

# WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting that took place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in Weston Village Hall at 7.30pm

**PRESENT:** Councillor J Griffiths (Chairman), Councillor A Hopkin, Councillor C Gilbert, Councillor Mrs G Wray, Councillor G Church, Councillor K Barber, Parish Clerk Mrs A Kingston

2 members of the public

**APOLOGIES:**), Councillor Mrs H Hart (Vice Chair), Councillor D Leake, Councillor D Icke, Stafford Borough Councillor Francis Beatty.

### PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

**2570 MEETING 14<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2020 – RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) Meeting held at 7:30pm on the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as proposed and seconded by Parish Councillors Church and Barber.

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

**2571** There were no declarations of interest.

### PARISH PLAN

**2572** The first draft of the Parish Plan was considered a good start. The draft action plan requires further work before populating with timescales for formal agreement. A working group meeting will be held at 7pm on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February in Weston Village Hall. Final drafts to be agreed at the next Parish Council meeting.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

**2573** Stafford Borough Council are consulting on the proposals for the Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) details can be found at [www.staffordbc.gov.uk/surveys](http://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/surveys)

**2574** Local consultation dates have been provided for the Local Plan for Stafford Borough (discussed in more detail at item 2599 below). The nearest drop in session for Weston and Gayton is at Hixon Memorial Hall on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February from 4pm till 7pm. Further information can be found at [www.staffordbc.gov.uk/new-local-plan-](http://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/new-local-plan-)

**2575** The draft Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document for the Plan for Stafford Borough is available for consultation. Further information can be found at [www.staffordbc.gov.uk/biodiversity-and-development-spd](http://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/biodiversity-and-development-spd)

**2576** The appropriate sum for Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 has been set for 2020-21 at £8.32.

**2577** The Great British Spring Clean will take place between 20<sup>th</sup> March and 13<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

**2578** A resident raised concern regarding an overgrown hedge from the traffic lights at the A51 towards the vets and before to the railway bridge. Clerk to report to Highways and discuss with Grounds Maintenance.

**2579** Concern was raised regarding the proposed new local plan for Stafford Borough and the potential for 2000 new houses in Weston. This was discussed in detail at item 2599 below.

**2580** The Barbed wire on the footpath at the rear of the church remains in place despite numerous reports to Staffordshire Rights of Way. Clerk to follow up.

**2581** A question was raised regarding the progress of the feasibility study into traffic calming on the A51. The Clerk confirmed Staffordshire Highways have committed to undertaking the feasibility study on the

reduction of two lanes to one at the traffic lights and a crossing point at the Methodist Church. Both should be completed over the next few months. Feedback and findings will be brought to the Parish Council once available.

#### **REPORT FROM STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

**2582** Staffordshire County Councillor J Francis was not in attendance to provide a report.

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

**2583** Stafford Borough Councillor Mrs. F Beatty was not in attendance to provide a report.

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

**2584** Policies have been updated and the accounts are with the auditor.

**2585** A new boiler is required. The current boiler has recently been serviced and is now too old to effectively maintain. A replacement will be sought in the summer.

**2586** The Fire Alarm Service has been organised.

**2587** The Village fete will be held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2020. The Parish Council are pleased to support this event.

**2588** The proposed date for the Christmas lights switch on event is the 28<sup>th</sup> November 2020. The Parish Council will add this to the agenda of the next meeting for formal approval.

**2589** The Village Hall AGM will be held on the 28<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

#### **DEVELOPMENTS**

**2590** Planning Application reference 20/31813/HOU Sunnyside, Vicarage Bank, Gayton. **RESOLVED** The PC have no objection to this application.

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

**2591** The February playground inspection reports were circulated in advance of the meeting. A detailed discussion was held regarding the ongoing repairs and maintenance requirements of the Slide. **RESOLVED** by unanimous agreement to remove the slide and raise funding to provide a replacement. Initial quotations suggest costs in the region of £13,000.

**2592** One of the Trees on the Village Green was blown over during the recent high winds caused by storm Ciara. This was swiftly removed and chipped by Weston Grounds Maintenance. **RESOLVED** Replacement trees will be purchased for planting in October. Formal costings to be presented at the September meeting for approval.

**2593** Clerk to apply for a free pack of trees from the Woodland Trust. Councillor Hopkin to advise on the mix of trees.

**2594** The Notice board at the end of Old Road was damaged in the recent high wind caused by storm Ciara and has been removed. The Parish Council will store the notice board for a few months while they consider if replacement is necessary.

#### **HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY**

**2595** The Speed Indicator Device has been moved to the A51. The second batch of data was downloaded from the device on the A518 prior to the move and will be made available via the website. Statistics will be downloaded monthly as the device moves between location.

**2596** A detailed map of all gullies and drains that are blocked in Weston has been provided to Staffordshire County Council Highways for review.

**2597** Concern was raised regarding the level of damage to grass verges, the village green and kerb stones by the recent contractors working on the gas supply and fibre optic installation. Councillor Barber to provide photographs and exact locations to report to Staffordshire County Council Highways.

## **FOOTBALL CLUB**

**2598** Concern was raised regarding the language used at recent football matches on the Village Green. Parking at match time is also often inconsiderate and spectators are not making sufficient use of the available car park at the Village Hall. **RESOLVED** Chairman to write to the Football Club and the Football Association to express concern and request action is taken.

## **NEW STAFFORD BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN**

**2599** Consultation is now open on the issues and options document for the new Local Plan for Stafford Brough to run from 2020 to 2040. The Issues and Options consultation brings forward a wide range of possible options relating to how Stafford Borough might address the requirements for housing development. The options look at the overall amount of new homes and extra employment land needed and how these might be distributed around the borough. Several options suggest significant development of up to 2000 houses for Weston and 2750 for Hixon Airfield. Information and a link to the consultation can be found at [www.staffordbc.gov.uk/new-local-plan-](http://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/new-local-plan-)

**2600** Information sessions are being held by Stafford Borough Council at a range of locations as follows;

- Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February – Eccleshall Community Centre – 4pm-8pm
- Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February – Hixon Memorial Hall – 4pm – 7pm
- Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February – Stafford Central Library – 12noon – 4pm
- Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March – Westbridge Room, Christchurch, Stone – 4pm – 8pm.

**2601 RESOLVED** Councillor Church to add details to the village Facebook Page. Consultation deadline ends Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.

## **CLERK REPORT**

**2602 RESOLVED** that the PC approve payments listed below and included on the monthly Statement of Accounts/Receipts and Payments.

- Clerk expenses and admin - £105.31
- Ground Maintenance work for January including Dog Bin Maintenance - £547.20
- Admin – stationary and printer paper - £12.45
- Printer Toner – £79.99
- Play Inspection Company – February Inspections - £180.00

**2603 RESOLVED** that the PC approve the monthly Statement of Accounts/Receipts and Payments

**2604** The schedule of meeting dates for 2020 were noted.

**2605** The format for the Gayton Annual Parish Meeting was discussed.

**2606 RESOLVED** By unanimous agreement to appoint Christine Heelis as the Internal Auditor for 2019-20.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

**2607** Email from a local resident requesting the full statistical data from the Speed Indicator Device. It was agreed this information could be shared.

**2608** Email from a local resident requesting use of the village green for a community BBQ/Picnic run by the Heart of Weston. This was agreed providing assurance could be provided that all necessary insurance and health and safety requirements had been met.

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

**2609** Tuesday 10th March 2020, 7pm for the Gayton Annual Parish Meeting followed at 7:30pm by the Parish Council Meeting in Gayton Village Hall.

**JAN GRIFFITHS  
CHAIRMAN**