

WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the virtual Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 21 September 2020 via Zoom

PRESENT: Councillors - P Ensor
J Henry
D Hill (partial attendance)
A Hyett
D Landon (partial attendance)
S Phelps – Chairman
P Radley
M Townsend
CC Robinson (partial attendance)
F Wallbank

Members of the Public joined the meeting: 1

1 APOLOGIES: Councillor Woodman. CC Robinson would be late. Councillors Landon and Hill had difficulty in connecting onto the Zoom meeting.

2 MINUTES OF MEETING: Minutes of the virtual meeting held on Monday, 20 July and 27 August were agreed and signed by the Clerk

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

4 PUBLIC COMMENT: None

5 PLANNING MATTERS:

a) **P1444/20/FUL** Sunnybank, Elton Lane, Newnham: Change of use of agricultural land to provide three glamping pods with associated parking and works for holiday use
Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:
Request an extension of time for the PC's comments

P1296/20/LD1 Yew Tree Cottage, Flaxley: Application under Section 191 to establish whether the erection of a shed/workshop is lawful
Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:
It was decided the PC would not make a comment on this application and leave it to the FODDC

P1386/20/TCA The Old Police Station, The Village, WOS: Removal of 4 conifer trees
Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:
The Parish Council **supports** this application

Councillors Hill and Landon the meeting

P1399/20/FUL Lower Ryecroft, The Village, WOS: Erection of a single storey extension with associated works (Revised Scheme)
Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:
The Parish Council has no objections to this application

b) Decisions:

P0870/20/FUL & P0871/20/LBC 3 Bays Court, Goose Lane, Bollow: Erection of a single storey rear extension – Granted

P1184/20/FUL The Nook, New Road, Popes Hill, Newnham: Construction of a cantilevered balcony to the rear bedroom - Granted

Appeals: None

c) Site Inspection: None

d) Proposed Eco Village: No further update.

e) Proposed sites in Westbury Parish for small site development: The proposed sites that were agreed have been put forward to the FODDC who will assess these sites and publish the results alongside other Local Plan material.

f) Enforcement Matters: Illegal Travellers Site Opposite Severn Bore: The Chairman gave an update on the situation. The Clerk reported that she had not received a reply from Mark Harper MP – chase.

6 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

a) Internal Audit Councillors agreed the payments and Clerk signed financial sheets

b) Accounts for payment and receipts:

Mrs F J Wallbank:

Salary – 1- 30 September ‘20	764.01		
Less NIC	0.00		
Less Tax	3.60	760.41	Via Bank Transfer
Inland Revenue (paid by Clerk)			
Tax FJW	4.42		
NIC FJW	0.00		
NIC PC	<u>3.60</u>	8.02	Via Bank Transfer
Complete Gardening x 2 cuts for August		824.00	Via Bank Transfer
Chairman’s allowance		25.00	Via Bank Transfer
Northwood Green Playing Field		10.00	Via Bank Transfer
Accounts for Payment:		£1627.43	

Payments:

FODDC – Second half of precept	11625.00
Total:	£11625.00

7 MATTERS ARISING:

a) Highways Matters:

Manhole Cover The Village: The Chairman reported that some six months ago he had reports from residents of the village that a manhole cover in the road was starting to become noisy, and passed the complaint on to Gloucestershire Highways who in turn passed the complaint to Severn Trent, as the manhole covers the sewer that runs under the road. ST in turn came out and marked the faulty cover, expecting the matter would soon be dealt with, however after waiting weeks nothing happened. He again contacted ST and enquired how much longer the residents how long this deteriorating situation was going to last, and was informed that GCC Highways had not granted permission for work to be commenced, upon contacting GCC, he was informed that they had granted permission and that they also had become frustrated with ST’s attitude. After many more phone calls to ST, the Chairman was informed that the matter was now in the hands of Amey, therefore he contacted Amey, they sent a Civils Site Agents out to the site who carried out a temporary repair to dampen the noise and assured me the work would be dealt with. On Monday 14 September two men arrived in the village in a truck carrying a new manhole cover, they waited for over two hours for the rest of the team to arrive and eventually left with nothing being done. The Chairman has called ST every day since and still no progress.

It was agreed that the PC would email the Chief Executive of Severn Trent – Liv Garfield.

Footway A48: The Chairman spoke with Andrew Middlecote who has assured him that the footway vegetation will be cut back soon.

Goose Lane: The road has been resurfaced with tar and chip however the potholes were not repaired.

Cleeve Bungalow, Rodley: There is a bad pothole outside this property.

St John’s Point: The road is in a dreadful condition.

Rock & Fountain Raw Sewage: This is still ongoing and becoming worse chasing. The Chairman is in touch with the FoDDC Environmental Health Department however little progress has been made.

b) Burial Ground: Proposed extension: The Chairman and Councillor Radley would tackle the hedge down the side of the Burial Ground and the Chairman would chase Richard Williams.

Councillor Ensor reported that both the trees that were planted in memory of Councillor Stephens have sadly both died. Look at replacing these early next year.

c) Play Area: Councillor Henry took down both social distancing signs as they had been pushed over and were faded and they were more than useless. The PC needs to purchase a more permanent sign stating that social distancing measures must be maintained and sanitising is down to individuals using the play area and use at your own risk.

Hedges encroaching into the play area between the fence near Rodley road and where the fence is demarking the carpark. Councillor Ensor thought how tidy it was so perhaps the hedge has been cut back. The report mentioned moss on the wet pour and that it is starting to lift in places and could cause a problem.

d) Milestones: The Chairman said he would take photos of the 6 milestones.

e) Dog Agility Northwood Green: Complaints have been received that dog agility events are taking place in a field at Oaklands. The Chairman had spoken with the FODDC and permission is not required if the events do not exceed 28 days per year. The Chairman will speak to FODDC again.

f) Autograss Track Elton: The Clerk reported that she had contact Glos Autograss and they cannot see that they will be meeting for the remainder of this year. Complaints have been received that the land is being used by scrambling bikes. Clerk to contact the landowner and Glos Autograss to establish whether they are aware of this?

e) Telephone Kiosks – The Village and Stantway: Councillor Landon reported that Lindsey Wellington has very kindly undertaken to “spruce up” the telephone kiosk in The Village and is hoping to provide a book exchange for residents. Councillor Landon said she would speak with her about the Stantway box.

CC Robinson joined the meeting.

MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION:

The Strand: Following receipt of an email from a parishioner who was very concerned at the massive increase in the number of people visiting Garden Cliff over the recent months which was causing nuisance and disturbance to local residents the Chairman has spoken to the Street Warden at the FODDC and also the PCSO. Both agreed to make regular visits to the area.

Layby Outside the Coal Yard: Complaints have been received about the car and trailer that is parked in the layby. Clerk to ascertain whether the vehicle is taxed and insured.

Footpaths: Councillor Henry reported that dog walkers cannot walk along the River Severn (from the Sloop to the Severn Bore). Whilst the stiles are legal with regards to height of steps etc dogs cannot get through. Several people are willing to pay for the purchase of kissing gates and Councillor Henry asked if the Parish Council would be willing to pay for the installation of the gates. CC Robinson felt this was a perfectly reasonable request and would see if GCC would cover the installations costs. Councillor Henry agreed to let him have all the details.

CC Robinson gave a short report and had discussed the hospitals winter plan. Also, the structure of the District Council and County Council could change following the release of a white paper early in October which proposes to include more devolution of power to local Communities with the provision of more Mayors however this probably involve Gloucestershire. Suggestion of might be an opportunity for Councils to go to Unitary one council for the whole of Gloucestershire or splitting Gloucestershire into two.

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday 19 October 2020 commencing at 7pm.

Meeting closed 20.21pm