

WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 19 June 2023 held in Westbury Parish Hall

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

Members of the Public: 3 (partial attendance)

1 APOLOGIES and Emergency Procedure: Councillors Hill and CC Robinson.

2 MINUTES OF MEETING: Minutes of the meeting held Monday 15 May 2023 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

4 PUBLIC COMMENT: Received re Agenda Items 7.8 and 7.6

7.8 Provision of a defibrillator for the Elton Area:

2 residents of Elton put a proposal to the Parish Council regarding the provision of a defibrillator. The nearest defibrillator for the residents of Elton was either Newnham, Cinderford, Northwood Green or the Parish Hall. The residents are willing to site the defibrillator on their property but with free access to anybody who needed the equipment – there are 20 households within 2 minutes' walk of their property. They are offering to take on the responsibility of connecting to their electricity supply and paying for the power used, replacing the batteries and pads as required and cover the servicing when needed. The cost of the defibrillator and heated cabinet would be £1750. The Parish Council thanked the residents for their very kind offer and would consider if they were able to make a financial contribution.

7.6 Westbury Drs Surgery:

A member of the Parish Hall Committee did a short presentation for the Parish Council regarding the current situation with regards to Drs Surgery. Progress has finally been made with negotiations of the various bodies involved with keeping the Drs Surgery fully operational. One stipulation is for the building to have an independent electricity supply that would have to be funded by the Parish Hall and the minimum costs would be £8,000. The Parish Hall Committee feel that this cost should not rest with the Parish Hall, and it will be a facility for all Westbury residents. The Councillors were fully supportive however with the extension of the Burial Ground funds for the current financial year are very limited for additional projects. It was agreed the Parish Council would give this matter serious consideration as to the extent of financial support they can offer this year.

It was agreed that the Clerk would find out what Power to Spend this expenditure would come under.

5 PLANNING MATTERS:

5.1) Applications:

P0599/23/FUL Thistle Moor, Church Lane, NWG: Change of use and conversion of existing garage to provide a mixed-use holiday let/annexe with associated façade works & new dormer windows to roof.

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:

The Parish Council **objects** to this application for the following reasons:

- The site is too small for the development.
- No provision has been made to increase the number of parking spaces.

P0662/23/LD1 Severn Dale, Strand Lane, WOS: Application under Section 191 to establish whether lawful commencement took place before the expiration of planning permission P0254/04/FUL

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:

The Parish Council believes lawful commencement of works relating to P0254/04/FUL was taken place within the required timescale.

P0648/23/FUL The Lower White House, New Road, Popes Hill, Newnham: Change of use of holiday let to residential dwelling.

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:

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

P0745/23/FUL The Paddocks, Goose Lane, Bollow: Erection of an agricultural building for the storage of a specialist agricultural Unimog vehicle, trailer & associated items

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:

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

P0762/23/FUL Elton Nurseries, Elton: Erection of a two-storey rear extension & associated works. Demolition of conservatory

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:

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

5.2) Decisions:

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 - Granted.

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 June 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 – May	389.68		Paid
4	AM Groundcare – 2 cuts for June	1201.76		Paid
5	James Walkey-Cox – cost of kestrel box	100.00		Paid
6	F J Cambridge – Memorial for the late Susan Dunning		65.00	
	Totals:	£2561.02	£65.00	

7 MATTERS ARISING:

7.1) Highways Matters: The Chairman reported as follows:

1. He had met with Andrew Middlecote, Adrian Brown and CC Robinson.
2. They took the footway clearance on board – will use weedkiller on the vegetation.
3. Hunthill will continue to be patched as it will have a re-dressing in the next financial year.
4. Goose Lane, Lower Bollow will be the IDB's responsibility.
5. Drains at Rodley Court up to Blue Boys – met with Richard Hewlett. Glos Highways will start at the bottom and work up to find the problem.
6. Severn Trent are still promising to do the necessary works at Gatwick and Ampney Lane.
7. They will undertake further work outside Adsett to the Hunthill junction.
8. Will look at flooding outside the Parish Hall gates.
9. The parking of HGVs parking in the laybys outside the Water Gardens is a matter for the Police.
10. Bridges over the streams – Highways are trying to track down who at GCC in the Structures team is doing the work.
11. Manhole cover in the Village the responsibility of Severn Trent.
12. Gratings through the Village are full of debris and need jetting.
13. The road safety group are still looking into the possibility of reducing the speed of traffic to 40mph from the Elton slope before Jordans Hill and then on the otherwise of the Water Gardens to the top of Wintles Hill.
14. Some potholes have been repaired at Rodley however another one had appeared outside Rita Woods property.
15. Frocester House and Acres Corner – Severn Trent is denying responsibility that the problem is down to them
16. Highways have made a start on cutting the grass at the junctions and bends and will be completed in the next couple of weeks.

7.2) Burial Ground: Proposed extension: The Chairman reported as follows:

1. The fencing has been erected around the new playing field. The headmistress did not want the old fencing removed until after the school's sports day however this created a problem with access for their tractor to cut the field. A section of fencing had to be removed for access.
2. Still no progress has been made with agreeing the rent for the new playing field. He raised this with CC Robinson who suggested we sent an email to him outlining the problems and he would see if he could do anything to help.
3. The Clerk has received correspondence from GHG Solutions Claim re Subsidence Damage At: 33 Colchester Close, Westbury-on-Severn . They sent documented evidence in regard to the requested mitigation works to the Aspen and Willow tree implicated in subsidence damage to the above listed property. These trees are in the Sensory Garden that the school have created so GHG Solutions have been informed that it is the School's responsibility.

7.3) Play Area: Councillor Townsend reported as follows:

- Managed to carry out some patching to the wetpour.
- The picnic table and bench required some maintenance. **It was agreed Councillor Townsend would contact Fairshare and the Community Payback to ascertain if they would be able to take on the maintenance.**
- Has been in contact with STW about the manhole cover that requires attention.
- Suggested in scheduling a Working Party to give the area a good tidy up either August/September

7.4) Footpaths: Councillor Townsend reported that every 10 years all the footpaths in the Parish are walked. The Clerk had circulated details of the temporary re-routing of EWS33 due to required works on the level crossing which takes effect from 8am 10 July until 6pm on the 14 July 2023.

7.5) Climate Change: Councillor Landon reported the introduction of the Great Collaboration which has been started in Herefordshire. It is a website that gives really clear advice about different actions that individuals and councils can take to help the environment and adapt to climate change.

It was suggested that parish councils put the link to the website <https://greatcollaboration.uk> on their parish council websites and publicise the website locally. **It was agreed that the Clerk would put the link on the website.**

7.6) Westbury Drs Surgery: See Public Comment.

7.7) Co-option of Councillor: The Clerk confirm that Richard Hewlett had agreed to fill the Councillor Vacancy. All Councillors were in favour of this and looked forward to welcoming Richard Hewlett at the July meeting.

7.8) Provision of a defibrillator for the Elton Area: See Public Comment.

8 CORRESPONDENCE:

Bus Shelters: The Clerk reported that she had received a quote from James Cape about removing the vegetation on the bus shelters that require attention. Councillor Ensor had obtained a quotation from Robert King regarding removing all the ivy off the shelter at Walmore Hill. **It was agreed that the Clerk would obtain a quotation from Robert King for the tidying up the other bus shelters.**

9 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION: Nothing

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday, 17 July 2023 at 7pm

Meeting closed 9.10pm