

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WESTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 11th April 2024
7:30pm at Weston Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllr Alistair Schofield (Chair) Cllr John Cherry Cllr Jacky Jones
Cllr Steve Ludbrook Cllr Judith Evans Cllr Tim Moody

IN ATTENDANCE: Minutes taken by the Clerk

2 Members of Public up to and including 2024/04/041
County and District Councillor Steve Jarvis

2024/04/037 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUCEMENTS

Apologies were received and approved from Cllr Matthew Hale and Cllr Stewart Clifford. Cllr Ludbrook left the meeting after item 2024/04/043.

2024/04/038 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

2024/04/039 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Cllr Evans declared an interest in item 24/00482/FP Munts Maiden SG4 7AG

2024/04/040 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14th March 2024 were approved and duly authorised by the Chairman.

2024/04/041 PLANNING

- a) Council will discuss all planning applications relevant to the Parish. As at the date of this Meeting, the following applications were received:
- 24/00482/FP Munts Maiden SG4 7AG. OBJECTION: Inappropriate building on proposed site which is a high piece of land. Obtrusive to neighbours in Mill Lane and Maiden Street.
 - 24/00600/FPH and 24/00601/FPH Rowan Butt Cottage SG4 7BH. NO OBJECTION SUBJECT TO the citing of an oil tank.
 - 24/00662/LBC and 24/00661/FPH The Thatched Cottage Warrens Green Lane SG4 7ED. NO OBJECTION.
- b) NHC Decision Notices:
- 23/01259/FP Friends Green Farm. PERMISSION GRANTED
 - 24/00028/FPH Wheelers Plat Weston SG4 7AS. PERMISSION GRANTED
 - 24/00342/FPH The Haven SG4 7AJ. PERMISSION GRANTED
 - 24/00328/FPH 2 Frays Cottage SG4 7DD. PERMISSION GRANTED
- c) 23/02492/FP Roundwood: Croudace have accepted an invitation to attend the Annual Parish Meeting on the evening of 13th May 2024.

2024/04/043 FINANCE, GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATION

- a) Cheque Signing. The following items were approved for payment:
- Clerk Salary (March 2024) - £316.26
 - Clerk Expenses (WVH Invoice 642) - £12.00
 - Playdale Playgrounds Ltd (50% deposit order 51918) - £1,700.96
 - Cllr Moody Expenditure (High-Viz) - £44.00
 - Cllr Jones Expenditure (Litter Pick and flowers) - £53.10
 - Mr Roger Seifert (Grass Cutting) - £208.00
 - HAPTC (2024/25 Subscription) - £550.49
 - Weston PCC (Weston Parish News) - £600.00
- b) First Aid Training Day. Date TBC for the summer.
- c) Councillor Vacancy. An advert to be drafted for the Parish Magazine.
- d) Internal Audit year-end 31/03/24. In progress.
- e) Issue Grant Payments in accordance with Minute 2023/11/114
- Cherry Tots - £335
 - Weston Voluntary Car Service - £300
 - Weston Luncheon Club - £300

- f) Assets of Community Value. Defined as a building or other land where the main use has recently been or is presently used to further the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community and could do so in the future. Once listed as Assets of Community Value with the local authority, the local community will be informed if they are listed for sale within the five-year listing period. The community can then enact the Community Right to Bid, which gives them a moratorium period of six months to determine if they can raise the finance to purchase the asset.

It was agreed that the Clerk should renew the registration of the Red Lion and for the other Community Assets closer to their expiry dates. The Clerk will also write to the asset owners as a courtesy at the same time.

- The Cricketers. Current listing expires 26/09/24.
- The Red Lion. Current listing expired.
- Weston Village Stores and Post Office. Current listing expires 26/09/24.
- The Rising Sun. Current listing expires 25/09/24.

- g) Annual Parish Meeting Monday 13th May from 7:30pm in the Village Hall. To be advertised in the Parish Magazine.

2024/04/044 VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT including FOOTPATHS and MAINTENANCE

- a) Well on the Village Green. Deferred to the next meeting.
- b) Refurbishment of the Village Sign. Awaiting completion of the work.
- c) Memorial for American Bombers. Council agreed to this in principle and requested Cllr Clifford take the project forward.
- d) School Lane flooding. Cllr Evans is liaising with Rights of Way who have been invited to see the site.
- e) Reported Items (ALL)
- Pothole at Green End. Reported by resident. Repaired.
 - Dumped milk bottles. Reported to Milk&More. Cleared.
 - Water leak on Hitchin Road. Reported.
 - Undelivered post found by Cllr Moody during litter pick. Collected by Royal Mail.
 - Damaged road name sign on Maiden Street. Reported by resident and kindly repaired by Ian Hofton.
 - Black bags dumped on Lannock Hill. Reported by Cllr Jones.

2024/04/045 RECREATION GROUNDS and SPORTS FACILITIES.

- a) Playdale Playgrounds Order 51918. Estimated start date w/c 29th April.

2024/04/046 HIGHWAYS and LIGHTING

- a) Pedestrian safety along Hitchin Road to the junction with the Gravely Road. No update for this meeting.
- a) Gritting of Chalk Hill. Highways have declined to add this to their gritting schedule.

2024/04/047 MATTERS ARISING

- a) 2023-2024 VAT Return submission has been made for £1,468.10
- b) Horse trough and pump. To be added to the May agenda.
- c) WPC Noticeboard.
- d) The Council would like to extend their congratulations to Josephine Pertwee on the celebration of her 100th birthday, and thanked Cllr Jones for arranging flowers and a card.

2024/04/048 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETINGS

- a) Thursday 9th May 2024 at 7.30pm ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING.
- b) Monday 13th May 2024 at 7.30pm ANNUAL PARISH MEETING.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 20:49

Signed.....  Chairman

Date: 9th May 2024