

WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Gayton Annual Parish Meeting held in Gayton Village Hall on Tuesday 8th March 2022 at 7pm.

1. **Welcome**

The Chairman of the meeting, Councillor Jan Griffiths, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Present

Councillor J Griffiths (Chairman), Councillor Mrs H Hart, Councillor M Hardenberg, Councillor J Tallentire, Councillor Mrs G Wray, Councillor D Leake, Councillor D Icke, Councillor G Church, Parish Clerk DW Croxford.

Stafford Borough Councillor Frances Beatty

3 Members of the public

2. **Apologies** None

3. **Minutes**

The minutes of the Joint Weston and Gayton Annual Parish Council meeting of 18th May 2021 were approved and signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council as proposed and seconded by Councillor Mrs H Hart and Councillor M Hardenberg.

4. **Matters Arising from the minutes of 18th May 2021**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

5. **Report of the Parish Council**

Councillor M Hardenberg reported

- During the year we have held twelve full Parish Council meetings. Parish Councillors have also represented the Parish Council at other meetings including the Trent Valley Collaboration Group and Weston Village Hall Committee meetings.
- During 2021/22 the Parish Council have:
- Continued to work on the plan for the work of the Parish Council over the coming three years. This plan was based upon questionnaires delivered to every household in the Parish and the results have triggered the priority work areas for the Parish Council. The progress is discussed at the monthly Parish Council meetings.
- Commissioned a new Grounds Maintenance contract to provide the grass cutting at Gayton Village Hall and the church. This will be replaced by a grant system in 2022.
- Worked closely with both the Borough and County Councils on a range of issues from the speed of traffic and highway maintenance, to blocked drains and dog fouling. This continual dialogue and liaison with key officers at both Councils accounts for a significant proportion of the work of the Parish Council and ensures issues of concern in both Weston and Gayton are addressed as swiftly as possible.
- Due to Covid-19, the Civic Amenity/Refuse and Recycling Wagon has not been able to come to Cherry Lane this year, but this service will return in July this year.

- Supported the Community Speedwatch Programme.
- Contacted Sandon Estate for the repairs of various stiles on the estate around Gayton, which have all been honoured and stiles/bridges repaired.
- Reported many potholes on the roads in and around Gayton. All have been earmarked for further inspection and future repair. Recently the main road through Gayton from the A51 to Milwich has been fully repaired and we expect it to be surfaced dressed sometime this year.

6. Parish Plan and Key Priorities for 2022

Councillor M Hardenberg reported

- The Parish Council agreed the annual budget in January 2022 and the annual precept for Gayton will remain the same for this year.
- We will continue to monitor the roads, stiles, and gullies in the area to ensure all remain in good shape and that the risk of flooding is minimised.
- The continued flooding at the beginning of Vicarage Bank from the A51 has now been included in Additional Investment Members Drainage Project 2020/21. Unfortunately, there has been no update this.
- We continue to report the extensive flooding on Hartley Green Loop to Stafford Borough Council.
- A potential application to reduce the speed limit within Gayton village from 60mph to 30mph has been considered and discussed at the June 2021 Parish Council meeting, but due to the associated costs for initial research, this project has not progressed.
- The Parish Council has agreed to fund no-litter signs, which will be placed strategically across Gayton. The PC has also agreed to fund paint for a refresh of the bus shelter. Both activities will take place sometime in Spring.
- The PC has also noted that new road signs have been installed and it has been made aware that the lane starting from the A51 towards the village should be called Gayton Lane and that Vicarage Bank starts either from Wadden Lane or Cherry Lane. This has been reported to Highways for review.
- We will also face additional challenges to our highways network once the construction phase of HS2 is underway. HS2 anticipate there will be 249 vehicle movements along the A518 to the A51 per day. This equates to an average of one every two minutes during the 10 hours of operation per day.

7. Any Other Business

A member of the public enquired about the new grant-based process of funding the maintenance of the Village Hall grounds and St. Peters burial ground.

The Clerk was instructed to provide him with the information he sought.

8. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Tuesday 14th March 2023 at 7pm in Gayton Village Hall.

**COUNCILLOR J GRIFFITHS
CHAIRMAN WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL**