

WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting that took place on Tuesday 13th February 2024 at 7.30pm in Weston Village Hall.

Present Councillor J Griffiths (Chair), Councillor H Hart, Councillor J Gair, Councillor M Hardenberg, Councillor A Massey, Councillor G Wray.

Parish Clerk Beth Nicholls

10 members of the public present.

24/016: To Receive any Apologies and Record any Absences.

Councillor R Garner, Councillor D Leake, Councillor J Tallentire.

Stafford Borough Councillors Karine Aspin and Frances Beatty.

Staffordshire County Councillor John Francis.

24/017: Parish Council Meeting – Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7:30pm on the 9th of January 2024 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

24/018: To Note any Declarations of Interest.

Councillor M. Hardenberg declared Declaration of Interest in item 24/027.

24/019: To Review the Parish Plan

There were no updates.

24/020: To Receive Announcements and Notices

Councillor R. Garner has requested use of the Village green for a birthday party in August. Chair confirmed there are no issues with this and as a member of public who resides in Weston and agreed as acceptable use with request made for insurance to be provided for bouncy castle hire.

24/021: Public Participation

Member of public thanked the Parish Council for two items of concern that they had previously raised, which have been resolved, one being item 24/027 b).

Another member of public raised concern regarding the lack of continuity of a footpath, from Old School Close to join existing footpaths outside Manor Fields bungalow. Member of public raised concern that the footpath is frequently used to access the bus stop. Chair requested member of public emails photos for this to be followed up and put onto next month's agenda. Member of public also informed Councillors that some residents have grass over parts of the pavement and asked where the footpath starts/finishes. Chair advised member of the public that the pavements would be a Highways matter. Chair asked member of the public to email Parish Clerk with more details to be followed up with Highways.

Action: Clerk to email Highways SCC.

24/022: To receive reports from the Borough Councillor

None received.

24/023: To receive reports from the Borough Councillor

None received.

24/024: To receive a report from the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC).

VHMC meeting took place on the 29th January 2024, items discussed:

- AGM to take place on the 22nd of April at 7:00pm. Regular hirers invited to give a report and to attend.
- Lease – VHMC asked for details of Weston with Gayton’s Parish Councils Solicitor details to proceed with new lease arrangements. Member of VHMC to email Clerk with Solicitor details.
- Flood water outside of the Village Hall gates – VHMC requested for the Parish Council to contact Highways regarding the issue with entrance to the car park flooding. VHMC reported they have spent several thousands of pounds on work to solve this issue but believe the ongoing problem is due to the speed hump.

Action: Clerk to contact Highways re. Car Park Flood issue.

24/025: To Receive an Update on Planning Applications.

- a)24/38602/PAR Barn A Moat Farm Church Lane
- b) 24/38617PAR Barn B Moat Farm Church Lane
- c) 24/38613/PAR Barn C Moat Farm Church Lane

Members of public raised concerns regarding the size of the developments and as 3 barns become 5, with concern that this could double the number of residents on Church Lane. Members of public raised concern on the impact this will have on traffic and road being a single lane. A Member of public also raised concern that the houses on Church Lane are not on mains sewerage.

Members of public raised with frustration that they were not properly informed and that notices were placed in obscure places. Clerk to contact SBC with concerns regarding the lack of notice to members of public and to query if an extension is possible for comments if not properly informed.

Member of public informed Councillors a traffic ‘auto survey’ had been conducted in Gayton over the past 5/6 days but member of public did not believe this was a fair representation due to the position of the survey strips. Chair asked member of public and Councillor M. Hardenburg to mark on a map to show where the strips had been positioned to follow up and request for repeat of traffic survey.

19:50 – Councillor A.Massey Arrived.

Action: Clerk to contact SBC planning.

Councillor M.Hardenberg updated Councillors and members of the public regarding a homeless person who is currently residing in Gayton. Councillor M. Hardenberg reported that an application for housing had been made.

24/026: To Discuss Trees and Children's Play Area issues.

Clerk distributed a document including the moderate findings following the playground report from December 2023. The report showed the surface of the Skate ramps required replacing.

Action: Clerk to request quotes for Councillors to discuss further and consider the financial impact of repairing/replacing.

24/027: To Discuss Highways and Rights of Way issues.

a) To receive an update on Cherry Lane, Gayton.

Councillor M. Hardenberg updated councillors with latest correspondence received from Homes Plus:

- Confirmed they are open to contributing towards a long-term solution to the maintenance of the road.
- Homes Plus happy for Parish Council to discuss more permanent solution with residents and suggested it may be useful to check the road or maintenance of it is not included in residents' deeds.
- Homes Plus have arranged for a temporary fix to fill the worst of the potholes.

Councillors agreed for M. Hardenberg to contact Stakeholders to discuss further.

b) To receive an update and consider quotes to repair tarmac footpath around village green.

Clerk presented quotes from 3 contractors which had been distributed to Councillors prior to the meeting. **Resolved** Councillors agreed to proceed with Quote B – £5,918.00 (Incl. VAT £7,101.60)

Action: Clerk to contact Contractor B to proceed.

c) To discuss Weston Bank ongoing water flow issue.

Clerk informed Councillors inspector from SCC will visit the site to carry out an inspection once work is complete by Severn Trent Water.

Action: Clerk to monitor and request update.

24/028: To Consider Finance Matters

a) To approve the monthly Statement of Accounts, Receipts and Payments

Clerk presented monthly statement of accounts which had been distributed to Councillors prior to the meeting, this was approved and signed by the Chair.

b) To approve the payments listed on the Statement of Accounts, Receipts, and Payments

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

- Clerks Gross Salary January **£727.03**
- Clerks Expenses January **£28.50**
- Clerk re-imburement mobile phone top up **£10.00**
- Ground Maintenance January - £618 + VAT £123.60 = **£741.60** (includes £72 Dog Bin Maintenance £72.00).
- Gayton Village Hall and St Peters Grant - £1680

Payment as detailed on Financial statement to Councillor H.Hart of **£131.86** not approved as not yet purchased.

Councillors unanimously **agreed** to add Councillor A.Massey as an additional signatory and also **agreed** for Clerk to request to set up a Business Reserves Account with current bank provider.

24/029: To Consider Items of Correspondence Received During the Previous Month.

a) Clerk informed Councillors, notification received of S137 increase for 2024/25 **£10.81**.

b) Councillors discussed Best Kept Village Competition but agreed they would not be entering this year.

c) Next TVCG meeting will take place on the 12th March 2024.

d) Clerk informed Councillors a member of public had emailed after they had reported a pothole on the A518 near Amerton Farm. No update on the report. Councillors unsure whether the pothole is situated within the Parish.

e) Clerk informed Councillors she had received an email from the Clerk at Sandon and Burston Parish Council requesting for other Parish Councils to write to SCC Traffic Controller regarding lack of public transport within the area. Councillors agreed this was an issue especially for Gayton that currently had no bus service.

Action: Clerk to write letter to SCC Traffic Controller.

24/030: To Request Items for the Next Meeting Agenda

- Old School Close pavement.
- Weston Village Hall Changing Rooms Grant.

24/031: To Confirm the Date, Time, and Venue of next meeting.

Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 7.30 p.m. at Gayton Village Hall.
Gayton Annual Parish Meeting to take place at 7:00pm.