

Weston Under Wetherley Parish Council

Minutes of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held at 8:15pm,
14th May 2019, at the Village Hall, Weston Under Wetherley

Present:

Councillor Carolyn Bloom

Councillor Mandie Bradshaw

Councillor Nick Harrington (Chairman)

Councillor Andy Smith (Vice Chairman)

Councillor Rachel Tighe

Councillor Danielle Williams

In Attendance:

Clerk & RFO

Warwickshire County Council:

Warwick District Council:

Jane Chatterton

Councillor Wallace Redford

Councillor Valerie Leigh-Hunt

Public: 15

1. Introduction from your new parish council councillors

Nick Harrington

My name is Nick Harrington an active Parish Councillor working closely with WDC and WCC. I moved to Weston in 1998. I am a member of the Village Hall Committee and often help out with the pop-up pub and other community events. I am organising the village fate this year, Saturday 6th July.

Earlier this evening the Parish Council held its Annual Parish Council meeting and I was elected as Chairman and Councillor Andy Smith was elected as Vice Chairman.

Carolyn Bloom

My name is Carolyn Bloom and I have lived in the village since 2017. I teach in a school for disadvantaged pupils, where my skills include being able to listen and empathise with a wide spectrum of people. I have also started a popular book club. I am eager to generate new ideas.

Mandie Bradshaw

My name is Mandie Bradshaw. I have lived in Weston for over 5 years. I am married, have two young children and work as a teacher. I grew up in Leamington and ran the toddler group for 4 years. I was part of the Weston Events Committee and assisted with organising the Scarecrow Festival.

Andy Smith

My name is Andy Smith and I am an electrician by trade also providing bespoke kitchen design and installation. I have always helped out at the village fate and the pop-up pub. My partner and I moved to Weston 4 years ago. I grew up in Cubbington.

Rachel Tighe

My name is Rachel Tighe. I have lived in the same house in St Michael's Close since I was born almost 50 years ago. I live with my daughter who has just turned 24 and 3 Dalmatians. I want to bring the community spirit back to Weston.

Danielle Williams

My name is Danielle Williams, my husband and I have lived in Weston for the past 4 years. Previously I lived in Cubbington. I am a designer at Jaguar Land Rover. I enjoy country walks with my dog Bella around Weston and the surrounding areas.

4. Minutes of the APM from April 2018

Minutes of the APM from April 2017

The minutes of the APM from April 2018 and April 2017 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. Representative on behalf of the Weston Village Hall Trust

Martin spoke on behalf of the Village Hall Trust.

I am the Chairman of the Village Hall Trust. We meet 3-4 times per year. Last night we held the AGM and we have a full and happy committee.

The Village Hall is sustainable and breaks even, we have paid employees and voluntary staff. The Village Hall is popular with bookings. We are priced in the market and keep prices competitive. The Village Hall was built 20 years ago and is in great condition.

Jenny Arnold congratulated Martin maintaining a great amenity for the village.

6. Representative on behalf of St. Michael's Church

Councillor Harrington read out a report prepared by Stephen Evans.

We are now part of the Offchurch Group including St Margaret's Hunningham and St John's Wappenbury, with the Rev. Hugh Priestner living in Hunningham

During the year we have held four weddings, two funerals and two burials of ashes.

The Churchyard has been well maintained with 13 mowings, costing £812.50 including VAT.

More wildflowers and bulbs were planted by the Conservation Group.

We currently have a major problem to replace the gas fired boilers which failed last winter, and which are costing £9,000 to replace. We are seeking a 50-50 grant from various charities.

Parish Councillors will be well aware that this building is untenable during the winter weather for a church service or a PPC meeting! It is proving a useful venue for the Weston Choir to practice.

We had another major problem this April to repair the tiled roof adjacent to the Tower which also brought down the ceiling plaster underneath. Both areas required scaffolding.

Keeping up our beautiful Grade 1 Listed Building is a constant struggle.

Anyone interested in becoming a Friend to St Michaels should contact Councillor Harrington via Facebook who would pass on details to Stephen Evens of TOG.

7. Annual Report of the Parish Council, including financial update

Councillor Harrington reported that major Parish Council projects continued to be reporting of lamppost that were not working, stop-cock repairs, pothole repairs, playing area refresh, forestry updates including attention to the Lime Trees and removal or rotten branches.

The Balances on the bank statements as at

£

31st March 2019:

Account 1 Current account

£11,135.15

Account 2 Savings account

£8,938.36

Total balances

£20,073.51

The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book (receipts and payments account) for the year, as follows:

CASH BOOK

Opening Balance 1st April 2018

Account 1

£9,691.67

Account 2

£8,925.40

Total

£18,617.07

Receipts up to 31st March 2019

£9,129.96

Expenditure Payments up to 31st March 2019

(£7,673.52)

Closing balance per cash book as at 31st March 2019

£20,073.51

Budget and Precept Request for 2019 20

Budget was agreed at

£10,850.00

Precept request agreed at

£10,900.00

The Tax Base for 2019/20 set by WDC was

£186.86

This gave the Band D figure of

£58.33

Compared to the Band D figure for 2018/19 of

£48.29

8. Annual Report by Cubbington Ward Warwickshire County Cllr. Wallace Redford

The Warwickshire East Community Forum meeting takes place on 19th June. Applications for grants should be submitted by 22nd May.

Cycleway and HS2

Work had continued in an attempt to install the cycleway from Weston to Cubbington. Meetings had taken place with parish councillors and Belfour Beatty, who had confirmed the project could be a possibility if the parish council could obtain the landowners agreement in principal. Unless this was given the parish council could not submit an application to the HS2 Community Fund. Despite the best effects this had not been granted.

Hedges

Some footpath repairs were outstanding but were being chased.

HS2 Bulletin

Drop in Sessions would take place:

Stoneleigh village hall	15 th May	3pm to 5pm
Weston village hall	15 th May	6pm to 8pm
The Kenilworth Centre	21 st May	6pm to 8pm
Ufton village hall	30 th May	6pm to 8pm
Leamington Spa Town Hall	6 th June	10am to 6pm

WCC Precept Increase

WCC had increased the precept by 3%, the Government had given County Councils opportunity to increase the precept by another 2% to pay towards Adult Social Care, therefore the precept would increase by 5%.

Adult Social Care costs would rise to £7m and children's social care to £6.4%.

Road Traffic Collision – Rugby Road, Weston-under-Wetherley – 12th February 2019

WCC had agreed to install road warning signage.

9. Warwick District Councillor – Councillor Valerie Leigh-Hunt

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Leigh-Hunt to her first Parish Council meeting and congratulated her on her appointment.

Her contact details would be available on the WDC website soon. Any issues then please contact her.

10. Open Forum

Cllr. Nick Harrington thanked Councillors Wallace Redford, Pam Redford, Jeff Arnold, Jenny Arnold and John Hammon on their work carried out for the Parish Council. He said that the parish council was lucky that they had all stepped in to fill the gap.

Jeff Arnold

Jeff also thanked the previous parish council and also Jane Chatterton, for her good work as Clerk.

Jeff and Jenny thanked everyone who had voted for them and wished the new parish council every success.

Jeff would be working with Councillor Bloom on the plaque on the Reformatory.

Lesley Mobbs

Requested the mowing schedule. It was confirmed that this had been repeatedly asked for from WDC but they had confirmed that they carry out mowing in accordance to need not to a schedule.

Mowing would be monitored.

Footpaths

Issue raised with the condition of footpaths and schedule for resurfacing. Also the overgrowth spilling over the footpath causing it to narrow.

Councillor Redford confirmed that when he gets notification that pedestrians cannot access safely; he requests work is carried out as this is a safety issue.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and invited everyone to chat to their new councillors over refreshments.

Meeting closed at 9:15pm

DRAFT