

WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting that took place on Tuesday 14th March 2023 at 7.30pm in Gayton Village Hall.

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs H Hart (Chair), Councillor J Tallentire, Councillor Mrs J Gair, Councillor D Icke, Councillor A Massey, Councillor M Hardenberg, Councillor Mrs G Wray
Parish Clerk DW Croxford

No members of the public were present.

APOLOGIES

Councillor J Griffiths, Councillor D Leake, Stafford Borough Councillor Frances Beatty

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

3650 MEETING 14th February 2023 – RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7:30pm on the 14th of February 2023 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as proposed and seconded by Parish Councillors Hardenberg and Tallentire.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3651 None declared.

PARISH PLAN

3652 There were no updates.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

3653 Post Box Update. The Parish Council has been advised by the Royal Mail Post Box Team that Weston's new post box should be installed within the next six weeks.

3654 There were no other announcements or notices that had not been circulated prior to the meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

3655 No members of the public were present.

REPORT FROM STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

3656 Staffordshire County Councillor John Francis was not in attendance to present a report.

REPORT FROM STAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

3657 Councillor Frances Beatty was not in attendance, but her detailed written report had been circulated beforehand.

REPORT FROM VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (VHMC) REPRESENTATIVE

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Councillors Gair and Wray advised.

Coffee and Cake mornings are planned for the first Monday of each month between 10 a.m. until Noon. The next scheduled one is 3rd April 2023.

The Village Hall development plan has been discussed in more detail and actions progressed in a number of areas. Work on repairing the internal ceiling lights is being arranged and given the expense three quotations are being sought.

A letter is to be sent to the Woolpack football club re care of the changing facilities.

Following a written request, permission has been granted to the VHMC to use the Village Green on Saturday 10th June 2023, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., for the Annual Weston Village Fete. *Clerk to confirm permission.*

The Village Hall AGM will take place on Tuesday 25th April 2023, 7pm. Councillor Hart to attend as the Parish Council representative.

Keys to VH Store Room: It was raised that the VHC were unaware that the PC (their Landlord) had keys to the VH Store Room, following being informed at the February PC that keys had been cut and that the PC Chair, Vice Chair and Grounds Maintenance Contractor held a key. It was confirmed that the VHC Chair had been consulted / advised prior to the keys being distributed. The VH representative advised that the VHC are keen to ensure that the key holder register is up to date and accurate.

A meeting will take place in June to progress the request for a new lease. *Clerk to offer dates and to seek sight of the draft lease to be populated and circulated to the Parish Council sub-committee beforehand.*

DEVELOPMENTS

3659 22/36251/FUL at Willowbrook Stafford Road Weston. *Proposed erection of one detached dwelling, conversion, extension, and alteration of existing outbuilding to form one dwelling along with associated alterations to site access erection of three detached garages.*

No comments to be submitted on this occasion.

3660 22/35765/FUL Former University Halls of Residence Stafford Education And Enterprise Park Weston Road Stafford Staffordshire ST18 0AB *Change of use from student accommodation to asylum seeker accommodation.* Appeal Date 16th May

Clerk to liaise with Hopton and Coton Parish Council and submit supporting comments.

TREES AND CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

3661 Councillor Hart advised the appeal for local volunteers to sand down and stain the benches in Weston had seen nine people volunteer, some seeking to do specific benches. Councillor Hart has located twenty-one benches in total and will schedule which volunteer does what bench.

3662 It was considered that the newly planted ornamental trees on the Village Green, would benefit from protective dog guards around their trunks. *Clerk to ask GM contractor to install.*

HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY

3663 Weston Flooding, 23rd October 2022 / gulley, and the brook – clearance and maintenance.

Councillor Hart advised she is completing the required response sought by the Flood Risk Management team re the flooding incident on the Weston (Green Road / A518) October 2022. She advised she is also undertaking additional research re the flooding in 2012. To review draft response at next PC meeting.

The letters drafted by Councillor Hart to be sent to the occupants of properties adjoining the brook, reminding them of their possible Riparian Responsibilities to pass on waterflow without obstruction, pollution, or diversion were circulated before the meeting and considered. Several small changes were suggested which Councillor Hart will attend to. The letters will be sent out to the selected properties under the signature of the Parish Clerk.

Both items above to be on the Agenda for the April PC meeting.

3664 Drop Kerb at Weston School.

Clerk advised the officer at SCC Highways was still seeking a response from County Councillor John Francis. An estimated figure has been obtained from SCC Highways for the Parish Council to install at their own cost. *Was agreed that the Clerk should write again to Councillor Francis urging a response to this long outstanding matter.*

3665 Road signage in Gayton

Councillor Hardenberg requested an update from Stafford Borough Councillor Frances Beatty who undertook to investigate the issue that the road name either up to Wadden Lane or Cherry Lane seems incorrect, and should be changed to Gayton Lane.

Clerk to enquire.

CLERK REPORT

3666 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 February £545.48
- HMRC PAYE Clerks February £136.60
- Clerks Expenses February £28.50

Payments to be made.

- WGM Ground Maintenance work February (including Dog Bin Maintenance £72) - £910.71 + £182.14 VAT = £1092.85
- Clerk's Election Training (shared with Salt and Enson PC) £20.70 +VAT £4.14= £24.84
- Reimbursement to Councillor re TVCG Catering expenses - £20.54

CORRESPONDENCE

Circulated and discussed

3667 Water leak Weston Bank. An e mail received referring to a water leak on Weston Bank was discussed and following the reporting of the matter by the member of the public, it is understood the matter is now a priority repair for Severn Trent.

3668 Planning Application 23/37126/HOU at Cherry Croft, London Road, Weston – SBC have agreed an extension for submission of any comments until 12th April. *On Agenda next meeting.*

3669 Purchase Order £99 from SCC received for additional grass cutting to be undertaken on their behalf before end of March. Clerk has raised the invoice and *GM Contractor to be advised.*

3670 Kings Coronation Fund financial support to Parish Councils was circulated and discussed and Councillor Hardenberg undertook to bring the initiative to the notice of Gayton VHMC.

3771 Clerk advised he is to attend a Briefing on the Electoral Processes for Parish Elections 2023 at the Civic Centre on Wednesday 15th March at 6.30 p.m. He will cascade the information thereafter.

On Agenda for next time

3772 The 100 year anniversary of Weston War Memorial on 24th May 2023.

3773 Consider condition of Weston Village Green; Does it require additional conditioning? Is it the right time do carry out remedial work?

DATE, TIME, and VENUE OF NEXT MEETING.

3774 Tuesday 11th April 2023 at 7.30 p.m. at Weston Village Hall

**HILARY HART
VICE CHAIR**