

**Weston under Wetherley Parish Council**  
Ordinary Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2013  
Weston under Wetherley Village Hall 7 pm

Present: Cllr Miss B Roberts(Chairman)  
Cllr Mrs S Chambers  
Cllr Mr P Haine  
Cllr Mr A Coles  
Cllr Mrs L Mobbs  
Mrs M Norman (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

Also present: Cllr W Redford and 5 members of the public

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| <b>1</b> | <b>Apologies</b><br><br>Apologies were received from Cllr Tracey McAllan, Cllr Norman Pratt and Cllr John Hammon.  |
| <b>2</b> | <b>Declarations of interest</b><br><br>Cllr Beth Roberts and Cllr Peter Haine had written requesting a dispensation to discuss the precept. Cllrs Sue Chambers, Andy Coles and Lesley Mobbs requested dispensations at the meeting. It was resolved that all councillors be given a dispensation to discuss the precept. Cllr Beth Roberts (Chairman) also declared a personal interest in relation to items 6 and 7 of the agenda.  |
| <b>3</b> | <b>Minutes of previous meeting of the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2013 and minutes of the extraordinary meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2013.</b><br><br>The minutes of the meeting on the 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2013 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman. The minutes of the extraordinary meeting on the 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2013 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.  |
| <b>4</b> | <b>Bubbenhall Parish Council:</b><br><br>The Chairman welcomed Cllr Symes of Bubbenhall Parish Council who addressed the meeting on the Coventry and Warwickshire Community Group. Cllr Symes asked that the Parish Council endorse the objectives of the Community Group who were opposing the Gateway development. It was resolved that the Parish Council should endorse the objectives of the Community Group as specified in the attached documents.(see Appendices A and B). |
| <b>5</b> | <b>Progress reports:</b><br><br>Clerk: The clerk reported that the District Council had agreed to maintain the hedgerow  |

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|   | <p>beside the church. The County Council would shortly be jetting the gullies alongside the lay by where flooding problems occur in order to ascertain the cause of the problem. The clerk had also made a successful application to Warwickshire County Council to obtain a laptop for Parish Council use. She advised the council that they would need to consider insurance for the computer. Quotes were also provided for the litter bin to be installed in the bus shelter. The Council resolved to purchase a “Royale” litter bin at a cost of £145.00 and the clerk was asked to place the order.</p> <p>Cllr Chambers reported on the wildlife planting which had recently been completed (see Appendix C attached). She also drew the Council’s attention to the request from the Wildlife Group that residents living close to the proposed sites of the Community Orchard should be consulted to ensure that they do not see any problems with the proposal.</p> <p>HS2: Cllr Haine provided an update on the major infrastructure projects (see Appendix D attached) and suggested that the Parish Council consider hosting an open session on HS2 in order to explain the impact of the proposed route and gauge the views of residents. He also drew the Council’s attention to the suggestion that the Parish Council join with Offchurch and Cubbington in contributing to the costs of a petition for a mitigation proposal.</p> <p>Parish Plan implementation: Members were advised that the Parish Plan Steering Committee had made a successful bid to the Warwickshire Rural East Community Forum and had been awarded a grant of £2,400 to improve the entrances to the village by installing gates, planters and welcome signs.</p> <p>It was anticipated that the website would be launched by the end of the following week.</p> | MN       |
| 6 | <p><b>The Barn, 1 Sabin Drive:</b></p> <p>The Chairman, having previously declared an interest in relation to this item, withdrew from the room during the discussion and vote on this issue. It was resolved that the Parish Council grant its consent to the owners’ application to the District Council to purchase the land shown on the attached plan. Cllrs Coles and Mobbs voted against the motion.</p>  |          |
| 7 | <p><b>Community Orchard</b></p> <p>Members were advised that an arborist from “ Get Growing” had inspected the possible sites and confirmed that his organisation would supply the necessary fruit trees. A draft letter having previously been circulated (see Appendix D attached) it was resolved that the letter be sent to all residents living close to the proposed sites. The Chairman having previously declared an interest in relation to this matter, did not take part in the vote.</p>   | PH       |
| 8 | <p><b>Princethorpe Woodland Trust:</b></p> <p>Councillors were advised that the Princethorpe Woodland scheme aims to increase the woodland cover in the area north from Cubbington to Coombe Country Park. The organisers are looking for opportunities to plant small community woodlands and request that interested parties get in touch. The council agreed that the project should be publicised in the newsletter and on the website.</p>  | MN<br>BR |
| 9 | <p><b>Maintenance of open spaces:</b></p>  |          |

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|    | <p>Cllr Haine reminded the Council of the information he had received on the maintenance of the trees on Sabin Drive and Alderman Way, which indicated that the trees were being damaged by excessive pruning and strimming too close to the bark. The clerk was asked to contact Mr Joe Bell at Warwick District Council to invite him to discuss the correct maintenance of these trees.</p>  | MN |
| 10 | <p><b>Warwick District Council working party Code of Conduct:</b></p> <p>The Parish Council were invited by the District Council to submit their comments on the Code of Conduct. It was agreed to postpone consideration of this item to the next meeting.</p>   |    |
| 11 | <p><b>HS2 Action Alliance:</b></p> <p>Buckinghamshire County Council had invited the Parish Council to become an affiliate member of 51m (see Appendix E attached) which provides a visual statement of commitment to opposing HS2.</p> <p>The Council resolved to become an affiliate member of 51m and the clerk was asked to write confirming this.</p>  | MN |
| 12 | <p><b>Precept:</b></p> <p>Councillors began discussing the draft precept (attached). It was noted that costs of employing someone to empty the litter bin and water the trees needed to be added to the draft, as did a possible contribution to the costs of a petition to Parliament on HS2. Consideration also needed to be given to increasing the annual grant for the churchyard maintenance. Further discussion was deferred until the following Parish Council meeting.</p>                                 |    |
| 13 | <p><b>Finance:</b></p> <p>The clerk presented the financial report (payments and summary schedule attached) together with the budget sheet. Listed payments were authorised. The council resolved to contribute £140 towards the cost of installing a tap at the Village Hall. It was also resolved to contribute £50 towards St. Michael's Church and a budget of £59 was agreed to cover the printing costs of the flyers for advertising the public meeting with Mr Jeremy WrightMP.</p>                         |    |
| 14 | <p><b>Planning applications:</b></p> <p>Planning application W/13/1347 Meadow's End, Rugby Road, Weston: No objections were raised to this application.</p> <p>Planning application W/13/1609LB Fields Farm Farmhouse: No objections were raised to this application.</p> <p>Planning application: W/13/1468 6 Simpkins Close, Weston: The Council deferred consideration of this application to a later date as the application had not been received in time for the Council to give it proper consideration.</p> |    |
| 15 | <p><b>Standing Orders:</b></p> <p>After discussion it was decided to defer further consideration of the Standing Orders until the next Parish Council meeting.</p>  |    |

**16 Business from members of the public:**

There was no business from members of the public.

**17 Councillors' reports and items for future agenda:**

Concerns had been raised by residents about dog fouling in the village. Following the most recent traffic collision incident, there had also been a request to consider further traffic calming measures in the village. Members were advised that the flashing signs were due to be installed in January 2014.

**18 Correspondence not noted in other items:**

- i) Warwickshire Rural East Community Forum – forthcoming events
- ii) Planning application W/13/1347 Meadows End
- iii) WALC update
- iv) WALC: Warwick Area meeting 11<sup>th</sup> December 2013
- v) Coventry & Warwickshire Gateway Community Group: Statement of Case
- vi) Warwickshire Minerals Plan update
- vii) Local Plan Consultation Document
- viii) Warwick District Council – Councillors' Code of Conduct; request for comments
- ix) Planning application W/13/1609LB Fields Farm Farmhouse
- x) Planning application W/13/1468 6 Simpkins Close

**Available for inspection at the meeting:**

- i) CGD Contractors – information from ground maintenance company
- ii) Central Warwickshire Villages Leader (Garden Organic) – request for feedback
- iii) Warwick District Council – Agenda for meeting 4<sup>th</sup> December 2013
- iv) Warwick District Council – Minutes of meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2013

**19 Signing of cheques and payment list:**

The Chairman and Cllr Chambers were authorised to sign the cheques and other supporting documentation.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

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