

MINUTES OF WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 14 OCTOBER 2008 IN WESTON VILLAGE HALL

Present: C. Critchlow (Chairman)

Councillor D. Bowers
Councillor Mrs. A. Brook
Councillor Dr. K. Evans
Councillor A. Hopkin
Councillor D. Kirby
Councillor Mrs. A. Martin
County Councillor L. Bloomer

Clerk Mrs. C. L. Hawley

Apologies: Parish Councillor R. Tonge, PC O. Blewitt, PC M. Napier, PCSO Neil Williams and Borough Councillor Mrs. F. Beatty.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9 September 2008

57. **RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9 September 2008 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as proposed and seconded by Parish Councillors Mrs. A. Brook and Mrs. A. Martin respectively.

Matters Arising from Parish Council Meeting held on 9 September 2008

58. The following matters arising were discussed:

- At minute number 42, Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook advised that she had written to former Parish Councillor Mr. Ben Orgill thanking him for his service to the Villages and the Parish Council, and wishing him happiness in the future.
- At minute number 44, in relation to Leader Funding, the Clerk advised that a representative from the Community Council of Staffordshire would, hopefully, be able to attend the December Parish Council meeting.
- At minute number 47 in relation to the fencing at Salt Works Lane, Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook advised that this was now resolved.
- At minute number 54, the Clerk advised that BT's consultation in relation to their proposal to re-align payphone provision had now been extended until 1 November 2008.

Declaration of Interest

59. No declarations of interest were recorded.

Announcements and Notices

60. The following matters were noted:

- The Clerk advised that Stafford and Rural Homes were holding their annual Open Event from 2.30pm on Thursday 6 November 2008 at their offices at The Rurals, 1 Parker Court, Dyson Way, Staffordshire Technology Park, Stafford.
- The Clerk advised that the Staffordshire Police non emergency telephone number had changed to 0300 123 4455.
- The 69th Annual General Meeting of the Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association would take place on 15 November 2008. **RESOLVED** – That Parish Councillor Critchlow attend.
- The Clerk reported on the 'Consultation on Issues and Options for (1) The Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Waste Core Strategy and (2) The Staffordshire Mineral Core Strategy'.

- The Clerk advised that the 'Stafford Borough Council Local Development Framework - Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment – Initial Findings' document was now available on the Stafford Borough Council website at www.staffordbc.gov.uk At this stage no decisions had been made on the preferred locations for any new development. Any additional comments were requested by the Borough Council by 12.00 noon on Tuesday 11 November 2008.
- Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook reported on an article she had seen in the Stafford Post regarding the possible identification of land in the Parish for future development.

Public Participation

61. No additional issues were raised.

Reports

62. The Clerk had circulated the September Police report to Parish Councillors. In addition, the following matters were noted:

- There was some concern in relation to Halloween. It was noted that the Police would be on duty in the Village during Halloween.
- There had been some activity at the school with youths climbing on the roof, and a metal dome and goal posts being damaged.
- Parish Councillor Critchlow reported that there had been some damage to his fence.
- Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook reported that youths had taken bottles of wine out of the Salt Works Lane show house.
- Youths had also tried to get into Weston Village Hall.

Developments

63. No planning applications had been received by the Clerk.

64. The following planning decision had been received from Stafford Borough Council:

- Planning Application No. 08/10531/FUL – 31 Weston Road. Erection of conservatory to rear. **Permitted.**
- Planning Application No. 08/10620/FUL – The Firs, Churchfields, Gayton. Retention of four lamp posts with decorative lighting. **Permitted.**
- Planning Application No. 08/10292/FUL – Church Cottage, Stafford Road, Weston. Conservatory. **Permitted.**

65. The following planning appeal had been received from Stafford Borough Council:

- Planning Application No. 07/09254/ADV – Rooks Nest Farm, Weston Bank, Weston. Signage. The Appeal start date was 18 September 2008.

Salt Works Lane

66. It was noted that some of the Units at Salt Works Lane had been sold and discussion took place as to when these Units would be occupied. Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook expressed concern in relation to the actions of Wimpey and stated that she had sought the advise of Borough Councillor Mrs. Beatty. Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook had checked all of the planning applications for Salt Works Lane and confirmed that it was not possible for any of the Units to be occupied until work on the Live / Work Units and slip way were actioned.

Parish Councillor Critchlow highlighted the National Planning Policy that had to be adhered to. The current difficulties in the economy were noted, and their impact on the building sector. Further discussion took place regarding access, lighting, pavements and roads at the Salt Works Lane development.

Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook advised that the development needed to be policed and that Borough Councillor Mrs. Beatty was to meet with the Head of Planning at Stafford Borough Council.

67. **RESOLVED** – (a) That Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook speak to Borough Councillor Mrs. Beatty regarding her meeting with the Borough Council planners and policing the Salt Works Lane development and report back to the Parish Council, and (b) That the Parish Council seek clarification in relation to Wimpey fulfilling their obligations in line with their planning permission. The Clerk write to the Borough Council stating that the Parish Council are aware that people might be moving into units within the development before they should, and that Wimpey might have to apply for the removal of condition number 6 to their planning permission.

Policy

68. In relation to the Handyman's Job List, Parish Councillor Hopkin advised the Parish Council that he had highlight, on a map, the relevant areas of grass for the Handyman to cut with the sit on mower.

Property

69. The following matters were discussed:

- Weston Village Hall. Discussion took place regarding the plans for the modifications to Weston Village Hall. Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook advised that she had spoken to Weston Village Hall Management Committee and they hoped to have the plans soon. Parish Councillor Critchlow expressed concern regarding the standard of some of the work undertaken in the kitchen, and to the doors. He added that all work undertaken must comply with the necessary legislation. Parish Councillor Hopkin suggested that the Parish Council should oversee all of the work undertaken in the Village Hall to ensure that it was of the correct standard and met the necessary regulations. **RESOLVED** – (a) That the Parish Council oversee the work to the Village Hall, (b) That Parish Councillor Critchlow arrange for the plans to be drawn up as soon as possible and presented to the Parish Council at the November 2008 meeting, and (c) That the Clerk invite the Chairman of Weston Village Hall to the November Parish Council meeting.
- Land at Old School Close, Weston. The Chairman advised that he had read the contract relating to the sale of the land. The papers had now been forwarded to the purchaser for consideration. **RESOLVED** – That Parish Councillor Critchlow report back at the November meeting.
- Spencer Close, Weston. Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook advised that she was to have a meeting with Karen Armitage from Stafford and Rural Homes (SARH) in relation to the ongoing issues. Discussion took place in relation to parking in Spencer Close, Weston. **RESOLVED** – That Parish Councillor Hopkin forward his drafted letter to the residents in the area of Spencer Close.
- Wayleave, Weston Village Green. Parish Councillor Critchlow advised that the map was with the Solicitor. **RESOLVED** – That the Clerk ensure that the Solicitor had received the map and was moving this matter forward.
- Multi Use Games Area. Parish Councillor Critchlow reported that he had made the necessary grant applications and was awaiting a reply. **RESOLVED** – That this item be discussed at the November Parish Council meeting.
- Trees in Weston. Parish Councillors Hopkin and Mrs. Brook advised that it had taken a considerable time to accurately check all of the trees in the Village and mark them on a map. **RESOLVED** – That Parish Councillor Hopkin now add the house numbers and postcodes to the map to confirm the location of the trees.
- Notice Boards. The Chairman reported that the Notice Boards were all ordered and a delivery date was awaited once they had been completed.
- Memorial Sign for Tom Tavernor. Parish Councillors viewed the street furniture brochure, and discussion took place regarding the memorial sign for the late Tom Tavernor. It was agreed that the cast iron design signage at a cost of £498.00 was very attractive, together with the round finial at a cost of £129.00. This could be located by the Weston War Memorial. Consideration was also given as to the wording on finger posts which could be attached to the signage. These could read, and show the direction of the 'Village Hall', 'Methodist Hall', 'Church', 'School', and 'Village Green'. Discussion

took place regarding the most appropriate commemorative wording which could be 'In Memory of Tom Tavernor'. **RESOLVED** – That Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook (a) Ascertain the total price, (b) Discuss the suggested signage, wording and funding with the Tavernor family, (c) Speak to the suppliers regarding who would be responsible for erecting the sign, and (d) Report back to the Parish Council.

- Finger Post. **RESOLVED** - That this item be removed from the agenda.

Public Rights of Way

70. Discussion took place in relation to the following:

- Weston Feasibility Study. Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook advised that Mr. John Sly had been unable to attend this meeting. He had stated that he would prefer to attend a Parish Council meeting when in receipt of all of the necessary information regarding traffic flows etc. Discussion took place regarding the Salt Works Lane development adding to the current traffic problems and it was noted that the Weston residents had concerns about the traffic flows as they were now. **RESOLVED** – That the Parish Clerk write to Mr. John Sly expressing the current concerns of the Weston residents and noting that the current problems will be exacerbated with the Salt Works Lane development.
- Parish Councillor Mrs. Martin advised that she had received a letter from the school regarding the voluntary one way system that operated in the roads around the school at the times when school children were being dropped off in the morning and collected in the afternoon. The school had cancelled the 'Walking Bus' as there were not enough parent volunteers walking without pushchairs. Parish Councillor Dr. Evans stated that this information was included in the current school newsletter. **RESOLVED** – That Parish Councillors Mrs. Martin and Dr. Evans raise these matters at the School Governors meeting on 16 October 2008 and report back to the Parish Council at its November meeting.
- Bins in Weston. The Clerk advised that she had emailed Streetscene and the Dog Warden in relation to the requested bins and dog fouling notices. **RESOLVED** – That Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook contact Mr. Chris Hindle in relation to the requested bins.

Best Kept Village

71. It was noted that Parish Councillors Mrs. Brook had purchased some flowers for the flower beds. (See minute number 73 below).

Discussion took place regarding the 2009 BKV Competition and it was **RESOLVED** – That the Parish Clerk invite Mrs. Mavis Willing to the November Parish Council meeting when further discussion could take place in relation to the 2009 BKV Competition.

Finance

72. The Clerk reported on the monthly Statement of Accounts/Receipts and Payments and record of Clerks hours worked. The Current Account balance of £1,446.35 and the Reserve Account balance of £10,439.50 were noted.

Parish Councillor Critchlow reported that he had made the necessary grant applications as previously agreed.

The following accounts were approved for payment:

Clerk's salary October	289.77
Clerks travel (148 miles x 0.52p)	76.96
Clerks phone calls, emails, etc (25x 32p)	8.00
Broadband connection October	7.66
Handyman Salary October 2008 (16 hrs per week)	400.00
Advec Ltd	32.90
Pickering Plant Hire	47.00
SL Servicing	96.25

73. **RESOLVED** – (a) That the monthly Statement of Accounts/Receipts and Payments, and record of Clerks hours worked be approved, (b) That the Clerk contact SL Servicing regarding the invoices received, (c) The Clerk ensure that the Advtec invoice is correctly payable, and (d) That the following additional payments be approved:

○ Parish Councillor Mrs. A. Brook BKV flowers	£19.00
○ Orchard Street Furniture – new bench	£498.56
○ SL Servicing	£250.00

Correspondence and Other Matters

74. The Clerk reported on the following correspondence:

- Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association Annual Report and Accounts 2007 – 2008.
- Stafford Borough Council Members Digest.
- Stone and Eccleshall Bus Timetable October 2008.
- Town and Parish Standard.
- Discussion took place on earlier conversations and a letter being sent to residents in The Green, Weston in relation to the parking of vehicles in dangerous locations, including opposite junctions and within 10 metres of a junction. Discussion took place regarding a letter now being sent asking those residents to show consideration when parking their vehicles. **RESOLVED** – That the Clerk and Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook speak to PCSO Neil Williams and ask that he visits and knocks on doors to asks residents to show consideration for others when parking.
- Discussion took place regarding the Solicitor which the Parish Council currently employed. **RESOLVED** – That as the majority of the outstanding work had now been completed, the Clerk make enquiries regarding Solicitors, and request terms of reference and the possible discharge of any current paperwork from the existing Solicitor.
- Parish Councillor Critchlow advised that he would soon be in receipt of the poppies for Remembrance Sunday and asked if the Parish Councillors would once again help to sell them in the Village. It was noted that the Remembrance Sunday Service would commence a little earlier this year as the congregation from the Methodist Church would be joining the service.

Items for the next Parish Council meeting

75. The following items were agreed for discussion at the next Parish Council meeting:

- Best Kept Village Competition.
- Salt Works Lane.
- Plans for Weston Village Hall.
- Parish Council web site.

Date of the next meeting

76. The next Parish Council Meeting was to take place at **7.00pm on Tuesday 11 November 2008** in Weston Village Hall.

**COLIN CRICHLAW
CHAIRMAN**