

WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 16 March 2020 in Westbury Parish Hall.

PRESENT: Councillors - P Ensor
J Henry
A Hyett
D Landon - Vice
S Phelps – Chairman
P Radley
M Townsend

Members of the Public: 2

1 APOLOGIES: Councillors Hill and Woodman and Fiona Wallbank – Clerk. The Chairman went through the Emergency Procedure

2 MINUTES OF MEETING: Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 17 February 2020 were agreed and signed.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Councillor Hyett declared an interest in planning application P0243/20/OUT Moys Hill Farm as he is a near neighbour.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT: None

5 PLANNING MATTERS:

a) Applications:

P0179/20/FUL WoS Cricket Club: Erection of a storage building/viewing gallery and relocation of cricket practice nets and associated works.

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:

The Parish Council has no objections to this application

P0245/20/FUL Sunnybank, Elton Lane, Newnham: Change of use from holiday let to annexe accommodation.

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:

The Parish Council has no objections to this application

P0243/20/OUT Moys Hill Farm, Strand Lane, WoS: Outline application for the erection of a rural agricultural manager's dwelling (some matters reserved).

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:

The Parish Council has no objections to this application in principle but have some sympathy with the neighbours who would prefer the building to be sited closer to the existing farmstead.

b) Decisions:

P1971/19/FUL Oaklands Farm, Northwood Green: Change of use and extension of existing equestrian building to facilities riding school and equestrian training with associated works – **Granted**

P0138/20/FUL Glencairn, Wintles Hill, WOS: Erection of a two storey rear extension and a single storey rear extension. Demolition of conservatory - **Granted**

P1733/19/FUL Sunnyside, Broadoak: Construction of a new vehicular access & erection of 1.2m high wall to remove existing access - **Granted**

c) Site Inspection: None

d) Proposed Eco Village: Ridge and Partners had responded to the Parish Council's invitation to attend a public meeting, saying that their client does not consider that a public meeting would be productive at this stage because the proposal is still in its infancy and has not been included in the Local Plan review as a proposal.

The Chairman has made enquiries and found that there are currently no plans for any new railway stations

or major new road construction (other than that at Chepstow) in the Local Transport Development Plan.

6 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

a) **Internal Audit** Councillors agreed to payments

b) **Accounts for payment and receipts:**

Mrs F J Wallbank:

Salary – 1- 31 March ‘20	752.72		
Less NIC	4.05		
Less Tax	<u>5.00</u>	743.67	Via Bank Transfer

Inland Revenue (paid by Clerk)

Tax FJW	5.00		
NIC FJW	4.05		
NIC PC	<u>4.65</u>	13.70	Via Bank Transfer

FODDC Renewal of garden waste licence

For Burial Ground – refund due to Clerk		39.00	Via Bank Transfer
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Chairman’s Allowance for the year

		50.00	Via Bank Transfer
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Mr S Phelps reimbursement of photocopying

Expenses in connection with Ridge Planning

Proposal

		12.60	Via Bank Transfer
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Northwood Green Playing Field rent for the year

		20.00	Via Bank Transfer
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Accounts for Payment:

£878.97

Receipts:

Total: £0.00

c) **Financial Year ending 31 March 2020:** It was agreed that Shirley Fowler would carry out the external internal audit as previous years.

d) **Financial Regulations:** These were review and Councillors agreed no changes or updates were required.

7 MATTERS ARISING:

a) **Play Area – Report:** The wire is showing through in places in the climbing net and there are cracks in the rubber of the swing seats. It was agreed for John Hicks to carry out the annual ROSPA inspection in May.

b) **Highways Matters:** The Chairman and Councillor Townsend met Andrew Middlecote and Nathan Choat and toured the Parish looking at the Highways problems. The Chairman reported that most of the drains in the village are silted up. Councillor Radley reported potholes in Elton Lane and Councillor Henry reported severe flooding last week in Goose Lane, when a person had to be rescued from the roof of their car. There have been several complaints regarding the state in which Gigaclear have left the areas where they have been working. The Chairman has confirmed that Highways are able to insist that they make good any damage. Councillor Townsend reported that the capping stones on the wall around The Crescent at Northwood Green are loose and he has reported this to Two Rivers Housing.

The Chairman reported that Network Rail had cleared a lot of undergrowth from the railway embankment near Jordans Hill but had stopped short of clearing the vegetation on the adjoining triangle of land – vegetation that impedes the view of drivers approaching the bridge. Efforts to trace the owner of this land have been unsuccessful and he has now been advised that the Parish Council should seek legal advice about advertising our intention to take over this area so that this vegetation can be cleared to improve visibility for traffic approaching the bridge.

c) **Footpaths:** No new problems to report.

d) **Burial Ground: Proposed extension:** The Chairman reported that the Clerk was still awaiting a

response from David Crofts.

e) Road Milestones markers: Nothing to report

8 CORRESPONDENCE: None

9 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION:

The Chairman reported on a Parish and Town Councils meeting that he had attended. The meeting had included a presentation about CANOPY, an organisation which aims to encourage and support quality contemporary cultural activities in the Forest of Dean, an update on issues related to climate change and the measures being taken locally to reduce dependence on oil and gas, and a report from the Community Safety Partnership, a multi-agency group aiming to enhance the quality of life by working in partnership with the community to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime.

He also reported several interesting figures to emerge at a Local Transport Plan meeting: -

40% of journeys made from the Forest of Dean area are journeys to work

75% of drivers leaving the Forest area do so via the A40 (we assume that includes the A48 which joins the A40)

80% of journeys are by car, with only 3-4% by bus and 1-2% by rail.

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday 16 March 2020 commencing at 7pm.

Meeting closed 9.30pm