

WESTONZOYLAND PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 21 JANUARY 2013 AT 7.30PM AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE WESTONZOYLAND

PRESENT: Cllr Mrs Fisher (Chairman), Cllr Beale (Vice-Chairman), Cllrs Alder, Mrs Ballard, Burge, Evans and Griffiths
Cllr David Hall, County Council Ward Member, was also present.

APOLOGIES: Messrs Carson and Milbank

64/12 Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 10/12/12

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10/12/12 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

65/12 Matters Arising – County Cllr Health and Wellbeing Fund (Min 52/12ii)

County Cllr Alder confirmed that a cheque for £2,000 had been passed on to the Westonzoyland Sports Pavilion Project Group.

66/12 Skate Park and Older Children's Play Area (Min 51/12)

Following on from the issues discussed at the previous meeting, members reported on their follow-up to specific items. Mr Burge had visited Aller and found the new equipment to be highly satisfactory and had confirmed that for insurance purposes this had merely been added on to existing policies. Mr Evans had checked British Standard requirements which companies had to comply with and also illustrated a disclaimer notice provided by RoSPA. The Clerk confirmed that further information and draft proposals were anticipated from companies with whom contact had been made. This would give a starting point to move projects forward and a basis to approach for grants from whatever sources might be available. He confirmed that as at 16/10/12 £10,000 was available until 2017 in RLT2 funding but that currently no finance was available from RLT3 in the Moors Cluster. Members considered the sort of finance that might be available from the Parish Council within the limits of the Precept and balances.

RESOLVED: That investigation of all aspects of the suggestions be continued and further updated at the next meeting; investigations to include other funding opportunities such as Viridor.

67/12 Standby Building

The Chairman adjourned the meeting to hear from Messrs Butt and Milward on progress with the refurbishment of the standby building where phases 1 and 2 were virtually complete. They confirmed the work which had been undertaken and offered members a visit to the Standby in due course. They indicated the intention

to utilise the Health and Wellbeing Grant and recovered VAT monies to complete this part of the project.

RESOLVED: That the Report be noted, those involved congratulated, and the intentions for the use of the Grant endorsed.

68/12 **PCSO Report**

The Clerk advised that no report had yet been received. (*Clerk note: report received and circulated by email after meeting.*)

Members referred to certain issues involving vehicles and substance misuse in the Community Centre Car Park but did not favour gating of the Car Park.

69/12 **County Scheme for Speed Reduction Programme**

The Clerk confirmed that he had been in contact with Dave Grabham in relation to the Speed Reduction Programme, and had requested the inclusion of Westonzoyland in the Speed Indicator Devise (SID) Programme. Locations at both ends of the village had been identified within the 30mph limits. Confirmation was now awaited.

70/12 **Additional Items – follow up (Min 62/12)**

1. Westonzoyland Speed Signs – dealt with in Min 69/12.
2. The Leveller Magazine – contact address to be provided by CB.
3. Community Centre Open Day 09/02/13 – Parish Council display being put together by Mrs Ballard.
4. Main Road and Willow Close Properties – action taken on complaints.
5. Church Lane – addresses sought.
6. Cheer Lane footway – programmed but still unsatisfactory.

71/12 **Precept 2013/14 and Tax Base Calculation (Min 55/12)**

Clarification of the Tax Base Calculation and Offset Grant was still awaited but was likely to be received on the 25/01/13 at a Parish Council briefing. Provisional figures had been received and on this basis the Clerk submitted draft estimates for the Financial Year ending 31/03/14. This proposed that notwithstanding the reduction in the Tax Base the level of Grant which could be expected would allow the Band D property figure to be held at the same level as in the previous two years.

On this basis, the Council noted the budget proposals for 2013/14. The Council then considered the requirement for the year, taking into account income and expenditure in the current year, level of balances, annual committed expenditure, projects undertaken and completed, and the Council Plan.

RESOLVED:

1. That based on the provisional information available and an estimated grant of £1,466 and Band D equivalent of £590.75, a requirement for £23.50 be proposed (the same level as in the previous two years) equating to a Precept for normal purposes of £13,883 plus grant in accordance with the budget proposals, totalling £15,349;
2. that this Precept be requested, but subject to confirmation of the Tax Base and Grant; in the event of any minor changes being needed, this be delegated to the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman to submit;

3. that a Grant of £813.56 be made to Westonzoyland Community Centre Management Committee to cover insurance under the terms of the renewal; and
4. that any further Grant requests be considered in year.

72/12 **Annual Programme Inspection 2013**

RESOLVED: That RoSPA be employed to undertake the standard inspections.

73/12 **Planning Applications – decisions, appeals and enforcement**

53/12/20 retention of mobile home, Old Orchard Farm, Andersea

RESOLVED:

1. That no objection be raised to the application;
2. that the proposed submission of an application in relation to Old Dunwear House, be noted including the request for historical information and the location be checked;
3. that the decisions of 53/12/17 and 53/04/01 (Section 106 Agreement) be noted; and
4. that the decisions to refuse three recent applications notwithstanding the Parish Councils raising no objection, be checked for justification and refusal reasons.

(Cllr Alder declared an interest as a member of the Development Committee for SDC, took no part in the consideration and did not vote on any of the matters under consideration)

74/12 **Accounts for Payment and Receipts**

RESOLVED: That the accounts listed for payment (including Section 137 payments) contained in the Clerk's Report dated 14/01/13 be approved and payments noted, including the payment of £1,000 on behalf of WAGs to Notaro for allotment rental, and Grant to Westonzoyland Community Centre Management Committee of £813.56.

75/12 **Publications and Correspondence**

1. Parish Magazine – January 2013;
2. National Parish Magazine Awards 2013;
3. Somerset Minerals Plan – preferred options consultation;
4. Cheddar Reservoir 2 – first phase of public consultation;
5. Magazines, Posters and Product Information;
6. Forces March 2013 – AGREED to support;
7. Employers' Liability Insurance – request from AON for employers reference number (ERN) to continue Employers' Liability Insurance cover

76/12 **Additional Items**

1. Monmouth Road – state of ditch;
2. Carnival Committee – resignation of Mr Burge after some 20 years;
3. Community Centre Flooding;
4. Battle Field Memorabilia offered by former Parish Council Chairman Mr John Roberts.

County Cllr Report

County Cllr David Hall advised the following:

1. Additional money provided by Somerset County Council as Highway Authority for roads, in particular: cleaning and potholes;
2. Pavement cleaning in association with District Councils;
3. Position with contract with BT in relation to high speed broadband;
4. Expectation of decision on EDF DCO Application on 19/03/13
5. Completion of bridge A38/A39 link now expected in April;
6. Noted significant road improvements in connection with development in Bridgwater in addition to consequences of EDF plans.

The meeting finished at 9.25pm.

Signed:

Chairman