

WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Weston Parish Council
on Wednesday 7th February 2024
in the Village Hall held at 7.30pm
Agenda

24.02.1 4	To receive Apologies for Absence: Cllr Bruce Laughton
24.02.1 5	<p>Matters Arising from Minutes inc,</p> <p>A) Clerk fed back on series of actions (inc Ref numbers for VIAEM tasks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Gullies issues: Clerk raised Main St, Great North Road, NCC raised the gullies by the beck (not part of the enquiry). Indication was it would take time to address. ii. Horse crossing signs – wanted further photos. <u>Action</u>: Clerk to send iii. Fencing/Trees affecting visibility on Great North Road – wanted exact location 3 words, photos. Cllr Hill said these were amongst the batch sent. <u>Action</u>: Clerk to forward. iv. 30 mph sign adjustment. Seeking exact location and Clerk sent. v. Broken village sign quote – awaiting 2nd quote, previous quote has now been updated and not significantly different. <u>Action</u>: Clerk to chase. vi. Submission of precept – sent and acknowledged by NSDC vii. Template letter re salary increase/backpay – resolved. viii. Clerk has requested if it is possible to receive updates from NCC/ NSDC Councillors if they cannot attend meetings. <p>B) Lengthsman activities – most covered at recent meeting, no further updates</p> <p>C) Actions taken away to progress at previous meeting by Councillor Michael who explained she is struggling to receive Parish emails, as <i>netnanny</i> type of function intervening. Agreed to send emails via the Chair and see if that</p>
24.02.1 6	Minutes of the previous meeting of 18 th January 2024 accepted. Proposed Cllr Hill and seconded Cllr Chase. All agreed.
24.02.1 7	To note any Declarations of Interest – Cllr David Chase re Solar Farm Discussion over declaration of interest expressed and whether it is necessary for Cllr Chase not to be part of the discussion as fact finding at this stage. Once it comes to voting and or planning application stage may be excluded. Residents have mixed views and wish for mixed views to be represented. All agreed.
24.02.1 8	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>A) To hear issues and views from residents. Resident raised concern over notification of consultation – map was poor (on the posted card), was difficult to see how it affected Weston. Pleased to hear gullies are being raised still.</p> <p>B) To also receive reports from County Council and District Council Representatives and Councillors. N&S planners not made a decision on the Solar application. Have a say to government. Not sure if listening to Parish and District councils. No date for glass recycling yet. Cars on road no longer there and report went to Safer Neighbourhood meeting, resident given until Friday that week to move the cars. Asked about pump on Main St whether is discharging, noted it is currently but intermittent (Cllr Michael will take away as a task). Cabinet agreed 7.7% rise in council tax. ‘Hutchinsons’ application discussed last meeting, has an enforcement action on it before going forward. Discussed issuing number for potholes reporting to public and encourage people to report. <u>Action</u>: Clerk to arrange to go on website.</p>
24.01.1 6	To receive and consider any highways issues

24.01.2 0	<p>To consider financial matters</p> <p>A) Incomings/Outgoings/Balance Sheet. Summary of income and expenditure coming in £6.24p adrift (from accounts to bank statement). It was noted £980 lengthsman grant fell into last financial year 31/03 so due this March. <u>Action</u>: Clerk to clarify. Summary agreed noting the difference. Council agreed to review to seek to identify the difference. <u>Action</u>: Cllr Hill and Cllr Meadows.</p>
24.01.2 1	<p>To consider planning matters and receive updates on ongoing applications</p> <p>Nothing ongoing. Ivy Dene turned down on appeal</p>
24.01.2 2	<p>To discuss any issues raised by residents since last meeting</p> <p>Pump matter on Main St, raised with Cllr Meadows, <u>Action</u>: Cllr Michael to chase up.</p>
24.01.2 3	<p>Main Business</p> <p>A) Solar Farm proposals and attendance at public meetings update: Cllr Liversidge attended meeting in Newark. A lot of information supplied and people to discuss proposals with, open to discussion. Nothing on Weston side of the A1, all works at least half mile from Weston. Very extensive area. All linked to power stations and linked to Staythorpe. Early consultation, very first stage. Have to generate a lot of electricity if want to get off fossil fuels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asked about state of land = not taking any grade 1 land. Most is not farming land. • Looked at access from East side of A1 = if roads not suitable for lorries will improve the roads. • Noise = always will be due to construction and aim is to keep to a minimum. • Access points = 2 points locally. • Footpaths & Bridleways = will be maintained none will be removed and will be 2.5 metres from bridleways on each side of solar parks. • Once set up = no noise. • Length of time of construction = will be 18-24 mths, spring 2027 start. • Consultation = forms to be returned by February 2024 and second phase consultation by September 2024. • Enhancements = will be grants available and although village could apply for grants for improvement and flexible about this. • Employment locally = 60 people f/t on the Solar Farm at Staythorpe. • Height of solar panels = 2/3 metres high. <p>Cllr Liversidge thanked for his feedback. Cllr Hill attending a session this week - Clarify fencing along the sites. Cllr Chase commented Ministry of Agriculture grade the land and is not aware of any grade 1 land locally, mainly grade 3. Will trees be removed and planting to allow for this project? No compulsory purchase that we know of. <u>Action</u>: Cllrs attending the next sessions will ask these additional questions. Cllrs have spoken to residents, some very positive about solar power and general view of council was preference to wait for further information. Present information we have, on a display board (coffee morning Saturday identified) and take views from residents.</p> <p>B) Parish Clock: Defer to next meeting and discuss with Cllr Laughton. <u>Action</u>: Cllr Meadows</p> <p>C) Setting the council meeting schedule for year 24/25. Council agreed to</p>
24.01.2 4	<p>Consider correspondence circulated to Councillors since last meeting</p> <p>A) NSDC Travel Survey: a number of Cllrs have completed this, noting the connections between the footpaths, cycle routes and walkways.</p> <p>B) CPRE – To review next year due to very tight budget</p> <p>C) Neighbourhood Policing newsletter circulated. Clerk raised Safer Neighbourhoods Meeting, which Pauline Laughton attends for Weston. For the formal record needs to be nominated. Proposed Cllr Chase and seconded Cllr Hill. All agreed. <u>Action</u>: Clerk to inform Pauline</p>

24.01.2 5	<p><i>Open Forum – ten minutes to receive questions and comments from members of the public</i></p> <p>All private investors covering the Solar Farm most likely. Occurring across the country.</p> <p>State of roads locally.</p>
24.01.2 6	<p>To identify agenda items and business for the next meeting on Wednesday 6th March 2024</p> <p>Clock</p> <p>Further updates on the Solar Farms</p>

Meeting ended 20.53pm

Olwen Edwards - Clerk

Date: 16th February 2024

Signed

Date:

Chair of Weston Parish Council

DRAFT