

WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

You are summoned to a Meeting of the Parish Council
on Thursday 18th January 2024
in the Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm

Agenda

24.01.01	To receive Apologies for Absence: Cllr Sylvia Michael. Cllr Laughton
24.01.02	<p>Matters Arising from Minutes inc,</p> <p>A) Ivy Dene not League. Being a minor change the minutes were signed off.</p> <p>B) Update on Highways matters i.e. gullies, trees/fencing blocking vision on the main road, village sign all been resubmitted as concerns to VIAEM on request from Steve Stevenson to submit individual concerns. Photos added this time.</p> <p>C) Lengthsman activities – update – 12 hrs usually Friday or Tuesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cleaned main street and great north road. Collier lane next. - Actions taken away to progress at the last meeting by Cllr Michael - Clerk fed in the feedback from VIA - Cllr Meadows suggested the back of kerbs on footpaths looked at, as tarmac starting to open up, risk to wheelchair/pram users. Not dangerous but a couple starting to fray.
24.01.03	Minutes of the previous meeting of 1 st November 2023 were agreed. Clerk advised Chair to make the one word change and sign the change. Proposed Cllr Hill and seconded Cllr Meadows. All agreed 5-0.
24.01.04	To note any Declarations of Interest: Cllr Chase re item on Solar Park Farms
24.01.05	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>A) To hear issues and views from residents. None in attendance</p> <p>B) To also receive reports from County Council and District Council Representatives and Parish Councillors. Apologies sent Cllr Michael at Safer Neighbourhoods meeting.</p>
24.01.06	<p>To receive and consider any highways issues</p> <p>Suspended until Cllr Laughton appears</p> <p>A) Height of the 30mph sign, needs raising as a a hazard to pedestrians. To raise with relevant authorities.</p>
24.01.07	<p>To consider financial matters</p> <p>A) Incomings/Outgoings/Balance Sheet not presented. Cllr Hill informed meeting the current Bank balance is £19,148.80. Noted. No payments to agree other outgoings were salaries and pre agreed payments.</p> <p>B) Council considered the NALC recommendations for the 23/24 salaries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Agreed the increase to the current Clerk’s salary in line with the new Pt 14 salary (£1 p.h. difference) ii) Agreed paying the backpay April- Sept to the previous Clerk (£1 p.h. for hours/additional hours worked) <p>Cllrs agreed to follow the NALC recommendations. Proposed Cllr Henderson seconded Cllr Chase. All agreed 5-0. Action: Cllr Hill who explained Pt 14.equated to £1 an hour extra £13.21 to £14.21. Clerk to provide template letter. Cllr Hill to inform Darbys.</p>
24.01.08	<p>To consider planning matters and receive updates on ongoing applications. Cllr Chase left the room due to his declared declaration of interest.</p> <p>A) Solar Farms Park proposal update.</p> <p>Series of meetings offered. Action: Cllr Liversidge to attend Laxton/Newark meeting and Cllr Hill/Meadows to attend a meeting after the next Parish Council meeting. Will inform the further questions to ask</p>

	<p>Council considered what concerns/opportunities they wished to raise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How much will the Hall Farm access affects Weston. • Construction traffic noise and impact on general traffic • Disruption • Access points to the work area/fields • Impact on footpaths and bridleways • If there are any permanent plants that might make noise • Clarify the buildings on the map? Temp or semi-permanent • What enhancements to local facilities are being offered • Alternative to farming/grazing? Current use • If good farming land, why not on other lower grade areas • How much grade 1 is lost? • Length of time for construction, start date/end date • 2nd phase of consultation, when's 2nd • Planning application <p>Provide information to the village as Council were not aware of the views on this development from other village residents.</p> <p>Action: Put information up in the noticeboard, bus shelter, village centre and info on the website. Clerk to add in previous comments to Solar Park company during initial phase of consultation.</p> <p>B) Hutchinsons Rehash of the turning circle and added 6 m of trees. Application discussed and agreed no comments to make to the original application and the Council supported the application generally. All agreed 5-0.</p>
24.01.09	<p>To discuss any issues raised by residents since last meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Letters re horse safety sent as part of request to VIAEM - State of footpath at side of church is affected by horses entering and exiting the field at the upper end of the footpath and will improve with the weather. This area is a right of way to the area between the house and church and is not just a footpath. - A resident had raised concerns regarding car issues – inconsiderate parking and not taxed. The latter is a Police matter - Pot hole: Ossington Rd 5” deep 1.7m long and several more along the airfield, farmer been raising it for a long time. Need to prove it was deep and dangerous. Cllr Chase stood in hole and took photographs. Submitted an emergency repair request and repair was undertaken relatively quickly.
24.01.10	<p>Main Business</p> <p>A) 2024/2025 Parish budget for final consideration and agreement</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">i) Consider the impact of the NALC salary changes for 23/24 and predicted changes again in 24/25 and how this may affect budget decisions. Free reserves considered and level to be retained, reflecting on factors that would affect closure i.e., assets, employees, lower if less assets higher level if have community buildings to sell, etc. Reasonable to maintain 3-6 months i.e., 25-50% of the precept amount i.e. £1,250-£2,500 as a free reserves target. Clerk suggested other free reserves could be used for community projects. To be considered at a future meeting.</p> <p>The budget and recommended amount was discussed and agreed. Proposed Cllr Meadows, seconded Cllr Henderson. All agreed 5-0, to request a precept of £4,917 a rise to reflect rising costs. Action: Clerk to submit precept form.</p> <p>B) Election of a Chair – Cllr Chase agreed to continue as deputy chair and be a support. Cllr Meadows agreed to stand as chair.</p>

	<p>Proposed Cllr Chase seconded Cllr Henderson. All agreed. Cllr Meadows to start from next meeting.</p> <p>C) Co-option of new council members – may be an interested person. Action: Cllr Meadows to obtain email address and pass to Clerk.</p>
24.01.11	<p>Consider correspondence circulated to Councillors since last meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Road closure attachments - Biodiversity Strategy to be considered at a future meeting, as a requirement for council - Motion for the Ocean – may be worth considering, NSDC adopted, does relate to impact of waste and to flooding - NCC asked if we want more sandbags. Cllr Chase felt he had a sufficient number of bags and also were well stocked in other nearby locations.
24.01.12	<i>Open Forum – ten minutes to receive questions and comments from members of the public</i>
24.01.13	<p>To identify agenda items and business for the next meeting on Wednesday February 7th 2024:</p> <p>Parish Clock NSDC and NCC Councillor feedback Meeting schedule for 2024/2025</p>

Meeting Closed: 9pm

Minute taker: Olwen Edwards - Clerk

Minutes completed: 23rd January 2024

Signed Chair: David Chase

Date:

Signature: