

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WESTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 12th September 2024
7:30pm at Weston Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllr Alistair Schofield (Chair) Cllr Matthew Hale Cllr John Cherry
Cllr Judith Evans Cllr Steve Ludbrook

IN ATTENDANCE: Minutes taken by the Clerk

County and District Councillor Steve Jarvis

One member of public up to and including item 2024/09/103

2024/09/099 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Apologies received and approved from Cllr Tim Moody, Cllr Stewart Clifford, and Cllr Jacky Jones.

2024/09/100 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. None

- a) Clarification of Minute 2024/07/078. It was noted that the request was for hardcore to be put down on the Church meadow, muddy side of the kissing gate to the recreation ground (aka the wildflower meadow) and for an extra step to be put under the stile from Church meadow into the recreation ground. The member of public thanked the Council for making the stile more accessible.

2024/09/101 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS. None

2024/09/102 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8th August 2024 were approved and duly authorised by the Chairman.

2024/09/103 PLANNING

- b) Council will discuss all planning applications relevant to the Parish. As at the date of this Agenda, the following applications have been received:
- 24/01410/FP Highgate SG4 7AJ. NO OBJECTION. WPC to request in their response that special care is taken not to disturb the roots of the copper beech tree in the neighbouring property. It is understood that the tree is currently subject to a TPO application.
 - 24/01833/FP Friends Green Farm SG4 7BU. Deferred to the next Meeting. The Clerk to request an extension to the deadline as application arrived on day of the meeting.
- c) NHC Decision Notices:
- 24/01326/FP Wixden SG4 7AS PERMISSION GRANTED
 - 24/01168/FP Land at Green End SG4 7AL PERMISSION REFUSED
- d) GA1 Roundwood. No updates for this meeting.

2024/09/104 FINANCE, GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATION

- a) Cheque Signing. The following items were approved for payment:
- Clerk Salary (August 2024) - £316.26
 - Weston Village Hall (Inv 751) - £12.00
 - Mr Roger Seifert (Grass Cutting Inv 26) - £45.50
 - Hearn Training (Defibrillator Training Day) - £100.00
- b) Defibrillator Training. 1130-1300 Saturday 14th September in the village hall.
- c) Section 3 AGAR Year Ended 31st March 2024. On the basis of the review in the opinion of the External Auditor the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. The Notice of Conclusion of Audit along with certified Sections 1, 2 and 3 of the AGAR has been published on the WPC website.
- d) Q1 Finance Report. The report was circulated. Cllr Ludbrook checked and signed the bank reconciliation.

- e) "Have your say on our Parish arrangements" NHC Survey. Council noted a letter sent to Cllr Steve Jarvis on the 20th August stating in the event that development takes place on the GA2 site WPC would request that the parish boundary be moved such that the area defined as GA2 in the Local Plan 2011-2031 is moved from the Parish of Weston into that of Great Ashby.
- f) Cessation of Weston Voluntary Car Service. The existing Reserve to be transferred into the General Reserves. This Council would like to formally thank Jane Walton for running and supporting this service for a number of years.

2024/09/105 VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT including FOOTPATHS and MAINTENANCE

- a) Well on the Village Green. The Clerk reported that the top and protective under-covers have been ordered by Cllr Moody and are due for delivery in about four weeks. The brickwork will be done prior to this delivery. Cllr Moody has dismantled the pump and started to restore the outside casing.
- b) Memorial for American Bombers. The Clerk reported that Cllr Clifford is to organise an awareness day involving a presentation of the parts found and a tour of the crash sites.
- c) Horse trough and pump. Deferred to Spring.
- d) WPC Noticeboard. Recent legislation states there is no longer a statutory requirement to display information physically so long as it is on a Parish website. Cllr Moody has dismantled the noticeboard with the agreement of the benefactors as it had fallen into a state of disrepair. WPC to write to Angela Walters expressing their thanks for the generous donation of the noticeboard. The Council expressed their thanks to Cllr Moody for undertaking this work.
- e) Footpath from Warrens Green to Leatherwells. This has been reported to the Rights of Way department at Hertfordshire County Council. Residents can report issues directly to:
 - [Rights of way | Hertfordshire County Council](#)
- f) Brambles at Forge End. A resident had requested that brambles growing on WPC-owned land be cut back. It was agreed that the vegetation could be removed, and that the Council would provide support if needed.
- g) Reported Items (ALL)
 - School Lane Footpath. All vegetation has been cut back and the pathway has been levelled by Rights of Way after it was reported by this council.

2024/09/106 RECREATION GROUNDS and SPORTS FACILITIES

- a) Recreation Building Maintenance. Cllr Schofield is liaising with the Tennis Club to form a working party to undertake the necessary work.
- b) NHC Annual Playground inspections. The fee for each playground will be £50. The Clerk to request both the Recreation ground and The Snipe play areas are inspected.

2024/09/107 HIGHWAYS and LIGHTING.

- a) Overgrown verges and hedges. Cllr Jarvis reported that extra and / or additional visibility cuts are to be made next year. WPC to contact individual landowners regarding overgrown hedges.

2024/09/108 MATTERS ARISING to be added to the next Agenda:

- a) Grant Applications. The closing date for applications is Friday 7th November 2024. All applications will be considered at a meeting of Full Council on Thursday 14th November 2024.
- b) 80th Anniversary of "Victory in Europe" Day (8th May 2025).

2024/09/109 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING Thursday 10th October 2024 at 7.30pm

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 20:24

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

Date: 10th October 2024