Road, Weston, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 7DE. Listed building consent granted
(b) 21/03201/FP. Glebe Cottage, Church Lane, Weston, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 7DJ. Permission granted
Applications:
(a) 21/03352/FP. Friends Green Farm, Friends Green, Damask Green Road, Weston, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 7BU. No objections.
(b) 21/03353/LBC. Friends Green Farm, Friends Green, Damask Green Road, Weston, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 7BU. No objections.
(c) 22/00008/FPH. Lynton, Fore Street, Weston, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 7AS. No objections.

2022/01/006 **FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION:/**
(a) Cheque signing. The following items were approved for payment:

- Kelly Johnson. Clerk Salary (December) - £259.56
- Weston PCC (Weston Parish News) - £600.00
- A Schofield (Expenses) - £9.00
- T Moody (Expenses) - £68.12
- Weston Park Farms (Management Charge) - £144.00
- Weston Village Hall (Hall Hire) - £179.00

(b) Budget Setting Financial Year 2022/23. The Clerk has applied for the Precept of £21,000 for the 2022/23 financial year. Budget

(b) Membership of The Countryside Charity CPRE. The Clerk has set up a subscription to the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England at an annual cost of £60.00.

(c) Declaration of Acceptance of Office – Cllr Alison Williams. Cllr A Williams signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office on the 21st December in the presence of the Clerk.

(d) Weston Luncheon Club. The Council agreed to donate £100 towards food hampers for residents in the village via the Weston Luncheon Club.

(e) Governance Documentation. The Clerk to produce the following draft policy documents for review:

- Standing Orders
- Information Publication Scheme
- Financial Regulations
- Risk Review

(f) Private Access to Council Land. A letter preventing a right of access / right of way becoming established in common law has been sent to the relevant properties.

2022/01/007

PROJECTS:

(a) Community Wood Proposal. Nothing to report

(b) Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022. The committee continues to meet.

(c) The Snipe Play Area. Cllr Schofield is in the process of applying for a grant from the Luton Airport Community funds. Three suppliers have been approached for a quotation. The Council agreed that the preferred supplier is Setter Play.

2022/01/008

NHDC LOCAL PLAN: Nothing to report.

2022/01/009

VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT including FOOTPATHS and MAINTENANCE:

(a) Footpath Maintenance: Cllr Evans reported that the PCC have arranged for someone to fix the 'Red Gate' as it is sticking.

(b) Gully Inspections. Cllr Schofield to collate the reports of individual Councillors, and to send the completed document to Highways, copied to Cllr Steve Jarvis. This Council would like to extend thanks to Deb Mason for carrying out a survey of Mill Lane.

(c) Reported items:

- Litter bin on Maiden Street. Cllr Moody confirmed that the bin has now been repaired.
- General waste bin in Halls Green. NHDC are monitoring the area to ascertain whether a litter bin is required. A decision is expected by the end of January.
- Number of dog waste bins at the Recreation Ground. There are four bins at the recreation ground, yet only three are contracted to be emptied by NHDC. Cllr Moody and Cllr Schofield to remove the extra bin.

(d) Defibrillator in Halls Green. To be situated on the external wall of The Rising Sun. £550 raised by Cllr Jones will be transferred to this Council. A further £500 has been granted directly to this council by Cllr Jarvis. A quote has been obtained from Hearn Training and the preferred option is a Defibrillator in a locked box at a total cost £1,220. This Council thanks Cllr Jarvis for the grant and agreed to fund any shortfall up to the value of £300. This Council agreed to hold any surplus proceeds raised in a restricted reserve available for future battery replacement or maintenance costs or other related expenditure.

(e) **Jacksons Lane Car Park.** This Council would like to thank Cllr Moody and Michelle Moody for clearing the car park of fallen leaves and litter over the Christmas period.

(f) **Litter picking.** A litter picking working party has been agreed for 5th February 2022.

2022/01/010 RECREATION GROUNDS and SPORTS FACILITIES:

(a) NHDC Playground Reports.

- Annual Inspection of The Recreation Ground (Jacksons Lane) by NHDC. Two moderate risks were identified in relation to the basket swing. All other items are deemed low risk or very low risk. Cllr Moody has inspected the equipment. Cllr Schofield to order some 'wet pour' to repair the surfaces.

2022/01/011 HIGHWAYS and LIGHTING:

(a) Traffic Calming and Section 106 Monies. A draft has been sent to Cllr Jarvis for approval prior to circulation / consultation with the village.

Gary Henning (HCC) has provided a quotation of £20,000 to replace the village gates, including installation / labour, and removal of the existing gates. Cllr Steve Jarvis has donated £15,000 from his Locality Budget Scheme. This Council thanked Cllr Jarvis for this donation and agreed to fund the remaining £5,000. Cllr Jarvis to request that the work be undertaken as early as possible in the 2022/3 financial year.

(b) The Primary School has raised concerns regarding traffic congestion around the school at start and end of school times and has requested support from this Council to address this issue. The Council agreed that Cllr Moody should discuss this issue with the school and offer the Council's services if it is felt we can be of assistance in finding solutions.

2022/01/012 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

Thursday 10th February 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 21:19



Signed..... **Chairman**

Date: 10th February 2022