

# WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting that took place on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019 in Weston Village Hall at 7.30pm

**PRESENT:** Councillor J Griffiths (Vice Chairman and Chair of the meeting), Councillor Mrs H Hart, Councillor C Gilbert, Councillor A Hopkin, Councillor Mrs G Wray, Councillor D Icke, Councillor D Leake, Stafford Borough Councillor Mrs F Beatty, Parish Clerk Mrs A Kingston

5 members of the public

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor C Critchlow (Chairman), Councillor K Barber, Staffordshire County Councillor J Francis.

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2019 - MINUTES

**2198 RESOLVED** – that the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) Meeting held at 7:30pm on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as proposed and seconded by Parish Councillors Hopkin and Hart.

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

**2199** Councillor Hopkin and Councillor Leake declared an interest in Agenda Item 9.1 relating to a planning application for St. Andrew's Church, Weston, by virtue of their involvement in the Church.

### HS2 OVERVIEW FROM THE PROJECT MANAGER AT STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (SCC)

**2200** The HS2 Project Manager from SCC was in attendance to outline her role and answer questions regarding the anticipated traffic implications for Weston and Gayton during the construction phase. The HS2 Project Manager leads on the County Council's response to HS2. This includes:

- Overseeing the parliamentary process including petitioning the Hybrid Bills for all phases of the scheme including any additional provisions (APs).
- Liaising with a range of technical specialists, partner Elected Members and authorities to develop petitions, respond to consultations and feed into a wide range of technical documents used to inform the scheme (for example, the Code of Construction Practice).
- Liaising with Parish Councils, action groups, businesses, schools and other stakeholders to keep them informed and ensure their views are represented.
- Managing the statutory duties of the County Council in terms of detailed planning consents for highways works, some lorry routes, some watercourses and borrow pits.

**2201** With regard to the volume of construction traffic movements planned for the A518, the Parish Council were informed the originally anticipated 625 vehicle movements per day have reduced to 249 under the additional provision. This equates to an average of one every two minutes during the 10 hours of operation per day.

**2202** The A518 at its narrowest point (5.2 metres) could present a potential risk to safety as some heavy vehicles would need to mount the pavement to pass. The County Council will take forward a request to HS2 Ltd. to mitigate this and will also take parliamentary agent advice on whether this may be petitioned on; it is unclear as the issue was not identified during petitioning for the main Bill. The Parish Council will consider suitable options to temporarily move/widen the footpath during the construction phase. Discussions to be held with relevant land owners. If successful, work would be undertaken by the nominated contractor and would need to be returned to its original state following completion of the project.

**2203** The footpath over the river bridge on the A518 is of inadequate width and will present a risk to safety when in use as a construction route. The County Council will take forward a request to HS2 Ltd. to mitigate this by installing a temporary footbridge during the construction phase.

- 2204** There is no definitive final map of construction routes, as discussions and modifications are ongoing. However, the proposed routes can be seen in the Additional Provision 2 [environmental statement](#).
- 2205** There are several schemes to compensate residents directly affected by HS2, some of which are dependent on proximity to the line of route. Details can be found [here](#).
- 2206** There is no exact timetable for construction dates as yet. Indicative construction timetables can be seen in the Community Area Reports of the [Environmental Statement](#) and Additional Provisions [1](#) and [2](#), but these are subject to change. Contractors will not be appointed until after the Bill receives Royal Assent, expected towards the end of 2019.
- 2207** HS2 Ltd.'s overarching Community Engagement Strategy can be found [here](#). There will be further mechanisms put in place for contractors to liaise with affected localities and keep Parish Councils and other local stakeholders up to date with developments. These will be formalised once contractors are appointed, but they will be required to adhere to the requirements of the [Code of Construction practice](#).
- 2208** The County Council has stated its expectation to HS2 Ltd. that there will be no negative impact on existing train services to and from Stafford, nor on other Staffordshire stations, especially those which already have good connections to London such as Lichfield and Tamworth, and it is expected that there will be at least one high speed service from Stafford per hour.
- 2209** SCC do not anticipate that Green Road will become a 'rat run' due to the traffic calming measures currently in situ, and the comparable journey times between the two routes. The Parish Council remain concerned and will work with Community Speedwatch see if further evidence can be produced. The County Council would be pleased to receive any such evidence and will in any case raise this as a concern with HS2 Ltd.

**The order of the agenda was amended by the Chairman as follows.**

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- 2210** A member of the public raised concerns regarding an amended planning application at Tamarind, The Green, Weston. Whilst the height has been reduced, the member of the public did not feel the reduction was sufficient and remained concerned with the proximity to his neighbouring property. The concern raised at the previous meeting regarding aesthetics had also not been addressed.

#### **DEVELOPMENTS**

- 2211** 18/29679/FUL at St. Andrew's Church, Stafford Road, Weston, Stafford, ST18 0HX. Councillors Hopkin and Leake declared an interest in the application and withdrew from the discussion. **RESOLVED** The Parish Council have no objections to the application.
- 2212** 18/29742/HOU at Tamarind, The Green, Weston, Stafford, ST18 0JH. **RESOLVED** The following concerns will be fed back to Stafford Borough Council Planning Department.
- The massing/size of the extension plus the double garage would appear to exceed what could be considered proportional development. The original footprint of the property has greatly increased.
  - The building materials identified for the double garage do not appear to be in keeping with the original property or character of the building. The original property is rendered, as are most of the neighbouring properties and the garage to the adjacent property.

The PC would also like to suggest the applicant consider a tented roof, which would reduce the expanse of brickwork visible at the end wall.

#### **REPORT FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLOR**

- 2213** Councillor Beatty provided an update on the work of Stafford Borough Council. In addition to the focus on the forthcoming elections, Councillor Beatty provided an update of major projects including progress on the town centre development, the opening of the new Odeon Cinema, progress of the new swimming

pool in Stone and the issue of traffic flow.

## **REPORT FROM STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

**2214** Staffordshire County Councillor J Francis was not in attendance to provide a report.

## **REPORT FROM VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (VHMC) REPRESENTATIVE**

**2215** Stafford Borough Council have agreed that the little room can be used as the polling station for the forthcoming elections in May, enabling activities to continue in the rest of the building. The VHMC would like to padlock the gates to the Village Hall car park in the evening to prevent inappropriate use. The Parish Council have no objections.

## **PARISH PLAN**

**2216** Data inputting continues. A couple of comments have related to the breakdown of the council budget. The Clerk requested the budget for 2019-20 be added to the Website. **RESOLVED** Clerk to provide a copy of the annual budget for inclusion on the website.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES**

**2217** SPCA will be running a Local Councillor Training Course on 13th March 2019

**2218** SPCA will be running a Surviving Internal Audit and the Annual Return on 12th March 2019

**2219** The 842 bus service will be cancelled and incorporated into the 841 service from Stafford to Uttoxeter. There will no longer be a link through to Rugeley. The 841 will operate from Uttoxeter – Hixon – Weston – Stafford, with some journeys additionally diverting via Hopton and Salt.

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

**2220** No issues to report.

## **HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY**

**2221** A meeting has been organised with the representative from SCC Highways on the 18<sup>th</sup> February to identify locations for the Gateway signage.

## **STAFFORD LITTER HERO'S INITIATIVE**

**2222** Stafford Litter Hero's is a local volunteer led scheme created to support the Keep Britain Tidy Charity and to help keep Stafford litter free. They work with Stafford Borough Council Streetscene and organise litter picks around the town. Councillor Hart proposed the remit of the Weston Dog Fouling Campaign be widened in line with Stafford Litter Hero's and that the name of the campaign be changed to the 'Weston Clean up Crew'. **RESOLVED** to widen the remit of the dog fouling campaign as proposed and change the name to the Weston Clean up Crew. It was also agreed the remit incorporate the path clearance and village 'tidy up' work already underway. New posters will be put up around the village and a formal project launch organised.

## **CLERK REPORT**

**2223 RESOLVED** that the PC approve payments listed below and included on the monthly Statement of Accounts/Receipts and Payments.

- Ground Maintenance work for November including Dog Bin Maintenance - £456
- Donation to the Compass Magazine - £150
- Clerk Expenses and admin – £53.91

**2224 RESOLVED** that the PC approve the monthly Statement of Accounts/Receipts and Payments

**2225** The first meeting of the Trent Valley Collaboration Group went well and included Clerks from Tixal/Ingestre, Hopton, Salt & Enson, Hixon, Colwich, Stowe-by-Chartley, Berkswich and Brocton.

**2226** The Clerk provided feedback following the Elections briefing held at SBC on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February. Nomination forms will be available from SBC from the 4<sup>th</sup> March. The Clerk will bring a number of forms to the next meeting for anyone who would like to take one. Nomination papers must be hand delivered to SBC Elections team between the 27<sup>th</sup> March and 3<sup>rd</sup> April. A full copy of the Election Briefing is

available from SBC Elections team, or the Parish Clerk by emailing [parishclerk@westonstaffs.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@westonstaffs.org.uk)

**2227 RESOLVED** The Gayton Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm in Gayton Village Hall. Invitations will be sent out and notices posted in the next couple of weeks.

**2228** The date for the Weston Annual Parish Meeting was discussed. The Weston Annual Parish meeting is usually held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in May. However, as this is an Election year the Annual Parish Meeting may need to be held a week later. Clerk to confirm at the next meeting.

**2229** The SLCC Midlands regional conference on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April will focus on compliance. The cost is £80 + VAT. The Clerk asked permission to attend if the Agenda appears relevant to the Parish Council. **RESOLVED** Clerk to attend if relevant.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

**2230** None

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

**2231.** Gayton Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm followed directly by the Parish Council Meeting at 7:30pm on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019 in Gayton Village Hall.

**JAN GRIFFITHS  
VICE CHAIRMAN**