

WESTONZOYLAND PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 02 OCTOBER 2017 AT 7.30PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WESTONZOYLAND

PRESENT: Cllrs Mrs Fisher (Chairman - in the chair), Mrs Ballard, Carson, Evans, Griffiths, and Spurrell

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

APOLOGIES: Cllrs Alder and Ms Perry

38/17 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 14/08/17 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

39/17 Matters Arising

i. **Airfield, Storage of Grit and Gravel and Highway Materials (Min 28/17i) and Planning Issues on Airfield, and Town's Site (Min 37/17.1), and Planning and Noise Continuing Investigations** - Members noted the actions being taken and the investigations by SDC in relation to planning issues and matters covered by environmental control. Related to the Highway issues, a meeting had been set up by County Cllr David Hall on 05/10/17 with County Officers in attendance to deal with the various issues which had been troubling the Parish Council and Villagers for some time, and were on the agenda for that meeting. It was understood that the submission of a planning application was pending in relation to the Town's Site being land on the Airfield off Springway Lane but also accessed off the Main Road. Conclusions were awaited pending progress on all these matters.

(The Chairman, Cllr Mrs Fisher, declared an interest in all matters connected with the Airfield.)

ii. **The Late Bernard Storer - Request for Tree to be Planted in Recreation Field (Min 36/17.2)** - It was understood that friends and neighbours were still seeking the planting of a tree and did not favour the alternative of a location at the New Cemetery. The Dr Morgan's Association were not pursuing the matter.

RESOLVED: That in view of the loss of several trees in the recent past, provided a suitable site is secured, a tree be accepted in memory of the late Bernard Storer and arrangements be followed up by Mr Evans.

40/17 County Councillor Ward Report

County Cllr David Hall confirmed the arrangements for the meeting with Highway Officers. He referred to the new Parish Information Sheet being

issued to all as a response to an initiative by the new Leader of the County Council, Cllr David Fothergill. Cllr Hall drew attention to particular matters related to Yeovil and the Western Corridor, National Adoption review, and the review of Family Services impacting on Children's Centres. The particular impact on Westonzoyland would be examined. In addition library services were to be the subject of consultation and other matters included a new education business partnership being established with EDF and forthcoming measures in preparing budgets for 2018/19.

41/17 **Parish Council Vacancy Following Resignation of Chris Burge**

No request for an election had been submitted following the notice of the resignation. The Clerk advised on the options now open to the Council to fill the vacancy, which included the possibility of co-option. Members discussed possible interests and the way forward. In the knowledge of interest it was proposed and seconded and **RESOLVED:** That Julia Bicker of Holly Tree House, 49 Main Road, Westonzoyland, be co-opted to the Parish Council given the skills and interest displayed.

The Chairman welcomed Ms Bicker to the Parish Council and Julia joined members for the remainder of the meeting.

42/17 **Appointments 2017/18**

Nomination of replacements for Mr Burge.

RESOLVED: That the following appointments be confirmed:

4. Standby Building and Carnival Shed Project Group (largely now defunct) (1) – Steve Spurrell
8. Grievance and Disciplinary Panel – Hugh Griffiths

43/17 **Church Path - Barbed Wire on Boundary of Property Greenways**

RESOLVED: That this be pursued in the light of possible danger to users of the footpath (JF).

44/17 **Housing Needs - Follow Up and Local Plan Review**

The Clerk gave an update in relation to consideration of the planning application for the land off Liney Road and the level of affordable homes included. He also advised on the other issues which came into play in processing the planning application through SDC Planning Dept, and the forthcoming local inquiry providing independent examination of the recently submitted Local Plan.

45/17 **Police and PCSO Report**

No officers were in attendance and no report was available although the Clerk had been in contact with PCSO Dan Wheller. One issue had been raised in relation to the Children's Play Area and vandalism of the safety surface beneath one of the items. In dealing with this members noted the crime number and considered whether in securing replacement some

additional equipment might be installed.

46/17 **Recreation Field Childrens' Play Area**

RESOLVED: That in the light of the decision above in relation to safety surfacing, the Clerk circulate information available on possible additional equipment – possibly springers - for locating in the Children's Play Area ideally in conjunction with the repair of the safety surfacing

47/17 **Village Agent Report**

Kate Symonds had again presented her apologies but had in doing so confirmed her involvement with clients in Westonzoyland. The key issues related to changes to Universal Credit and other benefit issues and debt advice. The other principal issue related to transport for hospital visits and mobility issues including the exorbitant cost of taxi and transport services for those on fixed incomes.

48/17 **Notice of Conclusion of Audit 2016/17**

The Clerk reported the completion of the Audit and the matters reported by Grant Thornton in submitting the External Auditor's Certificate and Opinion. This questioned response in the accounting statements, in particular in relation to an earlier imbalance on £260. Members had previously agreed to write off this amount following extensive investigation.

RESOLVED: That the conclusion of the Audit be noted together with the matters reported in relation to the accounting statements but no action taken in the light of the previous decision to write off the imbalance, which is not accepted as a financial management failure.

49/17 **Westonzoyland New Cemetery - Memorial Items Update (Min 32/17)**

Members considered the current position in the light of the decisions of the previous meeting and options which had been considered and reviewed.

1. Request for small additional headstone - **Resolved:** That in the light of the negative response from adjacent interests as expressed Mr and Mrs Dingwall be advised that the only option remaining is an additional inscription either on the base or on the rear of the existing headstone;

2. Kerbing trim and stones placed without consent (Mins 14/17.4 and 32/17.2) - **Resolved:** That notwithstanding the request to reconsider the decision to require the removal of the kerbing trim and stones, in accordance with the rules and regulations the previous decision be adhered to and removal be required within 21 days;

3. **Resolved:** That action be pursued to remove all the periphery items on graves except where most recent burials have taken place.

50/17 **Planning Applications, Decisions, Appeals and Enforcement, and Other Matters**

53/17/22 Erection of single storey extension to rear (south west)

elevation - no objection

34/17/15 Erection of agricultural building and siting for static caravan to be used as temporary agricultural workers dwelling on land to north of Olivers Road, Middlezoy - no objection be raised subject to a satisfactory agricultural appraisal confirming the need for occupation on site

53/17/19 Retention of shed 2 Bussex Square – **Decision** – application Refused

Land to east of 45 Liney Road - steelwork structure - update on options offered by Sedgemoor Planning - noted

Appeal against the Enforcement Notice - erection of bungalow, Bullhorn Bungalow, Andersea Road, appeal against non-agricultural occupation - noted but no information available to refute or substantiate claim

51/17 Pensions Regulator - Staging Date 01/10/17

RESOLVED: That the arrangements with NEST Pensions be noted and also noted there are no qualifying members of staff.

52/17 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 25/09/17 and the income, including half year precept and grant, be noted and approved together with the bank statements and reconciliation.

53/17 Publications and Correspondence

RESOLVED: That the items recorded in the Report dated 25/09/17 be noted and actioned where appropriate:

1. Standards Road - rubble and bark chippings at corner - to be followed up with Cllr Ms Perry
2. AON Insurance - withdrawal from Local Council Insurance and appointment of BHIB Insurance Brokers - to be reviewed upon renewal
 3. Family Support Services SCC - Have Your Say
 4. Policy RLT 2 and 3 Play and Sport Contributions - noted
 5. Homes in Sedgemoor - Annual Report 2016/17
 6. St Margaret's Hospice: **Resolved:** to approve donation of £100
 7. Magazines, Newsletters, Posters and Product Information

54/17 Additional Item

Facebook: Members agreed that they would not, as individuals, respond to issues raised within the purview of the Parish Council.

The meeting finished at 9.00 pm

Signed;

Chairman