

## WESTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of **Westleton Parish Council** at the meeting held at **7.30pm** on **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017** in the Westleton Village Hall.

(Signed)  
*Phillippa Welby*  
**Parish Clerk**

### There were present

Cllr A. Smith (*in the Chair*), Cllrs R. Swindell, A. Paige, A. Clough, J. Alexander, H Williams, C Freeman, P Holmes, R. Jones and N. Shearme.

### In Attendance: -

Cllr Michael Gower (SCC), Cllr Raymond Catchpole, Phillippa Welby (Clerk) and Jenefer Woodhead (new Clerk).

### PRE AGENDA MATTERS

#### **Contributions from members of the public**

A member of the public reported that where the hedges had been trimmed on the B1125, a large amount of litter had been uncovered. Clerk to report to Norse.

Another member of the public gave notice to the Council that they would be renovating the outbuildings near their property that is situated near to the Common and gave Cllrs an invitation to ask questions.

### AGENDA

#### **17/22 Introductory remarks and apologies for absence**

Apologies received from Cllr A. Alexander. Cllr Smith also introduced and welcomed the new Clerk Mrs. Jenefer Woodhead to the Council. She will be starting a three month trial (for both her and the Council) in April.

#### **17/23 Declaration of interests**

None were declared.

#### **17/24 Pre Meeting Report from SCC Councillor**

Cllr Gower reminded the Council that there are County and District Council elections in May this year. He also stated that if the village were to organise a litter pick then Norse would pick up the bags collected.

#### **17/25 Pre Meeting Report from SCDC Councillor**

Cllr Catchpole reported that the budget had been agreed and that he will send the Clerk a summary. SCDC will raise Council Tax by 3.5% this year. Cllr Williams asked if Cllr Catchpole could ask whether the pool temperature at Leiston could be increased in the disabled sessions. Cllr Catchpole will chase this. The pools are currently being refurbished.

#### **17/26 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017 be accepted as a true record.

## 17/27 Matters Arising from the Minutes

- **Any other matters** – There were none.

## 17/28 Community Field

There was a very generous contribution of a £20 note along with other smaller dominations in the contribution box over half term. The grit has been ordered for redressing the Boules court. Cllrs Freeman and J. Alexander and Jonathan Alexander will be using a wacker plate to make the surface ready. Cllr Holmes has a new piece of fence to replace the section of hedge removed for the Barrel Fair parking. This will be fitted before the March meeting. Cllr Holmes had been asked by two archers if they were able to use the Community Field for a practice area. Cllrs agreed that this was not an option as there was too higher risk to other field users. Cllr Holmes will contact the archers.

## 17/29 Common

Cllr Jones started his report with the news that the new plastic posts and rails at the Noddle were now in place. These have a 20 year life and will save a lot of work replacing the rotting wooden ones. Thanks to Cllrs Freeman and J. Alexander for his work on this. Cllrs Freeman and J. Alexander will install the new noticeboard on the Common to replace the broken one. Cllr Jones met with Susan Stone from Suffolk Wildlife Trust to show her the how the management plan has developed the Common. She was very impressed with the maintenance of the diverse habitats found on the Common. Cllr Jones thanked the volunteers that make up the work parties and David Rous who manages the Community Payback Scheme. Cllr Jones has signed another agreement with the CPS and currently their work is still free of charge. Pamela Hargreaves has asked for another £50 to cover the costs of providing refreshment for the volunteer work parties. Cllrs agreed. The next advisory group meeting will be the 7<sup>th</sup> April. Cllr J. Alexander reported that the Reckford Rd layby bins needed emptying. Clerk to report to Norse.

## 17/30 Council Finances and Accounts

- **Income (attached)** To note income to date
- **Expenditure (attached)** To note expenditure to date
- **Invoices and Payments** – The following invoices were proposed by Cllr Holmes and seconded by J. Alexander. All agreed.

From	Item	Amount
Information Commissioner's Office	Data Protection Registration	£35
Phillippa Welby	Clerk's fees and expenses	£445.70
Fresh Start – New Beginnings	Donation request	£50

It was also agreed to apply to claim back from the Transparency Fund via SLAC for the £50 website switch fee.

## 17/31 Planning applications

DC/17/0472/FUL – Conversion of existing garage to form Granny Annex – Everest, Blythburgh Rd – No Objections

DC/17/0433/TCA – 2 x trees Crown lift 4m over drive – The Pond House – The Hill – No Objections.

Forge Cottage – To note both applications approved.

The Council made it clear to Cllr Catchpole who is on the Planning Committee at SCDC that it believes no account is taken of objections to developments in the village and it is a waste of its time discussing planning applications.

### **17/32 Housing Needs Update**

Cllr Smith reported on behalf of Cllr A. Alexander that the advisory group will be meeting with Hastoe Housing on the 13<sup>th</sup> March and will provide a full update at the March meeting.

### **17/33 Tree Warden Report**

Cllr Clough has received a quote for removing trees at Ralph's Mill Cottage that are obstruction BT lines for £120 from CTS. Clerk to check with BT the reroute of lines would be free of charge whilst the work is taking place.

### **17/34 Road works, Hedges and Flooding**

The hedges have been cut through the village. The drain at the bottom of the Memorial Garden – Clerk to ask SCC to clear.

The grass by the War Memorial has still not been made good by UK power networks – Clerk to chase.

### **17/35 SALC**

None received.

### **17/36 Sizewell**

None received.

### **17/37 Vehicle activated sign**

David Blencowe the Speed Watch Coordinator will post the speeding statistics on the website. There have been three new volunteers for the Speedwatch.

### **17/38 Plot on Village Green, adjacent to pond**

The agent will only suggest that the Parish Council make an offer and will give no directive on price. There is other interest in the site.

### **17/39 The Vicarage**

The group (Glebe Meadow CIC) who are trying to buy and develop the vicarage and land have asked the Council to commit financially to the development of a piece of land as car parking for the village. No specifics of costs were given and the Council agreed in principal but felt they needed more information before being able to make a decision.

### **17/40 Correspondence**

Thank you from Middleton School for donation from Gun Club.

Invitation to the opening of EACH's new shop in Halesworth on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

Cllr Holmes also reported that he and Cllr J. Alexander had looked at the defibrillator lock that had been broken and concluded that a new lock was needed. Cllr Smith will approach Sheena Robertson who organised the original cabinet.

### **17/41 Date of Next Meeting**

To note that the Council next meets at 7.30 pm on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017

