

WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 8th May 2019 in the Village Hall, Weston commencing at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Councillors: D. Chase, G Francis, P. Laughton, C. Laughton,
M. Lowney, H. Saddington
Clerk: S. Akerman
Members of the Public: 3

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming Harvey Saddington to the council.

190501 To receive Declarations of Acceptance of Office & Disclosure of Interests

Acceptance of Office were duly completed and signed. Disclosure of Interests distributed for completion.

190502 To elect officers of the council – Chair and Vice Chair

Chair: David Chase Proposed Cllr. P. Laughton, seconded by Cllr. C. Laughton and
all agreed.

Vice Chair: Glyn Francis Proposed Cllr. Chase, seconded by Cllr. P. Laughton and **all
agreed.**

190503 To co-opt Parish Councillors

The Chair commented that a member of the public was in attendance to gain an understanding of how the council operates prior to applying to join. It was proposed to defer filling the vacancy to the June meeting. **All agreed.**

190504 To receive Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies were received and accepted from District Cllr. Michael
No Declarations of Interest

Open Forum – ten minutes to receive questions & comments from the public

- i) A resident offered to refurbish the bench seat at the junction of Main Street and the Great North Road. The Council gratefully accepted and Cllr. C. Laughton and Cllr. Chase agreed to look at removing the bench from its fixings.
- ii) A resident mentioned that the dog waste bin at Colley Lane and Meadow Lane has been close to overflowing and suggested that it be emptied weekly instead of fortnightly. It was agreed to include the subject on the agenda for the June meeting and the Clerk to provide revised costings for consideration.

190505 To accept the minutes of the meeting held on April 3rd 2019

The minutes were accepted as a true and correct record and duly signed by the Chair.
Proposed by Cllr. Lowney, seconded by Cllr. C. Laughton.

190506 To note and report matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda

- i) Village gateway signs – Clerk advised the signs are with the foundry for casting. MLS to advise when casting is completed for councillors to visit. To be arranged directly between councillors and MLS.
- ii) Parish Clock – Cllr. Francis has been shown how to wind the clock and provided feedback on the visit by Time Assured on 15th April. The mechanism is in good condition but does require some work. Clerk to follow up for quote.
A discussion followed regarding access to the clock and it was agreed that the Risk Assessment be revised to include the clock. Clerk to contact Simon Meadows regarding replacing the access ladder.

190506 To receive reports from County Council and District Council Representatives

Neither councillors were present at the meeting.

190507 To receive and consider any highways issues

Update provided on outstanding issues.

Cllr. P. Laughton confirmed the white lines along the Great North Road had been painted and the grass beneath the village benches has been cut back by Cllr. C. Laughton.

Cllr. Francis reported the drop kerb at the junction of Colley Lane and Great North Road is uneven – Clerk to report to Via EM.

190508 To consider financial matters

i) To record the balance of accounts at 30th April 2019 – Clerk reported a balance of £17,864.61 which includes £4,455 LIS Fund and £952 defibrillator account

ii) To report receipts:

First tranche of the precept at £2,062.50

iii) To report payments:

Notts ALC for new councillor training @ £70 (chq 507) - paid between meetings

Community Heartbeat Trust annual membership @ £124 (chq 508). Clerk to request the annual emergency telephone rental invoice

iv) To discuss and agree insurance renewal – cover and premium remains as last year. **All agreed** to renew from 1st June at £218 (chq 509)

v) To approve the accounts for 2018/19

The Internal Audit has been completed by Mr Mike Harness with no issues to report. A summary of the year-end accounts was circulated to councillors for review prior to the meeting. Cllr. Francis proposed and Cllr. Lowney seconded the accounts be accepted as a true and accurate record. **All agreed** and the Chair and Clerk duly signed the accounts.

vi) To complete the Annual Governance Statement & Accounting Statement for 2018/19

The Annual Governance Statement (*page 5 of the Annual Return*) was read out by the Chair and a 'Yes' response given to each question. This was duly approved and signed by the Chair and Clerk. Following this, the Accounting Statements and Certificate of Exemption were duly completed and signed by the Chair and Clerk

190509 To consider planning matters and receive updates on ongoing applications

None to report

190510 To review and agree council policies

i) Standing Orders – copies were circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr. Lowney pointed out Clause 1.19b regarding the Open Forum should be amended. It was proposed that the document be represented for approval at the June meeting. **All agreed**

ii) Financial Regulations - copies were circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr. Lowney pointed out Clause 7.2 regarding approval of the Clerk's timesheet should be amended. It was proposed that the document be represented for approval at the June meeting. **All agreed**

190511 To consider a proposal from Cllr. Francis to change the day council meetings are held

The proposal is for council meetings to be moved to the first Monday of the month. This would enable some councillors to attend more meetings around work commitments and also enable the Village Hall Committee to rent out the hall for weekly use on a Wednesday. It was agreed to discuss this further at the June meeting and in the meantime the Clerk will check the availability of District and County Councillors on alternative days of the week.

190512 To receive feedback from the Safer Neighbourhood Group meeting – Cllr. P. Laughton

There have been eight burglaries reported in the last quarter along with ongoing fuel and thefts from vehicles on the A1 and a number of lead thefts from church roofs. Speeding remains a concern in the villages.

190513 To confirm arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting on Saturday 15th June

Clerk advised that an invitation has been extended to and accepted by Inspector Heather Sutton and PCSO Crowhurst. Invitations to speak to be issued to representatives of All Saint's Church/PCC, the Village Hall Committee, Weston Choir and Weston WI. Village Hall to provide refreshments on arrival and advise the Clerk of costs incurred.

190514 To receive and consider correspondence received

- i) Resident complaint received regarding the close proximity to the bench of the new waste bin at the junction of Main Street and the Great North Road, especially as this is now to be used as a dual-purpose bin as the dog bin has been removed. Cllr. Laughton offered to move the bin.
- ii) Newark & Sherwood NHS Trust Long Term Plan survey – noted and posted to the website
- iii) Draft Local Minerals Plan Consultation will be carried out for 9 weeks from 27th July. Links to be posted on the website.

Open Forum – ten minutes to receive questions & comments from the public

- i) A member of the public commented how nice it was to hear the clock chiming again.
- ii) A comment was made regarding the poor state of Colley Lane after the recent works carried out by Severn Trent Water.
- iii) A report has been made to the Police regarding sightings of hare coursing in the area

190515 To consider and discuss any non-agenda items and business for the meeting on Wednesday 5th June**Non-agenda items:**

Cllr. P. Laughton commented that the bench on Colley Lane has a broken back slat and part of the concrete support is broken. It was suggested this bench be the next to be replaced. Clerk to provide prices for replacement for the June meeting.

Cllr. P. Laughton attended the recent launch of the government scheme to aid village halls with refurbishment work by providing funding of up to 20% of the cost. Suggestions were made that halls asked parish councils to apply to the Public Works Loan Board for the balance of funds required with the precept covering loan repayments. Cllr. Laughton asked it be recorded that the Village Hall Committee did not support approaching the council for this funding aid.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.55pm

These minutes were approved as a true and correct recorded and signed by the Chair on Wednesday 5th June 2019. Minute ref. 395-397. Minutes recorded by the Clerk to Weston Parish Council