

WESTONZOYLAND PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2019 AT 7.30 PM
AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WESTONZOYLAND

PRESENT: Cllrs Mrs Fisher (Chairman - in the Chair), Mr Alder, Mrs Parfitt, Mr Pearce, and Ms Perry

APOLOGIES: Cllrs Ms Bicker, Evans, Griffiths and Spurrell;
County Cllr David Hall and District Cllr Anthony Betty

52/19 **Somerset Rivers Authority - Community Engagement Team - Presentation**

The Chairman welcomed Dawn James and Emma Gifford from the Somerset Rivers Authority, who gave a presentation on the Flood Action Plan and Building Local Resilience. John Rowlands had also intended to be present to give an update on work on the King Sedgemoor Drain/Sowry but was prevented from doing so by Purdah.

The presentation began with an outline of the Somerset Rivers Authority, effectively the first in the Country, its make-up, the other authorities involved, and a breakdown of the work across the whole of the County. The work of the Resilience Team was outlined, not an emergency response but about preparations and the ability to respond should there be flooding at the sort of levels experienced in 2014. Work undertaken by the Team was both localised and on a wider spectrum and included projects with other countries including Holland and Belgium, some including climate change initiatives.

The recent survey and outcomes report was due to be published shortly and would influence what local actions were planned. One major issue arising related to insurance. In terms of local action, projects were in hand at Wedmore and Langport. Support was also being given to the development of flood group networks throughout Somerset supporting both businesses and local communities. The possibility that Westonzoyland and residents might become part of this would be explored and in this context contacts would be provided for 'Somerset Prepared' via the website.

On the specific topic of KSD/Sowry, John Rowlands would be invited to a future meeting.

The Chairman thanked Dawn and Emma for their contributions.

53/19 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 13/09/19 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Matters Arising

- i. **Towens Site, Springway (Application 1/53/18/12)** - The Clerk reported on the consideration of the application at the SCC Regulation Committee and the outcome which was the Grant of Consent with substantive conditions to be complied with. This included the total quantities of waste to be processed, methods of process and control, improvements to access, and vehicle movements.
- ii. **Play Area - New Equipment, DDA Roundabout, HAGS Order and Wellbeing Grant (Min 43/19ii)** - The HAGS quotation had been received and would be accepted, noting that a further £600 had been received in Wellbeing Grant from SCC. Thanks to Cllr Hall were recorded for this grant.
- iii. **Traffic Speeding and Meeting with Highway Authority Representatives (Min 43/19iii)** - Michael Tucker had also attended the meeting on site. As a consequence, the Highway Authority had been asked to examine the situation at both ends of the Village with a view to improved signage, possibility of additional measures at the entrance - one suggestion was from the Airfield a 'continental' speed option with flashing lights. This would also inform whether Village gateway entrances might be contrived and further options, installation of SIDs etc, which would only be pursued if benefit assessed. Speed humps and chicanes were not appropriate at these points on the 'A' road. This would be followed up with a report from the County Council. In conjunction with this consideration members also agreed to include examination of the proposal from the WAGs AGM offering to support a permanent feature at the Village entrance, initially at the Airfield side, which could tie into the proposals anticipated from SCC.
- iv. **Middlezoy Rovers Project - Tree Planting - Grant Request (Min 44/19 and 46/19.3)** - Details of the project costs had been received based on Silver Birch and Common Laurel, funds raised and the application to SDC.

Resolved: That a grant of £250 be offered, consideration of links to commemoration from the Airfield and suitable recognition/acknowledgement of the contribution via the Parish Council and residents of Westonzoyland.

(Cllr Ms Perry declared an interest as a member of the SDC Grants Panel and took no part in the consideration of this item, absenting.)

- v. **Defibrillator(s) (Min 43/19iv)** - The proposals for both sites at the shop and the Village Hall would be progressed.

Affordable Housing Needs - Liney Road Residential Development - Public Exhibition (Min 45/19)

Members were reminded of the issues which had been raised through the public exhibition and the views expressed by local residents that the total mix of affordable homes and shared ownership properties did not provide a satisfactory balance, was likely to impact on the vitality and economic growth of the area and not provide a satisfactory mix of housing for future generations. Specific issues had also been raised which would be followed

up through the Planning Application as well as contact direct with the Affordable Housing Team.

56/19 **County and District Ward Member Reports**

No reports were available from the County or District Councillors.

57/19 **Former Karting Site, Airfield (Application 53/19/00010) - Meeting with Highway Authority and Company's Representatives (Min 48/19)**

The Clerk reported on the meeting which had been held with the Ward County Cllr, the Director of Highways of SCC, and representatives Simon Watson and Viv Newson of Skanska and Stephen Port of Keelys together with the Chairman and Clerk. This addressed all the issues which had impacted on the Village since the operation of the site over a period of three or so years without the grant of consent, notwithstanding the County Council's contractual position and the requirement for Planning Permission. The site was currently not in use and prior thereto the washing plant had been removed to Henlade. Planning Consent had now been granted subject to numerous conditions, some of which needed to be complied with by the applicant and land owner, but others of an operational nature requiring to be complied with by the companies, some applied through the planning process and others to be managed through the contracts.

The Companies pointed to the works to be done by the applicant and also confirmed their actions, for example vehicle movements entering and exiting via the Middlezoy Road rather than through the Village. Aggregate would be due to come back onto the site prior to the commencement of the contract term in 2020.

In conclusion assurances were given about the management of the site and via the County Council, the management of the contract, so that operations would be carried out in a much more transparent way with improved communications between Parish Council, County Council and contractors.

Resolved: That the information be noted and an enquiry followed up in relation to the implementation of the specific conditions and operation of the site if not complied with.

58/19 **Budget 2020/21 - High Level Overview**

Members considered objectives and desires for the next financial year.

Resolved: That objectively a continuation budget be prepared anticipating an increase in precept viz 2.5% taking into account projects to be achieved and the prospect of undertaking and completing over an appropriate timescale works to the New Cemetery drive and pathways.

59/19 **Planning Applications, Decisions, Appeals and Enforcements and Other Matters**

Applications

- 53/19/34 Demolition of existing garage and erection of single storey extension to side north-east elevation, internal alterations and reconfigurations at Long Acre, Load Lane - **no objection**
- 53/19/35 Erection of two storey extension to rear north elevation on site of existing conservatory to be demolished at Orchard Farm, Anderesea - **no objection** as amended applications
- 53/19/36 Approval with details of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for the erection of 43 dwellings on land east of Liney Road - noting comments in Min 55/19 above, appropriate representations be submitted in relation to the balance of properties to be provided, vitality of the site and economic growth of the Village, and securing suitable mix for future generations with specific issues in relation to solar panels, lack of garages and sewerage management.

(Cllr Ms Perry took no part and absented during consideration of applications contained in Min 59/19.)

60/19 **Accounts for Payment and Receipts**

Resolved: That the accounts listed for payment (including Section 137 payments where appropriate) and paid contained in the Clerk's report dated 12/11/19 be noted and approved together with the bank statements and reconciliation, and income from CIL and VAT 16/17 refund (£450 and £347.76 respectively).

61/19 **Publications and Correspondence**

Resolved: that the items recorded in the report dated 12/11/19 be noted and actioned where appropriate:

1. SWP - September and November 2019 and Christmas and New Year collections
2. Avon and Somerset Constabulary - review of new policing model - raise issue of attendance at PC meetings
3. P&CC Newsletter - Autumn 2019 Issue 15
4. Sedgemoor Conversation 06/11/19 - report to be circulated
5. CIL Meaningful Proportion - breakdown reported (£450)
6. SDC Town and Parish Planning Seminars 19 & 28/11/19 - Cllr Mrs Parfitt to attend if possible
7. Homes in Sedgemoor National Fuel Poverty Workshop 28/11/19 and Improving Lives Seminar
8. SWS - Web Report October 2019
9. Sedgemoor Highways - winter services gritting etc
10. AGE UK - services for over 60s
11. VE Day 75th Celebrations

12. SLCC Training Programme
13. Condensation Magazine - Westonzoyland Engine Trust
14. WAGs AGM - Village entry (allied to item Min 54/19iii above)
15. Trees for Somerset; Trees for the Parish - West Monkton 29/01/20
16. Climate Change Workshop Invitation - Timberscombe 26/11/19
17. SRA Report 2018 - in part distributed in response to Min 52/19 above
18. Notice of General Election - 12/12/19
19. Seat Location - Recreation Field/Carnival Shed/New Cemetery/centre of Village corner - Clerk to refer to Chris Burge and establish location of second bench
20. 2020/21 Notification that 'No Referendum Principles' Applicable to Town and Parish Councils precepting
21. Bridgwater Together – 12/10/19
22. Load Lane Parking Issues - response to communicate with Police where parking of a dangerous nature
23. Magazines, Newsletters, Posters and Product Information

62/19

Additional Items

1. **Fingerpost and Road Signs** - Cllr Pearce correspondence with Highway Authority to be followed up.
2. **Microlights and Light Aircraft Activity from Airfield over Village and Flying on Grass Runway - Flying Club Presence and directions of Flight paths on Grass Runways, Museum etc** - Cllr Alder reported information he had to hand on responsibility for managing flights into and out of the various runways, and to be followed up further with local contacts, Civil Aviation Authority etc.
3. **One Tree - Many Branches** - request for grant, Somerset Story Fest and Westonzoyland School (Min 36/19.1) - with additional information now available to be brought forward to next meeting for decision.
4. **Letter of planned Resignation from Peter Evans (Vice-Chairman)** - placed on hold by agreement.

The meeting finished at 9.40 pm

Signed;
Chairman