

**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 11th November 2020 at 7.30pm**

**by Zoom video conferencing**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs A Rayment (Chairman), E Bhasin, R Botterell, P Ellis, C Luff,

J Nethersole, B Rogerson, E Russell, CBC Cllr J Jamieson

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs K Barker (Clerk), 1 member of the public was present

Agenda published on the noticeboard and on the website

**7354 Apologies for absence** – Cllr E Leftly

The Chairman reported that Cllr Marlow has resigned from the Parish Council due to ill health. He said that the Parish Council is very sorry to lose him and his experience and wish him well. The Clerk to advise CBC of the vacancy. (**Action Clerk**)

**7355 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th October 2020 were approved. Cllr Botterell proposed, seconded by Cllr Nethersole the approval of the minutes as a true record. All agreed by those present and to be signed by the Chairman at the next meeting in person.

**7356 Declaration of interests**

Cllr Rayment - finance Point 7360.2 and planning Point 7365.1.2

Cllr Botterell – finance Point 7360.2

Cllr Rogerson – planning Point 7365.1.1

**7357 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**7358 Reports and representations**

CBC Cllr Jamieson gave an update on Covid-19. CBC are looking at funding for businesses and discretionary grants. CBC supplied vouchers for free school meals at half term and also provided meals for children over the summer. They are looking at what initiatives can be done over Christmas.

The Chairman said that numerous potholes have been filled but the quality of those repaired is questionable. CBC Cllr Jamieson said that CBC is still filling potholes and some of them are temporary repairs.

**7359 Public Participation**

There were no comments from members of the public.

**7360 Finance**

7360.1 Bank balances and finance report:

The Clerk circulated the finance report prior to the meeting.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Bank Accounts** | **£** |
| TSB Community Account | 32,149.75 |
| TSB Instant Access Account | 66,291.71 |
| **TOTAL** | 98,441.46 |

7360.2 Cllr Rogerson proposed, seconded by Cllr Russell approval of the following payments, agreed by all:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Cheque Number** | **Payee** | **£** |
| 000406 | Clerk – salary | 481.45 |
| 000406 | Clerk – expenses | 34.65 |
| 000407 | HMRC – Clerks tax | 1.80 |
| 000408 | Parish Warden – village tidying | 275.00 |
| 000409 | D J Granger – grass cutting invoice 020998 | 402.94 |
| 000409 | D J Granger – grass rec invoice 020987 | 114.00 |
| 000409 | D J Granger – grass and rec invoice 021045 | 510.94 |
| 000409 | D J Granger – hedges etc invoice 021025 | 1,644.00 |
| 000410 | A Rayment – 2 x remembrance day wreaths | 40.00 |
| 000411 | R Botterell – reimburse for Christmas lights | 251.34 |
| 000412 | Smith of Derby – repairs to clock tower | 1,010.40 |
| 000413 | Wicksteed – play area inspection | 54.00 |
| 000414 | Anglian Water – water bill | 36.13 |
| 000415 | Jacksons Fencing – labour | 3,240.00 |
| 000416 | E.on – electricity bill | 79.39 |
|  | **TOTAL** | 8,176.04 |

7360.3 Other finance matters:

7360.3.1 TSB - Mandate change

The Clerk said that the mandate change is partially done. As the account was opened some years ago, there are details that need updating so she is awaiting a form that needs completing to update the details of all signatories. She said that the Bank Manager in Barton has been very helpful.

Bank charges £5.00 per month

The Clerk reported that the bank has agreed to reimburse all charges and this income will show on the accounts at the end of November.

7360.3.2 Budget and Precept 2021/22

A finance meeting to be held on Monday 16th November at 7.30pm via zoom to agree the budget/precept for 2021/22.

**7361 Highways**

7361.1 Village Walk

The Chairman said that the next walk should be held late April/early May 2021.

7361.2 Zebra Crossing

The Chairman said that he sent a letter of objection on behalf of the Parish Council to CBC and has received an acknowledgement. CBC Cllr Jamieson said he will keep the Parish Council updated.

7361.3 Parking on Church Road

The Clerk read out an email from a resident concerning parking on Church Road. The Clerk to respond that this area is within the proposals for parking restrictions around the village. Cllr Russell said that she may be able to obtain some notices which can be placed on cars to try to stop inconsiderate parking. CBC Cllr Jamieson said that CBC produced a template notice which he will circulate.

7361.4 Layby opposite Chequers

The Chairman said that the Parish Council has received a number of complaints about large/commercial vehicles that park in the layby opposite the Chequers. Vehicles parked there block the vision of traffic coming from the south of the village for vehicles exiting from Sampshill Road. This has resulted in numerous 'near misses'. There is a persistent offender in the form of a flat back truck that sometimes parks overnight in the layby reserved as a bus stop. The Chairman said that the layby does have a parking restriction (waiting limit) in force. CBC Cllr Jamieson said that he will look at what restrictions can be imposed and will try to get an Enforcement Officer to visit. Cllr Nethersole said that she will monitor the times the vehicle is parked there and send details to CBC Cllr Jamieson.

7361.5 Flooding issue

The Chairman raised the issue in an email from CBC regarding the flood risk to the gardens of the houses at the back of the Tennis Court. There is supposedly water running off from the field. He said that he met with the CBC Officer who was of the view that the flooding was caused by ground water levels and not from water draining off the recreation ground.

**7362 Recreation Ground**

7362.1 Registration of Westoning Recreation Ground with Land Registry

Awaiting response from the Land Registry.

7362.2 Recreation Ground – quote for grass cutting

The Clerk to chase up the Contractor, David Granger for the quote. (**Action Clerk**)

7362.3 Rec Ground fence and gates

The fence and gates have been done.

**7363 Village Matters**

7363.1 Community Christmas Event

Cllr Botterell said that the Christmas tree has been selected and will be cut down on 20th November. It should be up in place shortly after that. The lights will go on the clock tower shortly. Residents have been asked to decorate their front gardens for the Christmas competition. The competition banner will be displayed shortly. It was suggested Cllr Nethersole, CBC Cllr Jamieson and Reverend Washington be asked to judge the gardens and Little Stars to be asked to judge the bauble competition.

7363.1.1 Storage of equipment in the Village Hall

Nothing to report.

* 1. Youth Facilities/Club

Review when circumstances permit.

7363.3 Noticeboard

Cllr Nethersole said that the local artist has drawn up a design for the back of the noticeboard which includes a mosaic of village landmarks. This will be circulated to all Cllrs. It was reported that some condensation is accumulating inside the noticeboard, the Parish Council to monitor it.

7363.4 Flagpole

Cllr Bhasin said that the same design drawn up for the noticeboard could be used for the design on the flag and the School could help with the border design of the flag. Cllr Bhasin said that she will speak with the School. (**Action Cllr Bhasin**)

7363.5 Flower Planters

The Chairman said that CBC have given their approval to the planter locations. He said that it is important that the planters do not trespass onto the vision splay at any road junctions. Cllr Bhasin to circulate the list of locations.

7363.6 Speedwatch

Cllr Nethersole said that Speedwatch is on hold now until the Spring.

7363.7`Rock Snake

Cllr Rogerson said that the stones have been collected. The child who created the missing head to be asked to create a new one. It was agreed to place it in a new location in the Spring.

7363.8 Remembrance Sunday

The Chairman said that the event went well and according to plan. Residents in Westoning were very compliant to the request not to attend.

7363.9 Dog bin

The Clerk confirmed that the request for a new bin has been submitted.

7363.10 London Luton Airport – consultation

The Parish Council discussed the consultation. Cllr Botterell agreed to draft a response and circulate it to all Cllrs. (**Action Cllr Botterell**)

7363.11 Active Travel Charter

An email sent to Cllr Nethersole was circulated. The Ampthill Climate Change Group and Flitwick for the Future have been working on an Active Travel Charter to ask for support for the principle of encouraging more active travel through improving infrastructure and perhaps the drawing up of community Active Travel Action Plans. People choosing to walk or cycle for short journeys, instead of using a car, can provide many health and mental health benefits as well as less congestion, pollution etc. People in surrounding towns and villages have been asked to put this to their Town/Parish Councils to join up initiatives across councils. The Parish Council to discuss further at the December meeting with a view to developing a strategy/initiatives.

7363.12 Covid-19 – updates

Cllr Nethersole said that the soup run will be undertaken again. Westoning Cares is still helping residents.

**7364 Play Area**

7364.1 Safety Surface replacement

Cllr Ellis to obtain quotes.

**7365 Planning**

7365.1 Planning Applications:

7365.1.1 CB/20/03794/FULL – 42 Church Road – single storey rear extension and partial garage conversion. The Parish Council has no objection to the application.

Cllr Nethersole took over as Chairman

7365.1.2 CB/TRE/20/00556 – 12 Manor Gardens - works to Trees Protected by Tree Preservation Order CB/09/00019: Reduce Beech Tree (T1) by 30-40%, raise canopy over road way and remove major deadwood. The Parish Council has no objection to the application.

Cllr Rayment returned as Chairman

7365.2 Other Planning Matters:

7365.2.1 CB/18/03779/FULL – site at Harlington Wood End Farm – planning appeal dismissed. Noted by the Parish Council.

**7366 Committees/Sub Groups/Representatives - Reports**

There were no reports.

**7367 General correspondence:**

There was no correspondence.

**7368 Date of next meeting: Parish Council Meeting**

**Wednesday 9th December 2020 at 7.30pm**

**Village Hall, Westoning or via Zoom**

The meeting closed at 9.14pm

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