

WESTONZOYLAND PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL **HELD ON MONDAY 10 OCTOBER 2016 AT 7.30PM** **AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WESTONZOYLAND**

PRESENT: Cllrs Mrs Fisher (Chairman - in the chair), Alder, Mrs Ballard, Evans, Ms Perry and Spurrell

County Cllr David Hall (County Council Ward Member) was also present

APOLOGIES: Cllrs Burge, Carson and Griffiths

Former Parish Cllr Brian Bell

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Parish Council stood to the memory of former Parish Cllr Brian Bell who had recently passed away.

43/16 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15/08/16

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 15/08/16 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to an amendment to the information provided by Cllr Alder contained in Min 34/16 in relation the number of houses to clarify that the development by SDC of some 22 units was in West Huntspill and Burnham-on-Sea. More locally a number of units were to be provided on the former Withycutter site in Frederick Road, Bridgwater.

44/16 Matters Arising

i. **Trees at Recreation Ground and on Highway Verge (Min 33/16i)** - the Clerk confirmed that the demolition of the three trees had been completed and the account in the sum of £2,700 paid. 50% was due from the Village Hall Management Committee as agreed. The issue of the fourth tree on the highway verge which was also alleged to be dangerous was being pursued and awaited confirmation from SCC. In the meantime Somerset Tree Services who had carried out the felling of the three trees had provided a quotation for the fourth tree removal.

45/16 Housing Needs Follow-Up and Local Plan Review - Affordable Housing Projects (Min 35/16)

The Clerk provided copies of a briefing note (Issue 2) received from Esther Carter, Housing Project Development Officer, in relation to the consideration of the Affordable Housing Project in Westonzoyland. She was unable to attend the meeting. Members noted the progress and supported continuing consideration of sites H291 and H043. Indicative site lay-outs were provided from which it was noted that the combined sites could provide development of some 75 units with 40% "affordable" which would satisfy the need identified in the earlier surveys.

(During discussion on this item, the Chairman adjourned the meeting to enable members of the public to contribute with comments offered in relation to both of these sites.)

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council continue to support the provision of affordable housing and the two sites reported upon, and Esther Carter be invited to report further to the next meeting of the Parish Council on 21/11/16.

46/16

County and District Councillor Ward Reports

County Cllr David Hall outlined a number of issues with which the County Council were involved. He drew attention to the go-ahead for the EDF/HPC project and the company's intention to use the ground floor of the Innovation Centre in Bristol Road for their induction of staff. BT broadband coverage was progressing with further meetings planned. There was still no clarity over the financing for the Somerset River's Authority which was likely to continue with the current arrangements into 2017/18. Progress was being made on schemes for the Parrett Barrier with two preferred locations at Express Park and Bristol Road identified. This was now the subject of consultation and in the meantime work continued on the Sowey river improvements and at Dunball. In terms of flooding problems at Liney Road, it was assessed that a bigger scheme was necessary and this was awaiting confirmation of funding.

In conjunction with Cllr Hall's report, members discussed the issues of speeding into and out of the village which had been raised by local people. Basically a police matter, this had been raised through the consultation process with Police and Crime Commissioner and local action considered. It was agreed that the Clerk would provide an article for the Parish Magazine with a view to the possibility of a speed watch team being recreated. Police and PCSO support would again be sought.

Cllr Hall rounded off his comments by drawing attention again to the difficult financial position the County Council were faced with as they moved into budget preparations.

Cllr Alder, in relation to District Council matters, commented both on finance and housing provision.

47/16

Police/PCSO Report

Particularly relating to the issues on speeding in the village, members were disappointed that, yet again, there was no police or PCSO attendance despite assurances given to the Clerk. Members requested that this be again followed up pursuing the issues raised with the Police and Crime Commissioner.

48/16

Village Agent Report

Kate Symonds was in attendance and drew attention to concerns about the future of the bus services through the village. She circulated copies of a reply from Hatch Green Coaches, which again highlighted the lack of funding

anticipated - with the expectation of a further round of bus service consultations likely to result in reduced levels of services. Members agreed that the Parish Council should make representations but were reminded by Cllr Alder of the opportunities available through Sedgemoor Community Transport and in some cases Mendip Community Transport.

Cllr Evans, as Parish Magazine Editor, thanked Kate for the regular Parish Magazine articles she contributed.

49/16 New Cemetery - Rules and Regulations

The Clerk confirmed the updated regulations, copies of which were to be displayed at the Cemetery. This was specific in relation to the open plan grassed nature of the Cemetery, although members fully appreciated the sensitivities. The Chairman agreed to discuss this further where it would be appropriate. The Parish Council confirmed their support for the regulations as drawn.

50/16 Audit of Accounts 2015/16 - Completion

The Clerk confirmed the completion of the audit and the issues which had been raised excepted from the audit report. The conclusion of the audit and the information had been provided on the website.

51/16 Account for Payment and Receipts

RESOLVED: That the accounts listed for payment (including Section 137 payments where appropriate) contained in the Clerks report dated 03/10/16 and the income be noted and approved, together with the bank statements and reconciliation.

52/16 Planning Applications, Decisions, Appeals and Enforcement (Min 38/16)

53/16/13 6ft fence panels at 12 King's Drive - application approved following Development Committee consideration.

53/16/17 Erection of two storey and single storey extensions and parking at 9 Monmouth Road (amended plans)

RESOLVED: That no objection be raised.

53/16 Publications and Correspondence

RESOLVED: That the items recorded in the Report dated 03/10/16 be noted and actioned where appropriate:

1. Parish Magazine - September and October 2016
2. Pensions Auto-Enrolment - to be followed through in accordance with regulations
3. Council Tax Referendum Proposals - objection to be lodged
4. 2017/18 Local Government Finance Settlement - noted
5. Risk Assessment Training

6. Policing Priorities Update
7. TRO Hoopers Lane and Lakewall
8. Liney Road - flooding (as referred in Min 46/16 above)
9. Recycling Changes
10. CAB Money Advice Advertising
11. BT Pay Phone Removal - in view of lack of usage, no objection to be raised to removal of box and phone in Main Road
12. Somerset Web Services - web report update
13. SDC - legal services availability
14. Magazines, Newsletters, Posters and Product Information

54/16 Additional Items

1. New Seats Financed from Zoyfest Funding - shortly to be delivered and put in place.
2. Christmas Tree - corner opposite Butcher's Shop – proposed siting AGREED sourcing to be followed-up.

The meeting finished at 9.00 pm

Signed;
Chairman