

WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 15 February 2016 in Westbury Parish Hall.

PRESENT: Councillors - P Brooke
P Ensor
C Evers – Chairman
J Henry
D Landon
S Phelps – Vice Chairman
P Radley
M Townsend
Mrs F Wallbank – Clerk
County Councillor B Robinson (partial attendance)

Members of the Public: 5 (partial attendance)

1 APOLOGIES: Councillor Hill. District Councillor Boyles

2 MINUTES OF MEETING: Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18 January 2016 were agreed and signed after two minor amendments were made.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

4 PUBLIC COMMENT: The Chairman said he would defer Public Comment until CC Robinson arrived as he knew one of the public present wanted to address CC Robinson about Highways Matters

5 PLANNING MATTERS

a) Applications:

P1797/15/FUL Twelve Ridges, Brook Lane, Adsett: Conversion of existing bungalow for supported living accommodation including separated access

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:

Westbury-on-Severn accepts the need for care home provision and of recent years the parish council has supported, or not objected, to companies and other organisations converting a number of properties in the parish to provide facilities of this type. However, based upon our local community knowledge, we are concerned that this current planning application, for the conversion of Twelve Ridges, Brook Lane, has a number of shortcomings which, unless resolved, leaves us unable to support the planning application.

[For full response please see FODDC website.]

P0043/16/FUL Riverside Farm, Rodley Road, Rodley: Alterations and extension of single storey front extension

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:

The Parish Council **supports** this application

P0007/16/DISCON Glevum, Riverside Lane, Broadoak: Discharge of condition (04) drainage details relating to P0605/14/FUL for expansion of premises and two new buildings

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:

The Parish Council has **no objections** to this application

b) Decisions: None

Appeals: None

c) Site Inspections: None

County Councillor Robinson entered

d) Two Rivers Housing – Car Parking: The Clerk read out the CEO’s letter detailing the breakdown of how the 13 spaces were arrived at following their extensive parking survey. It was agreed to wait and see what happens but perhaps it would be beneficial if the Parish Council carried out their own parking survey and write to residents. Councillors to bring some firm proposals to the March meeting. The CEO also referred to the anti-social parking confirming that the Neighbourhood Housing Advisor had met with Councillors to discuss the instance of one of the owners driving their vehicle across the grass and had also met the person in question who has agreed to refrain from driving on the grass. It was also noted a request has been made for the erection of bollards which will be subject to further consultation and budget availability.

The Chairman opened Public Comment: Mr D Jones addressed CC Robinson about Highway Matters:

Church Lane:

- 1 Speed limit on Church Lane:- really concerned about the speed delivery vans travel the lane and wondered whether painting the word “Slow” on the road would slow down the traffic.
- 2 Lorries turn left out of Severn Valley Woodworks (SVW), probably because their Sat Nav tells them to, despite being told when loading by SVW to turn right. There needs to be a sign saying “Unsuitable for Heavy Goods Vehicles” where the entrance to Church Lane meets the SVW driveway. There is one at the other end of Church Lane

CC Robinson said that he sympathises about the near accidents but unless there are statistics any available money is being spent on schemes where accidents/fatalities have happened. In conjunction with the Road Safety Partnership Glos Highways are going to try and improve people’s driving behaviour via social media, putting stickers in cars, advising of the need to drive carefully in the Forest of Dean. A similar campaign is being carried out in the Cotswolds.

Devolution Bid: CC Robinson reported that devolution is getting further away and the debate will rumble on. There is a budget meeting next week proposal of 1.99% increase plus a further 2% surcharge for adult care and care of the elderly.

CC Robinson left

6 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

a) Internal Audit Councillor Landon agreed to carry out the internal audit.

b) Accounts for payment and receipts:

Mrs F J Wallbank:

Salary – 1- 29 February ‘16	694.84		
Additional Hours from Transparency			
Grant to upload financial information			
To website 2 hours per month for period			
1 April 2015-31 March 2016	256.59		
Website creation	256.59		
Less tax	114.80		
Less NIC	<u>64.32</u>	1028.90	Cheque No: 001668

Inland Revenue:

Tax FJW	114.80		
NIC FJW	64.32		
NIC PC	<u>73.42</u>	252.54	Cheque No: 001669

GPFA – Membership renewal 50.00 Cheque No: 001670

System Force IT:

Cost of Laptop 350.00

Cost of Scanner	99.00		
	<u>VAT 89.80</u>	538.80	Cheque No: 001671
FODDC: Renewal of Garden Waste Licence For Burial Ground		28.00	Cheque No: 001672
Accounts for Payment		£1898.24	

Receipts

M S Watkins – Burial Fees in connection with:			
The late Humphrey Phelps	135.00		
The late Boltons	<u>80.00</u>	215.00	
GAPTC: Transparency Grant		799.64	
Total:		£1014.64	

7 GAPTC/NALC MATTERS: Defer to next month.

8 MATTERS ARISING:

The Chairman said he would bring forward agenda 8g) as there were three people present from Autograss – Ashley Cooper, Reg Fishpool and Nicole King – the new Committee. They gave proposed Autograss event dates for 2016 – 27 March, 8 May, 19 June, 10 July and 25 September. Racing will commence at 11/11.30am with cars being tested from 10am and event will finish at 5pm. These will purely be one day events, however a few competitors may travel up the night before and camp in the field. The Chairman reiterated that the speakers should be positioned away from the Village to minimise the impact on Villagers and they must inform the FODDC of the proposed dates. The organisers said they would leaflet dropping the local residents. The Chairman said it was important that the Club adhered to the dates given, unless bad weather occurred, as some residents often made alternative plans to leave their homes on the days of the meetings. Contact numbers were given to the Clerk for all three committee members.

a) Play Area: The Clerk reported that she had contacted several playground surfacing companies and the Chairman was meeting one company on site later in the week. It was agreed to ask John Hicks to carry out the annual ROSPA inspection in May. The Chairman reported that the swings are been wrapped around the top bar. He had tried to undo them but needed a step ladder. Councillors Brooke and Townsend said that they would rectify the problem the next morning. Councillor Brooke also reported that the timber planks had been sliced with a knife and may need sanding down.

b) Highways: Rodley Road: Following the PC email to Mr Watkins he had asked Amey to take some immediate action, but to date nothing had been done, and CC Robinson thought it unlikely work could be done this financial year. The Chairman said that due to the weather road repairs would have been very difficult, but the situation is worsening, and it was agreed that the Clerk should write to Mr Watkins and CC Robinson asking for confirmation that Rodley Road is programmed for repair in the Summer and ask for a date when any repair works will be carried out.

Councillor Henry raised the point that when the road was dug up by STW for the water mains work, are they not held responsible for some time to make good their patched areas that have broken down quickly. CC Robinson said he would make Mr Watkins aware of this.

Pedestrian Crossing: Nothing further to report.

Church Lane: See above.

Highways Local: CC Robinson confirmed that he would receive £20,000 for the next financial year which will be spread over his 20 parishes and this could allow him to finance jobs that Glos Highways would not. **Bridges Longhope and Flaxley:** Both been badly damaged, again.

c) Footpaths: Proposed diversion of EWS 96 at Rodley. It was agreed that the PC had no objection to the diversion provided the landowner where the footpath was being diverted was in full agreement. Councillor Townsend said he would be attending a health and safety course with Amey in March. Clerk to write to Mike Barton re EWS 81/1 being blocked.

d) Memorial for the late Norman Stephens: Councillor Henry had collected the trees and they were lovely specimens. The trees needed to be planted before the sap rises. It was agreed to plant the trees on

Saturday, 20 February, meeting at the Burial Ground at 10am for those Councillors who could make it. Clerk to let Charlotte Probyn know.

Regarding the plaques it was agreed that the Clerk should speak with Mr Matthews about a suitable company who could produce these. Charlotte Probyn had confirmed that she was happy with the proposed wording.

e) Burial Ground: The Chairman and Councillor Phelps reported they had met with the Head, Mr Crunkhurn who was very supportive about the PC having to commandeer more land for the Burial Ground by taking in the top part of the school playing field, but leaving sufficient land for a football pitch accessed via the little path that leads down to the school play area. The next step is to submit a planning application and prior to that the Chairman and Councillor Phelps will meet with the planning officers at the FODDC. After reformatting of the land, the burial ground extension will require consecration by the Bishop. Councillor Phelps said that he had spoken with the vicar who did not foresee any complications.

The Clerk reported that there were around 27 grave spaces left and approx. 23 additional spaces were reserved.

Re improvements in the existing Burial Ground, it was now agreed that the hedge by the Garden of Remembrance should not be removed, however the PC will look at edging the whole of the Garden of Remembrance to make it look tidier. Councillor Townsend said he would speak with Russell Hayward. Another job that needs looking at is to attempt to remove the old redundant septic tank.

f) Westbury-on-Severn Post Office: The Chairman reported that there had been a very nasty raid on the Post Office and a lot of cash stolen – thankfully no one was injured. Police are currently investigating the crime. Councillors noted there could be grants available to fund the installation of CCTV with a panic button.

g) Glos Autograss 2016: See above.

9 CORRESPONDENCE:

a) GCC – Hempsted Household Recycling Centre: Improvement works have been done to improve waiting time at the Recycling Centre and further works are scheduled for early March.

10 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION:

Volunteering Group in the FOD: Clerk still awaiting a reply.

11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday, 21 March 2016 commencing at 7pm

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.