

WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 15 April 2024 held in Westbury Parish Hall

PRESENT: Councillors - P Ensor
R Hewlett
A Hyett
D Landon
S Phelps – Chair
B Stephens
M Townsend
F Wallbank – Clerk

Members of the Public: 0

1 APOLOGIES and Emergency Procedure: Councillors Hill and Radley and CC Robison.

2 MINUTES OF MEETING: Minutes of the meeting held Monday 18 March 2024 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

4 PUBLIC COMMENT: None present.

5 PLANNING MATTERS:

5.1 Applications:

Following a site meeting re P0280/24/FUL and P0072/24/FUL the following comment was sent to the Forest of Dean District Council:

P0072/24/FUL The Willows, Riverside Lane, Broadoak: Conversion of existing rear single storey extension, conversion of the existing garage to an annexe ancillary to main dwelling. Construction of a new car port. Removal of the existing roof & box dormers (front & rear) to be replaced with a new gable roof with associated front & rear box dormers, pitched roof lights & new chimney.

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:

The Parish Council supports this application.

The following applications were discussed at the meeting:

P0280/24/FUL Court Farm, The Village, WOS: Conversion & alterations to redundant agricultural barns to create 6 residential dwellings. Alterations & demolition of adjacent agricultural buildings to create associated amenity area, garaging & parking space.

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:

The Parish Council supports this application.

P0287/24/FUL Wood Hill Farm, Upper Rodley Road, Rodley: Erection of building/canopy over existing cattle yard area

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:

The Parish Council has no objections to this application.

P0309/24/FUL Leycott Farm, Lower Ley Lane, Minsterworth: Change of use of disused farm building to light industrial unit. Removal of disused open topped slurry store to create parking and turning area.

Comments to the Forest of Dean District Council:

The Parish Council has no objections to this application.

Councillor Hewlett entered.

5.2 Decisions:

P0209/24/FUL Court Farm, The Village, WOS: Erection of extension to existing agricultural building:
Granted

P0203/24/LD1 Ishkara, Dragon Fires, Grange Court Road, Adsett: Application under Section 191 to establish whether the use & occupancy of a bungalow as a permanent residence, originally granted permission as a holiday let, is lawful: **Refused**

P0302/24/AG Application for determination as to whether prior approval is required for further details. New Agricultural Building at Upper Ley Farm, Upper Ley. Prior notification for the erection of fodder store:
Granted

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	988.65 <u>67.40</u> 921.25		Paid
2	Inland Revenue TAX FJW NIC	67.40 <u>31.83</u> 99.23		Paid
3	Data Protection Fee renewal due 8.5.24	40.00		Direct debit
4	GAPTC Subscription renewal 1.4.24-31.3.25	513.59		Paid
5	Dennis Beale – Rental for Severn Bore Carpark		75.00	
	Totals:	£1574.07	£75.00	

7 MATTERS ARISING:

7.1 Highways Matters: The Chair reported that:

- He was hoping to meet up with Andrew Middlecote next week for a site meeting.
- The weeds are taking over the footway from Newnham through to Minsterworth.
- The verges around Rodley are being taken over by the obnoxious weed Hemlock Water Dropwort, said to be one of Britain's most poisonous plants. The Chair has spoken to Andrew Middlecote however he was not familiar with the weed.

As there is no footway in Northwood Green Highways need to erect a warning sign for pedestrians. The Chair would speak to Glos Highways.

Burial Ground: Despite the Clerk's email of the 24 March to the various bodies she had not received any response/s. CC Robinson had chased Neil Corbett however still no response.

The Head of the School had sent an email stating with summer coming up, they had plans to park a boat and develop a play boatyard in one corner of the field for the children to play and climb on. They also wanted to fill some tractor tyres with sand and create a sand digging area and build a slide out of tyres and other materials. The Head asked permission to go ahead with these small developments. The school appreciates that planting a tree is not possible, due to roots impacting neighbouring properties, but they would like to grow a small willow tunnel?

The Councillors were in full agreement that until such time as a draft lease has been agreed/rent

received they could not grant permission and at no point can a willow tunnel be planted as the roots of the willows could significantly damage the land drains. The Clerk was to email the school accordingly and request that the school arranges a meeting between the school, governors, GCC and the Parish Council to try and get a way forward.

7.3 Play Area: The Chair reported that WOS PCC would meet in 10 days' time and consider the request about play equipment being placed on the playing field at NWG. The vicar would be consulting with the Archdeacon.

Councillor Townsend said that at the NWG Social Hut committee meeting the committee was not in favour of play equipment being placed at the hall and said that they were not willing to be responsible.

Councillor Townsend enquired whether the PCSO had responded following the motorcyclist track on the Play Area. The Chair said he had emailed the PCSO but had no contact.

7.4 Footpaths: Councillor Townsend enquired whether Councillor Stephens could clear the tree that is obstructing the footpath on Church Road. Councillor Stephens said he would investigate and remedy.

7.5 Climate Change: Councillor Landon reported:

- Solar panels are being installed at The Dean Academy and Lydney Leisure Centre – also solar panels will be installed in the future at Dean Heritage and Speech House Hotel however the owner of the Speech House has been refused planning permission as it is a listed building.
- Coleford has a climate adaptation plan.

7.6 Dr's Surgery: Councillor Landon reported that negotiations are still ongoing however the Parish Hall has informed the Drs Surgery that they cannot afford to install a separate electricity supply. The Drs Surgery will go back to the NHS.

7.7 Registration of all PC land by 2030: Land owned by Parish Council is Carpark at Severn Bore, Blue Boys, The Strand inc carpark, Colchester Close (land on left), Burial Ground and School Playing Field. **Clerk would do some research into this matter and report back at the next PC meeting.**

8 CORRESPONDENCE: Any Other Correspondence:

IDB: The next election will take place between the 24 October and the 1 November 2024. The exact date of the election, should a poll be required will be published between 7-15 September 2024. For further details go to www.lowersevernldb.org.uk.

9 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION:

Councillor Townsend said that he had picked up the Newnham News and read that all Newnham Parish Councillors had their own separate email address for Parish Council business. The Clerk said that she raised this about a year ago and it was decided not to pursue this however she was happy to make enquiries again into this matter. **It was agreed the Clerk would report back at the next meeting.**

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Annual Parish Meeting commencing at 6.30pm followed by the Annual Council Meeting - Monday, 13 May 2024

Meeting closed 8.10pm