

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON THURSDAY 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023

7:30pm at Weston Village Hall

**PRESENT:** Cllr John Cherry (Chair) Cllr Tim Moody Cllr Judith Evans  
Cllr Jacky Jones Cllr Alison Williams  
Cllr Steve Ludbrook Cllr Stewart Clifford

**IN ATTENDANCE:** County and District Cllr Steve Jarvis attended from item 2023/06/052  
5 Members of the public up to and including 2023/06/050. 2 Members of the public for the remainder of the meeting.  
Minutes taken by Kelly Buckle (Clerk)

## 2023/06/046 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and approved from Cllr Alistair Schofield and Cllr Matthew Hale

## 2023/06/047 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

## 2023/06/048 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

## 2023/06/049 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023 were approved and duly authorised by the Chairman.

## 2023/06/050 PLANNING

- a) As at the date of this meeting the following applications have been received:
- 23/00949/FP. Land Adjacent To 48 Hitchin Road:

Weston PC object to this application on the following grounds (a) The building is too overbearing for the site and would be obtrusive from the road as people enter the village and from 48 Hitchin Road (b) The proposed new access and the extensive cut back and removal of vegetation on both sides of the proposed access would alter substantially the rural nature of the road.

WPC notes that the Green Belt boundary at this site is illogical and that the proposed property has been, in our opinion, located too close to the road and to 48 Hitchin Road in order for it to be outside of the Green Belt. WPC has no objection in principle to a more modest development on this site further from the boundary of 48 Hitchin Road and with some incursion into the Green Belt by this this property.

- b) NHC Decision Notices:
- 23/00833/FPH. 19 Halls Green SG4 7DR. Permission granted.
  - 23/00508/FPH. Cowmead Cottage SG4 7AH. Permission refused.
  - 23/00952/FP. Anchor House SG4 7BU. Temporary permission granted.

## 2023/06/051 FINANCE, GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATION

- a) Cheque Signing. The following items were approved for payment:
- Clerk Salary (May 2023) - £316.26
  - Weston Parish News (Publication of Minutes 01/04/23 – 31/03/24) - £600.00
  - Alistair Schofield. Expenses (Annual Parish Meeting) - £104.25
  - Graphix Print Solutions (Coronation Event) - £121.15
  - Weston Village Hall (Book Exchange and Café) - £36.00
  - Weston Village Hall (May Meeting) - £12.00
  - Accountancy and Bookkeeping Service (Internal Audit) - £100.00

## 2023/06/052 2022/2023 ANNUAL GENERAL ACCOUNTING RETURN (AGAR)

The following documents were approved:

- a) AGAR Annual Internal Audit Report  
b) AGAR Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement  
c) AGAR Section 2 – Accounting Statements

- d) Bank Reconciliation and Explanation of Variances
- e) Period for the Exercise of Public Rights 12/06/23 – 21/07/23

The Clerk to undertake the following tasks:

- Submit Form 3, Bank Reconciliation and the Explanation of Variances to the External Auditor by the 11<sup>th</sup> June.
- To display the unaudited accounts and the Period for the Exercise of Public Rights 12/06/23 – 21/07/23 on the noticeboard and the website by the 11<sup>th</sup> June.

**2023/06/053 PROJECTS**

- a) HRH King Charles III Coronation:
  - All the bunting has been dried and aired.
  - The Clerk to produce a summary of expenditure against budget for the next meeting.
  - The map that was distributed at the Coronation will be coloured, places of interest added and made available for distribution. Cllr Jones to source sponsorship for production.

**2023/06/054 VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT including FOOTPATHS and MAINTENANCE**

- a) Well on the Village Green. Cllr Cherry, Cllr Moody and Cllr Schofield uncovered the well to photograph it and to assess the condition of the brick lining. It requires cleaning out but appears structurally sound and could be restored. Costs will be obtained and presented to Council.
- b) Defibrillator. Hearn Training have quoted a cost for the cabinet of £450 (excluding VAT and installation) and are liaising with the Village Hall re: installation. The Clerk to apply to Cllr Jarvis's HCC Locality Budget for £500.
- c) Sewage Overflow. Cllr Jarvis is liaising with Thames Water. A meeting is to be arranged.
- d) Village Pump on Maiden Street. A working party will be formed to restore it when adjacent building works have been completed. Deferred to the July meeting.
- e) Annual undergrowth clearance SFP19 / pathway from Church to Recreation Ground. A working party to meet Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July 10am on School Lane. Cllr Jones to advertise on Facebook as the "The Big Help Out Path Clear".
- f) Reported Items (ALL)
  - Cllr Schofield has moved the picnic table back to the children's play area and stapled laminated notes to them asking people not to remove them from that area.
  - Cllr Moody is progressing the filling in of holes at The Recreation Ground.

**2023/06/055 RECREATION GROUNDS and SPORTS FACILITIES**

None

**2023/06/056 HIGHWAYS and LIGHTING**

- a) Road safety outside Weston Primary School. A meeting has been held between Cllr Moody and Geoff Homes (Headmaster). It was agreed that the objective of any action should be to reduce traffic speed at school drop off / collection times. This objective is supported by Cllr Jarvis. Cllr Jarvis to arrange a meeting with himself, Highways, the Police and Cllr Moody, with the latter representing the interests of the school and WPC. Any works undertaken will have to be funded from the Highways Locality budget.

**2023/06/057 MATTERS ARISING** to be placed on the next Agenda

- a) PWAS Campaign. Outside the remit of this Council. The Clerk to refer the enquiry to HCC.
- b) Grass cutting at Damask Green / near the Cricket Club. To be placed on the next Agenda. The Clerk to establish the ownership of the land.

**2023/06/058 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING** Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 20:44

Signed.......... Chairman

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023