

WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Gayton Annual Parish Meeting held in Gayton Village Hall on
Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 7:00pm.

1. Welcome

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

Present

Councillor J Griffiths (Chair), Councillor J Gair, Councillor H Hart, Councillor M Hardenberg, Councillor D Leake, Councillor A Massey, Councillor J Tallentire, Councillor G Wray, Stafford Borough Councillor K Aspin and Parish Clerk B Nicholls.

4 Members of the public

2. Apologies

Councillor R Garner, Stafford Borough Councillor Frances Beatty and Staffordshire County Councillor John Frances.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Gayton Annual Parish Council meeting of 13th March 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council as proposed and seconded by Councillor D Massey and Councillor J Tallentire.

4. Matters Arising from the minutes of 13th March 2023

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

5. Report of the Parish Council

Councillor M Hardenberg reported. During the year, we have held 11 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 2023, the Parish Council have managed/organised the following activities:
- We have continued to work on the plan for the work of the Parish Council over the coming three years. The progress is discussed at the monthly Parish Council meetings.
- We have implemented a new Grounds Maintenance contract to provide the grass-cutting service at Gayton Village Hall and the church. This will be financed by a grant from the PC.
- Worked closely with both the Borough and County Councils on a range of issues from highway maintenance to blocked drains, especially flooding this year. Last year, drains, manholes and gullies around Gayton have been identified on the SCC database, so we there will now b-annual clearing.
- On Hartley Green Loop, various drain covers have been replaced, but unfortunately these are full with hardcore, so this has been reported to Highways.
- The Civic Amenity/Refuse and Recycling truck has been to Gayton again, which was very much appreciated by the villages.
- We continue to be in regular contact with Sandon Estate for the repairs of various stiles and bridges on their estate around Gayton.
- We continue to report potholes on the roads in and around Gayton. This is a continuous process to ensure safe and smooth roads throughout the village and surroundings.
- There have been quite a few new (private) housing developments, which we will keep monitoring to ensure

these developments are suitable for Gayton village and its residents.

6. Parish Plan and Key Priorities for 2024

Councillor M Hardenberg reported.

- The Parish Council has agreed the annual budget in January 2024 and the annual precept for Gayton will remain the same for this year.
- Now that Gayton is on the SCC database, we will continue to monitor the roads, ditches and gullies in the area to ensure all remain in good shape and minimise the risk of flooding. We continue to report the extensive flooding on Gayton Lane and Hartley Green Loop to Stafford Borough Council.
- The continued flooding at the beginning of Gayton Lane from the A51 has now been included in the Additional Investment Members Drainage Project 2020/21. Unfortunately, there has been no update this, other than some funding might become available (no timings).
- 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 to refresh 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. Highways has confirmed the signs will be removed at some points.
- Recently, a Village News WhatsApp group has been set-up to communicate activities, developments and other news to the villagers. Although this is not an official communication tool of the Parish Council, it will provide an easy route to reach the majority of Gayton residents.

7. Any Other Business

Member of public raised concern regarding flooding on the last but one bend of the road coming into Gayton as the flooding usually decreases quickly but recently has not. Councillor H Hart advised this is most likely due to high saturation. Councillor Hart reported there is a flood risk management team that can be contacted directly.

Councillor M. Hardenburg reported that a couple of properties are also now affected by the flooding and will ensure to continue reporting every time it floods and asked members of the public to also report. Another member of public raised concern that water is running underneath the surface of the road in at least 5 places and was concerned may result in the road collapsing.

Action: Councillor H. Hart to seek out contact details for flood risk management team.
Councillor M. Hardenburg to update Gayton members of public.

8. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Tuesday 11th March 2025 at 7:00pm in Gayton Village Hall.

COUNCILLOR J Griffiths
CHAIRMAN WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL