

## Weston Under Wetherley Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at 7.30pm,  
18<sup>th</sup> January 2017, at St Michael's Church

**Present:**

Councillor Jeff Arnold  
Councillor Jenny Arnold  
Councillor John Hammon

Councillor Nick Harrington (Chairman)  
Councillor Pam Redford (Vice Chairman)  
Councillor Wallace Redford

**In Attendance:**

Jane Chatterton Clerk & RFO

**Villagers:** 0

**48. Apologies**

There were no apologies for absence.

**49. Declarations of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

**50. Minutes of previous meetings:**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016**

**Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

**51. Public Participation**

There were no members of the public present.

**52. Councillor's reports and items for future Agenda**

To receive reports from County Councillors, Cllr. Wallace Redford and District Councillors Cllr. Nick Harrington and Cllr. Mrs Pam Redford.

**Lamp posts**

Councillor Harrington reported that the 3 lamp posts which had been notified to Street Lighting who had been reported as fixed today

Councillor Pam Redford asked if another lamp post could be installed in the layby opposite the church.

**ACTION:** Councillor Harrington would make enquires with WDC.

**Travellers**

Councillor Harrington reported that a group of travellers were moving around the area. Credit was expressed to WDC and the County Council who had done a good job with the clearing up after they had been moved on recently.

**Local Plan**

Councillor Pam Redford reported that the inspection looking at the Local Plan had now concluded and the report on their findings was due to be published in the Spring.

### **The Bull Pub**

It was noted that the original planning permission had been granted for 2 dwellings. Further planning permission had been sought to build 4 dwellings. Concern was expressed on the condition of the site in relation to and the potential risk to the site being taken over by travellers.

### **Hunningham Road**

Councillor Wallace Redford updated on the request made at a previous meeting in relation to the installation of a road narrowing sign on Hunningham Road. It had been reported that the road was too narrow for cars to pass. It was acknowledged that the road fell under the remit of another Parish Council.

**ACTION:** Councillor W Redford would check the width of the road to see if it was under 15 foot wide.

### **Safer Routes to School**

Councillor Wallace Redford updated the parish council on the Safer Routes to School project. The project had been completed previously at Committee level with guidance from the Education Department and central government. The guidance used was circa 1950 and therefore found to be out of date.

Approval had been given to set their own standard. Councillor Redford would be attending a meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> January where this would be progressed further.

### **53. Website**

An update was received on the new websites.

It was reported that contact from the Clerk and Councillor Harrington to parishcouncil.net had been unsuccessful. Several attempts had been made via telephone calls and emails. Concern was that the website could disappear without notice and the level of support received fell short of that which was expected. The cost of the website was also £300 per year and did not prove value for money. It was agreed to terminate the contract with parishcouncil.net.

It was noted that there were now two websites.

[www.westonunderwetherlypc.org](http://www.westonunderwetherlypc.org) which was the new Parish Council website. All information had been transferred from the old website and this was now up and running. Any additions to the website could be sent to the Clerk for uploading.

[www.westonunderwetherly.org](http://www.westonunderwetherly.org) was the new village website. Villagers were encouraged to send information to be uploaded and included on the website to the Councillor Harrington.

The cost of the new websites were £7.10 per annum each, which provided a considerable saving.

An article would be included in the February newsletter detailing how users could find the new website details. Community groups would be requested to forward notices of events for the website.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk send a letter to Parishcouncil.net terminating the contract for the old website.

**54. Finance**

54.1 The following payments were approval: -

<b>Payments (Current Account)</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Value</b>
30.12.16	BACS	J Chatterton	Clerk's Salary December 2016	
30.12.16	BACS	HMRC	December Tax Payment for clerk	£80.80
30.01.17	BACS	J Chatterton	Clerk's Salary January 2017	
30.01.17	BACS	HMRC	January Tax Payment for Clerk	£80.80
30.12.16	BACS	J Chatterton	Office allowance & expenses Dec 16	£10.00
30.01.17	BACS	J Chatterton	Office allowance & expenses Jan 17	£10.00
07.01.17	BACS	J Chatterton	Reimbursement for Purchase of Laptop & Software	£457.99
18.01.17	BACS	N Harrington	Reimbursement of Village domain name	£7.10
18.01.17	BACS	Church	Room Hire	£20.00

**RESOLVED:** That payments were approved.

**54.2 Receipt of Monies from Transparency Fund**

It was noted that funds had been received from the Transparency Fund Application

The full amount was broken down as follows:

Laptop	£ 350.00 (ex VAT)
Software	£ 200.00 (ex VAT)
Scanner/printer	£ 100.00 (ex VAT)
Staffing cost for compliance	£ 414.80 (3 hrs per month)
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,064.80</b>

**Laptop and software Purchased**

A HP Pavilion 15.6" laptop Intel Core i5 processor and Office 365 had been purchased.

**RESOLVED:** That the fund be received and noted.

**54.3 Accounts**

A report was received detailing the accounts up to the 30<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

The account balances were as follows:

**Weston Under Wetherley Business Money Manager Account**

£8,920.08

**Community Account**

£10,391.59

Total: £19,311.67

**RESOLVED:** (i) That the accounts up to 30<sup>th</sup> December 2016 were approved.  
(ii) Clerk make request for a missing receipt.

**54.4 Draft Budget**

The draft budget for 2017-18 was discussed in detail. Cost savings had been identified where possible.

**RESOLVED:** That the budget for 2017-18 be agreed at £8,870.50.

**54.5 Precept Request**

The precept request for 2017-18 was considered.

It was noted that there had been a large reduction in concurrent grant and council support grant for 2017/18.

<b>2016/17</b>	<b>Type of Grant</b>	<b>2017/18</b>
£ 1,290.00	Concurrent grant	£ 645.00
£ 350.00	Council Tax support grant	£ 233.00
<b>£ 1,640.00</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 878.00</b>

The amount received would reduce from £1,640.00 to £878.00 meaning income loss of £762.00. It was noted that the grants would disappear in 2018/19.

The Precept for 2016/17 was £7,031.00 and the total from grants £1,640.00 which gave a total income of £8,671.00.

Discussion took place on deciding whether to reduce the budget and find cost savings by withdrawing the grant donations and thus preventing the Parish Council spending money on village enhancement or raising the precept.

Extensive work had been carried out on working on figures to minimise this increase.

To achieve income to meet the agreed budget of £8,870.00. The precept would need to increase from £7,031.00 to £7,995.62. The impact of this increase would mean that Band D figures would increase from £37.86 to £43.21, an increase of £5.35 per household.

**RESOLVED:** (i) That the precept request for 2017/18 be £7,995.62.  
(ii) Item to be included on the website detailing the increase and the reason.

**55. Planning**

There were no planning applications for consideration.

**The Bull Pub**

It was agreed to write to the owner of the site reminding him of his obligation to keep the site in a reasonable condition and to eliminate the risk from vandalism and travellers.

**ACTION:** Councillor Pam Redford to speak to the Enforcement Officer.

**56. Nomination for Garden Party**

An invitation to the Garden Party at Buckingham Palace had been received.

Councillors Jeff and Jenny Arnold were nominated.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillors Jeff and Jenny Arnold complete the form requesting consideration.

**57. Meeting Dates**

The following dates for Parish Councils were agreed, all meetings to start at 7:30pm with the exception of the village meeting.

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at 7pm (inc Village meeting)

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017

**ACTION:** Clerk to upload the dates to the Parish Council website and organise a venue.

**All Weather Pitch**

It had been previously updated that the Village Plan included the potential installation of an all-weather pitch. An estimate had been received dated 28<sup>th</sup> January 2014 for the sum of £44,824 plus VAT (plus additional unknown expenditure for groundwork).

Councillor Pam Redford had spoken to the company today to obtain an updated cost. There was a need to identify whether there was a wish or need for this facility.

It was agreed that the Parish would need to be consulted. This could be an agenda item for the Parish Meeting in April.

Meeting closed at 9:00pm

Signed  
The Chairman

8<sup>th</sup> March 2017