

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7:30pm at Westcott Cricket Club**

**Attendees**

Cllr Sue Pusey (Chairman) (SP), Cllr Tony Wilkinson (TW), Cllr Grahame Pusey (GP), Cllr Sue Lacey (SL)

Ward Councilors – Cllr Ashley Waite, Cllr Paul Irwin

Officer of the Council – Barry Malki

Part One

1. Apologies

Cllr Hilary Vitkus

2. Open Forum (15 minutes)

No Updates

3. Declarations of Interest

None

4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Minutes were confirmed to be an accurate record of the meeting.

5. Clerk's Report including outstanding matters

- BM gave an update on the cost of goal nets. SP proposed allowing £80 for the 2mm diameter nets. GP seconded. Cllrs agreed.
- BM gave an update on the swing cradle, which had been ordered and awaiting delivery.
- BM gave an update on the Green sign which had been order and awaiting delivery.

6. REPORTS

(i) Burial Ground & Churchyard

BM reported that the Plot Map was to be digitised to allow easier access in future, and reduce the risk of loss or damage.

BM reported that there were two ongoing burials being dealt with.

(ii) Website

BM to renew the domain via Freeola.

(iii) Village Green

BM updated on conversations with RGL, who would liaise with Cllrs for a walkabout.

(iv) Charities

## WESTCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

Barry Malki – Clerk

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TW reported that he had attended the Beck and Fetto meeting, but had no items to raise.

### (v) Buckinghamshire Council

Cllr Irwin noted the following items:

- that there had been 3000 applications for roadworks so far this year, compared with 600 at this time last year.
- updated on the new contractor mobilization, hoping that it would have a positive impact on responsiveness.
- That HS2 had agreed to repairs on Quainton Lane
- That the traffic lights on Station Road had been faulty since works carried out by UK Power Networks. These have now been reset.
- That a local food bank charity is promoting its services to residents of Westcott to provide discreet, emergency supplies.

Cllr Waite noted the following items:

- That the Community Boards were looking to work more closely with Parish Councils in future
- That the mobile “library of things” will now be stopping in Quainton
- That the new community bus was a smaller vehicle and was looking to provide a community bus service for schools, which could be offset by other income.
- That the pothole repair teams were increasing to ten and would be active seven days per week. TW asked who monitored progress of the work. Cllr Waite confirmed that monitoring was in-house.
- Noted that the new Highways contract was focused on first-time fix as a priority.

### (vi) Speed Watch

SP has been chasing for news on the SID repairs, Also noting that the other SID has stopped working.

### (vii) Cycleway

No Update.

### (viii) Bucks Recycling

Cllr Waite reported attending a meeting with Bucks Recycling, noting that the Bucks Council representative was no longer focused on this site. Cllr Waite has asked the manager for more cooperation and consistent communication.

SL noted that there had been no reply following a complaint about weekend shredding.

TW suggested that the landowners had a responsibility to ensure compliance of their tenants.

### (ix) Other

None

## 7. FINANCE

BM reported that Bucks Council had overpaid the precept by £45,698, and asked the Cllrs to approve the returning of the payment. Cllrs agreed.

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BM to engage Anthony Skeggs as internal auditor for 22-23

**8. PLANNING MATTERS**

- 23/01053/COUAR - Upper Barn Farm Bicester Road Westcott Buckinghamshire HP18 0JX – Cllrs were concerned about noise impact on the incoming residents due to the proximity of the industrial buildings. Cllrs were also concerned that there was no footpath access highlighted for the property, and that this would result in an increase in vehicle movements.

**9. Coronation Plans**

SP reported that there had been 61 RSVPs to the event.

SL gave an update on the refreshments (including 4 large cakes, plus scones).

SP noted that local residents had offered to provide cakes.

SP proposed allowing £300 to cover costs of refreshments. SL seconded. Cllrs agreed

SL suggested extending invites to non-residents with a strong connection to the village.

**10. APM**

BM to ensure that all Cllrs are aware of date of event.

BM to liaise with Cricket Club for use of the room.

SP to organise refreshments

**11. S137**

BM gave an update on the 23-24 S137 figures, noting that there were 355 electors, and an allowance of £8.82 per resident, resulting in a total of £3,131.10 for the year.

**12. Urgent matters of note**

SL noted that the dog waste bins were damaged. BM to look into.

SL noted that a concrete base had been installed. TW reported that it was base for a proposed broadband cabinet.

TW noted that there was a pot hole in the village. SP had reported.

**13. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 7.30pm**

Cllrs agreed

**Part 1 of the meeting closed at 20.42**

-----End-----

**Date Agreed:**

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**Signed:**

**Position:** – Chair/Vice Chair/Councillor