

**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 20th July 2022 at 7.30pm**

**In the Village Hall, Westoning**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs A Rayment (Chairman), Cllr J Nethersole, Cllr P Ellis, Cllr E Bhasin, Cllr C Luff,

Cllr E Russell

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

Agenda published on the noticeboard and on the website

**7663 Apologies for absence** – Cllr B Rogerson, Cllr R Botterell, Cllr P Kelly, CBC Cllr J Jamieson

7663.1 Resignation/vacancy

The Clerk reported that Cllr Leftly has resigned. The Parish Council wished her well for the future. The Clerk to inform Central Beds Council of the vacancy. (**Action Clerk**)

**7664 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th May 2022 were approved. Cllr Nethersole proposed, seconded by the Chairman the approval of the minutes as a true record. All agreed by those present and the minutes were signed by the Chairman.

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th June 2022 were approved. Cllr Bhasin proposed, seconded by Cllr Russell the approval of the minutes as a true record. All agreed by those present and the minutes were signed by the Chairman.

**7665 Declaration of interests**

Cllr Rayment - finance Point 7670.2

**7666 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**7667 Chairman’s actions**

There were no Chairman’s actions.

**7668 Reports and representations**

CBC Cllr Jamieson was not present.

**7669 Public Participation**

A member of the public spoke about the deliberate damage to the rock snake. He said that he collected some of the stones that had been broken off. The resident also spoke about the planters and agreed to sponsor a planter in Sampshill Road. See Rock Snake Point 7674.5

**7670 Finance**

7670.1 Bank balances and finance report:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Account** | **£** |
| TSB Community Account | 33,697.97 |
| TSB Instant Access Account | 66,667.56 |
| **TOTAL** | 100.365.53 |

7670.2 Cllr Bhasin proposed, seconded by Cllr Nethersole the approval of the following payments, agreed by all present:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Payment Method** | **Payee** | **£** |
| 000651 | Clerk – salary | 512.14 |
| 000651 | Clerk – expenses | 42.81 |
| 000652 | HMRC – Clerk tax | 4.20 |
| 000653 | Parish Warden – village tidying | 275.00 |
| 000654 | D J Granger – play area/village Inv 022710 | 630.00 |
| 000654 | D J Granger – playing field Inv 022683 | 192.00 |
| 000654 | D J Granger – hedges/vegetation Inv 022656 | 367.20 |
| 000654 | D J Granger – play area/village Inv 022648 | 630.00 |
| 000654 | D J Granger – playing field Inv 022747 | 192.00 |
| 000655 | Npower – Electricity bill May | 69.77 |
| 000656 | Npower – Electricity bill June | 62.25 |
| 000657 | A Rayment – planters expenditure | 266.70 |
| 000658 | Neil Gates | 750.00 |
| 000659 | Barbara Osborne – payroll | 67.50 |
| 000660 | Westoning Village Hall – Inv PC0122 | 18.00 |
| 000660 | Westoning Village Hall – Inv PC0722 | 18.00 |
| 000661 | Andy Muskett Ltd – maintenance | 130.20 |
| 000662 | D J Granger – play area/village Inv 022778 | 438.00 |
| 000663 | Anglian Water – water bill | 59.96 |
|  | **TOTAL** | **4,725.73** |

7670.3 Other finance matters:

7670.3.1 Anesco Solar Farm £3,283.79

The income from the solar farm has been received.

**7671 Highways**

7671.1 Highways Issues

The Clerk to report a highways problem in Sampshill Road when the details are supplied by a resident.

7671.2 Footpath Number 7

The Clerk read out an email from the Rights of Way Officer, Michelle Flynn. The local volunteer footpath group have undertaken some work to tidy the area but there are some issues identified that need further investigation. Cllr Nethersole agreed to contact Ms Flynn to arrange a site meeting. (**Action Cllr Nethersole**)

**7672 Recreation Ground**

7672.1 Recreation Ground driveway

The Clerk said that she has received a contribution to the driveway from the Recreation Club of £3,333.00 which is less than that expected as they removed the VAT element from the figure. The Chairman to speak to the Recreation Club about this reduction.

(**Action Chairman**)

7672.2 Recreation Club Licence

The Chairman said that the lease is due for renewal in the next 12 months. The Recreation Club are happy to enter into a new licence agreement. The Solicitor’s costs will be in the region of £750 – 1,000. The Chairman to arrange for the Solicitor to attend a Parish Council meeting to answer any questions. (**Action Chairman**)

**7673 Village Matters**

7673.1 Christmas Event

The Parish Council agreed to have a cut Christmas tree every year from now on. Cllr Kelly to obtain a quote for a tree for this year. The Chairman said that he awaiting a quote for extending the fencing where the tree is to be placed. It was agreed that the event planning will involve the Parish Council as a whole with Cllr Kelly acting as Project Manager.

7673.2 Rural Match Fund Scheme application

The Clerk read out an email from Highways. The Clerk to chase this up if nothing further is received before the September meeting:

-Maintenance to Church Road footway opposite Chequers PH – this is a maintenance request and falls outside of the RMF process and therefore this has been declined. It has been passed to the maintenance team for their consideration and their comments shall be forwarded once received.

-Kerbing Church Road – there are concerns relating to deliverability owing to the narrow width of the road and this will be looked at in more detail and discussed with the Conservation Officer owing to the designated status of the road.

7673.4 Flower Planters

Four planters have been planted up and put in place and six are still outstanding. Cllr Russell said that a resident would like to adopt the planter near to the Bell PH. The Parish Council to consider design, size, material and shape of the commemorative plaques. Cllr Nethersole said that 6 of the Jubilee discs have unfortunately disappeared but there are 6 left. The Parish Council agreed for them to be placed on the planters.

Cllr Ellis confirmed that he obtained a quote for Mr Frith to maintain the planters of £20 per visit for 8 planters. The Parish Council resolved to accept the cost. Cllr Ellis agreed to draw up a proposal of responsibilities. (**Action Cllr Ellis**)

7673.5 Rock Snake

The Chairman thanked the resident for collecting up the stones that had been broken off and said that the Parish Council will need to decide what to do about the damage to the rock snake at the next meeting in September. Cllr Nethersole said that it is likely that the same vandalism will occur if it is repaired and the issue should be raised in the next edition of Westoning On Sunday.

7673.6 Grass Cutting

The Parish Council suggested that a review of the grass cutting schedule should take place as it seems there are too many cuts taking place particularly as the grass has been unlikely to grow very much with the recent very dry spell of weather. The Clerk to ascertain how many cuts take place during the cutting season. (**Action Clerk**)

7673.7 Flag Pole

The Parish Council discussed putting up a flag pole during the remainder of the year when the Christmas tree is not in place. The maximum height should be 8m above ground level and made of tubular steel and placed in a hole of 750mm with 4 restraint points. The Clerk to ask the insurance company whether there are any considerations the Parish Council should be aware of and what cover the Parish Council has on the insurance policy.

(**Action Clerk**)

**7674 Play Area**

Cllr Ellis said that there was a lot of glass in the play area and someone tried to set a fire in the area. The matting under the swings has come apart and needs repairing and he will obtain a quote from Wicksteeds. (**Action Cllr Ellis**)

7674.1 Picnic Bench x 2

The Chairman to order the benches. Cllr Kelly to assemble them.

(**Action Chairman/Cllr Kelly**)

7674.2 Area under gate replacement

Cllr Ellis to obtain a quote.

**7675 Planning**

7675.1 Planning Applications:

7675.1.1 CB/22/02393/FULL - 8 Campion Road - single storey front extension

The Parish Council has no objection to the application.

7675.2 Other Planning Matters:

7675.2.1 Solar Farm

Nothing to report.

7675.2.2 Land Off Flitwick Road

Nothing to report.

7675.2.3 West View Farm, Park Road

Nothing to report.

**7676 Committees/Sub Groups/Representatives/Reports**

Cllr Ellis said that the Village Charity has suggested that all village organisations meet to discuss

those in the village that need help.

**7677 General correspondence:**

There was no correspondence.

**7678 Date of next meeting: Parish Council Meeting (no August meeting)**

**Wednesday 5th September at 7.30pm**

**In the Village Hall**

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

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