

# WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 7.30pm in Weston Village Hall

### PRESENT:

Councillors Mr. C Critchlow (Chairman), Councillor A Hopkins, Councillor J. Griffiths, Councillor Mrs A Martin, Councillor C Gilbert, Councillor D Tams, Councillor F. Beatty and Mr. P. Rochfort

5 members of the public

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor L. Bloomer and Parish Clerk Mrs A Kingston

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2016 – MINUTES

**1255 RESOLVED** – that the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) Meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016 be confirmed and signed by the Chair as proposed and seconded by Parish Councillors Gilbert and Hopkin.

### PARISH COUNCIL EXTRAORDINARY MEETING 8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2016 – MINUTES

**1256 RESOLVED** – that the minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council (PC) Meeting held on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016 be confirmed and signed by the Chair as proposed and seconded by Parish Councillors Tams and Griffiths.

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

**1257** There were no declarations of interest

### UPDATE ON ACTION LIST

**1258** Point 2.1 on the Action List – traffic count equipment has been installed, Councillor Tams to monitor.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

**1259 Staffordshire Local Communities Fund** – Councillor Tams to write an article to be placed in the Compass magazine calling for volunteers for a Community Speed Group. This Group could then apply for funding.

**1260 Amey/Severn Trent Information Event** – Amey are to send a letter to each household in Weston detailing road works to be carried out and detailing the information event on 12<sup>th</sup> May in Weston Village Hall from 3pm to 7pm. Road works are due to begin on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2016 and last for approximately 9 weeks. Local diversions will be in place. More information can be found at [www.roadworks.org](http://www.roadworks.org).

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

**1261** A member of the public was able to supply the information detailed above on the forthcoming road works. Another member of the public informed the PC that the bus route from Weston to Stafford will be altered/diverted during the forthcoming road works and will pass the Hospital en-route to Stafford

**1262** A member of the public supplied a copy of the Bylaws for the Village Green.

**1263** There was nothing to report from the Neighbourhood Watch team.

### REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

**1264** Councillor L Bloomer was not in attendance to provide a report

### REPORT FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

**1265** Councillor Mrs F Beatty updated the PC on the Clean for the Queen campaign taking place around Staffordshire and that Parishes were being encouraged to take part.

- 1266** Councillor Mrs F Beatty updated the PC on major works across Stafford, including the replacement of Victorian era sewers and water pipes in the Baswich area; High Speed Broadband installation continues; the Highways department are continuing their road up-grades and pot-hole works; the new Town Centre car park is open; North Walls car park is still closed with an anticipated re-opening in the autumn. Discussions were ongoing with the Developers involved with the house building project in Beaconside – it was hoped that the work would be carried out as one development, including green spaces and a health practice rather than in smaller developments. Approximately 2,000 houses would be built in total.

#### **REPORT FROM VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE**

- 1267** Although unable to attend the Village Hall meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2016, Councillor Martin presented the minutes of that meeting to the PC. There were a couple of points within the minutes that were of concern to the PC and Councillor Hopkin was to contact the Village Hall Management Committee Chairman David Ulke for clarification.

#### **DEVELOPMENTS**

- 1268** There were no Applications to consider.

#### **TREES AND CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS**

- 1269** The annual inspection of the play equipment was to be carried out shortly.
- 1270** The Parish Council were pleased to announce that they had been awarded £8,000 from a recently held Community Vote by Tesco's. As yet no date has been received as to when the funds will be available. Councillors would like to express their thanks to the Parish Clerk for all her hard work in obtaining this Award.
- 1271** Councillor Martin is to liaise with the Parish Clerk regarding the 'Awards for All' scheme.
- 1272** Councillor Critchlow to contact the Highways department regarding the barriers along the grass verge adjacent the play equipment.

#### **CIVIC AMENITY VISITS**

- 1273** The dates of 18<sup>th</sup> June and 10<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and 28<sup>th</sup> January 2017 for Weston and 9<sup>th</sup> July 2016 for Gayton were confirmed and accepted.

#### **COMMUNITY PATHS INITIATIVE AND RIGHTS OF WAY**

- 1274** Mr Paul Rochfort (title) attended the meeting at the request of the Parish Council to discuss an application for funding. Mr Rochfort outlined the Council's responsibilities and also those of the land owners. The Community Pathways team were keen to encourage volunteer groups/working parties along the lines of the Rights of Way Action Group in Milwich. Mr. Rochfort confirmed that there was limited funding available to Groups for footpath improvements, kissing gates, interpretation boards. Mr. Rochfort was unable to help the Parish Council with a list of land owners within the Parish

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Gilbert (Gayton) to follow up concerns regarding Footpath 3 in Gayton with the Estate Manager for Sandon Estate and with Mr. Rochfort. **RESOLVED:** Councillor Tams (Weston) to contact Mr Rochfort regarding footpaths in Weston (particularly those near the railway lines). **RESOLVED:** Councillor Hopkin (Weston) to contact Mr ~Rochfort regarding sleepers/bridge at the rear of St. Andrew's Church.

#### **INACCURATE ROAD NAMES IN GAYTON**

- 1275** **RESOLVED:** Councillor Gilbert to write to Council regarding inaccurate road names in Gayton particularly in view of the Emergency Services having the correct information.

#### **QUEEN'S 90<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS**

- 1276** Councillor Hopkin gave details of a Children's Entertainer for the afternoon of 12<sup>th</sup> June 2016. **RESOLVED:** ~All Village organisations would be invited to consider organising an activity during the Picnic on the Green to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## **FINANCES**

- 1277 RESOLVED:** that the Parish Council approve the monthly statement of accounts, receipts and payments
- 1278 RESOLVED:** that the Parish Council approve the payments listed on the statement of accounts, receipts and payments.
- 1279 RESOLVED:** that the Parish Council accept the end of year budget update.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

- 1280 RESOLVED:** To accept the resignations of Councillors Norman and Hart. The Chairman spoke for all Councillors in wishing to express their heartfelt thanks for the work that the Councillors had undertaken during their time on the Parish Council.
- 1281 RESOLVED:** The Parish Clerk to undertake the advertising of vacancies on the Parish Council.
- 1282 RESOLVED:** A reply had been emailed to the Parishioner explaining the increase in precept.
- 1283** Councillor Gilbert had reviewed the Policy and it was his suggestion that the Parish Council did not need a Safeguarding Policy at this time. **RESOLVED:** Councillor Gilbert to reply to Stafford Borough Council.
- 1284 RESOLVED:** As agreed at Parish Council Meeting, the fee paid by the Woolpack Pub to be rolled over to the May Bank Holiday.
- 1285** Councillor Critchlow had received an email regarding Medium Term Financial Strategy. **RESOLVED:** Councillor Critchlow to email back the Parish Council's 4 main areas of concern – Pot holes, Road sweeping, Gully cleaning and Footpath repairs.

## **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC**

- 1286** The meeting was closed to the press and public under the Public Bodies (Administration to Meetings) Act 1960 in view of the confidential nature of business to be transacted. **RESOLVED:** Parish Clerk to contact SPCA with regard to a template for a pre-prepared Press Release for Councillors.

## **DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETINGS**

- 1287** The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 7.00pm in Weston Village Hall. **RESOLVED:** Parish Clerk to invite Village organisation and parishioners to attend. **RESOLVED:** Councillor Hopkin asked that the Parish Clerk ask the SPCA if there is a document that the Parish Council can use to explain the work of the Parish Council and what it does, to encourage Parishioners to get involved. A Saturday surgery was also suggested to promote the Parish Council.
- 1288** The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 7.30pm in Weston Village Hall.