

# WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting that took place on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.30pm in Weston Village Hall.

## PRESENT

Councillor J Griffiths (Chair), Councillor Mrs H Hart, Councillor D Leake, Councillor Mrs R Garner, Councillor J Tallentire, Councillor Mrs G Wray.  
Stafford Borough Councillor Karine Aspin

Parish Clerk Beth Nicholls  
2 members of the public were present.

## APOLOGIES

Councillor M Hardenberg, Councillor A Massey, Councillor Mrs J Gair  
Staffordshire County Councillor John Francis, Stafford Borough Councillor Frances Beatty.

## PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

**3952 MEETING 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023 – RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7:30pm on the 13th of November 2023 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as proposed and seconded by Councillors Hart and Leake.

Chair welcomed new Clerk Beth Nicholls.

## DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

**3953** Councillor R Garner declared declaration of interest in item 8.2.

## PARISH PLAN

**3954** There were no updates.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

**3955** There were no announcements or notices that had not been circulated prior to the meeting.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

### 3956

Member of public raised concerns regarding the outdoor lighting at the Woolpack. Member of public asked for the Parish Council to raise this with the Woolpack with the suggestion for lighting to be reduced between 11pm-7am.

Member of public reported the dog poo bins on Boat Lane bins are full and require emptying.

Member of public requested pedestal bins around the green are removed and replaced with full size bins and for these to be placed closer to the kerbside. It was advised the bins on the village green are SBC Street Scene's responsibility.

Member of public raised issue with surface water on the village hall carpark entrance. Chair and VHMC representative informed members of the public that the car park had recently been resurfaced within the last 12 months.

**Actions:**

- Lighting concerns to be discussed with the Woolpack when PC meet with them.
- Chair to follow up reported bin issue.
- Clerk to send request to SBC Street Scene.
- Clerk to email Chair of VHMC with concerns raised re. car park surface water.

**REPORT FROM STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

**3957** Staffordshire County Councillor John Francis was not in attendance to present a report.

**REPORT FROM STAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCILLOR**

**3958** Stafford Borough Councillor K. Aspin gave the following update:

- Market Square work complete.
- No update on Beaconside Serco and no activity from Serco has taken place.
- Senior councillors in Stafford have given the go-ahead for the council to buy the town's Guildhall Shopping Centre.
- Local plan – ongoing. SBC have said update will be given in the new year.
- Fees and Charges for 2024 have been voted for – results will be published on SBC website.

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

**3959**

Councillor G.Wray (VHMC representative) gave the following update:

- Light switch on was successful. Money raised from renting tables and mulled wine sales. Parish Council involvement was providing soft drinks and hot food. Parish Council raised £76.25 after expenses.
- Kitchen broom cupboard – water tank is leaking, looking to remove and replace with x2 immersion heaters. Currently obtaining quotes.
- Civic amenities (next visit) 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023
- No update on Village Hall Lease.

**DEVELOPMENTS**

**3960** 23/38261/HOU – Detached Double Garage – Cherry Croft, London Road, Weston.  
*No Comments to be made.*

**3961** 23/37949/HOU – Single Storey rear extension and works to front elevation including new porch and bay – Redwing Ferrers Road, Weston.  
*No Comments to be made.*

**3962** 23/38380/HOU – Single Storey (single garage/store and a double open sided Carport, within Front Garden Domestic Curtilage – Holly Bank, Vicarage Bank, Gayton.  
*No Comments to be made.*

**TREES AND CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA**

**3963** Chair announced the Annual Inspection report of the Village Green Play Area, the Village Hall Skate Park and MUGA has been received with no major repairs required. Chair to pass on the reports to Grounds Maintenance.

**HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY**

**3963** Update on road sweeping given, all accessible gullies in the road have been cleared and road sweeper has been round.

**3964** No update on purchase of temporary flood warning sign.

**3965** Cherry Lane, Gayton – Ongoing, Councillor Hardenberg in talks with Home Plus.

Response received following letter to homes plus, they are prepared to engage but not willing to pay equal amounts as they stated fewer cars are on their properties.

**3966** Clerk has requested quotes from 3 companies to re-tarmac damaged / worn areas of the path around the Village Green. Councillor Hart reported work is required due to bumps in the tarmac as a result from tree roots, which is a trip hazard. Councillors Griffiths and Hart to meet with contractor on Friday to discuss requirements for quote.

## **CLERK REPORT**

**3967** Clerk informed Councillors of the National Salary Award agreement of an increase to the NJC scale of £1 per hour. Back pay payment **approved** to pay previous Clerk from April – end of November 2023.

**3968 RESOLVED** that the PC approve payments listed below and included on the monthly Statement of Accounts/Receipts and Payments.

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

- Clerks Gross Salary December £727.00
- Clerks Expenses December £28.50
- St Andrew Weston Grant - £1731.00
- WGM Ground Maintenance November: Winter hours £528.00 (including cherry picker hired to install Christmas lights £272.50 and Dog Bin Maintenance £72.00). Total £872.50 + £174.50 VAT = £1047.00
- Previous Clerk Pay Award back pay (April – November) - £384.14
- Previous Clerk Personal Expenses Reimbursement (Clerk File boxes) – £7.50

**3969 Resolved** that the PC approved the purchase of additional x4 Christmas lights so that they have a full spare set as part of the replacement of the old lights.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

**3970** Chair reported dog fouling issue on the Village Green which has been raised by the U14 Girls Football club and wanted awareness to be raised. Councillor Hart reported she had contacted SBC Health and Environmental department, no response received at the time of the meeting. Councillor Aspin advised Councillor Hart to email her to raise the concern for her to follow up.

### **Action:**

- Councillor Hart to email Councillor Aspin regarding SBC Health and Environmental dept. contact.

**3971** Civic Amenity will visit Weston on the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – Chair confirmed Amenity visits are 2x for Weston and 1x for Gayton.

### **Actions:**

- Councillor Hart to publicise Civic Amenity visit on noticeboards and on Facebook.
- Clerk to email SCC to request Amenity visit 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in June 2024 and first/second week in January 2025.

## **DATE, TIME, and VENUE OF NEXT MEETING.**

**3971** Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024, 7.30 p.m. at Weston Village Hall

**J GRIFFITHS  
CHAIR**

12.12.2023