

WESTONZOYLAND PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 25 JUNE 2018 AT 7.30PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WESTONZOYLAND

PRESENT: Cllrs Mrs Fisher (Chairman - in the Chair), Mr Alder, Mrs Ballard, Ms Bicker, Messrs Evans and Spurrell
County Cllr David Hall (County Council Ward Member) was also present

Apologies: Cllrs Carson, Griffiths and Ms Perry

16/18 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 30/04/18 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to the correction of Ms Vicker to Ms Bicker.

17/18 Matters Arising

i. **Airfield - Storage of Road Materials, Noise and Towns Site (Min 04/18i)** - The Clerk, members and County Cllr Hall gave the latest updates on the various issues concerning the Airfield. There had been no further progress with the Towns Site although it was understood that an application was still to be brought forward. In the meantime activity continued on the site.

An application (53/18/09) had, however, been submitted in respect of the area used for the storage of road materials, grit and gravel under the name of Sedgemoor Karting which had been a previous use of this area. This had been submitted as a retrospective application for the change of use from go-kart track to stockpiling of washed chippings and temporary parking of plant, equipment and vehicles in connection with top-surfacing of highways. Members noted that activity on this particular site was active with work on site, large numbers of vehicle movements, caravans and equipment, and illegal signs onto the highway and, in some cases, restricting visibility. Members agreed that they would raise objections to the application which had been a source of complaint and representations since the storage had begun on the previous karting site. Members also noted that the number of mobile homes and caravans on the Manor Farm land continued to increase rather than decrease and that there had been further examples of noisy activity affecting residents from activities on the Airfield.

RESOLVED: That objection be raised to the planning application number 53/18/09 (see Min 25/18 below) and the Parish Council continue to pursue public authorities to take action against the apparent contravention of planning control and other legislation.

ii. **Play Area New Equipment (Min 04/18iii)** - Arrangements were being made to meet Sovereign on site.

18/18 **Minutes of the Annual Parish Public Meeting**

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 30/04/18 be noted, including the correction to Ms Bicker in the list of those members present.

19/18 **County and District Ward Member Reports**

Apart from having commented on the item above in relation to the Airfield and a report from the Director, Cllr Hall confirmed that they were still pursuing these matters with Enforcement. He also confirmed that the highway dressing programme was well under way and related various impacts on roads in and around Bridgwater. He also commented on the position with the Somerset Rivers' Authority proposals for Parliamentary Legislation and the continuing debates and review of possible changes to the structure of Local Government in Somerset.

Cllr Alder commented similarly from the Sedgemoor perspective. He also explained the programme by which Sedgemoor were repurchasing a number of council houses as a means of increasing the housing stock in addition to building on new sites.

20/18 **Audit of Accounts 2017/18, Year End and Governance and Internal Audit**

The Clerk referred to the Notice of Audit, the action which had been taken to complete the Audit, the Year End Accounts and the Governance and Internal Audit Reports as per accounting statements and background information circulated.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Notice of Audit 2017/18 as received 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.

21/18 **Affordable Housing Needs (Min 05/18)**

The Clerk gave a follow-up to the issues discussed at the previous meeting in relation to the Main Road site and the issues which had been raised. No further detailed information was available in respect of either the Liney Road site or the Main Road site and the Parish Council agreed to maintain a "watching brief" as these progressed. It was confirmed that at the point where a planning application was submitted in relation to land off Main Road, full public consultation would, as with any planning application, be undertaken in the usual way.

22/18 **Monmouth Rebellion and the Battle of Sedgemoor Booklet**

The Parish Council and village support, via the Westonzoyland Parish Church for this reprint had been advised. A sum of £500 split equally had been offered and further information was now awaited on details of the timing of the reprint etc.

23/18 **Village Hall - Playing Field and Dog Walker's Request**

Members discussed a proposal which had come forward from a member of the public for an area of the recreation field to be designated, and fenced, for dog walking. Members noted the regular contact with the Dog Warden and the current practices which enabled dogs to be walked around the perimeter path of the recreation field provided on lead. After discussion members **RESOLVED** to confirm the existing practices and noted that any changes should be effected in conjunction with the Village Hall Management Committee.

24/18 **Police Attendance - ASB Issue**

Members noted the action which had been taken by PCSO 762 in relation to an anti-social behaviour issue in the Village. The action taken was supported and emphasised the fact that the previously offered regular attendance by the police and/or PCSO was no longer offered.

25/18 **Planning Applications, Decisions, Appeals and Enforcement, and Other Matters**

- 53/18/06 Part retrospective application for the change of use of land from agriculture to residential and the erection of a detached garage with mezzanine floor (revised scheme) at Weston Court Farm, (2) Main Road - representations submitted in respect of previous application noted with any approval granted to be conditioned to protect the residential use of the site.
- 53/18/07 Erection of single storey dwelling, 21 Liney Road - no objection subject to access being acceptable to County Highways given narrowness of lane at this point and activity on Cheer Lane.
- 53/18/08 Erection of conservatory on south elevation and erection of porch on west elevation, 55 Liney Road - no objection.
- 53/18/09 Retrospective application for the change of use of former Airfield from go-kart track to stockpiling of washed chippings and temporary parking of plant, equipment and vehicles in connection with top surfacing of highways, Sedgemoor Karting, Airfield – objections as follows: 1. The increasing number of vehicles entering and leaving the site with access onto A372 on a fast stretch of straight road at a junction opposite Springway lane constitutes a danger to other road users not helped by the unauthorised signage which tends to affect visibility and hinder sight lines for those using the main road. 2. The mounds of materials particularly stockpiles 1 & 2 at their highest have an adverse impact on visual amenity in what is

basically a rural location and during the recent dry spell has affected visibility on the main road from dust and raises further environmental impact issues. 3. The site is uncontrolled in terms of hours of operation causing annoyance and disturbance to local residents from activities on site and vehicle movements through the village.

53/18/10 Erection of 2 number agricultural storage buildings on site of existing, Orchard Lea, 63 Monmouth Road - no objection subject to confirmation of current usage.

26/18 Accounts for Payment and Receipts

RESOLVED: That the accounts listed for payment (including Section 137 payments where appropriate) and paid, contained in the Clerks report dated 18/06/18 and the income be noted and approved together with the bank statements and reconciliation.

27/18 Publications and Correspondence

RESOLVED: That the items recorded in the report dated 18/06/18 be noted and actioned where appropriate:

1. Update on Roll-out of Electronic Consultation on Applications
2. SWS - Web Report April and May 2018
3. Somerset Waste Partnership - briefing - May and June 2018
4. Gambling Policy - SDC consultation - no comment
5. Sedgemoor CAB - request for donation/grant - £50 to pay
6. SARI (Stand Against Racism and Inequality) - request for letter of support - agreed
7. GDPR Update
8. New Cemetery Seat - agreed to provide additional seat
9. Legal Advice and Drafting - SDC Scheme - noted
10. Old Cemetery - grave check - noted
11. Lloyds Bank Accounts - update
12. Red Ensign Day/Merchant Navy Day - 03/09/18
13. Magazines, Newsletters, Posters and Product Information

The meeting finished at 9.10 pm

Signed;

Chairman;