

WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting that took place on Tuesday 11 May 2010 in Weston Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT:

Councillor D Kirby, Chairman
Councillor Dr. K Evans
Councillor C Gilbert
Councillor A Hopkin
Councillor Mrs A Martin
Parish Clerk Mrs J Gilbert

APOLOGIES: Councillor Mrs A Brook, Councillor C Critchlow, Councillor D Bowers, Councillor R Tonge

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

258. The outgoing Chairman, Councillor Kirby, confirmed that he was willing to stand again. There were no other nominations for appointment. The election of Councillor Kirby as Chairman was proposed by Councillor Mrs Martin and seconded by Councillor Gilbert.

RESOLVED - by unanimous agreement that Councillor Kirby be re-appointed as Chairman.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON

259. The outgoing Vice-Chairman, Councillor Hopkin, confirmed that he was willing to stand again. There were no other nominations for appointment. The election of Councillor Hopkin as Vice-Chairman was proposed by Councillor Evans and seconded by Councillor Martin.

RESOLVED - by unanimous agreement that Councillor Hopkin be re-appointed as Vice-Chairman.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

260. There were no declarations of interest in any of the matters on the agenda.

APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES

261. RESOLVED - that Councillor Mrs Martin continue to be the Parish Council's nomination as Community Governor for St Andrew's School.

262. RESOLVED - that Councillor Hopkin continue to be the Parish Council's representative on the Weston Village Hall Committee.

263. RESOLVED – that Councillor Evans continue to be the Parish Council's internal auditor.

DATES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR 2010/2011

264. The dates of Parish Council meetings for 2010/2011 had been published as agreed at previous meetings.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 13 APRIL 2010 – MINUTES

265. RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13 April 2010 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as proposed and seconded by Parish Councillors Mrs Martin and Gilbert.

CHAIRMAN'S ACTIONS

266. The Chairman reported that completion of the Correspondence Log had become no longer necessary.

RESOLVED - that the Clerk cease to complete the Log

UPDATE ON ACTION LIST

267. The action list had been updated and this was discussed in detail.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

268. RESOLVED - that the Parish Council note the following events:

- Annual Parish Meeting 19 May 2010
- Best Kept Village Children's Poster Competition
- Weston Village Fete 12 June 2010
- Gayton Beer Festival 19/20 June 2010

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

269. There were no requests for public participation.

REPORTS

270. There were no reports from Borough Councillor, County Councillor or from the Police.

RESOLVED – that the Clerk invite the Community Police Officers to each Parish Council meeting.

Parishioners were advised to contact the Police non-emergency phone number of 0300 123 4455. In an emergency the usual number of 999 should be dialled

DEVELOPMENTS

271. The Clerk reported that Borough Councillor Beatty had not yet obtained any further information about the planning appeal regarding the multi-sports area time-of-use restrictions

POLICY

272. Leader Funding

Councillor Kirby suggested that an application for Leader Funding, for the creation of a new public footpath from the Salt Works Lane development to the existing lock and Brineworks bridge, might provide an alternative method of securing access to the canal towpath should it prove impossible to progress the proposed footbridge.

RESOLVED – that Councillors Kirby and Gilbert research and put together a proposal for the Parish Council to consider.

PROPERTY

273. Weston Village Hall

Councillor Hopkin gave an update on work in progress and confirmed that the builders were on target to complete the works in 2-3 weeks.

274. Play Equipment signs

Councillor Kirby gave an update on his enquiries and produced some specimen signs.

RESOLVED – that a proposal for purchasing the signs be brought to the next Parish Council meeting.

275. Parish Council Mowers

Discussion took place about problems caused by the Parish Council lawnmowers breaking down. Councillors put forward options such as replacing the mower/s, or removing the need for the Parish Council to own mowers, such as leasing or contracting out the work.

RESOLVED – that Councillors Kirby and Hopkin draw up an option appraisal and a business case for the future method of maintaining the public areas in Weston, for consideration at a future Parish Council meeting towards the end of the summer season.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE (BKV)

276. The relevant Parish Councillor was not present to give an update on a possible BKV event. Councillor Mrs Martin briefed the Parish Council about the Children's Poster Competition and suggestions were made for judging it.

FINANCES

277. Statement of Accounts 2009/2010

The Clerk presented a set of accounting statements for the year ending 31 March 2010 that included a financial summary and an explanation of significant year on year variances. These had been approved by the internal auditor and needed to be signed by the Chairman before submission to the Audit Commission by 9 June 2010.

Under the provisions of the Audit Commission Act 1988, the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 (as amended), any person interested had the opportunity to inspect and make copies of the accounts, on request to the Clerk by 8 June 2010 or by contacting the Audit Commission after they had been submitted. Local Government Electors and their representatives also had the opportunity to question the auditor about the accounts: and the right to make objections to the accounts or any item in them. A notice had been placed on noticeboards to this effect.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council approve the accounting statements to be submitted to the Audit Commission along with bank reconciliation and the explanation of significant variances and that the Chairman sign them on behalf of the Parish Council.

278. Statement of Balances/Receipts and Payments

The Clerk reported on the monthly statement of receipts and payments. Bank balances were not available as statements are not yet being sent to the new Clerk.

The following accounts were presented for payment:	£
Clerk's additional hours March	99.40
Clerk's mileage	48.40
Pickering's Plant	47.00
Clerk's Petty Cash	100.00
AON Ltd – Alliance Insurance Premium	1755.61
Handyman's expenses – petrol	60.00
Pat Hodson Builder and Contractor – Weston Village Hall works	24545.70

The Clerk drew attention to the following expenditure already committed for the forthcoming month.

	£
Handyman's salary	364.00
Clerk's salary	318.77
Clerk's attendance at SPCA Clerk's Day 16 June 1010	40.00
Grounds Maintenance contract	128.34

RESOLVED – that the Parish Council approve an increase in Petty Cash to be held by the Clerk to £100.

RESOLVED - that the Parish Council approve payment of the above accounts.

RESOLVED – that the Parish Council note the committed expenditure.

CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS

279. Correspondence received

The Parish Council noted the receipt of, and considered, the following correspondence:

- Notification by the Post Office of the temporary closure of Weston Post Office and alternative PO services in the area
- Items of news and interest supplied by Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association
- Letter from Stafford and Rural Homes acknowledging request for them to brief the Parish Council on Rural Exception Housing
- Letter from Staffordshire Health Scrutiny Committee offering support with concerns about local health services
- Notification of Health Walks and a Charity Walk
- Trading Standard Alert about computer support fraud
- Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Archive Service Newsletter
- Clerk and Councils Direct magazine
- Invitation for the Chairman to attend Stafford Borough Council's Mayor's celebrations
- A request from Stafford Town and Berkswich Under 13 Junior Football Team to play on Weston Village Green on Sundays.
- **RESOLVED** - that the Parish Council consider the request at next meeting
- A complaint from a resident that open-topped lorries containing building rubble from the Salt Works Lane development were driving through Weston at speed, risking spillage of their contents.
- **RESOLVED** – that in the interests of Health and Safety this item could not be delayed until the next meeting and that the Parish Clerk should write to the site office to bring this to the developer's attention.

DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETINGS

280. Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 19 May 2010 in Weston Village Hall at 7.30pm

281. Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 8 June 2010 in Weston Village Hall at 7.30pm

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

282. RESOLVED – that the public be excluded from the meeting in accordance with Paragraph 1 of Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, due to the possible disclosure of confidential information.

**DAVID KIRBY
CHAIRMAN**