

**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 December 2019 at 8.00pm**

**in the Village Hall, Westoning**

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

J Nethersole, B Rogerson, CBC Cllr J Jamieson

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs K Barker (Clerk), 2 members of the public were present

**7201 Apologies for absence** – Cllr L Milne

**7201.1 Election of Vice Chairman**

Cllr Luff proposed that Cllr Nethersole be elected as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council. This was seconded by Cllr Rogerson and agreed by all.

**7201.2 Councillor vacancy**

Nothing to report.

Cllr Nethersole acted as Chairman of the meeting until the arrival of Cllr Rayment.

**7202 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2019 were approved. Cllr Rogerson proposed, seconded by Cllr Luff the approval of the minutes as a true record. All agreed by those present and signed by the Chairman.

**7203 Declaration of interests**

Cllr Bhasin – finance Point 7207.2

Cllr Leftly – finance Point 7207.2

Cllr Ellis – finance Point 7207.2

**7204 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**7205 Reports and representations**

7205.1 Central Beds Councillor J Jamieson

* Highways - no further progress on the Church Road verge, yellow lines or the damaged signs. CBC Cllr Jamieson suggested that the yellow lines would be better implemented in the spring when the weather is drier.
* Local Plan – a sustainability appraisal is being undertaken and the plan will be re-submitted to the Inspector.
* Recreation Ground – CBC Cllr Jamieson said that he has shared the Recreation Ground Report with one of his Cllrs who works for the FA and was previously responsible for community grants etc. He was quite positive of potential support and has been in touch with one of his colleagues at Bedfordshire FA. As also mentioned previously, CBC has a grant scheme that the Parish Council may be able to access but it will require matched funding.

**7206 Public Participation**

A member of the public spoke about the planning application at Chestnut Lodge for the erection of a dwelling and garage and the recent amendment to the application. They reiterated their concerns spoken about at the October meeting, that this is an overdevelopment of the site which spoils the openness of the Green Belt. They said that there is also a problem with safe access onto Church Road and an issue with the driveway and ownership. The recent amendment to the application includes a change to the location of the bin collection points and turning circle and the development has now been moved further towards the boundary of Spinney House. The resident said that the Parish Council has always been consistent in objecting to applications in the Green Belt and outside the village envelope and asked that the Parish Council consider revising their previous decision. The Chairman said that the Parish Council had made its decision in October and that CBC were only seeking comments on the amendments to the application.

Cllr Rayment arrived at the meeting and took over as Chairman.

**7207 Finance**

7207.1 Bank balances and finance report:

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **£** |
| TSB Community Account | 29,607.01 |
| TSB Instant Access Account | 85,642.02 |
| **TOTAL** | **115,249.03** |

7207.2 Cllr Rogerson proposed, seconded by Cllr Nethersole the following payments, agreed by all:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Cheque Number** | **Payee** | **£** |
| 000303 | K Barker – salary | 470.36 |
| 000303 | K Barker – expenses | 23.65 |
| 000304 | HMRC – Clerks tax | 3.80 |
| 000305 | Mrs Harris – village tidying | 275.00 |
| 000306 | Westoning Village Hall – hire inv PC1219 | 18.00 |
| 000307 | M J Humphries (Badger Hill Farm) cut tree | 310.00 |
| 000308 | Fidelity – carol sheet flyer printing | 174.40 |
| 000309 | Jacksons Fencing – gate latch | 71.94 |
| 000310 | P Ellis – expenses – wreath | 20.00 |
| 000311 | E Bhain – expenses Christmas event | 27.97 |
| 000312 | E Leftly – expenses Christmas event | 37.68 |
| 000313 | R Botterell – expenses Christmas event | 414.79 |
| 000314 | E.on – electricity bill | 15.65 |
| 000315 | B Osborne – payroll | 64.50 |
| 000315 | D A Woolgar – electrical work | 89.51 |
| 000316 | B Osborne – payroll | 64.50 |
| 000318 | Parochial Church Council – June Mag | 364.98 |
| 000318 | Parochial Church Council – Nov Mag | 364.98 |
| 000318 | Parochial Church Council – hall hire inv CF0619 | 72.00 |
| 000318 | Parochial Church Council – hall hire inv CF0719 | 72.00 |
| 000318 | Parochial Church Council – hall hire inv CF0919 | 72.00 |
| 000318 | Parochial Church Council – hall hire inv CF1019 | 54.00 |
| 000318 | Parochial Church Council – hall hire inv CF1119 | 72.00 |
| 000318 | Parochial Church Council – hall hire inv CF1219 | 36.00 |
|  | **TOTAL** | **3,125.21** |

7207.3 Other finance matters:

7207.3.1 TSB

Mandate change form

The Clerk to complete and new mandate change form and present it for signature at the January meeting. (**Action Clerk**)

Bank charges £5.00 per month

Pending..

7207.3.2 Budget and Precept 2020/21

Cllr Bhasin proposed, seconded by Cllr Rogerson to approve regular expenditure of £46,471.50 and a precept of £41,807.00 for 2020/21, agreed by all. This amounts to a 0.2% increase on the Parish Council element of the council tax bill for 2020/21. The Clerk to return the precept request form to Central Beds Council. The approved budget to be placed on the website and attached to the minutes. It was agreed that a revised format for the presentation of the Council’s financial position should be adopted and used in future budget preparation. (**Action Clerk**)

**7208 Highways**

7208.1 Damaged village entrance signs/railings

See report from CBC Cllr Jamieson.

7208.2 Traffic Management/Parking Control

See report from CBC Cllr Jamieson. Nothing further to report.

7208.3 Village Walk

The Chairman asked Cllrs to confirm to him if there are any highways defects in the village that need reporting. He will then correspond with the Highways Technician who attended the village recently. (**Action All Cllrs**)

**7209 Village Matters**

7209.1 Community Christmas Event

Cllr Bhasin said that the event went very well and was well attended. A total of £1,400 was raised which was donated to the school. Cllr Bhasin suggested that another cause should be considered to support next year. The PTA are keen to participate at next years event.

7209.1.1 Storage of equipment in the Village Hall

The Clerk read out an email from the Village Hall Committee confirming that they could potentially provide some space for storage but may have to make a charge. The Chairman said that he may be able to store some equipment in his stable block.

7209.2 Burial Ground

The Chairman said that there is an area in the Recreation Ground which abuts Bryson Close that could provide an area of land for use as a burial ground which would last for a number of years.

7209.3 Recreation Club/Ground

7209.3.1 Land Registry/New Lease

The Chairman said that he will be meeting with the Recreation Club to talk about the new lease as well as the Recreation Ground.

7209.3.2 Disabled parking

Nothing to report.

7209.3.3 Recreation ground gates and fence

Nothing to report.

7209.3.4 Recreation Club entrance

Nothing to report.

7209.3.5 Recreation Ground improvements/maintenance

Nothing to report.

7209.3.5.1 CBC Improvement grant scheme

See report from CBC Cllr Jamieson.

7209.3.6 Recreation Ground play area

Nothing to report.

7209.4 Hard surface area

7209.4.1 Cherry Trees removal/block paving

The trees have been removed. A quote to be obtained to put down block paving. (**Action Cllr Ellis**)

7209.4.2 Gate repair to hard surface play area

Nothing to report.

7209.4.3 Artificial Grass

Nothing to report.

* 1. Youth Facilities

The Councillor Community Grant Scheme is now open for applications. CBC Cllr Jamieson asked for details of funding required for the Youth Club. Cllr Bhasin said that the Recreation Club is happy to host the Youth Club for 13 to 17 year olds on a Thursday from 6pm to 8pm but there are issues that need to be sorted out. These include sourcing suitable people to supervise the youngsters and who are also DBS checked. CBC Cllr Jamieson said that he has a contact who may be able to advise regarding the setting up of voluntary groups and will forward their details to Cllr Bhasin. Cllr Nethersole said that she will look into the process of DBS checking. (**Action Cllr Nethersole/CBC Cllr Jamieson**)

7209.6 Village Fete – proposal

Nothing to report. Remove from the agenda.

7209.7 Website

Nothing to report.

7209.8 Parish Council Newsletter

The Chairman to review the articles for submission. (**Action Chairman)**

7209.9 Noticeboard

The Chairman proposed, seconded by Cllr Botterell to purchase a noticeboard at a cost of £2,000, agreed by all.Cllrs. The Chairman agreed to look at noticeboard options and suitable locations around the village to be considered. (**Action Chairman**)

7209.10 Netball Court surface repair/replacement

Cllr Ellis to obtain a quote. (**Action Cllr Ellis**)

7209.11 Date of January meeting - confirmation

The Parish Council agreed to hold the January meeting on Monday 13th January.

**7210 Planning**

7210.1 Planning Applications:

7210.1.1 CB/19/02643/FULL – Chestnut Lodge, Church Road – amendments to application. The Parish Council were unable to ascertain what amendments had been made to the planning application, having received no papers in the post.  The Parish Council asked the Clerk to request that CBC supply details of the amendments and that the comments date is extended until 14th January, just after the next Parish Council meeting. (**Action Clerk**)

7210.2 Other Planning Matters

There were no other planning matters.

**7211 Committees/Sub Groups/Representatives - Reports**

There were no reports.

**7212 Village Communications**

The were no communications.

**7213 General correspondence:**

There was no correspondence.

**7214 Date of next meeting: Parish Council Meeting**

**Monday 13th January 2020 at 8pm**

**Village Hall, Westoning**

The meeting closed at 10.25pm

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