

**P A R I S H O F W E S T O N I N G**

**MINUTES of the Meeting of**

**Westoning Parish Council**

**held on Wednesday 9th October 2019 at 8.00pm**

**in the Village Hall, Westoning**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs T Fraser (Chairman), E Bhasin, R Botterell, P Ellis, E Leftly, L Milne,

J Nethersole, A Rayment, B Rogerson

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs K Barker (Clerk), 5 members of the public were present

**7171 Apologies for absence** – Cllr C Luff, CBC Cllr J Jamieson

**7171.1 Councillor cooption**

Cllr Bhasin proposed that Mrs Emma Leftly be co-opted onto the Council as a Parish Councillor. This was seconded by Cllr Botterell. The co-option was agreed. Cllr Leftly signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

**7172 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th September 2019 were approved. Cllr Nethersole proposed, seconded by Cllr Ellis the approval of the minutes as a true record. All agreed by those present and signed by the Chairman.

**7173 Declaration of interests**

Cllr Fraser – planning Point 7180.1.1

**7174 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**7175 Reports and representations**

7175.1 Central Beds Councillor J Jamieson

CBC Cllr Jamieson was not present. The Clerk read out a report.

CBC have now started the Councillor community grant scheme, which is a matched funding scheme. Each Ward Councillor is given a total of £2,000 for community type projects. The tour of the village took place on 20th September. He had to leave the village roads tour early, so does not have a full list of issues to chase up and would appreciate a copy

Cllr Rayment said that he attended the tour of the village held on 20th September. The Highways Officer arrived late so there was very little time to look at issues in the village. The Parish Council did not compile a report as this was expected to be done by the Highways Officer. The Clerk was asked to contact CBC Cllr Jamieson to confirm this and obtain a report from the Officer. (**Action Clerk**)

7175.1.1 CBC funding for youth activities/facilities

Nothing to report.

**7176 Public Participation**

A resident spoke about the Banner Policy and said it should relate to all activities in the village, not just the Recreation Ground. The Clerk was asked to amend the policy and put it on the website.

(**Action Clerk**)

A resident spoke about the state of the netball court. The court is dangerous and needs resurfacing. Cllr Ellis said that this had previously been raised but the cost was thought too prohibitive. Cllr Ellis agreed to obtain some quotes to resurface the court or undertake patching. (**Action Cllr Ellis**)

The applicant for CB/19/02643/FULL – Chestnut Lodge, Church Road said that they obtained pre-planning advice from CBC prior to the full application being submitted. They have been given authority to apply to build on the greenbelt. The turning circle is being amended plus a new fire hydrant put in to benefit all properties.

A member of the public spoke in objection to CB/19/02643/FULL – Chestnut Lodge, Church Road. Concerns included; the dwelling is proposed to be built on the greenbelt and outside the village settlement envelope, the development lies within open countryside and will affect wildlife and the rural character of the area, the pond that has been in existence for 30 years will be filled in, overdevelopment of the site, small turning area at the front of the dwelling will make access difficult for emergency vehicles, the development is a short distance from the boundary hedge, the vision splay drawings supplied on the website are not a true representation, Church Road is very narrow with no footpath and an increase in traffic would be detrimental. The resident said that this is difficult for members of the Parish Council as they are acquainted with both parties and they re-stated that the application is for a development on the green belt and that the Parish Council has always had a consistent policy of objecting to development on green belt in the village for over some 25 years.

**7177 Finance**

7177.1 Bank balances and finance report:

The Clerk confirmed that the budget report was circulated by email.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **£** |
| TSB Community Account | 38,060.78 |
| TSB Instant Access Account | 85,499.71 |
| **TOTAL** | **123,560.49** |

7177.2 Cllr Nethersole proposed, seconded by Cllr Rogerson the following payments, agreed by all:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Cheque Number** | **Payee** | **£** |
| 000281 | K Barker – salary | 470.36 |
| 000281 | K Barker – expenses | 36.27 |
| 000282 | HMRC – Clerks tax | 3.80 |
| 000283 | Mrs Harris – village tidying | 275.00 |
| 000284 | D J Granger – mowing inv 019941 | 391.20 |
| 000285 | Westoning Village Hall – PC0919 | 18.00 |
| 000285 | Westoning Village Hall – PC1019 | 18.00 |
| 000286 | E.on – electricity bill - September | 149.87 |
| 000287 | Andy Muskett Ltd – annual agreement 2nd quarter | 186.00 |
| 000288 | Barbara Osborne – payroll | 64.50 |
| 000289 | E.on – electricity bill – October | 231.27 |
|  | **TOTAL** | **1,844.27** |

7177.3 Other finance matters:

7177.3.1 TSB

Mandate change form

The Clerk said that she is still waiting for confirmation of the change to the mandate. She said that she will chase this up. (**Action Clerk**)

Bank charges £5.00 per month

Pending.

Replacement cheque 000280 – D J Granger

The Clerk said that cheque 000273 was rejected by the bank due to it being incomplete. A replacement cheque 000280 to be issued. (**Action Clerk**)

7177.3.2 Budget and Precept 2020/21

The Parish Council agreed to hold a finance meeting in late November early December.

**7178 Highways**

7178.1 Damaged village entrance signs/Railings

The signs were not looked at during the village tour. The repairs to the barrier in Richmond Road have been done but one of the posts is still loose. The Clerk to chase up CBC Cllr Jamieson. (**Action Clerk**)

7178.2 Traffic Management/Parking Control

Cllr Rayment said that he will endeavour to get the schedule of proposals finalised.

7178.3 Traffic Monitoring – traffic strips

CBC supplied a report and this was noted. There were over 17,000 traffic movements per day. Remove from the agenda.

7178.4 Footpaths

7178.4.1 Flit Valley Walk

Cllr Rayment confirmed that the bench is going to be placed in Flitwick Manor Park and an information board is to be installed. Remove from the agenda.

7178.4.2 Footpath 7

Nothing to report.

7178.5 Village Walk

It was reported that the gravel boards have been removed from the pavement. There are still some issues and letters to be re-sent, the Clerk to liaise with Cllr Rayment. Broken glass was reported to be found regularly around the football goal posts. The Clerk to add the area to the Parish Warden Job Description and send it to Mrs Harris. (**Action Clerk**)

**7179 Village Matters**

7179.1 Community Christmas Event

Cllr Botterell confirmed that the tree has been removed and the concrete base put in. Andrew Woolgar is due to put in the power column and the cut tree will be delivered later in November. Cllr Botterell said that he has ordered an uplighter projector with Christmas scenes for the clock tower.

Cllr Bhasin said that the school has now confirmed that they want to be involved in the event. They are keen to run stalls and a raffle. The bauble competition flyer has been sent out to the school and there are four gazebos available for use. The Recreation Club licence is no longer an issue. The function room is unfortunately booked for 1st December but the club will hopefully be involved in the event. The storage of all the items purchased needs to be considered and the Spensley Trust to be asked whether any of the store rooms in the Village Hall can be used. Cllr Rogerson said that the cost of a sound system could be around £300.

7179.2 Burial Ground

Cllr Rayment said that there are other burial facilities in neighbouring areas as well as other possible locations in the village that could be considered. The Parish Council will need to await feedback on the Local Plan before making any decisions.

7179.3 Recreation Club

7179.3.1 Land Registry/New Lease

Nothing to report regarding the lease.

7179.3.2 Disabled parking

Nothing to report.

7179.3.3 Recreation ground gates and fence

Nothing to report.

7179.3.4 Recreation Ground improvements

Cllr Rayment spoke about the report supplied by Matt Young of TGMS. The report was noted by the Parish Council and it was agreed that Cllr Rayment ask Matt Young to give a short presentation at the next Parish Council meeting. Cllr Rayment confirmed that the cost of the report is £1,800. The Clerk said that the Parish Council only agreed to the cost of £250 for the report but this is an additional £1,550. Cllr Ellis proposed, seconded by Cllr Botterell the additional cost of the report, agreed by all.

7179.4 Cherry Trees removal

The trees will be removed on 24th October.

7179.5 Youth Facilities

Cllr Bhasin said that she will hopefully be meeting with the Recreation Club shortly to discuss the youth club. The leader of the Church youth group has offered to give free support with setting it up. Cllr Ellis suggested that Westoning United Charity could be approached for some funding.

7179.6 Village Fete – proposal

Cllr Bhasin said that she will speak to Reverend Washington to see if he would like to attend a Parish Council meeting to discuss it further.

7179.7 Website

The Clerk and Cllr Milne said that they have been progressing with the website and have been using a free website builder called Wix.com. A further update will be given at the next meeting.

7179.8 Newsletter – articles for 14th October

The Clerk to submit the articles supplied to the newsletter: Christmas Event (Cllr Bhasin), Flit Valley Walk and bench (Cllr Rayment), Green Infrastructure (Cllr Milne) and the Remembrance Service information (Cllr Ellis).

7179.9 Parish Council Newsletter

Cllr Rayment said that the newsletter will need to be used as a consultation exercise. Articles to include; parking restriction proposals (Cllr Rayment), major items of expenditure such as the fence/gates (Cllr Ellis), Recreation Ground and Burial Ground (Cllr Rayment)

(**Action Cllrs Rayment and Ellis**)

7179.10 Green Infrastructure plans

Cllr Milne has written an article for the newsletter and she will provide an update at a future

meeting.

7179.11 Remembrance Sunday – poppies for lamp posts

The Parish Council agreed for the poppies to be placed on the lamp posts.

**7180 Planning**

7180.1 Planning Applications:

7180.1.1 CB/19/02643/FULL – Chestnut Lodge, Church Road – erection of a dwelling and garage on existing garden area. After much discussion and considering the input by the applicant and members of the public, the Parish Council has no objection to the application. Four Cllrs voted no objection, 2 against, 2 abstained, the motion was carried.

7180.1.2 CB/19/02570/REG3 – Moor Farm, Flitwick Road – concrete and steel framed cattle building. The Parish Council has no objection to the application.

7180.1.3 CB/TRE/19/00395 – Parklands House, 11 Manor Gardens – works to trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order: beech trees T63 and T64 raise lower branches approximately 4 metres, T65 common oak raise branches approx. 5 metres and T1 willow raise branches approx. 4 metres. The Parish Council has no objection to the application.

7180.2 Other Planning Matters

7180.2.1 Park Farm appeal – report

There was no update.

**7181 Play Areas** 7181.1 Witches Hat

The repairs will be done shortly.

**7182 Committees/Sub Groups/Representatives - Reports**

There were no reports.

**7183 Village Communications**

The were no communications.

**7184 General correspondence:**

There was no correspondence.

**7185 Date of next meeting: Parish Council Meeting**

**Wednesday 13th November 2019 at 8pm**

**Village Hall, Westoning**

The meeting closed at 10.15pm

Approved: ………………………………………………. Date: ……………………………………………………….