

**P A R I S H O F W E S T O N I N G**

**MINUTES of the Meeting of**

**Westoning Parish Council**

**held on Wednesday 9th September 2020 at 7.30pm**

**by Zoom video conferencing**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs A Rayment (Chairman), R Botterell, P Ellis, C Luff,

A Marlow, J Nethersole, B Rogerson, E Russell, CBC Cllr J Jamieson

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs K Barker (Clerk), no members of the public were present

Agenda published on the noticeboard and on the website

**7326 Apologies for absence** – Cllr E Bhasin, Cllr E Leftly

**7327 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th August 2020 were approved. Cllr Nethersole proposed, seconded by Cllr Marlow the approval of the minutes as a true record. All agreed by those present and to be signed by the Chairman at the next meeting in person.

**7328 Declaration of interests**

Cllr Rogerson planning Point 7337.1.1

**7329 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**7330 Reports and representations**

CBC Cllr Jamieson said that the football club have been given a grant which will be used for new goal posts. The Covid-19 track and trace system is currently running but there is not enough testing capacity at the moment.

**7331 Public Participation**

Cllr Nethersole said that the Allotment Association have asked whether there is any news regarding the hedging of plot 39. The Chairman said that he will need to visit the neighbouring property to assess the boundary line before any hedging is cut.

**7332 Finance**

7332.1 Bank balances and finance report:

The Clerk circulated the finance report prior to the meeting.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **£** |
| TSB Community Account | 8,861.19 |
| TSB Instant Access Account | 66,235.94 |
| **TOTAL** | 75,097.13 |

7332.2 Cllr Marlow proposed, seconded by Cllr Russell approval of the following payments, agreed by all:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Cheque Number** | **Payee** | **£** |
| 000390 | Clerk – salary | 481.45 |
| 000390 | Clerk – expenses | 39.97 |
| 000391 | HMRC – Clerks tax | 1.80 |
| 000392 | Parish Warden – village tidying | 275.00 |
| 000393 | D J Granger – grass cutting invoice 020798 | 402.94 |
| 000393 | D J Granger – grass cutting invoice 020844 | 402.94 |
| 000394 | Andy Muskett Ltd – new lanterns Inv 4487 | 3,218.40 |
| 000395 | Wicksteed – inspection Inv 0000810722 | 54.00 |
| 000396 | E.on – electricity bill | 84.12 |
|  | **TOTAL** | 4,960.62 |

7332.3 Other finance matters:

7332.3.1 TSB - Mandate change form

The Clerk said that she has visited the TSB bank in Barton and the mandate change form has been submitted. She said once this change has been confirmed that she will arrange for online banking to be set up.

Bank charges £5.00 per month

Pending..

7332.3.2 Precept – 2nd half £20,903

The Clerk said that she has received the payment confirmation from Central Beds Council and this should be in the Parish Council’s bank account shortly. This was noted by the Parish Council.

7332.3.3 Payment made to H S Jacksons after last meeting £11,602.20 (fencing)

The Chairman confirmed that a cheque was raised after the last Parish Council meeting and submitted to H S Jacksons so that they were able to order the materials for the new fencing. The Parish Council resolved to endorse this action.

**7333 Highway**

7333.1 Traffic Management/Parking Control

Remove from the agenda until May 2021.

7333.2 Village Walk/Reports

The Chairman suggested that the village walk is undertaken in two groups due to the distancing regulations. Observations can then be collated into a report for the October meeting. He asked Cllrs in the meantime to report any issues they become aware of to him or the Clerk.

The problem with cracks in the road surface in Sampshill Road was reported as dangerous particularly to cyclists. CBC Cllr Jamieson said that he will take a look at the problem.

A letter was agreed to be sent to a resident in Home Farm Way regarding the parking of vehicles near to their property.

Consideration to be given to holding a litter pick.

**7334 Village Matters**

7334.1 Community Christmas Event

The Chairman said that the Parish Council must adhere to the distancing restrictions in place in December and that at the very least a Christmas tree and lights will be put up in the village. If restrictions are eased the Parish Council could consider holding some activities. The Christmas Event Committee agreed to look at alternative ideas and costings. The school to be asked if they can supply baubles made by the children as per the last two years.

The Chairman reminded all Cllrs that topics for the next WoS need to be agreed so that it is printed in time to let the village know what is happening at Christmas if the event goes ahead in some format.

7334.1.1 Storage of equipment in the Village Hall

Nothing to report.

7334.2 Burial Ground

Nothing to report.

7334.3 Recreation Ground

7334.3.1 Dissolving the Rec Ground Charity and transfer of assets to the

Parish Council

The Chairman said that it will probably be necessary to supply the original Deed for the transfer of the Recreation Ground to the Parish Council in 1929. He said that he has an appointment with the County Archive Office to look through the relevant documents. He is now communicating with the solicitor who has offered her help to register the Recreation Ground at the Land Registry. The scale of charges for the voluntary registration of unregistered land ranges from £30 to £680 depending on the declared value of the land being registered, but he expects that the amount will be on the lower end of the scale. The Parish Council resolved to accept the potential cost.

7334.3.2 Recreation Ground improvements/maintenance

The Chairman said that the Pitch Improvement Program on the Recreation Ground started on 1st September. The grass was too long on the area behind Bryson Close so the grass cutting contractor has agreed to do that at the end of the month. This will involve an extra cut in that area. The Parish Council resolved to accept the additional expense.

The Chairman confirmed that the football club has received a grant from the Football Association. As the grant application was made in the name of Westoning Parish Council, it was resolved that the invoice total for the pitch improvements be transferred from the Football Club to the Parish Council bank account and that the Parish Council pay the invoice.

7334.3.3 Consideration of management options for Recreation Ground

The Chairman said that once the Parish Council has decided how the Recreation Ground is to be maintained in the future, progress needs to be made on drawing up a new lease with the Recreation Club. A Management proposal was circulated by the Chairman and it was suggested that the Parish Council be responsible for the grass cutting and maintenance with the Recreation Club retaining responsibility for security, bookings and supervision. It was agreed that the Parish Council budget for grass cutting for 2021/22 be increased by an additional £2,000/2,500 to take account of the increased cost in grass cutting. It was agreed that a reasonable amount be included in the new lease with the Recreation Club for grass cutting and maintenance undertaken by the Parish Council. The Chairman to update the Management proposal for agreement at the October meeting.

(**Action Chairman**)

7334.3.4 Recreation Ground fence and gates

The Parish Council resolved to accept the quotations for the supply and fixing of the new fence at the recreation ground, the main fence and 2 gates - £13,811.27 plus VAT and the fence around the planted area with a gate - £2,072.23 plus VAT. A cheque for 11,602.20 was raised to H S Jacksons prior to the meeting to cover the materials required.

The Chairman said that Jacksons fencing has confirmed that the new fencing will be put up during the school half term week and construction will probably run into the following week but the area used by the school will be done first. The Chairman said that CBC Highways will need to be informed that this work will be undertaken as it is likely to restrict the width of Greenfield Road. He said that he will check this with Jacksons.

(**Action Chairman**)

7334.3.5 ‘No Dogs’ sign

Cllr Ellis said that he has put a more adequate sign inside the Recreation Ground and moved the sign that was there to the path so it is more visible. The Chairman said that he will ask Jacksons if they are able to fix a sign to the pedestrian gate. (**Action Chairman**)

* 1. Youth Facilities/Club

Review when circumstances permit.

7334.5 Noticeboard

The Chairman said that the new noticeboard has been installed but he was not supplied with the correct keys. The keys to the new notice board should be with him shortly. Cllr Nethersole agreed to put up and remove any notices.

7334.6 Clock Tower

Cllr Ellis said that he is waiting for a date for the installation.

7334.7 Lights replacement programme

The Clerk confirmed that she has sent the new lighting schedule to UK Power networks and the Parish Council will hopefully see a reduction in their electricity bill.

7334.8 Flagpole

The Christmas Committee agreed to come up with proposals for the next meeting.

The Clerk to ask Cllr Bhasin whether she has any additional information from the School Governors.

7334.9 Flower Planters

The Chairman said that he has still not been contacted by Mark MacDonald at CBC Highways regarding the location of Planters around the village. CBC Cllr Jamieson said that the teams at CBC have been changed and the contact may now be someone different.

The Chairman said that it would be helpful to know all Cllrs thoughts on the types of planters - concrete tubs/concrete rings/railway sleepers etc Cllr Rogerson agreed to circulate the options she has identified.

7334.10 Covid-19 – updates

Westoning Cares to continue in operation while the need for shopping is required but potentially on a smaller scale.

7334.11 Speedwatch

Cllr Nethersole said that Speedwatch online training is to be undertaken. A distanced roadside meeting will be undertaken for a demonstration. Two areas have been assessed by Speedwatch.

7334.12 Rock Snake

Cllr Nethersole said that some stones have disappeared. She agreed to send a photo to CBC Cllr Jamieson. (**Action Cllr Nethersole**)

**7335 Play Area**

The play area is back in use. Work is needed on the swings and the bottom of the slide where safety surfaces are coming away and new timber edging is required. Cllr Ellis agreed to obtain a quote from Wicksteeds. (**Action Cllr Ellis**)

**7336 Planning**

7336.1 Planning Applications:

7336.1.1 CB/20/02854/FULL – The Nest, 34D Church Road – part demolish existing garage block to form a new two storey 3 car garage block with gym, sauna, jacuzzi, wet room and cinema room. The Parish Council has no objection to the application.

7336.1.2 CB/20/02820/FULL – 10 Lovett Green – loft conversion with 3 x front and 3 x rear dormers. The Parish Council has no objection to the application.

7336.1.3 CB/20/02761/FULL – 44 Home Farm Way – front porch, first floor dormer extension, replacement rear windows and doors. The Parish Council has no objection to the application.

7336.2 Other Planning Matters

There were no other planning matters.

**7337 Committees/Sub Groups/Representatives - Reports**

There were no reports.

**7338 General correspondence:**

There was no correspondence

**7339 Date of next meeting: Parish Council Meeting**

**Wednesday 14th October 2020 at 7.30pm**

**Village Hall, Westoning or via Zoom**

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Approved: ………………………………………………. Date: ……………………………………………………….