

**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 8th September at 7.30pm**

**In the Village Hall, Westoning**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs A Rayment (Chairman), E Bhasin, P Ellis, P Kelly, E Leftly

J Nethersole, B Rogerson

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

Agenda published on the noticeboard and on the website

**7500 Apologies for absence** – Cllr B Rogerson, Cllr E Leftly, Cllr P Kelly

**7501 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th July 2021 were approved. Cllr Bhasin proposed, seconded by Cllr Nethersole the approval of the minutes as a true record. All agreed by those present and the minutes signed by the Chairman.

**7502 Declaration of interests**

Cllr Nethersole – finance Point 7507.2

**7503 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**7504 Chairman’s actions**

There were no Chairman’s actions.

**7505 Reports and representations**

7505.1 Central Beds Councillor J Jamieson

CBC Cllr Jamieson was not present. The Clerk read out some information from CBC Cllr Jamieson:

* Yellow road lines - the proposed layouts for the various yellow lines requested in the village have been provided including the potential 20mph zones. CBC Cllr Jamieson asked whether the Parish Council is happy with these layouts as CBC will then start the process of consultation.
* Traffic safety - CBC will be carrying out a review of traffic/safety potential schemes on the A5120 and will consider the speed limit on the road to Tingrith as part of the review.
* 5G Mast - CBC Cllr Jamieson said that he believes the proposed location of the mast is in the wrong place and there would be better places for example in the park by the railway line or where the old football changing rooms were. He will be guided by the Parish Council. The planning submission is not an 'application' for planning permission but a telecoms operator has applied to CBC to confirm whether Prior Approval is required and given for the proposed telecommunications mast works. If prior approval is given, the works could then be carried out under Permitted Development Rights set out by central government.
* Local Plan/Cycle Path – previous discussions were held for a proper cycle/footpath from Flitwick/Westoning/Harlington/Toddington as part of the developments from the local plan. CBC Cllr Jamieson asked if the Parish Council is still supportive of this as he is keen to push this ahead. The Parish Council agreed to support it with the comment that the cycle path to Flitwick is the more important one.
* Highways issues in Westoning – CBC Cllr Jamieson is awaiting a list of reference numbers. The Clerk said that she has forwarded the details.
* Community Asset Grants – unfortunately the recreation club was not successful in its bid.

**7506 Public Participation**

The Clerk said that the Parish Warden has requested two new litter bins to be placed in the play area. The current bins do not have lids and are open to the rain. They cannot be filled with a bin liner and the rubbish has to be picked out by hand. The Clerk was asked to obtain a quote for new litter bins. (**Action Clerk**)

**7507 Finance**

7507.1 Bank balances and finance report:

The Clerk supplied a finance report prior to the meeting.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **£** |
| TSB Community Account | 33,698.61 |
| TSB Instant Access Account | 66,501.40 |
| **TOTAL** | 100,200.01 |

7507.2 Cllr Rogerson proposed, seconded by Cllr Bhasin the approval of the following payments, agreed by all present:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Cheque Number** | **Payee** | **£** |
| 000494 | Clerk – salary | 492.93 |
| 000494 | Clerk – expenses | 34.65 |
| 000495 | HMRC – Clerk tax August | 2.40 |
| 000496 | Parish Warden – village tidying | 275.00 |
| 000497 | D J Granger – inv 021820 – village | 604.54 |
| 000497 | D J Granger – inv 021847 – playing field | 189.60 |
| 000497 | D J Granger – inv 021883 – hedges and shrubs | 355.20 |
| 000497 | D J Granger – inv 021870 – village, playing field | 604.54 |
| 000497 | D J Granger – inv 021893 – playing field | 189.60 |
| 000497 | D J Granger – inv 021601 – village and playing field | 604.54 |
| 000498 | E.on – electricity bill | 51.25 |
| 000499 | Westoning Village Hall – hall hire | 18.00 |
| 000500 | Mazars – external audit | 360.00 |
| 000501 | J Nethersole – reimburse General Maintenance Person | 150.00 |
| 000501 | J Nethersole – purchase of dog bags | 21.33 |
| 000502 | Westoning Village Hall – funding towards upgrading electricity supply | 2,500.00 |
|  | TOTAL | 6,453.58 |
|  | Payments made in August 2021 (no meeting) |  |
| 000487 | Clerk – salary | 492.93 |
| 000487 | Clerk – expenses | 34.65 |
| 000488 | HMRC – Clerk tax June | 2.40 |
| 000489 | Parish Warden – village tidying | 275.00 |
| 000490 | D J Granger – play field Inv 021767 | 604.54 |
| 000490 | D J Granger – play field Inv 021745 | 189.60 |
| 000490 | D J Granger – play field Inv 021706 | 604.54 |
| 000490 | D J Granger – play field, village Inv 021782 | 189.60 |
| 000490 | D J Granger – village, playing field Inv 021601 | 604.54 |
| 000491 | J Nethersole – reimburse village maint work | 35.00 |
| 000492 | Wicksteed – inspection | 72.00 |
| 000493 | Anglian Water – water bill | 39.42 |
|  | TOTAL | 3,144.22 |

7507.3 Other finance matters:

7507.3.1 VAT

The Clerk said that the VAT refund of 14,263.51 has now been received.

7507.3.2 Audit completion

The Clerk confirmed that the external audit has been completed and no issues were identified. The Clerk to place the completion certificate on the website. (**Action Clerk**)

7507.3.3 Review of 2021/22 budget

To be reviewed at the next meeting.

**7508 Highways**

7508.1 Highways Issues reported to CBC - update

The Clerk confirmed that all faults identified on the village walk have been reported to CBC and Grand Union Housing. More specific information is required to report the telecoms cabinets damage as these have to be reported by telephone direct to BT. Cllr Nethersole to confirm the damage information to the Clerk.

The Clerk was asked to report the Westoning Village sign on the A5120 coming from the M1 as it is bent and needs repairing. (**Action Clerk**)

7508.2 Traffic Management/Parking Control/Traffic Calming top of Church Road

See report CBC Cllr Jamieson. The Parish Council discussed the proposals for the yellow lines and 20mph zones circulated by CBC Cllr Jamieson and agreed to support the proposals. The Chairman agreed to respond with the Parish Councils views.

(**Action Chairman**)

* 1. C107 – formal request for 40mph limit on grounds of traffic and road safety

See report CBC Cllr Jamieson. CBC will include the C107 as part of their review of traffic/safety potential schemes on the A5120.

**7509 Recreation Ground**

7509.1 Storage compound for Westoning Football Club

Nothing to report. Remove from the agenda.

**7510 Village Matters**

7510.1 Flower Planters

Cllrs Nethersole said that a resident has put together one planter and is happy to do the rest. It was suggested that they could be planted out as rockeries which will not need much watering.

7510.2 Rock Snake

The stones have not yet been put in place on the wall and this will be done shortly.

7510.3 Littercam

Nothing to report.

7510.4 Christmas Event

Cllr Bhasin said that she has been doing some research and believes that purchasing an artificial tree would be more beneficial. She suggested purchasing a fairy bell flagpole tree which comes in different heights. The Parish Council resolved to order a fairy bell tree of 8m with 4000 warm white lights at a cost of around £1,000. To be ordered in October.

Cllrs agreed to hold the Christmas event on Sunday 28th November. Actual events to be confirmed by the Christmas Committee in October. Cllr Nethersole offered to supply the prizes for the Westlights competition.

7510.5 Flagpole

Take off the agenda until January 2022.

7510.6 Tree for the Platinum Jubilee

The Parish Council agreed that they would like to purchase an Oak Tree to be planted on the village green at a cost of £1,340, details circulated by Cllr Botterell. The Clerk was asked to find out the best time of the year for delivery and planting. (**Action Clerk**)

7510.7 Dogs on Recreation Ground

Nothing to report. Remove from the agenda.

7510.8 Festival of Britain sign

The Parish Council resolved to accept the quote from Signs of the Times of £750 to refurbish the sign. The Chairman said that it will be ready shortly.

**7511 Play Area**

7511.1 Play Area Inspection

The play area inspection was noted. There were no urgent repairs required.

7511.2 Picnic Bench

Cllrs spoke about putting a picnic bench in the play area. Cllr Kelly to provide contact details for the Clerk to obtain a quote. (**Action Clerk**)

7511.3 Litter Bins

The Clerk to obtain a quote for two new litter bins. See public participation.

(**Action Clerk**)

**7512 Planning**

7512.1 Planning Applications:

7512.1.1 CB/21/03769/TDM – Land at Greenfield Road – proposed 20.0m phase 8 monopole C/W wrapround cabinet at base and associated ancillary works

The Parish Council object to the location on land at Greenfield Road and would suggest that the mast and cabinets are sited either on the Recreation Ground or on the grassed area at the end of Newlands Road. The Chairman said that he would speak to the Recreation Club before commenting to CBC.

7512.1.2 CB/TRE/21/00420 – 3 Manor Gardens - Works to trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order MB/67/00005/W2: Raise Oak Trees (T1, T2, T5, T6, T8, T9), raise and shorten Maple Tree (T3), shorten Ash Tree (T4) over neighbours garden and reduce top and sides of Conifer Trees (T7)

The Parish Council has no objection to the application.

7512.1.3 CB/21/03511/FULL - Tythe Barn, Wood End, Tingrith - raising the rear section of the roof. The Parish Council has no objection to the application.

7512.1.4 CB/21/03839/FULL - 9 Lovett Green, Sharpenhoe - erect front porch

The Parish Council has no objection to the application.

7512.1.5 CB/21/03409/FULL – 8 Manor Gardens – erect a shed and a garden greenhouse to rear of property. The Parish Council has no objection to the application.

7512.1.6 CB/21/03950/FULL – 23 Sampshill Road – demolition of existing garage. Erection of single storey side/rear extension and single storey front extensions. The Parish Council has no objection to the application and comment that adequate parking needs to be preserved within the curtilage.

7512.2 Other Planning Matters:

7512.2.1 Samphill Solar Farm

Nothing to report.

7512.2.2 CB/20/02054/FULL – Chestnuts Caravan Park, Steppingley Road, Tingrith – siting of 4 additional caravan plots

The Parish Council submitted the following comments after the July meeting:

The Parish Council has no objection to the application but would request that the following conditions be attached to any approval:

* That the construction of all hardstanding, amenity buildings, landscaping and day rooms should conform to the design guidance contained in the DCLG 2008 publication - Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites - Good Practice Guide;
* That all restrictions and conditions of the existing planning consent for the front area of the Chestnuts Caravan Park are fully complied with, implemented before construction commences and adhered to ongoing;
* That the total number of standings for mobile caravans on the proposed development be limited to 4 as the current proposal would result in 15 standings for mobile caravans on the existing site and proposed development sites;
* That the additional 4 pitches be limited to use by Mr Slender’s family members and that no general rights of occupation to others should be permitted;
* That a landscaping plan be agreed with the LPA to strengthen the boundaries of the site and implemented before any further construction work commences;
* That all temporary and permanent structures erected on the site should be agreed with the LPA before they are erected or constructed and that all such structures are sympathetic with the rural location in style, size, material and colour;
* That an enclosure be constructed within the site to house the commercial refuse bins currently located on the access road to the site;
* That the access road be kept clear of all obstructions at all times so that vehicles may enter and leave the site without conflict;
* That adequate visibility splays be maintained at all times to allow vehicles exiting the site onto the C 107 to do so safely."

**7513 Allotments**

7513.1 Problems with deer

The Clerk reported that she had been advised that produce on the allotments is being eaten by deer and would the Parish Council allow them to be culled. The Parish Council said no to culling and suggested that the allotment holders put up their own fencing/netting to stop the deer accessing the allotment plots. The Clerk to respond to the Allotment Chairman.

7513.2 Right of way – overgrown

It was reported that a resident has agreed to trim back the right of way.

**7514 Committees/Sub Groups/Representatives - Reports**

Village Hall - Cllr Luff said that the hall open event was successful.

Church – the Church held a picnic and about 10 people attended.

**7515 General correspondence:**

There was no correspondence

**7516 Date of next meeting: Parish Council Meeting**

**Wednesday 13th October 2021 at 7.30pm**

**In the Village Hall**

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

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