

WESTON WITH GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting that took place on Tuesday 14th March 2017 in Gayton Village Hall at 7.30pm

PRESENT:, Councillor J Griffiths (vice chair), Councillor Mrs G Wray, Councillor D Leake, Councillor C Gilberts, Councillor Mrs H Hart, Councillor D Tams, Stafford Borough Councillor Mrs F Beatty, Parish Clerk Mrs A Kingston

1 Member of the public

APOLOGIES: Councillor Colin Critchlow, Councillor K Barber.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 14 FEBRUARY 2017 - MINUTES

1513.RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) Meeting held at 7:30pm on the 14th February 2017 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as proposed and seconded by Parish Councillors Hart and Gilbert.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1514.There were no declarations of interest.

UPDATE ON ACTION LIST

1515. Eight local residents have put their name forward for Community Speedwatch training, five in Weston and three in Gayton. All details are being forwarded to Staffordshire Police and a training session will be scheduled for early April.

1516.A full copy of the action plan, with progress updates, is available from the Parish Clerk. Please email parishclerk@westonstaffs.org.uk

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

1517.Grant Thornton are holding a free Audit workshop on Monday 10th April. **RESOLVED** Clerk to attend

1518.The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner have published a draft Safer, Fairer, United Communities Strategy 2016-2020, which builds on the first strategy published in 2013. The draft is open for public consultation with a closing date of the 24th March 2017. Members of the public can access and comment on the strategy at www.staffordshire-pcc.gov.uk/strategy-2016

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1519.The PC were asked if they aware of any planned developments relating to a plot of land in Old School Close, Weston. Parish Clerk to make enquiries and add as an agenda item at the next meeting providing there is anything to report.

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

1520.County Councillor Len Bloomer was not in attendance.

REPORT FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

1521. Councillor Mrs F Beatty attended the Gayton Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm and provided the following update. Stafford Borough Council are moving forward with the development of the Stafford Western Access Road which will run from Doxey to the A34 Stone Road at Greyfriars. Planning applications are in for up to 3000 houses, schools, retail, parks and sports areas within an already approved Masterplan for the new settlement, lying between Cresswell and Hopton.

1522.The redevelopment of the town centre is moving forward with the North Walls retail area opening planned

for June. The new riverside cinema opens in 2018. Plans (Stafford Gateway project) for redevelopment of the station area west of the town are going ahead, taking into account that Stafford Station will take HS2 compatible trains, in a comprehensive plan that will incorporate redevelopment of the north end of Stafford and include Victoria Park. More residential accommodation, including apartments above town centre shops are being made available, which is expected to increase the footfall in the town centre. Stafford is looking at a period of significant development over the next few years.

1523 The former university campus in Beaconside has been purchased by a Chinese investor and will be turned into an international education centre hosting a boarding school for children from the age of 13 and a university. The sports facilities will remain available for use by the local community.

REPORT FROM VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

1524. A copy of the latest asbestos survey can be found in the village hall. As the footprint of the village hall is under 500m² there is no requirement to provide a DEC. The lock on the metal gates at the Village Hall has been changed and all key holders must sign a formal security declaration. **RESOLVED** Councillor Critchlow to sign the declaration and hold the key on behalf of the PC.

DEVELOPMENTS

1525. There were no developments to consider. A question was raised regarding the status of a previous application relating to a footpath at Abbeylands **RESOLVED** Clerk to make enquiries and feedback.

TREES AND CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

1526. Quotes continue to be sought for signage at the Skate Park. **RESOLVED** Councillor Hopkin and the Parish Clerk to bring costings to the next PC meeting.

DOG FOULING

1527. The issue of dog fouling remains a concern. The Stafford Borough Council dog warden has undertaken some surveillance. **RESOLVED** Councillor Hart to request further surveillance at known hotspots.

ROAD SIGNS IN GAYTON

1528. The PC have received a request to consider the provision of street name signs in Gayton. The only road with an existing name sign is Cherry Lane. **RESOLVED** Parish Clerk to contact Stafford Borough Council and feedback to the next meeting.

BUS SHELTERS

1529. The PC have received a request to consider the provision of a bus shelter on the A518 at St Andrew's Church. **RESOLVED** Parish Clerk to obtain costings and feedback.

CIVIC AMENITY VISITS

1530. Civic Amenity dates have been agreed for 2017/18. The refuse wagon will be parked on Weston Village Hall car park on Saturday 16th September 2017 and 27th January 2018, and in Gayton on the 8th July 2017 between 10am and 11am. Further details are available on the parish noticeboards and on the website at www.westonstaffs.org.uk

FEEDBACK FROM THE STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL HIGHWAY'S WORKSHOP

1531 Councillor Gilbert, Councillor Hart and the Parish Clerk attended a workshop between Staffordshire County Council Highway's Department and the SPCA. Budget restrictions and increasing financial pressures make it difficult for the Highways Department to undertake non statutory work. As a result, they are looking to work with Parish Councils to make up the shortfall. Details are yet to be agreed, and it is anticipated a working group will be formed from PC representatives and the County Council to take this forward. **RESOLVED** Parish Clerk to request a position on the working group.

PARISH COUNCIL CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMPASS MAGAZINE

1532 The PC discussed a request to provide a financial contribution to the Compass Magazine. **RESOLVED**

by unanimous agreement to provide a donation of £75 to the Compass Magazine.

CLERK REPORT

1533.RESOLVED – that the PC approve payments listed on the monthly Statement of Accounts/Receipts and Payments.

1534.RESOLVED – that the PC approve the monthly Statement of Accounts/Receipts and Payments

1535 RESOLVED – to request Roger Thomas to act as Internal Auditor for the 2016/17 annual audit of accounts.

1536 Forms were signed for the NS&I Account approving Councillors Critchlow, Hopkin, Griffiths and Hart as signatories. Forms were provided for Councillors Griffiths and Wray to become signatories for the Nat West bank accounts.

1537 Forms were signed to amend the standing order for the Clerk's Salary from 1st April.

1538 A review of the PC asset register is due. **RESOLVED** Councillors Critchlow and Hopkin and the Parish Clerk to take forward.

1539 A review of the website is due. **RESOLVED** All councillors to review the current website and provide comments, suggestions to the Clerk. Councillor Griffiths and Parish Clerk to take this forward.

CORRESPONDENCE

1540. There were no items of correspondence for consideration.

DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

1541. Tuesday 11th April 2017 at 7:30pm in Weston Village Hall

**JAN GRIFFITHS
VICE CHAIRMAN**