

WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting that took place on Tuesday 13th September 2016 in Weston Village Hall at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Councillor Colin Critchlow (Chair), Councillor J Griffiths, Councillor C Gilbert, Councillor D Tams, Councillor Mrs H Hart, Stafford Borough Councillor Mrs. F Beatty, Parish Clerk Mrs A Kingston

1 Member of the public

APOLOGIES: Councillor Mrs Gail Wray, Councillor Ken Barber, Councillor Alan Hopkin, Staffordshire County Councillor L Bloomer

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 12TH JULY 2016 - MINUTES

1361.RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) Meeting held on 12th July 2016 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as proposed and seconded by Parish Councillors Tams and Gilbert.

CO-OPTION TO FILL VACANCIES

1362.No applications to fill the vacancy of Parish Councillor for Weston have been received by the Clerk.
RESOLVED – Clerk to advertise the vacancy on the Parish Council noticeboards and on the website.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1363.None

UPDATE ON ACTION LIST

1364.An application for funding from the Staffordshire Police and Crime Commissioner's People Power Fund is almost complete, and will be submitted by the deadline on the 14th September 2016. Funding is being sought to purchase the necessary equipment to establish a Community Speedwatch programme in Weston.

1365.The Parish Council is awaiting a response from Staffordshire County Council as to the status regarding the adoption of Saltworks Lane. Councillor Mrs F Beatty has requested a response from the relevant planning officer at Stafford Borough Council to establish if there are any issues from the Borough Council's perspective that might delay the adoption. **RESOLVED** – Councillor Critchlow to pursue a response from Staffordshire County Council and feed back to the next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

1366.The Clerk informed the meeting that the interest rate on two of the Councils bank accounts has recently changed.

1367.The Parish Forum will take place on Thursday 29 September 7pm. **RESOLVED** – Clerk and Councillor Mrs H Hart to attend.

1368.The Community Council of Staffordshire AGM will be held on the 6th October at Stowe by Chartley Village Hall.

1369.The Highway Infrastructure Asset Management Policy has been produced and parish and town councils are being asked to comment on the document and approach outlined. The deadline for comments is 9th October 2016. **RESOLVED** – Clerk to circulate the report. Any responses or comments to be returned to the Clerk by 3rd October for submission.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1370.There were no issues raised by members of the public.

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

1371. County Councillor Len Bloomer was not in attendance.

REPORT FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

1372. Councillor Mrs F Beatty provided an update on the status of the town centre development and future plans for the wider town centre. Discussions are underway with the owners of the site that was previously designated for a Morrisons Supermarket with a view to opening the car park as soon as possible. The site will still house a supermarket and a number of small shops.

1373. A discussion was held regarding the proposed development at Hixon Airfield, which it was felt, could have implications for residents in Weston and Gayton. No formal response was submitted on behalf of the Parish Council, however Councillor Mrs. F Beatty agreed to feedback the concerns of some individual Parish Councillors to the Stafford Borough Councillors who have called it in.

DEVELOPMENTS

1374. No new planning applications within the parish. See item 1373 above.

TREES AND CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

1375. Detailed quotations and specifications of play equipment have been received from three suppliers of play equipment, Wicksteed, HAGS and Sovereign. A lengthy discussion was held regarding the different items of equipment and the varying options for flooring. It was agreed by unanimous vote that the preferred option was Wicksteed.

The Parish Council have £8,000 from Tesco ground work to put towards the new installation but will still need to contribute approximately £3,000 to cover the cost of the installation work. Removal of two small items of old equipment and flooring is not covered in the cost, so it is hoped a working party of local residents could be organised to help remove the old equipment and dig out the flooring, in preparation for the installation of the new item. **RESOLVED** – Councillor Critchlow to contact Wicksteed to obtain a full project plan and timescales for installation. **RESOLVED** – Clerk to publicise the work party dates/times once agreed. Anyone interested in being part of a work party to remove the old play equipment please contact the Clerk by email: parishclerk@westonstaffs.org.uk or by calling 07594 002590.

1376. A detailed discussion was held regarding the latest Playground safety inspection report dated 18th August 2016 from the external playground inspectors John Hicks. The low risk issues raised regarding the condition of the flooring will be addressed when the new item of play equipment is installed. **RESOLVED** – Councillor Critchlow to carry out a full inspection of the Skate Park signage with a view to improving the provision of permanent signage. Councillor Critchlow to assess the two areas of repair identified at the skate park and obtain quotations for repair work.

WESTON VILLAGE HALL

1377. A new village hall committee was successfully elected at the public meeting held on Monday 5th September. The Chairman Angela Martin was in attendance to update the Parish Council on the roles of the new Committee and to outline the proposal for future committee meetings. All committee meetings will take place on the 4th Tuesday of each month and will be open to members of the public.

NOISE COMPLAINTS

1378. The Parish Council have received a number of complaints regarding the level of noise at the Woolpack public house. **RESOLVED** – Clerk to write to the Brewery.

FINANCES

1379. RESOLVED – that the PC approve payments listed on the monthly Statement of Accounts/Receipts and Payments.

1380. RESOLVED – that the PC approve the monthly Statement of Accounts/Receipts and Payments

1381. The certified Annual Return has been received from the external Auditors Grant Thornton. There were no areas of concern. **RESOLVED** – Clerk to display the Notice of Conclusion of Audit on the notice boards and website.

CORRESPONDENCE

1382. The PC noted and considered the following items of correspondence

- Letter of invitation to the Remembrance Sunday Event
- Letter from a local Girl Guide asking if the Parish Council could offer financial assistance for a forthcoming trip to Kenya. The parish council agreed they were not in a position to offer financial assistance this year but would like to wish her all the success with her forthcoming trip.

RESOLVED – Clerk to respond in writing.

DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

1383. Parish Council meeting, Tuesday 11th October 2016 at Weston Village Hall at 7:30pm

**COLIN CRITCHLOW
CHAIRMAN**