

Weedon Parish Council

Clerk to the Council Mrs Ruth Millard

Minutes of Virtual General Meeting of Weedon Parish Council held by Zoom on Wednesday 16 September 2020 at 8pm

Present: Cllrs J Rose (Chairman), J Sellers, W Kett, S Gradley, N Winnett, S Gibbs,

Clerk: Ruth Millard

Members of the Public: Jonathan Hopper & Geoff Fincher

Buckinghamshire Council Cllrs Netta Glover & Ashley Bond

101/20 Public Open Forum (under adjournment). Geoff Fincher spoke in reference to the field rented by his family, adjacent to the Aston Abbots Road which has a footpath running through it, and the increase in members of the public letting their dog's foul the path and the field. The public also did not stay on the footpath and tracks were beginning to show around the edges of the field. This was becoming very difficult for the family as his children played in the field with their friends. He was also finding a rise in dog fouling on the pavements in the village.

The Parish Council will take this into consideration and try to alleviate the situation by reminding parishioners of the countryside code with regard to footpaths that run through private land and with notices.

Cllrs N Glover & A Bond gave an update on how Buckinghamshire Council is progressing.

102/20 Apologies. Cllr T Jameson-Evans apologies were accepted.

103/20 Members' Interests. Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Weedon Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

Cllr J Sellers stated that as his property was adjacent to the applicant's, he would not take part in the discussions on item 106/20.

104/20 Approval of Minutes. Members **RESOLVED** and the chair signed the minutes from the virtual zoom Planning meeting of Weedon Parish Council held on 26 August 2020 as an accurate record. The signed minutes will be sent to the Clerk.

105/20 Review of Council's Statutory and Governance Documents for 2020/21

JR apologised that she had not had a chance to review the Council's Risk Assessment since the working party had discussed it. S Gibbs offered to take a final look and circulate the documents to be agreed and adopted in November.

106/20 Planning.

20/02882/APP 23 High Street Weedon Buckinghamshire HP22 4NW / Demolition of existing garage and replacement with oak framed detached garage.

Mr & Mrs Rodnight joined the meeting. J Rose closed the meeting to allow the residents to speak about their planning application.

Mr Rodnight explained the history of the old garage which was in a dangerous condition. He was having a custom-built garage made, in keeping with the house, set about 3 metres back from the original one. This would leave plenty of room on the drive for visitors to park and turn around.

J Rose re-opened the meeting.

J Rose proposed no objections, all the members agreed and **RESOLVED** no objections to 20/02882/APP.

107/20 Finance and Accounts

a. Members noted the payments for this meeting and payments made since the last meeting.

b. Members agreed the financial statement of accounts subject to 2 entries incorrectly placed being amended and re-circulated to the members, and the bank reconciliation for end August 2020.

August 2020 balance & Income

Business Account3205	27 August 2020	26180.76
Treasurers Account7936	27 August 2020	1,100.00

Business Account3205	10 August 2020, Interest	1.07
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Direct Debits August 2020

Green Thumb , ref Chapel, 1 August 2020	LGA 1972, s214	DD	5.17
Green Thumb , ref Play area, 1 August 2020	LG(misc prov)A 1976, s19	DD	16.00
Green Thumb , ref Chapel, 1 September 2020	LGA 1972, s214	DD	5.17
Green Thumb , ref Play area, 1 September 2020	LG(misc prov)A 1976, s19	DD	16.00
OPUS energy , invoices 10.08.2020-09.09.2020	LGA 1972, Sched. 14 para 34	DD	96.92

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Invoices for online payments

September 2020			
GM Outdoor Services , inv. 1591,1592	LGA 1972, s101 & LG(misc prov)A 1976, s19	BP 205	160.00
Steven Richards , invoice SI-21208	LGA 1972, s137	BP 206	69.43
Lynch Garden Services , inv. 6515	LGA 1972, s214	BP 207	70.00
Sign Wizzard , invoice 34221	LG(misc prov)A 1976, s19	BP 208	38.21

c. Members reviewed the Clerk's salary & noted the 2020-21 National Salary Award and **RESOLVED** to increase the SCP level to 17, backdated to April 2020.

108/20 Environment. To report and discuss any issues arising.

a. Footpaths, Footways and Highways, including

- i. JR reported that the volunteer moving the Speed Control MVAS was still happy to do this for the village.

S Gibbs gave an update of the Police recommendation of a Speed Watch hand held unit costing approximately £150 through Amazon. Members **RESOLVED** to purchase the unit.

Action: The Clerk asked for the link to be sent to her for purchasing.

S Gibbs gave an update of the quote for 2 A-Boards and told the meeting that Sign Wizzard had held the price of £215.59 including VAT. Members **RESOLVED** to purchase the signs. **Action;** Clerk to confirm with supplier.

Speed Control. J Rose reported that a resident in New Road was very concerned at the recent increase in traffic travelling at speed on the incline into the village around the 30mph sign. Also, a resident had suggested a need for a pedestrian crossing at the pub crossroads.

- ii. The discussion of these was incorporated into the Options Review of potential speed control measures. N Winnett gave a resume of temporary test speed humps that could be purchased for approximately £90. He thought there was a need to get an agreement from blue light emergency teams to install the speed humps, but that no other permissions were necessary. However, A Bond thought that approval from the Highways Team would be needed. A Bond said that the best place to start would be the local Community Board where highways engineers would be present to discuss the merits of using them. Members agreed that J Rose should raise this at the next CB meeting.
- iii. Transport for Bucks works: J Rose reported that she was awaiting a reply from the Local Area Technician regarding items that were unfinished. Members were extremely pleased that the long-outstanding East End drainage problems had finally been properly addressed by TfB by hiring heavy plant to blast-clear the pipes.
- iv. Street sign cleaning. **Action;** the Clerk to request an updated schedule from the contractor.
- v. Footpaths. The Clerk reported that the work is scheduled as soon as all the materials have arrived to proceed with both the works on the footpath gates and the park area.
WK reported that she has noticed that the cinder path along New Road has become very overgrown. She will report this on 'fixmystreets'.
- vi. Village Walk signs. Buckinghamshire employees are working from home, due to the Covid19 restrictions, so the offices where the signs are held are closed. S Gibbs proposed that the PC researches alternative sign suppliers. **Action;** WK will ask a local company to quote for custom made signs.
- vii. Cycle path along A413. Members considered the desirability/feasibility and in general were in favour of the idea.

The Chair closed the meeting to allow a resident to say that he was also in favour and thought there would be a lot of good reasons to support the proposal.

b. Street lighting. Streetlight conversion to LED. The Clerk reported that she had been in contact with the manager of the chosen contractor and had been advised that all the gear trays had been manufactured. An engineer would be taking down one of the lamps in the village to make sure that the bulb fits. He had assured her that if there were no problems the work should be finished by the end of the month.

c. Play area, including annual and monthly inspections. The majority of the items highlighted in the annual inspection are either completed or under way. The area under the roundabout needs to be levelled, which may mean that the unit needs to be lifted away from the area. S Gibbs volunteered to

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research potential contractors, with the aim of getting a couple of quotes.

d. Pond, Grass, Hedges and Verges, including

- i. Hedgerow Havens verges: JR reported that the verges had been cut later than scheduled.
- ii. Overhanging hedges/trees: WK reported that the hedge at 95 Aston Abbotts road is growing into the verge and smothering the wildflowers. SG offered to draft a further letter to the home owners which she would circulate to the members for consideration.
The hedge just inside the village gate along the New Road is looking better.
The Chapman's hedge on Aston Abbotts Road is coming out quite a way over the verge, the members agreed to monitor the situation..
- iii. Horticultural works: WK reported that the tree that was in danger of falling on the Fortescue track had been removed.
JR reported that the hedge at the back of the park has been cut as low as the owner will allow. The rest of the hedges in the park need to be cut. **Action;** the Clerk will remind the contractor.

e. Management of Weedon Graveyard

- i. The Chair signed the EROB certificate for a double-ashes plot for Mr & Mrs Rodnight. She will send it to the Clerk for her to sign and send to the applicants.
- ii. Grave levelling. WK has circulated a drawing of 2 areas which could do with levelling. Members agreed with the areas. **Action;** WK will meet with the contractor when he was in the village to complete the work in the park and show him the areas to level.
- iii. JR reported that a reply had been received regarding the memorial for Kevin Young, agreeing to keep the dimensions to those permitted in the regulations.

f. New capital projects

- i. Fingerpost: J Rose updated the members that she had learned that the finger post had been purchased and was in storage waiting to be installed.
- ii. Pond margins planting: WK reported that she had made no progress in finding a suitable container, but she would keep looking.

109/20 Correspondence and Communications

- a. Review website, J Rose reported that there was no redirect with the https. **Action:** J Rose to speak to the web engineer.
- b. The next Community Board meeting for Weedon will be on 23 September 2020
- c. Update on the set up of a Weedon Wildlife Group. J Rose reported that a questionnaire is ready to be circulated to residents to gauge the level of interest.

110/20 Coronavirus emergency. J Rose thanked S Gibbs for completing the Risk Assessment for the Jazz afternoon, which had been a very successful event.

111/20 Date of next meeting. To agree next general PC meeting – provisionally Wed 18 November 2020, virtually.

The meeting closed at 21.50 pm

Chairman's Signature Date.....

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