

WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the electronic Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday, July 1st 2020 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors D. Chase, G. Francis, R. Henderson, C. Laughton, P. Laughton. H. Saddington

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

200701 To receive Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Councillor P. Laughton declared an interest in the matter of grass cutting which was to be discussed under Agenda item 200705

Open Forum – ten minutes to receive questions and comments from members of the public
There was one member of the public present and there were no questions

200702 To accept the minutes of the meeting held on June 3rd 2020

Proposer – Councillor P. Laughton; Seconder – Councillor G. Francis. Approved unanimously

200703 To note and report matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda

i) Parish Clock

The Clerk reported that acceptance of the quotation for the necessary works had been sent to Time Assured, and this had been acknowledged by them. The Church Council had been notified and the request had been made to them to apply for the Faculty. This request had been followed up by 2 further emails from the Clerk requesting a progress report, but none had, to date, been received. The Clerk agreed that she would try to find a phone number for the Secretary of the Church Council, in case emails had not been seen, particularly if the Church Council were not meeting regularly due to current Covid restrictions.

ii) Footbridge over Grassthorpe Beck where Weston FP4 crosses Weston FP5

Councillor P. Laughton reported that a response had been received from Via East Midlands Ltd, indicating that progress had been slow, but the Ground investigation works and topographical surveys had been done. The bridge was to be 12m+. There was no exact date for delivery, but it was hoped it would be before Autumn

iii) Bench Installation Update

The Chair reported that the bench was in reasonable condition following the replacement of some of the wood. It was agreed that in the current (Covid) circumstances, it may be prudent to postpone further works until the Autumn

iv) Books in Defibrillator Phone Box update

It was noted that the books were still there. The Clerk confirmed that there had been no response to the note placed in the Phone Box. It was agreed that the books should be removed. Councillor C. Laughton agreed to do this and to leave a note

v) Agree wording of Standing Order amendment re “virtual meetings”

Councillor C. Laughton had sent the proposed wording to all Councillors prior to the meeting. This wording was based on wording used by other Councils, The Amendment was approved unanimously. The Clerk agreed to add the amendment to the Standing Orders.

vi) Consideration of Data Protection Policy wording

The Clerk had circulated the Council’s current General Notice wording and the wording of the NALC General Notice contained in their GPDR Toolkit. It was

unanimously agreed that the NALC wording should be adopted by the Council. The Clerk agreed to prepare the necessary document and send to Councillor Francis for posting on the website.

vii) Emergency Plan update

Councillor G. Francis agreed to update the Plan in accordance with points agreed at the beginning of 2020. The Clerk will send a Word copy of the current Plan. The question of the number of sandbags needed to maintain resilience was raised. The Chair estimated that he currently holds about 50. He did advise the council that they may need to source a new supply stream in future, as the supply he currently has may no longer be so readily available. The Clerk will circulate the amended Plan to Councillors.

200704 To receive reports from County Council and District Council Representatives
No representatives were present and no reports were received.

200705 To receive and consider any highways issues

Notice of the overnight closure of Egmonton Crossing From 23:00 hours on Saturday 4th July 2020 Until 09:00 hours Sunday 5th July 2020. had been received from Via East Midlands.

An anonymous email had been received from a villager asking the Council to lodge a request with Notts CC Highways Department for the grass verge at the end of Main Street to be cut and to request the verge be cut and maintained on a regular basis as it should be by Highways. The Clerk stated that she had replied and had asked for an indication of the precise location of the verge in question. No response had been received. The Councillors agreed that a clearer indication of the location of the verge in question was needed before anything else can be done. It was noted that the majority of verges were well maintained by residents, and that the Highways Department did not, therefore, carry out routine maintenance of the verges within the village.

200706 To consider financial matters

i) To report receipts

The Clerk reported that a donation of £250 had been received from Hutchinson Engineering towards the upkeep of the Defibrillator.

ii) To report payments

The Clerk confirmed that payments to the Locum Clerk and for the Defibrillator had been made as agreed at the previous meeting.

The Clerk confirmed that settlement had been made to the internal auditor for auditing the 2019/20 accounts.

iii) To approve the Accounts for 2019/20

Copies of the Draft Accounts had been circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting. No questions were raised. Proposer – Councillor C. Laughton; Secunder – Councillor G. Francis. Unanimously approved. Chair to sign accounts in due course

iv) To approve the Annual Governance Statement and Accounting Statement for 2019/20

The Chair read aloud the Statements in Section 1, and all were answered in the affirmative unanimously. The Chair and the Clerk will sign the full AGAR report.

v) Update on change of account signatories and internet banking

The Chair reported that there had been no further progress. The Clerk advised that she had not received any statements, so could not say if the correspondence address had been updated. Councillor P. Laughton agreed to help with change of signatories at the Bank.

vi) Agree payment of Chairman's expenses

It was noted that this payment was being discussed later than usual. It was agreed unanimously that a payment of £50 be made to the Chairman for his expenses.

200707 To consider planning matters and receive updates on ongoing applications
Notice of the Appeal relating to Chestnut Close and Notice of the Decision relating to Tindall Farms had been received. No action needed.

200708 Consider correspondence circulated to Councillors since last meeting:

- i) NSDC – Planning Appeal Notification re 2 Chestnut Close
- ii) Tanya Grimes – Local Council Awards Scheme

It was suggested that the council could consider applying for a Foundation Award in the future.

- iii) NSDC – Notice of Planning Decision re Tindall Farms
- iv) Power for People – re: Local Electricity Bill Debate
- v) Rural Bulletin June 2020
- vi) NSDC – Duty Planning Service Update
- vii) NALC – new model Code of Conduct consultation

The Council agreed that they would consider whether to adopt the Code of Conduct when it had been finalised.

- viii) Sherwood Neighbourhood Policing Team – Changes

There was concern expressed that Police cover for the Village was changing and that there may not be as much cover as in the past.

- ix) NALC/BHIB – new Risk Assessment Guide
- x) Via East Midlands Ltd – Roadwork Bulletin

Open Forum – ten minutes to receive questions and comments from members of the public
No comments were made, nor questions raised.

200709 To consider and discuss any non-agenda items and business for the meeting on
Wednesday 2nd September 2020

Church Graveyards – Councillor C. Laughton confirmed that no incidents had been reported since the email had been sent to the Council and there had been no incidents in Weston.

It was reported that mink had been taking ducks from properties in Bell Lane.

Next meeting – Wednesday 2nd September 2020 to be held electronically (unless advised otherwise) from 7:30pm

Meeting closed at 20:15