

# WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting that took place on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 7.30pm in Weston Village Hall.

## PRESENT

Councillor Mrs H Hart (Vice Chair), Councillor D Icke, Councillor G Church, Councillor J Tallentire, Councillor M Hardenberg, Councillor D Leake, Councillor Mrs G Wray  
Parish Clerk DW Croxford  
One member of the public was present.

## APOLOGIES

Councillor J Griffiths (Chairman), Councillor K Barber

## PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

**3111 MEETING 12<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER – RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) Meeting held at 7:30pm on the 12th of October 2021 be confirmed and signed by the Vice Chairman as proposed and seconded by Parish Councillors Church and Icke.

## DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

**3112** None declared.

## PARISH PLAN

**3113** There were no updates.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

Circulated before the meeting

**3114** Updated Website Accessibility and Publishing Guidelines from NALC were considered, along with current published statement on the site. Councillor Leake to consult with Councillor Griffiths and report at December meeting.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

**3115** A member of the public reported flooding after heavy rain on the verge, and the roadside, near the War Memorial, on the junction of Green Road and Meadowbank Avenue. The member was advised to report the issue via Stafford County Council / Highways website / reporting tool; Additionally, it was suggested that at the next opportunity photographic evidence of the flooding is taken and added to the report of the issue with Stafford CC / Highways, as in the experience of the PC, photographic evidence of an issue is very useful in terms of Highways understanding and the setting of work schedule priorities; Further, the member of the public was asked to write or email the Parish Clerk (with an illustration outlining the area of flooding in question), to enable the Parish Council to further consider how it can best add its support.

The member of the public left the meeting after this item.

## REPORT FROM STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

**3116** Staffordshire County Councillor John Francis was not in attendance to present a report.

## REPORT FROM STAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

**3117** Councillor Mrs. F Beatty was not in attendance, and no written report had been received.

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

**3118** Councillor Wray advised the VH is now back being used full time as pre Covid. Bookings are going well.

**3119** The failed outside entrance lighting is to receive attention.

**3120** The weekly Friday village market is to relocate to the VH/ VH car park before Christmas. The fruit and

vegetable and baker stalls will be on the VH car park, the remainder of the stalls inside, renting the room from the management committee.

**3121** The Christmas Fayre is confirmed as on 27<sup>th</sup> November 4 – 7 p.m. The now repaired Christmas Tree lights will be switched on that day at 6 p.m. by an invited villager. Some sixteen tables are booked so far. Was confirmed that PC provide and serve pulled pork baps, with apple sauce as well as tea, coffee, and soft drinks, with any profits retained for Christmas Tree light maintenance.

## **DEVELOPMENTS**

**3122** Nothing requiring comment.

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

**3123** The broken small child swing seat has been removed and quotes are being sought for replacements(s).

**3124 Bulb & wildflower planting** – Councillor Hart reported that c 1,000 bulbs have been planted and 400 square meters of perennial wildflower seeds have been sown on the A51/Old Road, A518/Green Road and A51/Green Road junctions. Thanks to Dave Bill for the voluntary time he gave to assist Councillors Hart, Griffiths and Leake and, to local parishioner Dave Mould for his help and time to complete this.

## **HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY**

**3125** Clerk advised responses from the intended beneficiaries to the Grounds Maintenance grant letters were all positive, welcoming the proposed assistance in grant format.

## **HS2 Phase 2a COMMUNITY FUNDING**

**3126 Proposed application for funding of construction of local canal towpath (location & length yet to be determined).** Councillor Hart reported she has had positive engagement with an Enterprise Manager at C&RT (Canal & River Trust). An initial telephone call with that manager is planned later in November which is to be followed by a local site visit. Councillor Hart has been advised eligibility criteria for making an application for funding seems to be met by the village of Weston. *Councillor Hart to provide further update in December.*

## **CLERK REPORT**

**3127 RESOLVED** that the PC approve payments listed below and included on the monthly Statement of Accounts/Receipts and Payments.

### **Payments Approved and made before the meeting.**

- Clerks Net Salary October £456.92
- HMRC PAYE Clerks October £114.20
- Clerks Expenses October £20.50

### **Payments to be made.**

- SPCA Training course for Clerk (Minutes and Agendas) (Total cost £40 shared with Salt and Enson PC 50/50) = £20
- WGM Ground Maintenance work October including Dog Bin Maintenance - £1604.00 + £320.80 VAT = £1924.80
- SC GM Ltd Ground Maintenance work October St Andrews - £240 + £48 VAT = £288
- SC GM Ltd Ground Maintenance work October Gayton VH and Church -£180 + £36 VAT = £216

**3128** The tailored NALC Financial Regulations (2019) had been circulated beforehand. **RESOLVED – that the 2019 Financial Regulations be adopted.** *Website to be updated.*

**3129** An updated draft budget for 2022-23 had been circulated beforehand. To be finalised at December meeting following anticipated Council Tax Base advice from SBC.

**3130** Clerk advised a review of the ringfenced funds is due April 2022. Was agreed as part of that review the total sum ringfenced should be held in the NatWest Reserve account.

**3131** Clerk to investigate appropriate Internet Banking options and *report back in December*.

## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

**3132 Update.** Due to Covid concerns being raised by inviting Parishioners back to the Woolpack to gather, the PC will not be doing so this year. The Parish Councillors personal donations to support this activity will therefore not be required this year. Councillor Church will lay the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

## CORRESPONDENCE

Circulated at the meeting

- 3133** Verges for Wildlife
- 3134** Police, Crime, Fire and Rescue Plan
- 3135** Charitable Collections Policy 2021 Stafford Borough
- 3136** Who does what document

Circulated before the meeting

- 3137** Record of TVCG Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> September 2021
- 3138** Gala Night Pantomime – Snow White 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021

## DATE, TIME, AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

**3139** Parish Council Meeting at Weston Village Hall Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 7:30pm

**3140** The scheduled dates of meetings for 2022 (circulated beforehand) was agreed.

**HILARY HART  
VICE CHAIR**