

## **WESTONZOYLAND PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

**HELD ON MONDAY 19 JUNE 2023 AT 7.30 PM**

**AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WESTONZOYLAND**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Mrs Fisher (Chairman), Mr Alder, Mr Chetwynd, Mrs Parfitt, Mr Pearce, and Mr Spurrell

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Mr Dingwall and County Unitary Councillor Rodrigues

#### **13/23 Appointment of Vice Chairman - Ratification**

**Resolved:** That in the absence of the nominated Vice Chairman, Ms Bicker, the Ratification be held over until the next meeting.

#### **14/23 Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 15 May 2023**

**Resolved:** That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 15 May 2023, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

#### **15/23 Matters Arising**

**i. Security Review of Website and Re-Build (Min 04/23i)** - Members were generally satisfied with the upgrade.

**Resolved:** That the opinion of Councillor Dingwall be invited at the next meeting.

**ii. Traffic Matters, Speeding, 20mph Limits, Village Entry, Speed Signs, SIDs and Towens (Min 04/23ii)** - Most of these items had now been dealt with and confirmation received that Messrs Towens had completed the purchase of the SIDs from Elan City. The erection of the additional pole on the entry to the Village from Bridgwater was still awaited. The Police Fund application remained to be completed.

**Resolved:**

1. That the position be noted;
2. that Councillor Dingwall be requested to provide data from the SIDs to support the Police application; and
3. that the collision impact on the sign at the exit of the Village onto the Airfield had been referred to the Highway Authority.

**iii. Recreation Ground - Sports Standby Building (Min 04/23iii)** - The Agreement had been completed and the acceptance of the position by the Westonzoyland Brownies confirmed. The Chairman had also confirmed the insurance position.

#### **iv. New and Old Cemetery Rubbish Removal**

**Resolved:** That a skip be obtained from Messrs Towens to enable the rubbish from both Cemeteries to be removed and additional bins provided at the Old Cemetery to replace the rubbish storage area.

### **16/23 Minutes of the Annual Parish Public Meeting held on 15 May 2023**

**Resolved:** That the Minutes as circulated, including the Chairman's Report, be noted and referred to the next Annual Meeting in 2024.

### **17/23 Ward Member Reports and LCN Update**

Somerset Councillors Rodrigues and Dingwall had sent apologies due to a clash with the date of the first LCN Levels and Moors meeting. The Clerk gave a brief update on the LGR items, working groups and the LCN information which had been circulated, including the preliminary meeting previously held.

### **18/23 Police/PCSO Report**

No additional information had been received and all newsletters received, circulated. The Chairman agreed to follow up the next Police Surgery, to be held in the Village. Data would also be sought from the Police on accident records between Oliver's Road, Middlezoy and the A372 into Bridgwater.

### **19/23 Finance - 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 13.06.23, be noted and approved, together with the bank statements and reconciliation and income received.

### **20/23 Audit of Accounts 2022/23 and Submission of AGAR, Year End for External Audit (Min 07/23)**

The Clerk referred to the Notice of Audit, the action which had been taken in preparation of the Audit, the Year End Accounts and the Governance and Internal Audit Reports as per Accounting Statements and background information received and to be completed.

**Resolved:**

1. That as per Min 07/23, the Notice of Audit 2022/23 be noted;
2. that the Annual Governance Statement be completed on behalf of the Council;
3. that the Chairman and Clerk be authorised to sign off the Accounts and Statements for submission; and
4. that the Annual Governance Statement and Accounting Statements be published on the website together with other such information required to satisfy the Transparency Code for Small Authorities and as advised by the External Auditors.

### **21/23 Play Area and ROSPA Safety Inspection and Equipment Update**

The Safety Inspection had been booked and was due to take place this month.

**Resolved:**

1. That subject to the inspection outcome, work be commissioned to repair items;
2. that in the light of a discussion on painting over the graffiti in the Youth Shelter, a Village competition be set up to secure suitable images to brighten up the shelter, and Councillor Pearce thanked for offering to prepare a draft project outline.

### **22/23 Planning Applications, Decisions, Appeals and Enforcements, and Other Planning Matters**

Updates were received on information available on outstanding applications and other matters referred to the Planning Authority for enforcement examination. Still no further information was forthcoming in respect of the Solar Farms proposals.

53/21/00004 Durston Products, Airfield Runway, Folly Farm - storage and blending of horticultural growing media - decision still awaited;

53/23/00008 Bartholomew - single storey and dormer extensions at 6 Gelosia Close - representations from neighbours objecting to the development on grounds of overlooking, loss of privacy and overbearing nature of the proposal.

**Resolved:** That the information received be circulated and members invited to confirm their objection to the proposal for submission to the Planning Authority.

(Note by Clerk - objection has been referred to Somerset Council.)

53/23/00010 Single storey extension, 1A Townsend - no objection.

SSSI Impacts, Applications on Westonzoyland Airfield

**Resolved:** That Councillor Mrs Parfitt and the Clerk meet to follow up the SSSI Impact information in relation to two recent applications, one prospective application and uses affecting the area on the Airfield.

### **23/23 Publications and Correspondence**

**Resolved:** That the items recorded in the report dated 13.06.23, and notified be noted and actioned where appropriate:

1. Somerset Council -Waste Services - monthly briefings and newsletters
2. Parish UK Network
3. BDAS 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration - 15.07.23
4. Tree at Recreation Field Overhanging Dwelling (Twose Family) - quotation accepted - work to be undertaken
5. Battlefield Boards - new boards now in place at the Memorial and repair of stone mushroom features to be completed in July
6. Magazines, Newsletters, Posters and Product Information
7. Airband Community Liaison Officer - Faye Cross to be invited to meeting on 07.08.23
8. Additional SID - to seek another solar equipment based on experience so far
9. Wildlife Planting - to review opportunities at the New Cemetery and other locations
10. Housing Development, Liney Road - complementary response
11. Three Broken Fence Posts at Village Hall Play Area - to be replaced
12. Stinging Nettle Cut along Monmouth Road and Load Lane - required
13. Overgrown Hedges from Properties Overlooking Footpath in Church Lane - to be referred to Somerset Highways.

The meeting finished at 08.30 pm

Signed  
Chairman