

WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 18 September 2023 held in Westbury Parish Hall

PRESENT: Councillors - P Ensor
D Hill
R Hewlett
A Hyett
S Phelps – Chairman
B Stephens
F Wallbank

Members of the Public: 2

1 APOLOGIES and Emergency Procedure: Councillors Landon, Radley & Townsend.

2 MINUTES OF MEETING: Minutes of the meeting held Monday 17 July 2023 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Councillor Hewlett declared an interest in P1145/23

4 PUBLIC COMMENT: None

5 PLANNING MATTERS:

5.1) Applications: Application considered prior to the meeting:

P0849/23/FUL Chapel House, Riverside Lane, Broadoak, Newnham: Erection of two storey rear extension and single storey front extension with associated works – Comment No objection

Applications considered at the meeting:

P0485/23/FUL Gamage Court, Lower Ley Lane, Minsterworth: Change of use of former agricultural buildings to 3 dwellings and associated works

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council: No objection

P1034/23/FUL Land at Sunnybank, Elton Lane, Elton: Change of use of land to tourism use and erection of 2 glamping units, improved vehicular access, parking area and associated landscaping (resubmission)

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:

The Parish Council **supports** this application.

P1145/23/LD1 Camp Pitch, Upper Rodley Road, Rodley: Application under Section 191 to establish whether the building formerly used as stables and self-contained flat (1970s-1980s), currently used as animal pens (cattle) and self-contained flat since 1994 is lawful.

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:

The Parish Council **supports** this application.

P1203/23/PQ3PA Cothill Farm, Lower Ley Lane, Minsterworth: Prior approval for change of use of agricultural building to 1 dwelling and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:

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

5.2) Decisions:

P0661/23/FUL Leycott Farm, Lower Ley Lane, Minsterworth: Change of use of disused farm building to workshops (B1/E) – **Granted**

P0941/23/TCA The Limes, The Village, WOS: Tree works to lime trees – **Granted.**

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

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 – **Refused**.

P0505/23/FUL Cleeve Farm, Cleeve, WOS: Erection of agricultural building to provide cover to existing open cattle yard - **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 September Less Tax	856.05 <u>25.40</u> 830.65		Paid
2	Inland Revenue: * Tax FJW NIC PC Refund due to Clerk	25.40 <u>13.53</u> 38.93		Paid
3	James Walkey Cox – August	389.68		Paid
4	AM Groundcare – 2 cuts for September	1201.76		Paid
	Totals:	£2461.02	£0.00	

Payments for August:

	Item	Expenditure	Income	Comment
1	Clerk's Salary August Less Tax	856.05 <u>15.20</u> 840.85		Paid
2	Inland Revenue: * Tax FJW NIC PC Refund due to Clerk	15.20 <u>13.53</u> 28.73		Paid
3	James Walkey Cox – July	389.68		Paid
4	AM Groundcare – 2 cuts for August	1201.76		Paid
5	FODDC – Annual green waste licence (refund due to Clerk)	50.00		Paid
6	PKF Littlejohn - Audit for the year ended 31.3.23	315.00 <u>VAT 63.00</u> 378.00		Paid
7	Mr Barker – shed rental plus peppercorn rent for land		105.00	
8	M S Watkins – Burial fees		965.00	
	Totals:	£2889.02	£1070.00	

Any Other Financial Matters:

Audit for the year ended 31 March 2023: Report received from PKF Littlejohn confirm that no matters raised. The audit completion notices have been put on the noticeboards.

7 MATTERS ARISING:

7.1) Highways Matters:

Footway between the Vicarage and the Old Police Station is completely overgrown. The Chairman said he had reported this on several occasions already. The Clerk suggested involving CC Robinson.

Road White Lines around Rodley: Councillor Hewlett asked if these were going to be reinstated. The Chairman said once the road had been resurfaced the white lines would be painted.

7.2) Burial Ground: Proposed extension: The Clerk said she had received an email from Langley Wellingtons who are drawing up a new lease with a few questions. The Clerk took the Councillors through the questions and the PC's response was agreed. **Clerk to email Langley Wellingtons**

New Area of Burial Ground: The Clerk said that the new area would have to be consecrated and **the Chairman agreed he would pursue this matter.**

The Chairman reported that:

- 1 The top fence between the school carpark and the Burial Ground extension needs to have the brambles removed however there is a fear that the fence will collapse. **It was agreed that the Clerk would ask the person who gets appointed for the bus shelter works.**
- 2 **Forest Garden:** Two structures and paving slabs have appeared in the garden and also vegetation had been removed and dumped in the Burial Ground extension. The Chairman had been to see the head of the school and suggested that it might have been a good idea if the PC had been consulted prior to the works being carried out.

7.3) Play Area: The Parish Council has been approached by a parishioner asking if the play area could be upgraded/expanded. Whilst space maybe an issue they wondered if the play area could be relocated to alongside the cricket pitch with a net or fence to stop stray cricket balls from potentially hurting anyone. Then the car park could be extended where the play area currently is. The parishioner has spoken with many of the families in and around Westbury, and they all agree it could be much better.

Councillors discussed this matter and raised the following points:

1. It would not be down to the Parish Council to move or extend the Play Area as the land is owned by the Parish Hall. The Parish Hall handed over the management of the Play Area to the Parish Council some years ago.
2. Unfortunately, due to the very costly project extending the burial ground there are no funds available for such a project at the current time. Any possible grant funding would need match funds and currently there are no reserves.
3. The Councillors suggested that if parishioners want to fund raise and take on the project of improving the Play Area this would be a possibility. Such a project was successfully undertaken in Redmarley for the creation of Redmarley Play Park.

It was agreed the Clerk would respond to the email received as they discussed.

7.4) Footpaths: Defer to October meeting

7.5) Climate Change: Defer to October meeting

7.6) Westbury Drs Surgery: Councillor Hyett reported that Forest Health Care, a well-established GP Practice in Cinderford with a branch surgery in Ruardean, will provide primary care services in Westbury from 1st August 2023. This development means that services currently available for patients registered at Westbury Surgery are secure for the long term.

G-DOC Ltd, which has been providing GP surgery services at Westbury Surgery since April 2021, recently informed us that they are unfortunately unable to continue to provide services at Westbury Surgery due to staff changes.

NHS Gloucestershire has written to all patients registered with Westbury Surgery to let them know about

this development and have shared contact details for the NHS Gloucestershire PALS team who are available to help any patients who do not wish to transfer to Forest Health Care to find an alternative GP practice.

8 CORRESPONDENCE:

8.1 GCC – Ash dieback: Email from GCC regarding the Ash Dieback schemes was forwarded to Councillors for their information. Contents noted.

8.2 Government Funding for defibs: The government is inviting community organisations to bid for funding for an automated external defibrillator (AED) for their area. £1 million fund to increase the number of AEDs in public places where they are most needed. Funding will provide an estimated 1000 new defibrillators in community spaces across England. Organisations across England are being invited to bid for a share of £1 million of government funding to buy life-saving defibrillators for community spaces like town halls, local parks, or post offices.

A short discussion took place as to what areas of the Parish could benefit from an AED 3 quite densely populated areas were Broadoak, Stantway and The Village and these could be possible locations. **It was agreed the Clerk would ascertain costs involved.**

9 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION:

Fire Hydrant Marker Post by Lecture Hall: has been knocked over. **Clerk to report.**

Burial Ground: Manhole cover is overflowing with sewage. This was reported to Severn Trent immediately but to date they have not taken any action. **The Chairman said he would contact ST again.**

Bus Shelters in the Parish: The Clerk had circulated the quotations received for the works required to the shelters in the Parish with regards to cutting back the vegetation around the shelter and carrying out a few repairs. **It was agreed that the Clerk would ask Rob King to carry out the works as per his quotation.**

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday, 16 October 2023 at 7pm

Meeting closed 8.23pm