

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WESTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 9th November 2023
7:30pm at Weston Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllr Alistair Schofield (Chair) Cllr Matthew Hale Cllr Stewart Clifford
Cllr Jacky Jones Cllr Judith Evans Cllr Alison Williams
Cllr John Cherry Cllr Tim Moody

IN ATTENDANCE: Minutes taken by the Clerk
County and District Councillor Steve Jarvis

2023/11/109 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and approved from Cllr Steve Ludbrook

2023/11/110 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

2023/11/111 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

2023/11/112 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12th October 2023 were approved and duly authorised by the Chairman.

2023/11/113 PLANNING

- a) Planning Applications. None received at the date of this meeting.
- b) NHC Decision Notices:
 - 23/02090/FPH. 68 Friars Road SG4 7BB. Permission granted.
 - 23/01478/FP. Friends Green Farm SG4 7BU. Permission granted.
 - 23/01806/LBC. Woodvine Cottage SG4 7DE. Listed building consent granted.
 - 23/01805/FPH. Woodvine Cottage SG4 7DE. Permission granted.
 - 23/02086/FP. Darnalls Hall Farm SG4 7AL. Permission granted.

2023/11/114 FINANCE, GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATION

- a) Cheque Signing. The following items were approved for payment:
 - Clerk Salary (October 2023) - £316.26
 - Clerks Expenses (WVCS CVS) - £24.00
 - Bullards (Grass Cutting) - £4,445.89
 - Weston Village Hall Inv 523 (Hall Hire) - £12.00
 - T Moody Expenses (WVH100) - £249.47
 - H Laycock Certificate Artwork & Framing - £100.00
- b) Weston Guide. Awaiting updates prior to printing.
- c) Grant Applications 2024. The following Grants were approved:
 - Cherry Tots - £335
 - Weston Voluntary Car Service - £300
 - Weston Luncheon Club - £300
- d) Weston Village Hall Constitution. The constitution is currently under review. The Weston Village Hall Committee will contact WPC to discuss amendments if any are proposed.
- e) First Aid Training Day. To be held at Fairclough Hall, facilitated by Hearn Training. Date to be confirmed.
- f) Budget Setting 2024/25. The Clerk to revise the draft Budget following discussions. To be placed on the December Agenda. The Reserves Policy was reviewed and no changes were made.

2023/11/115 PROJECTS. Nothing to report.

2023/11/116 VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT including FOOTPATHS and MAINTENANCE

- a) Well on the Village Green. Cllr Moody and Cllr Cherry to measure the well so that quotes can be obtained for a suitable grill.
- b) Refurbishment of the Village Sign. A Budget of £1,000 was agreed to cover the removal, cleaning and repainting.
- c) Christmas Events. Council have a Budget of £600 to cover the following events:
 - Lighting of the Christmas tree and carols. Friday 8th December.
 - Father Christmas to tour the village / cheese and wine stations. Saturday 9th December.
 - WPC's contribution to the Church Christmas Tree Festival 8/9/10 December.
- d) Village Green Damage. Cllr Schofield to contact the homeowner regarding damage believed to be as a result of parked work vehicles causing passing vehicles to mount the kerb.
- e) Reported Items (ALL)
 - Fallen tree on school lane.

2023/11/117 RECREATION GROUNDS and SPORTS FACILITIES. Nothing to report.

2023/11/118 HIGHWAYS and LIGHTING

- a) Overgrown verges impacting on road safety. Council concluded that there was no practical way of taking over responsibility for cutting the verges from Herts Highways. No further action to be taken.
- b) Road narrowing sign on Hatch Lane. Cllr Moody offered to cut back the hedge that is obscuring the sign.
- c) 20mph speed limit. WPC to compile a petition. Deferred to the January Agenda.

2023/11/119 MATTERS ARISING to be placed on the next Agenda

- a) Pollarding of trees at Forge End
- b) Topping the margins in the football field

2023/11/120 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING Thursday 14th December 2023

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 21:30

Signed.......... Chairman

Date: 14th December 2023