

# WESTONZOYLAND PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 19 MAY 2015 AT 7.00PM PRIOR TO THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

PRESENT: Cllrs Alder, Burge, Carson, Evans, Mrs Fisher and Spurrell  
ALSO PRESENT: District Cllr Liz Perry and County Cllr David Hall

APOLOGY: Cllr Griffiths

*(Prior to the commencement of the meeting those members present who had been duly elected at the uncontested election, signed Declarations of Acceptance of Office and were given forms to complete for notification of financial and other interests)*

### **01/15 Election of Chairman**

**RESOLVED:** That Mrs Fisher be elected Chairman of the Parish Council for 2015/16.

### **02/15 Appointment of Vice Chairman**

**RESOLVED:** That Mr Carson be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for 2015/16.

### **03/15 Uncontested Election and Co-option to Vacancies**

Two positions were available. In the past few months the Parish Council had twice offered notice of co-option for available places. Only limited interest had been expressed and similarly with the recent election. Mrs Jacqueline Ballard, previously Parish Councillor, gave notice of her willingness to be co-opted to the Parish Council and Ms Elizabeth Perry, recently elected District Cllr for the Kings Isle Ward, including Westonzoyland, similarly gave notice of willingness to be co-opted.

**RESOLVED:** That in these particular circumstances Mrs Ballard and Ms Perry be co-opted to the Council.

*(Declarations of Acceptance of Office were signed and interest forms issued. The Chairman welcomed Cllrs Mrs Ballard and Ms Perry to the Parish Council who then took part in the remainder of the business.)*

### **04/15 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16/03/15 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### **05/15 Matters Arising**

i. **Carnival Club Tenancy Agreement (Min 100/14ii)** - The Clerk confirmed that the draft Agreement had been completed and passed to the Carnival Club for final agreement. They had been served notice under the Landlord and Tenant Act

1954 and were required to complete a Statutory Declaration in order to preclude creation of a business tenancy. Cllr Burge undertook to secure completion of the form and formalise the Carnival Club Agreement so that the new Agreement could be signed and completed.

ii. **Older Children's Play and Fitness Equipment in Extension of Play Area (Min 105/14)** - The Clerk confirmed that the installation of the new equipment was nearly complete. The final Sovereign invoices (2) had been received.

The new equipment had been widely welcomed in the village and those pieces of equipment completed were already being used. Members discussed additional signage, both general and related to the zip wire.

Reed Engineering had provided a quotation for the provision of bow-top fencing on the roadside, although completion would have to await available finance.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the near completion of the scheme be welcomed;
2. that an official opening be held on 02/06/15 at 6.00 pm;
3. that an additional waste bin be provided in the play area;
4. that pending a permanent solution, temporary fencing be erected to prevent direct access into the road from the playing field via the pedestrian slot;
5. that further consideration of additional signage be examined following the formal RoSPA safety inspection; and
6. that the invoices be paid upon completion.

iii. **Village Youth Club (Min 108/14)** - Members were disappointed to learn that the Friday Club had disbanded and noted the advice provided by the Rev Chris Keys as to the reasons. They also noted the hope that the Youth Club would be reformed, possibly in a different guise once, and if, additional support for the operation of the Club and volunteers could be found. The finance which had been made available for the Youth Club had not been banked and Cllr David Hall confirmed his agreement to the £500 match funding being deferred to aid the play area funding.

**06/15**

**County and District Cllr Ward Reports**

Members welcomed the newly elected District Councillors Alder & Ms Perry.

Cllr Hall gave a County perspective on the past year and the future. He relayed progress on the Flood Action Plan and examination of a Parrett Barrage. He referred to the further budget cuts but outlined commitments to funding in specific areas, in particular Children's Services. He confirmed the appointment of the new Chairman of Somerset County Council and that the Highways portfolio would now be the mantra of County Cllr Fothergill. Other matters covered the continuing widening for provision of superfast broadband and the delayed state of play with Hinkley Point C still waiting on the final investment decision.

Cllr Alder briefly outlined the success of Sedgemoor in terms of economic activity and reducing unemployment figures and benefits to homes and business, particularly from the new homes bonus. Although the Sedgemoor community charge was lowest in the area, it was still impacted by the Drainage Board Precept over which there

was no control. The Council were now actively looking at prefabricated housing units and the possibility of a specialist factory.

**07/15 Village Agent Report**

A Report supplied by Alison Hoare was circulated, outlining the activity of the Village Agent over the past months. Big lottery funding had successfully been sought to continue funding the project through to, at least, 2018. It was suggested that the assistance of the Village Agent might be sought in chasing funding sources for exterior works to the Village Hall and Standby building. This would be pursued.

**08/15 Appointments 2015/16**

1. Planning Sub-Committee (5) - Chairman and Vice-Chairman together with three other available members;
2. SALC representatives (2) - Chairman and Vice-Chairman;
3. Community Centre Management Committee (1) - Jacqueline Ballard;
4. Standby Building and Carnival Shed Project Group (1) - Chris Burge;
5. Internal Auditor (1) - Mrs Geri O'Loughlin;
6. Moors Cluster Group - Chairman (and/or Vice-Chairman) and Clerk;
7. Rights of Way Contact/Parish Path Liaison Officer (1) - Malcolm Carson (current) (deputy Hugh Griffiths (current));
8. Grievance and Disciplinary Panel - Messrs Burge and Evans and one other Councillor;
9. Appeals Panel - Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

**RESOLVED:** That the appointments above be confirmed and a Parish Representative sought to take over the Rights of Way brief with advertisements via the Parish Magazine and on the website.

**09/15 Planning Applications, Decisions, Appeals and Enforcement**

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| 53/15/07 | Removal of non-breathable paint and installation of waterproof membrane, replastering etc at 22 Standards Road |
| 53/15/08 | Change of use and conversion, including extension for living accommodation in outbuildings at Penzoy House     |
| 53/15/09 | Conversion of garages to living accommodation and single garage at 10 Francis Reed Close                       |
| 53/15/10 | Erection of double garage and alteration to access at 57 Liney Road  |

**RESOLVED:** That no objection be raised to any of the applications.

**10/15 Accounts for Payment and Receipts**

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the accounts listed for payment (including Section 137 payments where appropriate) contained in the Clerks Report dated 11/05/15 and the income be noted and approved; and
2. that in doing so the three year deal offered by AON-PC Insurance for the three year term be accepted.

**11/15 Publications and Correspondence**

**RESOLVED:** That the items recorded in the Report dated 11/05/15 be noted and actioned where appropriate;

1. Parish Magazine - April&May 2015
2. HMRC Employer Registration and PAYE Employer's Activation Code - passed on to SDC payroll
3. Church Friday Club - current position as referred to in Min 5/15(iii)
4. SDC Services and Facilities Questionnaire - completed by Peter Evans
5. Lloyds Bank - cheque signatures - Cllrs Mrs Fisher and Carson to complete forms
6. Forces March 2015 - Friday 22/05/15 - non availability
7. Care Act 2014 Fact Sheet
8. Affordable Housing - survey presentation - Esther Carter (SDC) to be invited
9. Magazines, newsletters, posters and product information

**12/15**      **Calendar of Meetings 2015/16**

**RESOLVED:** That the calendar be adopted.

**13/15**      **PCSO Helen Whitehead**

Members learned with regret that PCSO Helen Whitehead was leaving the Force and entering a new career. Members had passed on their good wishes to Helen for the future and appreciated hugely, her service through some ten years in post covering the Westonzoyland Parish.

**14/15**      **Additional Items**

1. Battlefield Memorial - completion of works by D J Lang, stonemason, and receipt of invoice £462.50 - to be referred on to Rev Chris Keys with payment of balance after grant to Westonzoyland Parochial Church Council;
2. Creation of access onto highway at corner of Liney Road (No 1) - Cllr Alder to follow up;
3. Zoyfest 500 update - Members noted the several successes but that the event for 13/06/15 was not going ahead;

**RESOLVED:** That a sum of £250 be earmarked to support the festival identified towards the historical exhibition planned for 08/09 August 2015.

4. Motorcycle usage on Drove from Middlezoy to Westonzoyland - Shave Drove - complaints to be followed up;
5. Branches and trees rubbish at new Cemetery - not proposed as part of the Zoyfest 500 and to be dealt with in a different way- to be referred to Mr Ian Moore.

The Meeting finished at 8.55 pm

Signed;  
Chairman

