

# **DRAFT**

## **WESTCOTT PARISH COUNCIL** **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2019** **at 7.30pm IN THE CRICKET CLUB PAVILION**

### **1/19 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

Cllr. Mrs. S. Pusey (Chairman)  
Cllr. G. Pusey  
Cllr. A. Wilkinson  
6 members of the public

Cllr. Ms. J. Hooper  
Cllr. Ms. H. Vitkus  
A.T.A. Lambourne (Clerk)

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. D. Harris and PCSO D. Fahy

### **2/19 OPEN FORUM**

One member asked if any progress had been made in a proposal to build a cycleway from Westcott to Waddesdon. The Clerk replied there was nothing to report at present.

Another member of the public asked if anything had been done following her complaint at the previous meeting about excessive lighting at the Venture Park. The Clerk had taken this up with the Venture Park who confirmed no extra lighting had been brought into use. The Chairman said that she had driven around the site after dark and could not identify any specific problem.

A further member referred to a large pothole in Lower Green. The Clerk said this had been reported some time ago. The Chairman offered to look again at this and refer it to TfB if necessary.

### **3/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

### **4/19 MINUTES**

It was

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018 and to authorise the Chairman to sign them as a correct record.

### **5/19 MATTERS ARISING**

- (i) School parking (155/18ii) – no date had yet been fixed for a meeting and so the Clerk was asked to follow this up again with Cllr. Irwin.
- (ii) Christmas lunch (155/18iii) – the grant offered had not yet been received and so the Clerk would remind Cllr. Irwin of this.
- (iii) Ramblers' Association (159/18) – a letter of thanks for the donation had been received.
- (iv) Telephone pole (165/18x) – no response received to date and so the Clerk would follow this up again.

### **6/19 VACANCY**

No response had been received to the notice of a vacancy. It was AGREED that the Clerk would write a further item for the village newsletter, the vacancy notice will remain on the Council's website and Cllr. Ms. Hooper will ask the Head Teacher to advise parents at the School of the vacancy.

#### **7/19 LAND AT LOWER GREEN**

Following the discussion at the previous meeting (minute 158/18), BCC had acknowledged the contact but as yet had offered no substantive response. The Clerk would make further contacts.

Aylesbury Vale Estates had responded with questions about the area of land required and the cost of a transfer. It was

RESOLVED to confirm with AVE that the Council would wish to purchase the whole area owned by AVE and that it would welcome a discussion on the value of this land as a community facility.

#### **8/19 UNITARY AUTHORITY**

Following the report at the previous meeting (minute 162/18) confirmation had been received that elections for the new unitary authority would take place in May 2020 and that the Parish Council elections scheduled for May 2019 will be postponed until May 2020. Parish councillors will therefore continue in office for a further year. A shadow authority will be formed by the County and District Councils to oversee the introduction of the new arrangements. Meetings have been arranged for parishes to meet the shadow authority and Cllrs. Mrs. Pusey and Ms. Hooper offered to attend one of these.

#### **9/19 CHRISTMAS FLOAT**

The amount collected with the float visit totalled £280.00. It was

RESOLVED to earmark this sum to support a future community event for the over 60's of the village later in the year and to add in the £42.60 residue of the earmarked amount from the 2017 collection.

#### **10/19 BANK RECONCILIATION**

The figures as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018 were tabled and noted.

#### **11/19 BUDGET 2019/20**

The Clerk had prepared a draft budget which all members had considered. Following a discussion and further consideration, it was

RESOLVED to accept the budget as drafted for 2019/20 showing receipts of £13,984 and payments of £14,953.

#### **12/19 PRECEPT 2019/20**

Following the agreed budget, it was

RESOLVED to set a Parish Precept of £11,940. It was noted that this represented an approximate increase of 2%, meaning an increase of £1.39 p.a. for a Band D property.

#### **13/19 GRASS AND HEDGE CUTTING**

The Council's grass cutting contractor, Mr. R. Porter had submitted a quotation for grass and hedge cutting for the 2019 season. The figures quoted were approximately 2½% up on 2018. It was noted that in 2018 Mr. Porter had only cut the grass as necessary and not every two weeks as in the contract, thus saving costs through the dry summer. It was

RESOLVED to accept Mr. Porter's quotation all as set out in his quotation dated 11<sup>th</sup> December 2018

#### **14/19 PAY SCALES**

NALC had advised that an agreement had been reached for new pay scales for Town and

Parish Council Clerks to take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019. It was RESOLVED that the Council adopts the new pay scales with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019.

**15/19 VILLAGE CLEAN-UP**

It was RESOLVED to carry out another village clean-up on 7<sup>th</sup> April. Members would discuss at the next meeting any specific areas or projects that need attention.

**16/19 LUNCH CLUB**

A request had been made for the Parish Council to help fund the Lunch Club's cost of hiring the Cricket Club Pavilion for its monthly meetings. It was RESOLVED to make a grant to the Lunch Club to cover a reasonable cost of hiring the Pavilion and this would be paid only retrospectively.

**17/19 REPORTS**

- (i) Burial Ground, (ii) Churchyard, (iii) Village Green, (iv) Police, (v) Charities, (vi) SLCC, (vii)BALC/AVALC – no reports.
- (viii) Local Area Forum – Cllr. Wilkinson reported that the last meeting considered items including the AVDC Local Plan, Oxford and Cambridge expressway, New Homes Bonus, “Our Vale” grants, local priorities and extra money for pothole repairs.
- (ix) Website – nothing to report
- (x) Other – BCC consultation on the new Minerals/Waste Plan
  - Oxford to Cambridge expressway
  - New Homes Bonus
  - East/West Rail public notice regarding Quainton Station.

**18/19 CORRESPONDENCE**

The following items had been received and would be circulated for information:  
 Clerks and Councils Direct magazine  
 “The Clerk” magazine

**19/19 FINANCIAL REPORT**

- (a) It was RESOLVED to endorse the following payments made since the previous meeting.

	Net	VAT	Gross
R. Porter – grass and hedge cutting	2,024.00	404.80	2,428.80
The Waddesdon Deli Co., – Christmas lunch	270.00	54.00	324.00
Ramblers’ Association – donation	375.00	0.00	375.00

- (b) It was RESOLVED that the following payments be made:
 

	Net	VAT	Gross
E.On Energy – footway lighting, Dec 2018 (DD)	46.24	2.31	48.55
E.On Energy – footway lighting, Jan 2019 (DD)	47.78	2.39	50.17
E.On Energy – lighting maintenance	100.50	20.10	120.60
Clerk’s salary – Oct/Nov/Dec			332.97
HMRC – tax deducted from Clerk’s salary			83.24
Clerk’s expenses – December 2018 and office accommodation Oct - Dec			60.52

- (c) Receipts - noted
 

Christmas float collection	280.00
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- (d) E.On Energy had given notice of a price increase for unmetered supply to the footway lights with effect from 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019. It was agreed to accept the price increase at present but in due course to look at possible alternative suppliers.

**20/19 PLANNING MATTERS**

- (i) Application:  
18/04632/ACL – application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a proposed single storey rear extension, 6 Linnet Drive – no comments
- (ii) Decisions:  
None received since the previous meeting.

**21/19 URGENT MATTERS**

Cllr. Wilkinson reported that the depression in the Ashendon Road had not been repaired. At the last meeting, Cllr. Irwin had agreed to inspect this with the TfB technician. The Clerk would ask Cllr. Irwin for an up-date.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.01 p.m.

**Signed (Chairman)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_





