

DRAFT

WESTCOTT PARISH COUNCIL **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 25th FEBRUARY 2020** **at 7.30pm IN THE CRICKET CLUB PAVILION**

19/20 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Cllr. Mrs. S. Pusey (Chairman)
Cllr. Ms. J. Hooper
Cllr. Ms. H. Vitkus
A.T.A. Lambourne (Clerk)
2 PCSO's

Cllr. D. Harris
Cllr. G. Pusey
Cllr. A. Wilkinson
County & District Cllr. P. Irwin
6 members of the public

20/20 OPEN FORUM

- (i) One resident reported further noise from the Venture Park, more light pollution and the presence of cranes at various locations on the Venture Park. Cllr. Irwin offered to make enquiries about some of these issues.
- (ii) Cllr. Irwin referred to the planning application for six houses on land at Raven Crescent and said he would be speaking at the relevant Planning Committee at AVDC.
- (iii) Cllr. Irwin gave an update on works at the A41 roundabout which was running ahead of schedule. The Clerk added that a company on the Venture Park had offered to sponsor a bus shelter/s at the two stops at the roundabout and was in consultation with BCC on the proposal.
- (iv) Cllr. Irwin gave an update on the progress towards the new Unitary Authority which goes live on 1st April.

21/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

22/20 MINUTES

It was

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2020 and to authorise the Chairman to sign them as a correct record.

23/20 MATTERS ARISING

- (i) Bus cages (5/20iii) – the final bus stop sign has been erected so now all works are complete.
- (ii) Website (14/20ix) – Cllr. Ms. Hooper will report on this at the next meeting.
- (iii) Planning application 19/04414/ACL (17/20i) – this has been withdrawn.

24/20 BUCKS RECYCLING

Following discussion at the previous meeting (see minutes 2/20(iii) and 5/20(ii), the collated issues had been forwarded to all members for consideration. It was agreed there were still many questions that needed answers. Cllr. Irwin agreed to organise a meeting between BCC, the Environment Agency and the Parish Council to discuss this matter further.

25/20 BUCKS RECYCLING LIAISON COMMITTEE

There has still been no response to the appeal for a second resident to sit on the Liaison Committee and so the matter is left in obeyance.

26/20 STREET ASSOCIATIONS

The Chairman reported from the meeting held in January which generated a good level of interest and a number of residents signed up to be involved. Cover is still needed in Linnet

Drive and High Street. More information and letters for residents are awaited.

27/20 GRASS AND HEDGE CUTTING

A quotation for the 2020 season had been received from Mr. R. Porter to carry out the work at only slightly increased prices on his 2019 figures. It was

RESOLVED to accept Mr. Porter's quotation all as set out in his letter of 11th February and as tabled.

28/20 PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO.30

BCC had forwarded a consultation letter on a proposal to divert part of F.P.30 as shown on a plan which was tabled. The diverted route would be shorter and more convenient and remove the diverted section from a private garden. The proposal includes the re-siting of a kissing gate to serve the re-aligned path. Members considered this to be an improvement and therefore

RESOLVED to support the proposal as shown.

29/20 VILLAGE CLEAN-UP

Information had been received about "The Great British Spring Clean", a national campaign to run from 20th March to 13th April. It was

RESOLVED to join in with the spirit of the campaign and hold another Village Clean-Up day in Westcott on 29th March.

30/20 BURIAL FEES

After three years it was time to review the Parish Burial Fees. There were differing views expressed as to whether these are still relevant or if they should be increased. However, it was

RESOLVED that the fees remain at their present level but that a further review takes place in 2021.

Cllrs. Mrs. S. Pusey, A. Wilkinson and Ms. J. Hooper

31/20 CLERK'S RETIREMENT

Following the Clerk's notice of intended retirement on 30th April, it was

RESOLVED that a retirement reception should be held to take place at 6.00pm.

on 28th April prior to the Annual Parish Meeting at 8.00pm. on the same evening.

The Clerk and Chairman agreed to discuss detailed arrangements and report to the next meeting of the Council

32/20 REPORTS

- (i) Burial Ground, (ii) Churchyard, (iii) Village Green – nothing to report
- (iv) Police – this report was given earlier between items 7 and 8 on the agenda. PCSO Fahy introduced PCSO Ken Stephenson to the meeting as he had just joined the team at Waddesdon Police Station. PCSO Fahy also reported that matters had been quiet in Westcott of late and that leaflets were being dropped at homes in the village to encourage lights to be left on in houses especially between 5 and 7pm. as this had proved to discourage burglars.

26

- (v) Charities – the Beck & Fetto Charity had met recently and awarded three grants.
- (vi) SLCC – no report.
- (vii) BALC/AVALC – the latest training schedule had been received.
- (viii) Local Area Forum – no report.
- (ix) Website – see minute 23/20(ii) above
- (x) Other – BCC Unitary Authority update
AVDC News for the Parishes

AVDC - election information
 East West Rail – project launch date
 Clerk – overgrown hedge in Ashendon Road, highway ditches on Ashendon Road and a proposed major disaster exercise to take place on the Venture Park in March.

All of the above noted.

33/20 CORRESPONDENCE

Only one item received and to be circulated for information – Local Council Review magazine

34/20 FINANCIAL REPORT

(a) Payment made since the previous meeting:

| | NET | VAT | GROSS |
|---|----------|--------|----------|
| Ringway Jacobs – bus cages, road markings etc., It was | 1,750.00 | 350.00 | 2,100.00 |

RESOLVED to endorse this payment.

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

| | | | |
|--|----------|--------|----------|
| E.On Energy – footway lighting, February 2020 (DD) | 58.99 | 2.95 | 61.94 |
| R. Porter – grass and hedge cutting, 2019 | 2,594.00 | 518.80 | 3,112.80 |
| Clerk’s expenses – January 2020 | | | 42.14 |

(c) Receipts
 BCC – LAF grant for bus cages etc., 1,000.00

35/20 PLANNING MATTERS

(i) Applications:
 20/00532/APP – erection of a warehouse building with associated hard standing, Site J, Westcott Venture Park. It was RESOLVED to advise AVDC that the Council has no comments to offer on this application.
 18/03395/APP – development of 26 houses, land to the west of High Street - amended plans. It was RESOLVED to advise AVDC that the Council’s original objections to the proposals still stand and to add that it further objects on the grounds that the village does not have sufficient facilities and amenities to support a development of this size and that the Aylesbury Vale Local Plan states that there should be no more than nine additional houses built in the village.

(ii) Decisions: - none made since the last meeting.

27

(iii) Other - none

36/20 URGENT MATTERS

- (i) One member reported that the Sports & Social Club will now be closing in April and asked the Clerk and Chairman to ask about the future, safety and security of the site when they next meet with the Venture Park management.
- (ii) It was reported that the street light outside the Church gate is still not working despite two previous reports. The Clerk will follow this up again.
- (iii) The matter of school buses and where they were stopping was raised. The Clerk agreed to ask Cllr. Irwin to follow this up.

37/20 RESOLUTION

It was

RESOLVED to exclude the press and public from the meeting as the following item contained information of a confidential and personal nature.

38/20 CLERK'S VACANCY

The Chairman reported that 3 applications had been received following the advertisement for a new Clerk. The interview panel appointed at the last meeting had interviewed all 3 candidates the previous week and details of each interview were given. The panel had reached agreement and recommends the appointment of candidate 3 for the reasons given. This was accepted and so it was

RESOLVED to appoint Mrs. Melanie Rose as Clerk to the Council to take effect from 1st April 2020. The starting salary of Point 22 on the NJC scale to be offered. The Clerk is to draw up a Contract of Employment to be agreed and signed by the Chairman and Mrs. Rose.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05 p.m.

Signed (Chairman) _____ Date _____

