

# WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Gayton Annual Parish Meeting held in Gayton Village Hall on  
Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at 7pm.

**1. Welcome**

The Vice Chair of the Parish Council Councillor Mrs H Hart welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Present:** Councillor Mrs. H Hart (Vice Chair), Councillor A Hopkin, Councillor R Norman, Councillor C Gilbert, Councillor J Griffiths, Councillor D Tams, Parish Clerk Mrs A Kingston.

6 Members of the public

**3. Apologies:** Councillor C Critchlow, Councillor Mrs A Martin, Staffordshire County Councillor L Bloomer.

**4. Minutes**

**NOTED** - That the minutes of the Gayton Annual Parish Council meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> March 2015 were approved and signed by the Chair of the Parish Council as proposed and seconded by Councillor Mrs H Hart and Councillor C Gilbert.

**5. Matters Arising from the minutes of 10th March 2015**

There were no matters arising from the minutes

**6. Report of the Parish Council**

Parish Councillor Gilbert gave an overview of Parish Council activity in the past 12 months including:

**6.1** Welcoming Councillor Tams as a new Parish Councillor for Weston, following the elections in May. A vacancy in the Parish of Gayton still remains and the Parish Council would like to encourage expressions of interest from parishioners in Gayton to serve on the Council.

**6.2** The Parish Plan has been printed and distributed to every household in the Parish. Progress against the plan forms part of the Agenda for every full Parish Council meeting.

**6.3** Community Transport is remains a concern, and to date attempts to engage two of Stafford's main supermarkets Tesco and Asda in the provision of a community bus has proved unsuccessful. Once the major development of Stafford town centre is complete, it is hoped some of the new tenants may be willing to consider the provision of community transport.

**6.4** The Civic Amenity Visits have been requested for the coming year and the dates will be displayed on the notice board and in the Compass Magazine, once approved by Stafford Borough Council.

**6.5** The Council have continued to provide grass cutting at Gayton Village Hall and at the Church. Funding has been approved to continue this for the coming year.

**6.6** Flooding in the village remains a concern and the council are working with Staffordshire County Council to try and address the issue of blocked drains and gullies.

**6.7** The Parish Council have worked to improve local facilities for young people and have installed a skate park at the back of Weston Village Hall. They are also looking to replace the slide on the Village Green with a new item of play equipment.

## **7. Reports by Parish Organisations**

A report was provided by the Village Hall Management Committee. Councillor Gilbert also read out reports from the Gayton Flower Club and the Tai Chi club.

**7.1** The Village Hall has continued to benefit from the support of the regular groups and clubs who use the hall. To increase revenue they have actively promoted the Village Hall facility to secure a wider range of private bookings, and also hosted their first wedding reception last year. Events such as the Gin/whisky evenings have proved popular and they hope to build on this success in 2016. The Village Hall will also be a polling station for the PCC Election and the EU Referendum.

**7.2** Gayton Flower Club is still operating successfully with 20 names on the books and 17 paid up members. There is a waiting list for new members. Anita Wright, the clubs flower arranging expert, completed her third and final year as the NAFAS Mercia and North Wales Area Chairman. She continues as one of the Gardening Experts on Radio Stoke and opens her garden under the National Gardens Scheme on the first and last Sundays in June each year. They have held seven evenings out and had an additional evening as a craft workshop making fabric Christmas puddings.

**7.3** The Tai Chi club have between 8 and 10 members and are supported by the U3A. The group has a good core of members who attend regularly.

**7.4** The Coffee Club have also had a very successful year.

**7.5** Two Pilates classes run from the Village Hall. The Monday night class is full with a waiting list and the Tuesday night class still has a few spaces. This class only runs in term time.

**7.6** Tower restoration at the Church has been successfully completed to a high standard. The church have held a couple of fund raising events, and the Reverend Steve Abram has recently retired.

## **8. Any Other Business**

**8.1** There was no other business.

## **9. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017 in Gayton Village Hall at 7.00pm**

**HILARY HART  
VICE CHAIR**