

## WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020 in the Village Hall, Weston commencing at 7.30 p.m.

#### **Present:**

Councillors: D. Chase, R. Henderson, C. Laughton, P. Laughton, M. Lowney,  
H. Saddington

Also attending: County Councillor Laughton

Clerk: S. Akerman

Members of the Public: 3

The Chairman opened the meeting by wishing everyone a Happy New Year.

200101 To receive Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest  
Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Francis and District Cllr. Michael  
Declaration of Interest – None

**Open Forum** – ten minutes to receive questions and comments from members of the public  
A member of the public commented on the number of potholes on the Great North Road,  
specifically one close to the junction with Main Street. Clerk to report.

191102 To accept the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019

- The minutes were accepted as a true and correct record and duly signed by the Chair. Proposed by Cllr. Lowney and seconded by Cllr. C. Laughton
- To accept the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019  
The minutes were accepted as a true and correct record and duly signed by the Chair. Proposed by Cllr. Lowney and seconded by Cllr. C. Laughton

200103 To note and report matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda

i) Parish Clock – the Clerk advised that three alternative suppliers had been contacted for quotes to work on the clock. Of these one declined to carry out a survey, one no longer works on turret clocks and the third has not responded to messages. The re-issued quote from Time Assured was considered and after a discussion **all agreed in principle** to move ahead with the work listed in the three quotes totalling £4,400 plus Vat. The Clerk was asked to speak with the PCC regarding a faculty and also with District Cllr. Michael regarding the possibilities of funding from the N&SDC fund.

The discussion to be revisited in February when more information on funding lines and possible timings for a faculty are available.

ii) Planning Training – the Clerk advised the majority of respondents preferred Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January and following a discussion it was agreed that this date be booked for 6.30pm. The Methodist Hall in Sutton-on-Trent has been reserved as it is understood the village hall is unavailable.

Cllr. Lowney raised an issue discussed at a previous meeting, that being the closed footbridge over the Grassthorpe Beck. The Clerk advised the footpath is still closed and will contact Rights of Way for an update.

200104 To receive reports from County Council and District Council Representatives  
County Councillor Laughton commented on the following:

- Highways management has undergone a re-organisation with managers designated to district areas. The contact for N&SDC area is Mike Keeling under Jo Horton.
- The County Council are to meet with the new MPs and Robert Jenrick on 24<sup>th</sup> January to discuss the disparity in funding per head of population in the county.
- The council is aware of the poor condition of some roads in the area despite an additional £5 million allocated to maintenance.

Cllr Lowney raised the issue of standing water at various places along the Great North Road heading south towards the A1 which was a driving hazard in the recent

poor weather. In addition, Cllr. Lowney commented on the overgrown footpaths alongside the Great North Road, in particular those heading towards Sutton-on-Trent.

Cllr. Lowney also queried the number of street lights along Main Street – six compared to three on Colley Lane – and felt this was inadequate leaving the street very dark in places. Cllr. Laughton commented that the lights has been upgraded to LED. He acknowledged and would follow up the comments pointing out that the installation of additional/new lights often raised more objections from residents.

*County Councillor Laughton left the meeting at 7.50pm*

- 200105 To receive and consider any Highways & Rights of Way issues
- i) Correspondence regarding Hawbush Road and the commitment to surfacing work.
  - ii) Road & pavement sweep of Main Street – requested 18<sup>th</sup> December (ESB1023597) and completed 19<sup>th</sup> December

- 200106 To consider financial matters
- i) To record the balance of accounts at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 - the Clerk reported a balance of £14,145.99 which includes defibrillator funds of £1,046.
  - ii) To report receipts - None
  - iii) To agree payments  
SLCC subscription renewal at £65 – the Clerk to clarify the costs
  - iv) To agree a precept for 2020/21  
The Clerk circulated figures prior to the meeting. Following a discussion around commitments the council has through the year, Cllr. Lowney proposed a 5% increase which results in an increase per year for a Band D property of 85p. Cllr. Henderson seconded and **all agreed**. The Clerk was asked to contact N&SDC accordingly.

- 200107 To consider any planning matters and receive an update on ongoing applications.
- i) New Applications  
19/02061/FUL – application to erect a detached 5-bedroom dwelling on land adjacent to 2 Chestnut Close. A discussion was had followed by a unanimous vote to support the application. The applicant was given an opportunity to address the council regarding the application.  
Decisions (for information)
  - ii) 19/01522/FULM – construction of agricultural building at Redroofs Farm – declined  
Notice of Appeal (for information)
  - iii) 19/01031/FUL Crossways – appeal lodged

Cllr. Lowney queried why the council no longer carries out site visits when considering planning applications. It was suggested that the Chairman and Clerk should liaise on individual applications to decide how a site visit could be incorporated into the decision process. **All agreed**.

- 200108 To review and update the Emergency Plan  
The plan was circulated prior to the meeting. The following recommendations and updates were agreed:
- Councillor mobile numbers to be included for contact purposes
  - A contact for Network Rail to be included on the relevant page
  - TV IDB contact details to include the Newark office number
  - Resilience equipment – the Clerk to source additional polypropylene sandbags
  - Cllr. P. Laughton to produce a map to identify the resilience store

The Clerk to update the plan for circulation and posting on the website.

Cllr. Chase advised that he is to attend flood warden training with the Environment Agency in mid-February.

- 200109 To discuss correspondence  
As requested, the Clerk circulated all correspondence received through December and advised the four emails sent had taken approx. 30 mins per email to produce. The Clerk went on to clarify that an additional 19 items of correspondence had been

received since 23<sup>rd</sup> December but not circulated as had been advised. These items were dealt with under agenda item 10 below.

A lengthy discussion was had on the circulating of all correspondence and whether this was an appropriate use of the Clerk's time. The Clerk also commented that a recent request that correspondence should not be responded to without input from members would impede the smooth working of the council and was not practical. The Chair proposed that the Clerk be allowed to decide what correspondence should be circulated and the details of anything included on a meeting agenda be circulated with it. **All agreed.**

- 200110 To receive and consider correspondence circulated
- i) Notts ALC notice of a Home Office consultation on giving the Police increased powers to deal with unauthorised encampments
  - ii) Via EM overnight closure of Egmonton Crossing on 25<sup>th</sup> January - to be posted nearer the time
  - iii) SLCC subscription renewal
  - iv) Improving Productivity in the Workplace conference, March 2020
  - v) HMRC Online information update
  - vi) Broxap outdoor sports equipment brochure – available to view
  - vii) Inspector Heather Sutton Stakeholder update
  - viii) NALC personnel update covering employment issues
  - ix) NSDC Tax Base information for precept calculations
  - x) Email correspondence with Hugo Fox regarding creating a dark page for the website
  - xii) Notts ALC - information on pay scales for 2020/21
  - xiii) HMRC - online help newsletter regarding statutory payments
  - xiv) Notice of domestic abuse forum in March 2020 from Westminster Insight
  - xv) Fresh Air Fitness - details of outdoor fitness equipment
  - xvi) Notts ALC notice of a training event in February
  - xvii) Email from the village hall with update on clothing bin funds raised poster for the website (forwarded from personal email)
  - xviii) Notts Police Crime Data for November 2019
  - ixx) Notts Police & Crime Commissioner December 2019 The Beat – posted to website
  - xx) Came & Co year end contact details
  - xxi) NSDC – confirmation of requested road and pavement sweep being completed
  - xxii) Resident correspondence regarding planning application 19/02061/FUL
  - xxiii) Fenland Leisure Christmas Circular
  - xxiv) Broxap Christmas Circular
- Correspondence received since 23<sup>rd</sup> December
- i) Email from village hall committee with posters for website (forwarded from personal email)
  - ii) N&SDC re election expense recharge being delayed
  - iii) Via East Midlands overnight closure of Egmonton Crossing on 8<sup>th</sup> February – to be posted nearer the time
  - iv) Notts ALC funding bulletin – to be forwarded to village hall treasurer
  - v) Notts ALC – presentations from AGM in November
  - vi) Action with Communities newsletter
  - vii) Facebook – top tips and weekly usage data
  - viii) SLCC renewal reminder
  - ix) N&SDC Planning Committee agenda
  - x) N&SDC re planning training (see above)
  - xi) HMRC tax code details for Clerk
  - xii) SPAM email from [executivecommittee84@gmail.com](mailto:executivecommittee84@gmail.com)
  - xiii) Terrain Safety re health and safety training
  - xiv) Notts Alert with details of mobile speed camera locations for w/c 6<sup>th</sup> January - links to the site on Facebook
  - xv) Notts ALC – HR guidance notes: recruitment
  - xvi) Google Analytics for December website usage
  - xvii) Facebook update on posts received
  - xviii) My Neighbourhood Plan online policy workshop

- ixx) NHS Mansfield & Ashfield CCG request to share details of alternative services to A&E – posted to Facebook and the website

**Open Forum** – ten minutes to receive questions and comments from members of the public  
Nothing raised.

200111 To consider and discuss any non-agenda items  
Cllr. P. Laughton asked if the meeting with Network Rail scheduled for November had been rearranged and the Clerk advised a date was expected to be circulated this week.

Next Meeting  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February at Weston Village Hall at 7.30pm

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.45pm