

WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting that took place on Tuesday 10th October 2017 in Weston Village Hall at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Councillor Colin Critchlow (Chair), Councillor J Griffiths (Vice Chair), Councillor Mrs G Wray, Councillor K Barber, Councillor Mrs H Hart, Councillor D Leake, Councillor C Gilberts, Councillor A Hopkin, Parish Clerk Mrs A Kingston. Councillor D Tams for part of the meeting.

3 members of the public

APOLOGIES: Stafford Borough Councillor Mrs F Beatty

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 12 SEPTEMBER 2017 - MINUTES

1703.RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) Meeting held at 7:30pm on the 12 September 2017 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as proposed and seconded by Parish Councillors Hart and Leake.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1704. There were no declarations of interest.

UPDATE ON ACTION LIST

1705. Parish Plan item 1.4 – Community Transport/Bus services. Stafford Community Bus Service would be willing to provide a bus to Gayton but at a cost of £75 per journey. This is not a viable option.

1706. A full copy of the action plan, with progress updates, is available from the Parish Clerk. Please email parishclerk@westonstaffs.org.uk

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

1707. SPCA are offering a Local Councillor Training Course on Tuesday 14th November 2017. **RESOLVED** – Councillors wishing to attend the course to contact the Parish Clerk

1708 The A518 Weston Road will be closed from the A518 junction of Blackheath Lane Island to the A513 junction with Beaconside Island between the 23rd and the 29th October. A long diversion will be in place.

1709 Hixon Parish Council are offering allotment plots to residents of Weston, Gayton and Stowe-by-Chartley. The 15m x 5m plots are situated in Egg Lane, Hixon. Any residents of Weston or Gayton wishing to take up this offer should contact the Parish Clerk at parishclerk@westonstaffs.org.uk

1710 SPCA are co-hosting a free to attend briefing to review the implications of the forthcoming General Data Protection Regulation on Tuesday 21st November 2017 at 10:30am. **RESOLVED** – Clerk and Councillor Mrs H Hart to attend.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1711. The Chair of the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) informed the meeting of a recent discussion on Social Media, regarding the hire fees for the Village Hall. The next meeting of the VHMC will be held in two weeks and the committee will seek to explain the rationale behind the charging structure.

1712. A local resident raised concern regarding the condition of footpaths in Weston Parish. Footpath Weston 6 from the back of the Methodist Church and Footpath Weston 2 from the end of Boat Lane, have become overgrown with vegetation and require cutting back.

REPORT FROM STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

1713. Councillor J Francis was not in attendance to provide a report.

REPORT FROM STAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

1714. Councillor Mrs F Beatty was not in attendance to provide a report.

REPORT FROM VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

1715. The new gates should be fitted this week.

DEVELOPMENTS

1716. Planning application reference 17/27005/HOU at Bridge Cottage, Green Road, Weston. The Parish Council have no objection to this application.

TREES AND CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

1717. Signage for the Skate Park should be completed and installed in the next couple of weeks.

RIGHTS OF WAY

1718. The Community Paths Initiative funding will be used to purchase equipment to cut back vegetation on local footpaths once a suitable bank of volunteers has been recruited. Full training on the use of the equipment will be provided by Staffordshire County Council. Anyone wishing to become involved should contact the Parish Clerk at parishclerk@westonstaffs.org.uk

1719. **RESOLVED** – Parish Clerk to follow up concerns raised regarding the overgrown nature of the two footpaths identified in the public participation section.

1720. The condition of the pavement in Ferrers Road has deteriorated. **RESOLVED** – Councillor Barber to photograph and pass to the Parish Clerk to report to SCC Highways Department.

1721. The footpath surrounding the Village Green has some damage caused by tree roots. **RESOLVED** – Councillor Critchlow, Councillor Hart and Councillor Barber to assess the scale of the problem and feedback to the next meeting.

1722. The Stile between the field and track on Footpath Gayton 3 has the bottom step missing, The Bridge over Gayton Brook has the first step missing and on the Footpath at the rear of Ford House in Church Lane, the narrow footway between the properties and the brook has been eroded by animals accessing the brook, making it impassable when wet. **RESOLVED** – Clerk to report to SCC Rights of Way Officer.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

1723. A request was made for the Council to consider and approve a spend of £18 for the Remembrance Sunday wreath and a maximum spend of £30 for the purchase of biscuits for the event. **RESOLVED** – by unanimous agreement to approve both payments.

1724 The possibility of purchasing poppies to attach to lampposts in the village was discussed. It was agreed not to go ahead with the purchase of any poppies for lampposts.

FLAGPOLE – this item was moved to the end of the Agenda

WESTON CAMPAIGN AGAINST DOG FOULING

1725 Councillor Hart attended the launch of the Stafford Borough Council litter campaign in Market Square on the 26th September representing the Weston Dog Poo Campaign. 5 more Parishes have now launched similar campaigns following the Weston model. Councillor Hart provided an overview of the Stafford Borough Council litter campaign, details of which can be found at <http://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/news-articles/campaign-launch-is-a-pile-of-rubbish1>

1726 The Parish Council wished to extend formal thanks to Councillor Hart for all the work she has put into the campaign.

SOCIAL MEDIA

1727 A discussion was held regarding the use of Social Media as a tool for communicating with residents. **RESOLVED** – Clerk to create a Weston with Gayton Parish Council Facebook Page, Councillor

Griffiths to support. The page should only allow the presentation of information in the first instance.

PARISH FORUM

1728 Councillor Hart and the Clerk recently attended the annual Parish Forum. The forum covered the launch of the Stafford Borough Council Litter Campaign, outsourcing and the development of Stafford Town Centre. Clerk to circulate the minutes once they become available.

CLERK REPORT

1729.RESOLVED that the PC approve the below payments listed on the monthly Statement of Accounts/Receipts and Payments.

- Ground Maintenance Contract - £2152.56
- Admin and Clerk expenses - £79.05
- Civic Amenity Visits - £180

1730 RESOLVED that the PC approve the monthly Statement of Accounts/Receipts and Payments

1731 The PC received the quarterly budget update.

1732 The PC received and discussed the first draft of the 2018/19 budget.

CORRESPONDENCE

1733 Stafford Borough Council (SBC) Local Plan Review – Call for Sites. Three consultations have been launched by SBC, the details of which can be found by visiting the SBC website at www.staffordbc.gov.uk/forwardplanning **RESOLVED** – Clerk to request a meeting with SBC to discuss the consultation. To be added to the Agenda of the December meeting if a formal response from the PC is required.

1734 Clarke Telecom proposed base station installation on London Road, A51. **RESOLVED** – Clerk to call an extraordinary meeting of the PC to consider a response. Meeting to be held on Tuesday 17th October at 7pm in the small meeting room at Weston Village Hall.

FLAGPOLE

1735 A discussion was held regarding the flagpole on the Village Green in Weston. Recent use of the flagpole has proved difficult as the mechanism for raising the flag is old. **RESOLVED** – to be brought back to a future meeting for further discussion.

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

1736 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

1737 Parish Council Meeting, Tuesday 14th November 2017 at 7:30pm in Weston Village Hall.

COLIN CRITCHLOW
CHAIRMAN