

WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 17 April 2023 held in Westbury Parish Hall

PRESENT: Councillors - P Ensor
D Landon – Vice
D Hill
S Phelps – Chairman
B Stephens
M Townsend
F Wallbank

Members of the Public: 0

1 APOLOGIES and Emergency Procedure: Councillors Hyett and Radley and CC Robinson.

2 MINUTES OF MEETING: Minutes of the meeting held Monday 20 March 2023 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

4 PUBLIC COMMENT: None

5 PLANNING MATTERS:

5.1) Applications:

P1773/22/FUL Gravel Farm, Cleeve: Proposed ground mounted photovoltaic panels & associated works
Comments to Forest of Dean District Council:

Whilst the Parish Council welcomes the need for expansion of solar energy in certain locations, the Parish Council **objects** to this application for the following reasons:

1. Loss of valuable farmland
2. The proposed application would have a detrimental impact on the undeveloped landscape. The proposed site lies on the northern bank of the River Severn, in very close proximity to the unique and imposing landscape feature of the Horseshoe Bend, one of the most striking and magnificent landscape features of the British Isles.
3. The Parish Council agree with the comments from the Newt Officer regarding the existing ponds in the area of the proposed development and the impact risk for great crested newts which should be protected and is also concerned with regard to the adverse impact this installation could have upon the estuary bird and bat populations.

P0316/23/FUL Cricklade, Stantway Lane, WOS: Erection of side and rear extension, double garage with loft store. Demolition of existing garage and outbuildings

Comments to Forest of Dean District Council:

The Parish Council has no objections to this application

P0025/23/FUL Riverdene Cottage, New Road, Flaxley: Erection of two storey rear extension and replacement side porch

Comments to Forest of Dean District Council:

The Parish Council supports this application

P0320/23/AG Agricultural Building at Woodland View, NWG: Prior notification for the erection of a steel

framed agricultural building (revised application)
 Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:
 The Parish Council has no objections to this application

P0412/23/FUL The Cottage, Jordan Hill, WOS: Erection of a two storey side extension, single storey side extension, garage and parking area to include relocation of existing dropped kerb and removal of existing garage and associated works.

Comments to Forest of Dean District Council:
 The Parish Council has no objections to this application

5.2) Decisions:

P0137/23/FUL Oak Barn, Poulton Court Farm, NWG: Erection of a single storey rear extension & associated works (Revised scheme) - **Granted**

P0014/23/FUL The Paddocks, Goose Lane, Bollow: Construction of a new agricultural building for the storage of specialist forestry vehicles, trailers & associated items – **Refused**

P0179//23/LD1 Pound Farm, Chaxhill: Application under Section 191 to establish whether the continued use of agricultural land as domestic garden (C3) is lawful - **Issued**

Appeals: None

Appeal Decisions: None

5.3) Site Inspection: None

6 FINANCIAL

6.1) Internal Audit Councillors agreed the payments and the Chairman signed financial sheets

6.2) Accounts for payment and receipts:

	Item	Expenditure	Income	Comment
1	Clerk's Salary April Less Tax	856.05 <u>1.00</u> 855.05		Paid
2	Inland Revenue:* Tax FJW NIC PC Refund due to Clerk	1.00 <u>13.53</u> 14.53		Paid
3	James Walkey Cox – March	389.68		Paid
4	GDPR Data Protection fee renewal due 8.5.23	35.00		Direct debit
5	GAPTC annual subscription due 1 April 2023	492.50		Paid
	Totals:	£1786.76	£0.00	

6.3) Audit for the year ended 31 March 2023 – Signing of Statement of Assurance - Defer

6.4) Audit for the year ended 31 March 2023 – Signing of Accounts – Defer

6.5) Consider purchase of Kestrel Box for Closed Churchyard: It was agreed to purchase a Kestrel box for £100 for the Closed Churchyard

7 MATTERS ARISING:

7.1) Highways Matters: The Chairman said that the meeting with Glos Highways is due to take place the second week in May and he would tour the Parish highlighting all the various Highway related problems.

7.2) Burial Ground: Proposed extension: The Clerk had chased Hayley Fearnside asking for a response in time for the meeting re the proposed rental for the new facilities. No response received. **Clerk to chase.**

7.3) Play Area: Nothing to report.

7.4) Footpaths: Councillor Townsend said that the stile at Adsett had still not been repaired however Jerry Green has the matter in hand.

7.5) Climate Change: Councillor Landon had nothing further to report.

7.6) Westbury Drs Surgery: Councillors Landon reported that this matter was very slowly ongoing.

7.7) Watchtower adjoining Walmore Common: The Chairman reported he was awaiting information from a local parishioner and photographs for the completion of the form from English Heritage.

8 CORRESPONDENCE:

8.1 Local Gov Boundary Commission: Review of new division and boundaries in Gloucestershire: Currently the number of seats for the whole of the County is 53 and the proposal is to increase to 55.. **It was agreed that the Parish Council would comment that the the number needs to increase by a minimum of 10 to be effective to ease the workload of the County Councillors.'**

9 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION:

Severn Trent Water: The Chairman said he was unable to speak to STW as he was in "purdah" due to the impending elections. He had been approached by BBC Radio Glos and **it was agreed that Councillor Townsend would speak to STW highlighting the ongoing problems at Acres Corner, NWG: Ampney Lane and Stantway Lane.**

Emergency Plan: Councillor Hill had circulated the updated Plan to all Councillors for their comment. Councillors thanked Councillor Hill for all her hard work with updating the plan. **It was agreed that she would send the plan to the FoDDC and that the Clerk would upload a copy to the website.**

Litter pick: Councillor Landon said this is arranged for Monday, 8 May. All the usual people were willing to help in providing sticks, high viz etc.

Bus Shelter Northwood Green: Councillor Townsend said that the bus shelter was going to have a coat of paint on the inside walls and then the seat would be placed.

Stantway Lane: The car parking is insufficient and the parking in Rock Lane is dangerous. **It was agreed that the Clerk would email Two Rivers with photos of the current situation.**

Westbury Care Home: The Chairman reported that the boiler room door was left open, and he found that the heating was still running. **Clerk to email Philip Robinson.**

Lydcare: Councillor Landon said that a parishioner had come forward who was willing to be a volunteer driver which was great news. **It was agreed to review the donation to Lydcare in 6 months' time.**

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday, 15 May 2023 at 6.30pm

Meeting closed 8.40pm