

# WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting that took place on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.30pm over the virtual platform Zoom.

## PRESENT

Councillor J Griffiths (Chairman), Councillor Mrs H Hart (Vice Chair), Councillor Mrs G Wray, Councillor D Leake, Councillor D Icke, Councillor M Hardenberg, Councillor G Church and Parish Clerk Mrs A Kingston

1 member of the public

## APOLOGIES

Councillor K Barber, Stafford Borough Councillor Mrs F Beatty.

## PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

**2859 MEETING 8<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2020 – RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) Meeting held at 7:30pm on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as proposed and seconded by Parish Councillors Church and Hardenberg.

## DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

**2860** None

## PARISH PLAN

**2861** There were no updates.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

**2862** Staffordshire Parish Council's Association are a training course on Parish Online mapping software.

**2863** The next National Census will take place on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021. Representatives from the Census team would like to speak with Parish Councils in advance of the National Census. It was agreed they should be invited to the February meeting.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

**2864** None

## REPORT FROM STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

**2865** Staffordshire County Councillor John Francis was not in attendance to present a report but written update regarding the potholes on the A51 and A518 was provided. Further details are contained in item 2873 below.

## REPORT FROM STAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

**2866** Councillor Mrs. F Beatty was not in attendance to provide a report but did submit a written report in advance of the meeting. This report will be made available via the website at [www.westonstaffs.org.uk](http://www.westonstaffs.org.uk)

**2867** Councillor Beatty raised a number of questions in relation to Borough Councillor attendance at Parish Council meetings. The following points were agreed.

- Any specific questions for the Borough Councillor should be submitted to the Clerk a week in advance of the Parish Council meeting so the Clerk can obtain a written response prior to the meeting.
- The Borough Councillor will be asked to attend the Annual Parish Meeting at both Weston and Gayton.
- The Borough Councillor will be asked to attend other meetings on an ad hoc basis if specific input is required, for example in the case of a contentious planning application.

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

**2868** A vegetable produce van has requested a regular slot on the village hall car park. He will be there on Friday mornings between 10am and 12pm for people wishing to purchase fresh fruit and vegetables. This has initially been agreed for a 4 week trial period.

## **DEVELOPMENTS**

**2869** Planning Application Reference 20/33525/HOU at Yew Tree Farm London Road Shirleywich.  
**RESOLVED** the PC have no objections to the application.

**2870** Planning Application Reference 20/33619/POTH at The Croft Church Lane Gayton. Notification of this planning application was received after the agenda had been published so no formal response can be made at this meeting. It was agreed an extra ordinary meeting was not required to formally consider the application.

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

**2871** Some new saplings have been planted on the village green. The location of one of the trees near the end of the private road will be reviewed in light of the drainage situation. Councillor Griffiths to liaise with the Grounds Maintenance provider.

**2872** Coronavirus lockdown guidance states that the play area can remain open but the MUGA is a sports facility and must close. Skateboard GB have announced that all indoor skate parks must close but outdoor facilities can remain open. \* **This does not form part of the official minutes. Skateboard GB updated guidance stipulates Skate Parks must close.**

## **HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY**

**2873** County Councillor John Francis provided a written update on the potholes at the A51/A518 junction. Temporary repair work has been undertaken to ensure road safety during the winter period. Complete resurfacing and repair has been scheduled for quarter one 2021/22.

**2874** The Clerk provided an update on reported highways faults. Most are awaiting works.

## **PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY**

**2875** Councillor Hopkin resigned from the PC in December. Mr. Hopkin served as a Parish Councillor for over 20 years and his wealth of experience will be missed. The PC extend their thanks for his valuable contribution and wish him all the best for the future.

**2876** The vacancy representing the parish of Weston has been advertised on noticeboards and the website at [www.westonstaffs.org.uk](http://www.westonstaffs.org.uk) Closing date for expressions of interest is 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021.

## **STAFFING COMMITTEE**

**2877** Following a successful recruitment process, Mr David Croxford has been appointed as the new Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer. He will begin in post on the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021.

## **CLERK REPORT**

**2878 RESOLVED** that the PC approve payments listed below and included on the monthly Statement of Accounts/Receipts and Payments.

- Clerk extra hours and expenses - £166.88
- Ground Maintenance work for December including Dog Bin Maintenance - £720
- Zoom subscription for December (shared with Hilderstone PC) - £7.19
- 34SP Annual Web Hosting fee - £95.40

**2879** The Quarterly budget statement was noted.

**2880** The invoice for the final payment from the Football Club is due to be issued in February. In light of the coronavirus pandemic and the cancellation of sporting activities the request for the second

payment was reviewed. **RESOLVED** Clerk to write to the football club to ascertain what proportion of matches have taken place this season and amend the invoice request accordingly.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**2881** None

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

**2882** Parish Council meeting Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 7:30pm using the virtual platform Zoom.

**JAN GRIFFITHS  
CHAIRMAN**