

Weedon Parish Council Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday 21 January 2025 7.30pm

Minutes of a General Meeting of Weedon Parish Council held in The Old Schoolroom

Tuesday 21 January 2025 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs J Rose (Chair), T Jameson-Evans, J Hopper, W Kett, S Gibbs, D Atkins, T Bailey

Clerk: R Millard

Members of the Public: Bucks Cllr D Blamires, M Stevens (resident and Chair of Weedon Wildlife Group)

07/25	<p>Apologies and Members' Interests</p> <p>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.</p> <p>No Members' interests declared.</p> <p>Members received and accepted apologies for absence from Bucks councillors P Cooper and A Bond.</p>
08/25	<p>Co-Option. J Rose welcomed newly co-opted councillor Thea Bailey to the Council Meeting.</p>
09/25	<p>Open Forum</p> <p>Bucks Cllr D Blamires explained that the wards were changing and there would be fewer Bucks Councillors (reducing from 147 to 98) after the elections in May.</p> <p>Regarding the accidents at the New Road junction on to the A413, she advised that everyone should report an accident, no matter how small. If you are at the scene and see the accident, ring 999; after the event report it online. Regarding the extra traffic due to all the roadworks her advice was to link up with Whitchurch, Hardwick and Aston Abbots to collect information on any traffic incidents as information to help with a grant for traffic calming.</p> <p>M Stevens had an actual size (A1) colour printout of the pond information board that the Weedon Wildlife Group was producing. He asked for comments. The group is requesting a grant for under £1000 from the Community Board.</p>
10/25	<p>Approval of Minutes</p> <p>Members agreed the minutes from the Parish Council extra meeting of 7 January 2025 as an accurate account. The Chair signed the minutes.</p>
11/25	<p>Planning</p> <p>a. Updates</p> <p>i. <i>Legal agreements for the land at 50 Aston Abbots Road</i></p> <p>SG reported that legal agreements were almost ready to progress to signatures but was awaiting confirmation from the solicitor acting for the other side. SG gave the Clerk the invoice for the Land Registry fee.</p> <p>ii. <i>Ongoing planning applications</i></p> <p>The traveller's site has not been determined.</p>
12/25	<p>Finance and Accounts</p> <p>a. Payments. Members reviewed the invoices and payments.</p> <p>b. Accounts. Members agreed statement of accounts and bank reconciliation to end December 2025.</p> <p>c. Clerk Annual Review. Members delegated J Rose and S Gibbs to carry out the Clerk's Annual Review, discuss the 2024-25 National Salary award, and report back with recommendations to full council.</p> <p>d. Grants. Members considered and agreed a grant to Hardwick PCC for the graveyard of £200 and to 1st Granborough Scouts for the Xmas Tree collection of £15.</p> <p>e. 2025-26 Budget and Precept. Members discussed the predicted spending in 2025/26 for £19,916 and agreed a Precept request of £15,163 for 2025/26.</p>

BANK BALANCES			Total
30 Nov 2024	Business Reserve Account	13,094.43	14,094.43
	Treasurer's (Current) Account	1,000.00	
31 Dec 2024	Business Reserve Account	11,331.59	12,331.59
	Treasurer's (Current) Account	1,000.00	
INCOME			
Business Reserve Account	Interest Nov	11 Nov 2024	14.54
Treasurer's (Current) Account	Interest Dec	09 Dec 2024	10.73
DIRECT DEBITS			
SSE Energy Supply re October	LGA 1972, Sched. 14 para	2 Dec 24	198.58
SSE Energy Supply re October	LGA 1972, Sched. 14 para	19 Dec 24	-198.58
SSE Energy Supply re October	LGA 1972, Sched. 14 para	21 Dec 24	64.54
SSE Energy Supply re October		Credit Balance	-134.04
ONLINE PAYMENT INVOICES			
NOVEMBER 2024			
MRA Garden Services, invoice 19982	LGA 1972, s101	BP 509	925.00
Weedon Old Schoolroom invoice 7159	LGA 1972, s133	BP 510	8.00
Buckland Landscapes Ltd, invoice 53216	LG(Misc Prov)A 1976, s19 & LGA 1972, s214	BP 511	442.69
Geosphere Ltd, invoice 11UB096-0009	LGA 1972, s111	BP 512	45.00
Starboard Systems Ltd, invoice-7171	LGA 1972, s111	BP 513	328.32
Wild Rose Flower Company, Invoice WR1129	LGA 1972, s137	BP 514	138.00
ER Millard – November 2024 Salary	LGA 1972, s112	BP 515	394.77
HMRC – November 2024 Income Tax	LGA 1972, s112	BP 516	66.60
DECEMBER 2024			
Steven Richards, invoice SI-31675	LGA 1972, s137	BP 517	89.43
Buckinghamshire Council, invoice 2205087022	Litter(Animal Droppings) Order 1991	BP 518	234.00
Buckland Landscapes Ltd, invoice 53521	LG(Misc Prov)A 1976, s19 & LGA 1972, s214	BP 519	442.69
The Old Schoolroom, invoice 7170	LGA 1972, s133	BP 520	20.00
ER Millard – December 2024 Salary	LGA 1972, s112	BP 521	330.20
HMRC – December 2024 Income Tax	LGA 1972, s112	BP 522	131.20
ER Millard, Allowances & Expenses to Sept 2024	LGA 1972, s111	BP 523	327.50
JANUARY 2025			
Buckinghamshire Council, Land Charges	LGA 1972, s111	BP 524	29.71
Race Computing Solutions, invoice WPC016	LGA 1972, s111	BP 525	433.00
Buckland Landscapes Ltd, invoice 53848	LG(Misc Prov)A 1976, s19 & LGA 1972, s214	BP 526	442.69
S Gibbs Land registry Fee reimbursement	LGA 1972, s111	BP 527	22.00

13/25	Environment
a.	Footpaths, Footways and Highways
	<p><i>i. Speed Control. MVAS.</i> The extension pole has been ordered. When it arrives, MT had agreed to proceed with JR's proposal to install the ElanCity unit on the extended pole in position 6. If position 6 doesn't work due to visibility restrictions, then move to position 5.</p> <p>Speedwatch. Sessions are on hold due to weather conditions and now one-month road closure at Lines Hill. Framework to be reviewed after confirmation that the data from MVASs is not considered sufficient by Bucks Highways to prove a speeding problem. Therefore, on next agenda add an item to discuss an approved counting strip.</p>
	<p><i>ii. Footpaths.</i> JH has observed that a few of the footpath gates have had their latches removed - he believes due to the noise. No action from PC required; it is up to the landowner to decide what, if any, gates/stiles they need on their land, and to maintain them to enable the public right of way.</p>
	<p><i>iii. Dog and Litter bins.</i> No issues.</p>

	<i>iv. Bucks Highways.</i> Discussion regarding the New Road junction on the A413 is ongoing. A senior Bucks Highways officer is carrying out a detailed site survey and review of accidents imminently.
	<i>v. Devolved services.</i> No issues.
b.	Street lighting
	<i>i. Electricity contract renewal.</i> Received a quote for future supply from SSE but only for a short 3month contract. Utility Aid had suggested one alternative through EcoTricity and would forward a quote. Action: JR to follow up on any communication or change in rates.
	<i>ii.</i> It had been agreed in the previous meeting to monitor the brightness of lights and discuss at next meeting if they needed cleaning. Action: All agreed no action required.
c.	Park and Play Area
	<i>i. Inspections.</i> Work completed satisfactorily.
	<i>ii. Horticultural.</i> 25/26 contract specifications were discussed. Members agreed in principle to ask the present contractors to quote for the 25/26 contracts, have a discussion with them to find out how much they would need to increase their prices if at all and then work out if by reducing the cuts by 1 or more we can keep the total price about the same level. Action: JR will talk to contractors and report back to members for comment.
d.	Pond, Grass, Hedges and Verges To include wildflower verges, village tidiness/litter, overhanging hedges/trees, horticultural works, WWG pond information board
	<i>i. Overhanging issues</i>
	◇ 8 New Road had agreed to cut back new growth in ditches. Members agreed to monitor and leave until the middle of February before doing anything else.
	◇ Cutting cycle for hedges along the wildflower verges on Aston Abbotts Road . Chapmans are cutting sides and leaving the top alone. Action: Members agreed to keep monitoring that the sides are cut.
	◇ At 95 Aston Abbotts Road , the hedge appears to be blocking the ditch and causing water to build up in ditches further back. J Chapman had dug out the far end of the water drain in the field beyond no. 95, but this had not resolved the problem, which does appear to be the over-large hedge. Action: SG will draft letter to residents of no. 95 and hand deliver.
	◇ The Council had received an email from Fix-My-Street forwarding a complaint made regarding the overhanging hedge opposite 71 High Street . The Council had followed up with the hedge owner, who has agreed remedial work. Action: RM will forward details to Fix-My-Street.
	<i>ii. WWG Pond information board.</i> See Open Forum. Action: WK will take back comments and proceed to finalisation of the board content and Community Board grant application.
	<i>iii. Willow trees at the Pond.</i> The two willows on the PC land at the pond have received Conservation Area tree permission. Action: Visit to be scheduled by Complete Tree Care.
e.	Management of Weedon Graveyard
	<i>i. Horticultural.</i> No issues. See 13/25 c. ii. above for similar action on 25/26 contract specification.
	<i>ii. Applications for burials, memorials and EROBs.</i> None.
	<i>iii. Graveyard works.</i> Compost bin. Agreed only a small bin was required for dead flowers etc, as contractors and grave diggers must remove all spoil from their works. SG agreed to donate her spare one. Rear native hedge would be monitored over the coming year and new plantings made if required.
f.	Capital Projects. The bench is stored at Turpins Orchard, pending placement as the weather warms up. Action: SG will liaise with no. 50, who have agreed to prepare concrete plinth and install.
14/25	Correspondence and Communications To include website, Community Board, annual PC newsletter
	<i>i. Contact from East End resident regarding a sign prohibiting ball games in the street.</i> Members all agreed that this was not an item that the PC could help with. Any signage in the street would have to be approved by Bucks Highways and signs on residents' walls or land probably need Listed Buildings or Conservation Area planning consent. Action: SG will talk to residents.

	<p><i>ii. Email from resident about additional defibrillators and epi-pens.</i></p> <p><i>Defibrillators.</i> Further investigation has been undertaken, including asking about any need for further defibrillators in the village with Bucks Councillor Peter Cooper, who works for South Bucks Ambulance Service and is a first responder. Bucks Cllr PC confirmed that defibrillators had to be placed in 24-hour-accessible locations – not inside homes or buildings. And the position of the current defibrillator was within the normally recommended 500m of the majority of homes.</p> <p><i>Epi-pens</i> are a prescribed item for individuals who are deemed at risk by medical professionals. They cannot be obtained and made available for general public access by councils.</p> <p>Therefore, Members decided no action on more defibrillators or epi-pens. JR would notify the enquiring residents.</p>
15/25	<p>Date of next meeting Tuesday 18 March 2024 for a General Meeting.</p>

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm.

Chair Signature

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