

WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 9 February 2016 in Weston Village Hall at 7.30pm

PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs H Hart (Chair), Councillor D Tams, Councillor R Norman, Councillor J Griffiths, Councillor A Hopkin, Parish Clerk Mrs A Kingston

2 members of the public

APOLOGIES: Councillor C Gilbert, Councillor Mrs. A Martin, Councillor C Critchlow (Chairman), Councillor L Bloomer

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 12 JANUARY 2016 – MINUTES

1191. RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) Meeting held on Tuesday 12th January 2016 be confirmed and signed by the Chair as proposed and seconded by Parish Councillors Norman and Hopkin.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1192. Councillor Norman declared an interest in item 1215.

UPDATE ON PARISH PLAN

1193. An update on the progress of action 2.1 in the Parish Plan was provided. The latest version of the plan including progress against actions can be obtained from the Parish Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

1194. The Clerk informed councillors of the release of the 2016 edition of the Good Councillors Guide, and agreed to circulate an electronic version.

1195. Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association are hosting a free Audit Information Session delivered by Grant Thornton. **RESOLVED** – Clerk to attend.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1196. Members of the Neighbourhood Watch provided the meeting with details of a future update on the OWL system which will be able to provide updates in real time. Local community Police Officers will also be able to access updates electronically enabling more time to be spent in local communities. The implementation of this upgrade is expected in the latter half of 2016.

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

1197. Councillor L Bloomer was not in attendance to provide a report, had contacted the PC prior to the meeting to confirm that the work to clear the blocked gullies on the A518 had been completed.

REPORT FROM STAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

1198. Councillor Mrs F Beatty was not in attendance to provide a report.

REPORT FROM VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

1199. The Village Hall Management Committee representative was not in attendance to provide a report. The PC noted that the Village Hall Management Committee AGM will be held on the 26th April and that the next committee meeting will be on the 7th March. The VHMC are planning a number of events including the Beer Festival and the Village Fete. **RESOLVED** – Clerk to invite the Secretary of the Village Hall Management Committee to the next Parish Council meeting.

DEVELOPMENTS

1200. Planning application reference 16/23566/PAR Land between Barkers Lane and Moor Lane Gayton. Whilst the Parish Council have no objections in principle to this dwelling, they would like consideration to be given to the following points

- The access lane is on a sharp bend and there are regular near misses between vehicles on this tight bend at present. This development should not worsen the situation.
- The house will be in a field, in a rural area that has not previously been lit. Any external lighting should not cause light pollution.

TREES AND CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

- 1201.** Emergency repair work to make safe the slide on the children's play area on the Green in Weston is in progress. The slide will remain closed until the work is 100% complete. Completion is expected in the near future.
- 1202.** An application for funding has been submitted to replace the slide. The Parish Council thanked the Clerk for the work that went into the application. The outcome is expected before the end of February.
- 1203.** A discussion was held regarding the scaffolding on the MUGA that had in the past been used to hold catch netting. **RESOLVED** – Councillor Hart to contact Weston Ground Maintenance to arrange removal and storage at the Village Hall.
- 1204.** A discussion was held regarding football posts on the Village Green in front of the Woolpack pub. **RESOLVED** – To remove the posts and store at the Village Hall for a period of one month to see if the owner comes forward to claim them. If not claimed within this timeframe they will be disposed of.

MATTERS FOR ACTION BY STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

- 1205.** The gullies on the A518 in front of the Church have been cleared. Work to repair the public footpath running from Ferrers Road (directly opposite St Andrews School, Weston) and out onto the Village Green, running into 'The Green' (ST18 0JH), (known as No. 8 Weston on Trent Parish), has also been completed.

CIVIC AMENITY VISITS

- 1206.** Dates the Parish Council would like to request for the Civic Amenity visits for 2016/17 were agreed and will be submitted Stafford Borough Council. Once confirmed these will be posted on the notice boards on Weston and Gayton.

HISTORIC DVD OF WESTON

- 1207.** A discussion was held regarding the DVD, and the level of Weston content. Whilst it was felt the DVD provided fascinating historical insight, there was not as much time dedicated to Weston and the surrounding area as previously thought.

FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

- 1208.** The Clerk proposed two amendments to the Weston with Gayton Parish Council Financial Regulations.
- Item 3.1 – to be amended to £500 in line with the amendment to the Financial Thresholds agreed in item 991 at the meeting of the Parish Council on 12 May 2015. **RESOLVED** – to adopt this amendment by unanimous agreement.
 - Item 3.4 -to be amended to £500 for general expenditure in line with the amendment to the Financial Thresholds agreed as above, and to £2000 specifically relating to the safety of play equipment in the children's play area on the Village Green and the Skate Park at the rear of Weston Village Hall. **RESOLVED** – to adopt this amendment by unanimous agreement.

FINANCES

- 1209. RESOLVED** – that the PC approve the monthly statement of accounts, receipts and payments
- 1210.. RESOLVED** – that the PC approve the payments listed on the statement of accounts, receipts and payments.
- 1211.** A cheque donation was received from a local resident of £25 towards the repair of the slide in the Children's Play area. The Parish Council would like to express their gratitude. **RESOLVED** – Clerk to send a letter of thanks.

1212. A cheque donation of £250 was also received from Taylor Wimpey towards the repair costs for the slide. The Parish Council would like to express their gratitude to Taylor Wimpey in supporting the continued use of this item of play equipment.

1213. The appointment of the Internal Auditor was discussed. **RESOLVED** – Clerk to contact the Auditor contracted in 2014/15.

MEETING PLANNING FOR ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS

1214. A discussion was held regarding the planning for both the Gayton APM in March and the Weston APM in May.

CORRESPONDENCE

1215. The Parish Council received a request for funding from the Junior Section of the Saracens Head Angling Group in Weston. The Parish Council have supported the group in previous years which attracts around 20 young people from the local area. The decision to fund was proposed by the Chair and put to a vote. **RESOLVED** - by 3 votes to 1 in favour of donating £150 in the current financial year.

1216. A request for use of the Village Green was submitted by the Woolpack Pub for the 28th March 2016, 2nd May 2016, 30th May 2016 and 29th August 2016. The Parish Council agreed the use of the Village Green in the coming financial year 2016/17 would be subject to charging. **RESOLVED** – That permission for use on the requested dates be granted subject to full payment at the time of booking. Formal agreement of the Terms of Use for the Village Green including charges and conditions to be considered at the next meeting of the Parish Council on the 8th March 2016.

1217. A request has been received by the local charity the Heart of Weston for the provision of signage. **RESOLVED** – to be considered as an agenda item at the next meeting of the Parish Council on the 8th March 2016.

1218. The Clerk informed the meeting of correspondence from the Community Council of Staffordshire regarding the compiling of a list of events for 2016. **RESOLVED** – Clerk to forward correspondence to the Village Hall Management Committee.

1219. The Clerk informed the meeting of correspondence from BBC Radio Stoke regarding local community information. **RESOLVED** – Clerk to forward to Councillor Martin.

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

1220. **RESOLVED** – that the press and public be excluded under the Public Bodies (Administration to Meetings) Act 1960 in view of the confidential nature of business to be transacted.

DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

1225. The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 8th March 2016 at 7:30pm in Gayton Village Hall.

**HILARY HART
VICE CHAIR**