

MINUTES OF WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 10 MARCH 2009 IN GAYTON VILLAGE HALL

Present: C. Critchlow (Chairman)

Councillor D. Bowers
Councillor Mrs. A. Brook
Councillor Dr. K. Evans
Councillor C. Gilbert
Councillor A. Hopkin
Councillor D. Kirby
Councillor Mrs. A. Martin

Also in Attendance: Borough Councillor Mrs. F. Beatty.

Apologies: Parish Councillors R. Tonge, Parish Clerk Mrs. C. L. Hawley and County Councillor L. Bloomer.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13 January 2009

160. **RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13 January 2009 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman, as proposed and seconded by Councillors Hopkin and Kirby respectively

Matters Arising from Parish Council Meeting held on 13 January 2009

161. The following matters arising were discussed:

- At minute number 137, Parish Councillor Hopkin stated that it should read "investigate" the price of hedging.
- At minute number 146, Parish Councillor Kirby asked whether the weatherproofing of benches just mean the two benches in the area close to Meadowbank or all the benches in the village?

Declaration of Interest

162. All Parish Councillors declared an interest in the Weston Village Hall planning application at minute number 166 below.

Announcements and Notices

163. The following were noted:

- The next visit of the Civic Amenity vehicle was scheduled for 14 March 2009 from 10.00 – 11.00am on Weston Village Hall car park.
- Civic Amenity Visit dates for 2009/10 had been received. The first visits were scheduled in Weston on 18 April, 2009 and Gayton 30 May, 2009 between 10-11.00 a.m. **RESOLVED** – That the dates would be placed on the notice boards.
- The Village Fete was to take place on Saturday 13 June 2009.
- The Church Fete had been cancelled. Instead there would be an Open Garden Event on 11 and 12 July 2009.
- Delivering the Plan. Notices were to be put on the Notice Boards advertising the dates left to attend Public meetings

Public Participation

164. No additional matters were raised.

Reports

165. PC Mark Napier was not in attendance to present the Police report to the Parish Council, which the Clerk circulated. Parishioners were advised to report any incidents on the new non-emergency Police telephone number of 0300 123 4455.

Parish Councillor Clifford reported a theft of garden equipment stolen from a shed at a property in Gayton. It appeared that high value items were being targeted. Parish Councillor Clifford suggested that a warning be issued to all households to keep their sheds locked.

Developments

166. The following were noted:

- Notification had been received of an application for extending parking of a caravan for a period of 2 years at Plants Farm Shirleywich. **RESOLVED** – That the Parish Council had no comments.
- Planning application for Weston Village Hall and Multi Use Games Area had been submitted. It was noted that the Parish Council should not comment on this planning application as it had submitted the application, and therefore all Parish Councillors should declare an interest.

Local Development Framework

167. Councillor Beatty spoke to the meeting about the Local Development Framework where the proposed future housing allocation for Weston was listed as 111 in an area at the southern end of Weston. This allocation ties in and is in addition to the current development of (100) houses in Salt Works Lane. This allocation of 111 further properties was recommended by the Planning department as future planning requirements over the next 15 years.

It was noted that any objections and comments are requested to be submitted by 3 April 2009 to Stafford Borough Council. Borough Councillor Beatty suggested that the Parish Council could make an objection on the grounds of the surrounding infrastructure: the road system not being able to cope with the increased number of vehicles. Further, Network Rail had now received funding for the Stafford Parkway Project at Colton including a Park and Ride system for Stafford, which will further increase vehicle numbers.

The Chairman read an e-mail received from Councillor Brendon McKeown with the suggestion that Weston with Gayton Parish Council, Hixon and other local Parish Council's submit one objection on behalf of all the Parish Council's in the area.

Councillor Beatty advised Weston with Gayton Parish Council to submit their objections as soon as possible.

168. **RESOLVED** – That the Parish Council submit its comments on the Local Development Framework.

Salt Works Lane

169. Councillor Beatty spoke about the Salt Works Lane development. Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook provided a plan showing the changes that the Developer was proposing to submit to the Borough Council. This plan showed an increase (24%) in the numbers of dwellings, and the loss of all the green spaces in the development.

Concern was expressed about the loss of green space from the Canal Arm to what would be the proposed fencing at the bottom of gardens to proposed dwellings, in the Boatyard area.

Although no application had yet been submitted, Planners had indicated that they would approve the application. It was agreed that Councillor Beatty would "call in" this application on behalf of Weston with Gayton Parish Council when application was submitted.

Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook stated that she would also attend the Planning meeting.

Parish Councillor Hopkin reiterated the importance of maintaining the plans for the green spaces along the Canal area. If access to the Canal is denied then the only green space available to Parishioners will be The Green in the centre of the village. A further point of importance would be a canal bridge.

170. **RESOLVED** –That the Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook attend the Planning Committee.

Policy

171. Discussion took place regarding a Parish Plan. Parish Councillor Hopkin suggested a separate meeting be called to fully discuss this matter. Stowe Parish Councillor Chris Hilston had indicated that he would be happy to attend a meeting of Weston with Gayton Parish Council to discuss how Stowe Parish Council compiled their Parish Plan.

172. **RESOLVED** - That Councillor Hilston be invited to a meeting to make a presentation on Parish Plans.

Property

173. The following matters were discussed:

- Weston Village Hall.
 - The planning application for the Weston Village Hall Extension had been submitted. Parish Councillor Critchlow confirmed that he had met with Mrs. Blackman and Mrs. Kirby from Weston Wombats, and showed the updated plans to them explaining how the separation of the building will actually be. He had also offered a 'marked up' plan to them for submission to OFSTED. Dates were confirmed when works could be carried out during the summer holidays, commencing the 3rd week in July 2009.
 - Discussion took place regarding the order of work. It was agreed that the toilets would be done first (3rd week in July), and the extension to the back of the building and work inside the building during the following 7 week period.
 - Village Hall bookings during this period would need to be checked with Mr. B. Wilson.
 - Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook informed the meeting that outside lights were now installed at the Village Hall and worked on a timer system. The Village Hall Solicitor had asked for the location of the original Trust Deeds. **RESOLVED** – That the Clerk check for these.
- Land at Old School Close, Weston.
 - The Chairman confirmed that all parties concerned had now signed the documentation.
- Spencer Close, Weston.
 - Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook gave her apologies and asked that this item be added to the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting as she had been heavily involved with the Salt Works Lane development.
- Multi Use Games Area (MUGA).
 - It was noted that the planning application had been submitted with the Village Hall plans.
- Tom Tavernor.
 - The Chairman apologised and asked that this item be added to the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.
 - Parish Councillor Hopkin reported that Parishioner Mrs. M. Willing had informed him of grants available to repair Finger Posts. Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook confirmed that she had spoken to man concerned and it was **RESOLVED** - That Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook would make further enquiries.
- Notice Boards.
 - Some Parishioners had commented on the height of the boards and the difficulty they had in reading articles displayed. **RESOLVED** – (a) That Parish Councillors Critchlow and Mrs. Brook would meet to agree a new height for the boards, and (b) That Parish Councillor Critchlow make enquiries about planters for the boards, and copies of an old map of Weston for the back of the boards.
 - Parish Councillor Gilbert suggested increasing the font size of the minutes displayed in the notice boards.

Public Rights of Way

174. The following matters were discussed:

- Parish Councillor Gilbert had forwarded details of Dog Fouling signs to the Parish Clerk. Signs were to be purchased and placed around Weston and Gayton. The Parish Clerk had located copies of the Bye Laws for the Village Green. **RESOLVED** – That signs for the Playground and Bye Laws to be investigated further.
- Parish Councillor Hopkin reminded the meeting that discussion had taken place previously concerning signs at the entrances to the Village along the main roads. **RESOLVED** – That Parish Councillor Critchlow to check progress with Parish Clerk.
- Parish Councillor Kirby raised the question of “Children Crossing/Playing” signs to be placed near the Village Hall and on the Green. **RESOLVED** – That Parish Councillor Critchlow ask the Parish Clerk to contact the Highways department and clarify where responsibility lies.

Best Kept Village

175. Confirmation was made of a meeting to be held on Friday 13 March 2009 at Weston Village Hall. Parish Councillor Kirby raised the question of advertising the event and Parish Councillor Mrs. Brook agreed to print off notices to be placed in all Notice Boards, St. Andrew’s School, the Village shop, the Woolpack and the Saracens public houses and in the Village Hall.

Finance

176. Due to unforeseen circumstances finances could not be discussed in detail.

177. **RESOLVED** – That the following accounts forwarded to the Chairman by the Parish Clerk be agreed:

Clerk’s salary March 2009	289.77
Clerks travel (124 x 0.587p)	72.78
Clerks phone calls, emails, etc (15x 32p)	4.80
Broadband connection March	7.66
Handyman Salary March 2009	400.00
Pickering Plant Hire	46.00

178. Discussion took place regarding the remaining Gayton Concurrent Function. A request for £130.00 was made by Councillor Gilbert to be used to up-grade Gayton Village Hall’s mower. Parish Councillors Hopkin and Mrs. Brook approved and seconded this request respectively.

179. **RESOLVED** – That the request for the remaining Gayton Concurrent Function money be put in writing by Councillor Gilbert and e-mailed to Chairman Critchlow.

Correspondence and Other Matters

180. The following correspondence was noted:

- A letter from St. Andrew’s Church. **RESOLVED** - This to be included on next month’s agenda.
- A letter from Mrs. Sharon Norman, STAA, (St. Andrew’s School PTA). This was a suggestion for a pathway across The Green, put forward with regard to the Walking Bus Scheme. Various options were discussed by Parish Councillors with some Parish Councillors in favour and others not, as it was felt that the pathway would be mainly for the benefit of people from outside the Village and it was agreed that the Deeds of Weston Village Green needed to be looked into before any decision was made.
- Parish Councillor Gilbert reported that he had written to Arriva Bus Company at the request of a Parishioner regarding their timetables. Parish Councillor Gilbert was asked to submit a copy of this letter to the Parish Clerk.

Items for the next Parish Council meeting

181. Parish Councillors were asked to forward any requests to the Parish Clerk.

Date of the next meeting

182. The next Parish Council Meeting was to take place at 7.00pm on Tuesday 14 April 2009 in Weston Village Hall.

**COLIN CRICHLOW
CHAIRMAN**