

# Weston Parish Council

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## Minutes of the **Weston** Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> of March 2026 in the Village Hall at 7:30pm.

Present: Cllr. S Meadows (chair) · Cllr. D Hill · Cllr. R Henderson · Cllr. D Chase · Cllr. S Widdowson  
Clerk: Callum Bryant · 2 Residents · County Councillor Bruce Laughton

### 26.03.01 **APOLOGIES**

Julie Readman from the Diocese send apologies as well as Newark and Sherwood District Councillor Sylvia Michaels.

### 26.03.02 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

### 26.03.03 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A resident raised concerns regarding disruption from building works at a local development, including contractor parking, late evening activity and vehicles blocking access. Concerns were also raised regarding contractors inspecting drains late at night and the presence of unidentified vehicles in the village. It was noted that survey markings had been observed along highways, likely relating to drainage or utilities works.

Issues were raised regarding dog fouling, overflowing bins and litter. It was noted that bin provision may need reviewing and that volunteers may be required to support litter picking. A suggestion was made regarding provision of a footpath across the grassed area near the bench.

### 26.03.04 **UPDATE FROM DISTRICT / COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

Bruce Laughton, Nottinghamshire County Councillor reported that the County Council tax increase has been set at 3.99%, including a 2% adult social care precept. It was reported that highway maintenance capacity has reduced due to budget decisions, resulting in slower pothole repairs. Additional funding has recently been allocated, but improvements are unlikely in the short term.

Concerns were raised regarding potholes, hidden gullies and highway verge maintenance. Members agreed to contact the relevant officer regarding blocked gullies and to request notification when maintenance teams attend.

Horse warning signage was discussed following a recent near miss; this will be pursued with the County Council.

- CLOSURE OF THE PUBLIC SESSION -

**26.03.05 MINUTES**

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of January as accurate.

**26.03.06 COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Cllr. Hill reported on a Safer Neighbourhood meeting, noting incidents of theft including oil, vehicles, plant machinery and high-value bicycles across the wider area. Residents were advised to remain vigilant.

Cllr. Widdowson reported on the defibrillator inspection. The unit, installed in 2015, is now out of warranty and consideration should be given to replacement. Pads are due to expire in October 2026 and the battery in October 2027. Further information on costs and options will be obtained for consideration at a future meeting. Ownership records will also be confirmed.

**26.03.07 HIGHWAYS**

Concerns regarding potholes and blocked gullies were reiterated. It was noted that verge growth is obscuring drainage infrastructure. The Clerk will liaise with the County Council regarding maintenance.

**26.03.08 ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE**

- a) It was resolved to note accounts presented.
- b) It was resolved to sign the transaction summary and bank reconciliation.
- c) It was resolved to note expenditure against budget.
- d) It was resolved to review invoices and agree payment.

**26.03.09 POLICY REVIEW**

It was resolved to defer this to a later meeting.

**26.03.10 INTERNAL AUDITOR**

It was resolved to appoint Anne Daly as internal auditor.

**26.03.11 LENGTHSMAN**

It was resolved to delegate the appointment of Lengthsman to the clerk in consultation with councillors and review at a later meeting if an appointment cannot be made.

**26.03.12 PLANNING MATTERS**

- a) No planning applications were received since the agenda was published.

**26.03.13 ONGOING ISSUES AND UPDATES**

- a) It was resolved to defer the Village Clock update.
- b) JPAG activity continues, with a high level of discussion on the working group, including wider topics such as proposed hydrogen pipeline infrastructure. It was noted that much of the recent discussion relates to external issues not directly relevant to the parish. Based on current information, it is considered unlikely that any hydrogen pipeline proposals will affect the parish area. It was also noted that

the first instalment payment towards consultancy support has now been made.

- c) Cllr. Hill provided a full Safer Neighbourhood Group update, items of note included that Carlton on Trent Church had a quantity of oil stolen in January/February and that the former Great Northern pub had been broken into, with videos of the incident circulated on the Urban Warriors Facebook page.

A farm in the North/South Muskham area had construction plant stolen, and there were reports of quad bikes being stolen in the Laxton area during November and December. A truck stolen from Weston on 12 December was later recovered in Norwich and returned to its owners.

In addition, seven high-value bicycles were reported stolen from sheds across several areas.

- d) Cllr. Widdowson outlined the defibrillator inspection outcomes earlier in the meeting and will further update the council at the next meeting.

#### **26.03.14 CORRESPONDENCE AND ISSUES RAISED**

Reports were received of nitrous oxide canisters being found near Meadow Lane. This will be reported to the District Council for removal, and a warning may be issued via parish communications.

Concerns were also raised regarding safety at a construction site adjacent to the care home due to lack of boundary fencing. Residents have been advised to report this to the District Council.

#### **26.03.15 NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS**

Items for the next meeting were relayed to the clerk.

**THE MEETING WAS CLOSED AT 20:51**