

Weedon Parish Council

Clerk to the Council Mrs Ruth Millard

Minutes of the Meeting of Weedon Parish Council held in the Methodist Chapel on
Wednesday 18th September 2013 at 8.00pm

66/13 PRESENT:

Cllr Justin Sellers, Cllr Wendy Kett, Cllr Kirsty Ashurst, Cllr Nigel Winnett,
Cllr Tom Jameson-Evans, Cllr Chris Measures, Cllr Joanna Rose,
Clerk Ruth Millard.

In attendance; Dist. Cllr Ashley Bond, County Cllr Netta Glover
Residents; Stephen Gradley.

67/13 Public Meeting Open Forum Adjournment: County Cllr Netta Glover gave a report of items of interest, see Appendix. She would be driving around various villages with Paul Foot (Bucks CC Highways) on the 20th September and would speak to him about any highways concerns the council had.

68/13 Declaration of interest in items on the agenda: to declare any personal or pecuniary interests in items on the agenda. Cllr Bond declared his interest in planning applications due to his role as District Cllr sitting on the AVDC Development Control Committee as he will review his decision at Committee based on the additional information available at the time.

69/13 The minutes of the general Meeting held on 17th July 2013 were agreed and duly signed.

70/13 Planning:

13/02106/APP – East End Cottage 30 East End, Weedon. Alterations to conservatory.

After a short discussion noting that the building was not a listed building but was in the conservation area, the Council RESOLVED No Objections to this application.

13/02422/ATC – The Lilies, High Street, Weedon. Works on three trees.

The Council RESOLVED No Objections to this application

13/02365/ALB and 13/02364/APP – 2 Stockaway, Weedon. Re-construction of chimney stack.

After a short discussion regarding the reconstruction of the chimney the Council RESOLVED No Objections to this application. The Council also discussed ways to prevent further damage to the property. Apparently the owner is looking into the possibility of placing a bollard or similar on the highway to stop another vehicle hitting the house.

County Cllr Netta Glover and the Clerk would speak to Highways.

Action; NG & RM

71/13 Environment:

a. Footpaths, Footways and Highways. To report any works required, including updates on;

- i Village Walk footpaths gate scheme. Cllr Measures has 2 stiles on his land and is not prepared to change them to kissing gates. An increase in the number of people using footpaths, as has happened in other parishes where similar schemes have been completed, would conflict with the ideas he and his wife are considering for the future use of the land. It was not an option to have a heavier footfall of people on his land. He also reported that the owner of the next piece of land was of the same view. With 4 of the stiles not being replaced this route was unviable. Cllr Rose asked the Council to discuss whether to carry this project on and how to carry it forward. The Council RESOLVED not to carry the project on in its present form. Cllr Rose asked if it was worth looking at individual stiles which are in need of refurbishment and replacing them with kissing gates. Cllr Kett offered to trade Speedwatch and carry this idea forward. Cllr Ashurst proposed that the Council consider changing stiles to kissing gates where there was a benefit to footpath users and no landowner opposition. The Council RESOLVED to accept this proposal. Cllr Measures would pass the information he had accrued to Cllr Kett to take it forward.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Measures for all his work with this project.

- ii Village signs and entrance gates. Cllr Winnett asked if the brown sign showing the Pub as the next turn right could have an adjustment. He lives just before the Pub and cars keep turning into his drive. Two of the footway signs on Aston Abbotts Road were leaning and in disrepair.

Netta Glover and the Clerk would speak to Highways on these issues.

Action; NG & RM

- iii Community Speed Watch; this item has not moved forward. The Council RESOLVED to add this to the January Agenda as Speed Control in Weedon.

- iv Road Sign to be aware of Ducks in Stockaway; a duck had been run over by a delivery lorry and residents had requested awarning sign. The Council had a very short discussion concerning the amount of signage in the village and RESOLVED not to add another one.

b. Street Lighting. To report any works required. None reported

c. Play Area. RoSPA had carried out a safety check before the new play area was opened to the public. Jupiter had left a maintenance schedule to be followed fortnightly. The Chairman asked for a Councillor to be a 'Playground Inspector'. Cllr Jameson-Evans volunteered. The gate which had been damaged had been repaired. Cllr Kett questioned if the Council felt that it needed to request a dropped curb at the vehicle en-

Weedon Parish Council

Clerk to the Council Mrs Ruth Millard

trance of the Park. After a short discussion the Council RESOLVED that this should not happen. The Chairman said that the horticultural Maintenance schedule would need amending. The Council RESOLVED to add this to the January Agenda. The Jubilee Tree has died, due to the dry summer. A suggestion was made to speak to the forestry commission, who may donate a tree to the village to replace it. The Litter Bin needs adding to the waste collection service, the Clerk was asked to contact AVDC with this request. The Clerk said that she had contacted the Insurance Company to instruct them to add the Play equipment to the schedule.

- d. Best Kept Village competition. Weedon as runner-up in the Gurney Cup has been chosen to receive the Dashwood Trophy in this year's Best Kept Village Competition. The Clerk was asked to contact Richard Pushman as to the procedure for the village to receive the Trophy.
- e. Pond, Grass, Hedges and Verges. To report any works required. Stockaway, between the Pub and the Pond was being missed in the verge cutting. The notice board outside Rectory Barns has become dilapidated and needs taking down and disposing of. The Chairman asked the Clerk to request Mr Millard to organise this.
- f. War Memorial. Cllr Rose has this project in hand, no update.

72/13 Correspondence and other Communications including reports on Local Area Forum and training courses;

- a. Cllr Rose attended the Winslow LAF meeting in September 2013. She felt that it was more appropriate for Weedon than the Aylesbury LAF as most of the villages in the Winslow LAF were of a similar size with similar problems to Weedon. She appreciated that Weedon would not be able to put in any bids for funding, until the village was formally affiliated into the Winslow LAF, but felt that Weedon was unlikely for the time being to bid at the GALAF anyway.
- b. Cllr Rose and the Clerk attended the Community Impact Bucks Conference on 17th September. Both found it very helpful and interesting.
- c. Lord Fortescue's Charity. The Parish Council RESOLVED to ratify the appointment of Canon Stephen Sidebotham as Trustee.
- d. Bucks County Show; the marshalling was a lot better than last year. There had been the one accident at 2 Stockaway, following which the Show organizers had put "No Show Traffic through Weedon Village" signs. These signs were left up while the show site was cleared. Cllr Rose had written to the show organisers to thank them for the way that the traffic had been managed and to request that the "No Show traffic through Weedon Village" notices to be placed beside the road before, during and after the Show next year. A suggestion was made to request permanent 'Unsuitable for Heavy Vehicles' or vehicle length or width restriction signs, outside the village. The Clerk was to make a request to Highways. **Action RM**

The following mail was noted.

- e. 23.07.2013 NALC Pay Scale awards 2013/2014, email.
- f. 22.08.2013 NALC Draft deregulation Bill consultation, email.
- g. 29.08.2013 Vale of Aylesbury Plan: Scope of Development Management Policies, email.
- h. 06.09.2013 Invitation to High Speed 2 Summit Hybrid Bill and Petitioning, email.
- i. 26.07.2013 IAC Internal Audit & Compliance Ltd
- j. 23.07.2013 BCC Public consultation on a Private Bill relating to Filming on the Highway
- k. 23.07.2013 The Local Boundary Commission
- l. 6.08.2013 AVDC Regarding Planning Application 12.02010.APP
- m. 05.08.2013 Best Kept Village Competition _ Gurney Cup
- n. 15.08.2013 BCC Traffic Calming in Bucks
- o. 29.08.2013 Vale of Aylesbury Plan Scope of Development Management Policies
- p. 06.09.2013 AVDC Mini Summit HS2 November 5th 2013
- q. 10/09/2013 Mazars Completion of Audit

73/13 Communications:

- a. **Items for the Parish Magazine.** Cllr Rose will draft a short report for the November edition, and circulate to the Council.
- b. **Website.** The Parish Council website <http://www.weedonbucks.org.uk/> is working well. There was a problem with the calendar but this had been rectified. Cllr Rose has photographs of the playground in use and questioned whether it was in order to put pictures showing children. The Council decided to advise the parents involved before proceeding.

74/13 Finance

The Council agreed the financial statements of accounts and bank reconciliations for end of August 2013. The Council noted that the cheque 1137 of £500.00 to Keep Weedon Green had not been presented.

Weedon Parish Council

Clerk to the Council Mrs Ruth Millard

Statement of Bank Accounts as at 31st August 2013

Account3205	27995.47
Account7936	18358.64
Sub total	46354.11

Invoices to be paid

Payee	Power	Cheque	Amount
Joanna Rose – Briant of Risborough Ltd	Highways Act, s43	1164	66.00
Mike Moore – Duck Food	LGA 1972, s137	1165	25.35
Lynch Garden Services – Invoice 3255, 3202, 3223, 3284, 3298, 3310	LGA 1972, s14 para 27	1166	690.00
Green Thumb	LG(Misc Prov)A 1976	1167	48.00
ER Millard – August Remuneration	LGA 1972 s112	1168	250.00
Community Impact Bucks	LGA 1972 s111	1169	25.00
Mazars	LGA 1972 s111	1170	120.00
ER Millard – September Remuneration	LGA 1972 s112	1171	250.00
GJ Millard	LGA 1972, s14	1172	60.00
Jupiter Play – to be paid when sufficient funds	LGA 1972, Sched 14,para 27	1173	81561.59
Jupiter Play	LGA 1972, Sched 14,para 27	1174	423.60
			83519.54

Direct Debit

Eon – 01.08.2013	Highways Act 1980, s301	DD	32.37

Receipts

Account3205 Interest	10 th July 2013	1.11
Account3205 Interest	9 th August 2013	1.19
Account7936 VAT Refund	31 st July 2013	385.71
Account7936 Donation	28 th August 2013	4830.00
		5218.01

The Parish Council noted the NALC Pay Scale Awards for 2013/14, to be back dated to April 2013.

75/13 Parish Council Vacancy; The Clerk was handed Cllr C Measures resignation. The Clerk gave Cllr Rose the statutory notice to place on the notice board, in case 10 electors want to request a by-election. The Clerk will send a copy of the notice to the Returning Officer at AVDC. After the 8th October, if the Returning Officer has had no correspondence, she will send formal notification that the Parish Council can go ahead with co-option. When the notification arrives the Parish Council can proceed with co-opting a new member at its next meeting. The Council RESOLVED that soon after 8th October it would call a closed meeting, to meet all the candidates individually.

Cllr Rose thanked Chris Measures for all his work for the Parish Council in the last 9 years, unanimously agreed by all the Councillors.

76/13 To agree the date of next meeting as Wednesday 20th November 2013 at 8pm to be held in the Old School Room.

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm.

Chairman's Signature Date.....

Appendix

Fracking:

At the present time, Buckinghamshire County Council has not been approached by any developers with a view to carrying out any Shale gas exploration or development in Buckinghamshire. The Oxford and Kimmeridge Clays and the Lias are known to pass through Buckinghamshire. The majority of these formations occur as outcrops that are near the surface. A report by the Royal Society notes that “Shale Gas is likely to be extracted at depth of many hundreds of metres, or even several kilometres to ensure reservoir pressures are sufficiently high to allow gas flow to surface. Extracting Shale Gas from much shallower shales is at present considered unlikely since reservoir pressure would be too low for gas to flow at commercial rates.” It could therefore be concluded that any such reserves of shale gas that may exist within Buckinghamshire would be unlikely to be exploited in the near future, until more favourable, lower risk areas have been exhausted, and the industry matures within the UK. The fields in Lancashire are vast so it will be many decades before anyone seriously looks at our part of the country.

Link to Fracking on BCC website

<http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/environment/planning/fracking/>

Pot Holes: Report these on line. The reason is that they then get into the system and stay there. We can tell the LATs as well but let them know you have reported on line. Reports from members of the public are welcome. A Category 1 pothole is one that is 40mm deep and 300mm wide. These will be done within 4 hours of being reported. Sometimes the repair will be a temporary one which is intended to make it safe. A permanent repair will be carried out later on.

Online one-stop shop for all Transport for Buckinghamshire information at

<http://www.transportforbucks.net/Transport-and-roads.aspx>
Plus a live Twitter feed @tfbalerts for updates as they happen.

Grass Cutting: Useful website for all sorts of things. Road Works, drain clearing and more.
<http://www.transportforbucks.net/Roadworks-Centre/Grass-cutting.aspx>

Another useful website where you can find out lots of things about our county. Log on:
<http://mybucks.buckscc.gov.uk/september-issue>

Did you know for instance that we have an award winning country park in the south of the county. A long way for us in the north to go but worth the trip – apart from secluded walks in the woodlands there is a wonderful ‘Go Ape’ facility and a great place to have a bite to eat – or take a picnic. There is an update on superfast broadband, a link to tell you about work on the highways and grass cutting and heaps more.

Measles Jab. Now that the County has taken on the role of public health I will occasionally report on health matters. Parents are urged to remember to get their children vaccinated against this serious disease. For more information on measles and the MMR visit
<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Measles/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

Anyone can get measles if they haven't been vaccinated or had it before, although it's most common in children aged between one and four years old.