

WESTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of **Westleton Parish Council** at the meeting held at **7.30pm**
on **Monday 27th June 2016** in the Westleton Village Hall.

(Signed)
Phillippa Welby
Parish Clerk

PRE AGENDA MATTERS

Contributions from members of the public

There were none.

AGENDA

16/134 Introductory remarks and apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllrs Catchpole and Holmes.

16/135 Declaration of interests

Cllr Swindell declared two payments to himself respect of the Community Field.

16/136 Pre Meeting Report from SCC Councillor

County and District Councillors will vote on Thursday 30th June on the matter of Devolution. Cllr Gower is believes this to be a 'top down' initiative with no public consultation. Devolving powers to local governments is positive move but the current strategy is poor. More information can be found on SCC website.

16/137 Pre Meeting Report from SCDC Councillor

Cllr Catchpole was absent.

16/138 Minutes of Previous Meeting

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd May 2016 be accepted as a true record.

16/139 Matters Arising from the Minutes

- There were none.

16/140 Community Field

Davey Sheds have requested an extra layer of bricks for the shelter part of the shed. Cllrs J. Alexander and Freeman will hopefully lay them this weekend. Once Davey Sheds have made a site visit, the shed will be delivered in around three weeks from then. Cllr Swindell will organise a working party to weed and tidy the playground area, especially the bunds which are overgrown with nettles and thistles. There is an area of the Boules court which has begun to break up. Cllr Freeman will look at this. George Jackson will cut the field again. Cllr Smith asked if it was possible for him to cut it fortnightly when it is growing so quickly.

Cllr Swindell proposed that the Council spend £1000 on hardwood chippings to top up the areas identified in the safety inspection. This was seconded by Cllr Freeman. All in favour.

Nick Shearme is waiting for a weather window to weed and feed the football pitch.

16/141 Common

Cllr Jones gave a report from the meeting of the advisory group held on the 13th June. John Bebbington has received brochures and samples from a company that supplies plastic posts and rails to replace those on the Noddle. They require no maintenance, are

moulded to look like wood with a grain effect and claimed to last 4 times as long as wooden poles and rails. The cost of replacing the all the posts and rails on the Noddle will be around £500. Cllr Jones therefore proposed that the Council replace the rotten timber with the brown plastic poles and rails. This was seconded by Cllr Swindell. All in favour. Cllr Jones reported from a meeting with Mr and Mrs Adams regarding reparations to the car park at Bakers Lane/Mill Street. Mrs Adams had researched the Council's wish to formalise the parking and discovered that there were many hurdles including paying a fee of £4000 to the Secretary of State for deregulation of that part of the Common to formally make it a car park. Cllr Jones therefore proposed that the Council abandon formal plans to create a car park and instead tidy up the area and improve the drainage. This was seconded by Cllr Paige. All in favour.

The Council had been approached to use the Common as a backdrop for photos from a promotions company. The advisory group felt there was too much to risk by allowing access and therefore Cllr Jones proposed that the Council turn down the request. This was seconded by Cllr J. Alexander. All in favour. The Council had also had a request from BBC Springwatch to film Nightingales on the Common but after giving permission, it was not needed as the team had found one on the Minsmere reserve.

16/142 Council Finances and Accounts

Invoices and Payments – the following were proposed for payment by Cllr A. Alexander and seconded by Cllr J. Alexander. All in favour.

From	Item	Amount
Essex & Suffolk Water	Water Charges	£18.65
Roy Swindell	Grass cutting Community Field	£40
Roy Swindell	Extra on Ridgeons invoice	£5.41
Phillippa Welby	Clerk's Fees and Expenses	£415.32

Cllr Smith proposed that the bill for Essex & Suffolk Water be paid by Direct Debit in future. All in favour.

16/143 Planning applications

DC/16/2222/VLA - Scotts Hall, Minsmere Nature Reserve, Westleton. Variation of a legal agreement. – The Council had no objections to this application.

DC/16/2346/FUL - Cleves Cottage, The Street, Westleton. Demolition of existing dwelling erection of replacement dwelling, garage and associated treework. The Council were minded to object to this application on the grounds that it contravenes planning policy AP1 which deals with developments in a conservation area. The proposed Zinc roof was not felt to be in keeping with properties in the area. The scale of the building was not thought to relate to the other properties in the road. Clerk to register objections with SCDC.

16/144 Housing Needs Update

Cllr A. Alexander is waiting to hear from Cllr Catchpole regarding the ear-marked money for Westleton's affordable housing scheme.

16/145 Tree Warden Report

Cllr Clough proposed that the Rowan tree at the top of the Green be removed as it is dead. Chris Spall has quoted £80 for total removal including the root. This was agreed. Cllr Smith reported that again the plants out of the barrel on Blythburgh Rd as you leave the village have been stolen. Cllr Clough asked whether the barrel on the Green would be replaced as the metal bands have rotted away. Cllr Smith reported that the Barrel Fair will replace this in the autumn. Cllr Clough requested that when the barrel is

replaced could it be re-sited as in its current position it obstructs the view at the junction.

16/146 Road works, Hedges and Flooding

The new dog bin on Heath View has now been emptied. The Clerk has reported it and it will now be added to the list. Cllr Swindell had been informed of a large amount of dog's mess being left regularly in Wash Lane. He suggested a sign reminding the owner of SCDC's fines for dog fouling offences. Cllr Jones has volunteered to take pictures of the worst potholes in the village and report them to SCC via their on-line reporting tool. The footpath that runs across Church Meadow is very overgrown between the stiles. Clerk to write to The Grange and ask them to clear a path.

16/147 SALC

Cllr Paige reported from a recent SALC meeting that there is now a single number for requesting Community Transport. Cllr A. Alexander will put the information on the website.

16/148 Sizewell

Cllr Williams reported from the latest SSSG meeting. The Outage is now finished. Sizewell B was found to have no problems in the pressure vessels. There is money available from a socio-economic fund from Sizewell A. Cllr Williams suggested requesting money for Leiston swimming pool. She will find out the details and give to the Clerk to write on behalf of the Council.

16/149 Phone box restoration

Cllr Holmes is to fit the defibrillator sign.

16/150 Vehicle activated sign

To Note; the Speedwatch coordinator is now David Blencowe. The data gathered so far has highlighted that the worst spot for speeding in the village in Blythburgh Road, leaving the village. Cllr Swindell will look at the data to work out which time is the best for the Speedwatch team to be active. Between 4pm and 6pm is the worst time for numbers of people breaking the limit.

16/151 No vehicle sign, Bakers Lane

The sign is now fitted.

16/152 Bench Cleaning

The notice went in the Fisherman today. There has been one volunteer already. Cllr Swindell suggested that the Council use the Community payback scheme to clean the benches annually and that the volunteers would then be able to maintain them if necessary. This was agreed. Cllr J. Alexander will purchase the Danish Oil ready for use.

16/153 Queen's Birthday Celebration

Cllr Smith reported that this was a very successful and well attended event. The Council had received a thank-you letter with a donation from Mr. and Mrs. Young and several emails regarding the event.

16/154 Correspondence

Cllr Smith reported that Westleton Vicarage Lands Project had a successful meeting with the Diocese and that a village meeting with an update will follow.

16/155 Date of Next Meeting

To note that the Council next meets at 7.30 pm on Monday 25th July 2016