

Weston under Wetherley Parish Council

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 10th April 2013
Weston under Wetherley Village Hall 7 pm

Present: Cllr Miss B Roberts(Chairman)

Cllr Mrs S Chambers

Cllr Mr P Haine

Cllr Mrs T McAllan

Cllr A Coles

Cllr L Mobbs

Mrs M Norman (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

Also present: Cllr M Kinson, Cllr M Doody, Cllr N Pratt, Cllr J Hammon and 5 members of the public

	The meeting began at 7.15 pm and the Chairman welcomed Cllr Kinson to the meeting.	
1	Apologies No apologies were received	
2	Declaration of interests There were no declarations of interest.	
3	Minutes of previous meeting 27th February 2013 There was some discussion on the wording of the minutes. Cllr Mobbs said that she had been invited by the Chairman to provide a resume of the statement she had made on public participation at the meeting of 5 th December and she would like it recorded in the minutes that she had done so. This was agreed to. Cllr Coles noted that the statement “the minutes of the previous meeting of the 24 th January were unanimously agreed” was inaccurate as he had abstained from expressing an opinion. Cllr Coles also requested that it should be noted that all councillors are now signatories on the bank mandate and that it should be made explicit that three grit bins are to be installed in the village. He also stated that where the minutes made reference to his reservations about MHP, they should state that these reservations only applied if MHP were the website designers he had in mind. Having subsequently discovered that they are not, he would like this reflected in the minutes. All amendments were agreed to and the minutes have been amended accordingly.	
4	Matters Arising a) Bank Mandate: Cllrs Haine and Chambers confirmed that they had satisfied HSBC with proof of their identity and were now authorised to sign cheques. Cllr McAllan intended to do the same as soon as possible.	

	<p>b) Standing Orders: Since NALC were in the process of updating their model standing orders, it was agreed that the Council would defer consideration on this topic until such time as the draft model was available.</p> <p>c) Grit bins: Cllr Haine reported that all sites chosen for the location of the grit bins had been approved, namely St. Michael's Close; the junction of Sabin Drive and Alderman Way and the Village Hall. After discussion the Council resolved to purchase three grit bins from Aspli at a cost of £89.24 each inclusive of VAT together with three shovels. Cllr Chambers kindly agreed to store the bins at her house until they were collected, filled and placed in the agreed locations by WDC.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to appraise the Council of WALC's recommended safety procedures in regard to gritting procedures.</p> <p>d) Village website: Cllr Haine reported that the Parish Plan Steering Committee were making good progress with their plans for the village website and that they recognised the need to involve the Parish Council and other interested community groups. He would be asking for feedback from relevant parties later on, pending a full design report.</p>	MN
5	<p>Finance sheet and bank mandate</p> <p>The clerk presented the financial report (payments and summary schedule attached). Listed payments were authorised and Cllrs Roberts and Chambers were authorised to sign the cheques accordingly.</p> <p>Cllr Coles requested that the Clerk investigate whether the insurance claim submitted for the vandalising of the bus shelter had been paid.</p>	MN
6	<p>Jubilee Bench</p> <p>It was resolved that following approval from the District Council the bench should be sited on the playing field amongst a small copse of trees, both designated as in commemoration of Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee. Due to concerns raised about the suitability of the bench donated by a resident it was proposed that a decision should be deferred until such time as the bench had been assessed for safety by Warwick District Council. This proposal was carried by four votes in favour, and Cllrs Coles and Mobbs opposing.</p> <p>Copse: There was some discussion about the variety of trees to be planted, funds permitting. Cllr Kinson suggested that advice be obtained from Mr Tony Hemmings of Warwickshire County Council on this point. Cllr Haine agreed to approach Mr Hemmings.</p>	
7	<p>Village walk through</p> <p>The Chairman proposed that the Council should undertake a village walk to assess hedgerows, grass cutting areas and formulate an action plan of what work they would like to be undertaken. Cllr Coles reminded the council that a new team of contractors had been appointed by the County Council and there would in consequence be a new maintenance schedule. All councillors were in favour of the walk through and it was agreed that a date</p>	PH

	would be arranged.	
8	<p>Offchurch Playing Field</p> <p>The Chairman requested that an update be given on the Parish Council's position in regard to Offchurch playing field. The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had prepared a briefing note for the solicitors they subsequently appointed to deal with the matter. This stated that following Weston's departure from the Joint Parish Council, the Parish Council wished to protect any financial interests in the event of the playing field being sold for profit at a future date. A unilateral notice has been placed on the Land Registry.</p> <p>Cllr Coles requested that all information relating to Offchurch playing field be forwarded to all councillors for an informed discussion to take place later. This was agreed to.</p>	MN
9	<p>Street Lamp contribution:</p> <p>The Chairman referred to the letter from Warwick District Council discussed in the previous meeting, requesting a contribution from the Parish Council towards street lighting. After further discussion it was resolved that as the precept had been set before the contribution request was made, Weston PC would not contribute as requested. The resolution was carried with five votes in favour and one abstention.</p>	MN
10	<p>Parish Plan</p> <p>Mr Stephen Evans gave a report on the Parish Plan Steering Committee (see Appendix A attached) and was thanked by the Chairman. Cllr Haine said that the Committee aimed to publish its final plan by the end of May.</p>	MN
11	<p>Planning applications</p> <p>No planning applications had been received.</p>	
12	<p>Litter Bin</p> <p>Cllr McAllan reported that a resident had requested that a litter bin should be placed outside the Village Hall. Cllr Mobbs said that more litter bins should be in place shortly, two on Sabin Drive and one in St. Michael's Close. Cllr Coles stated that he understood the new bins would be to accommodate dog waste as well as litter. The Clerk was asked to contact Mr Martyn Stacey to verify this.</p> <p>Cllrs Doody and Pratt left the meeting at 8.15. Cllr Doody told the Council that this would be the last meeting he attended as he was standing down as Councillor on the County Council. The Chairman thanked him for the help and support he had given Weston PC over the years.</p>	MN
13	<p>HS2 and Community Benefit Meeting</p> <p>Cllr Haine referred to the email he had circulated to all Councillors concerning HS2 and the Community Benefit Projects (see Appendix B attached). He added that if HS2 did go ahead, potential grants were available to obtain some form of community benefit. He proposed liaising with Cublington Parish Council in order to explore avenues of mutual benefit.</p>	PH

14	<p>Village emergency plan</p> <p>The Clerk having previously circulated copies of the emergency plan to councillors, the Chairman reminded the Council that the plan was in need of updating. Cllr Mobbs said that a new format had been devised which she would forward to the Clerk. The Clerk agreed to update the plan and forward it to all councillors.</p> <p>Clerk's contract</p>	LM MN
15	<p>Following changes by HMRC to real time PAYE which could oblige the Council to pay National Insurance Contributions, the Chairman proposed that the Clerk should now be paid for 35 hours per month at £10.20 per hour. This sum would be paid monthly by standing order. The resolution was carried with four votes in favour and two abstentions.</p> <p>Business from members of the public</p>	
16	<p>There was no business from members of the public.</p>	
17	<p>Correspondence not noted in other items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Rural footways: street lighting contribution WDC ii) NALC: invitation to Conference iii) Planning Service Peer Review iv) WALC: Sharing news website proposal v) Recycling information vi) WALC: Precept Referendum Bill vii) Cllr Haine: Jubilee Copse Document viii) WALC newsletter ADH/105/8 ix) Emergency Plan x) WALC: Neighbourhood Development Plan invitation <p>Cllr Kinson said that he was glad to have finally been able to come to Weston's Parish Council meeting, the last of his annual visits to Parish Councils. The Chairman thanked him for his attendance.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 8.30 pm</p>	

