

**WESTON-IN-GORDANO  
PARISH COUNCIL**

Clerk: Mrs C Dixon  
Tel: Portishead (01275) 849200  
Email: blackrockcfd@hotmail.com  
Website: [www.westoningordano.co.uk](http://www.westoningordano.co.uk)

3 Black Rock Villas  
Clevedon Road  
Portishead  
BS20 8PN

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 5th  
NOVEMBER 2019 AT 7.30 p.m. IN THE VILLAGE HALL, WESTON IN GORDANO**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. J Bennett, D Giles, P Harris, and I Holding  
1 parishioner  
Mrs C Dixon, Parish Clerk

Cllr Bennett was Chairman.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs D Down and K Cranshaw and Bernie D'arcy from Avon Wildlife Trust.

**2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:** The minutes of 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019 meeting and Annual Assembly on 26<sup>th</sup> September were agreed and signed off by Cllr Bennett following Kevin Cranshaw's name being correctly amended under Speedwatch and Village Green items. Also replacement paragraph regarding Hill Lane was added to the Minutes under Matters Arising (re Middle Hill Common and Hill Lane) -

“There was discussion on Mr Rushton's letter and proposal to tarmac the pathway between his entrance gate and Hill Lane, in place of the gravel. Some councillors appreciated Mr Rushton's proposal to tarmac the path but not all councillors agreed with this sentiment. It was believed this could make any run-off worse. Not all excess water came from the path but also from Middle Hill Common. Hill Lane is an adopted highway by North Somerset Council, but is not owned by them. One councillor explained that permission would need to be sought from DEFRA, who are the relevant planning authority as the track is part of the registered the Common land, before any tarmac can be put down ; this councillor has had sight of the definitive map of the Registered Common and whilst possessing a facsimile copy, however he did not have it with him at the meeting. It was not certain of the ownership of Hill Lane and some councillors were not sure where the Common boundary is.

Clerk was asked to acknowledge Mr Rushton's letter and take up his kind offer of coming to a meeting in the parish, with a suggestion of him attending the 5<sup>th</sup> December parish council meeting.”

**3. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS AND NEW PARISH CLERK.** Peter Yates-Round had handed in his resignation as Chairman and Councillor at the Annual Assembly and following discussion Clerk to put notice on noticeboard asking for nominations for a seventh councillor.

Clerk had received an application for Clerk's post, but following discussion it was agreed to advertise the post on the North Somerset Council website and the Society of Local Council Clerks website. Clerk to acknowledge applicant's cv and advise councillors are interested in her application. She will be interviewed with others at a later date.

There was discussion on the future Clerk's salary, which could be £1,000 more than it is now. This will be discussed at the meeting in January for the precept, especially the hours required and perhaps the new Clerk could be in charge of the website.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES AND ACTIONS:**

See individual items.

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**5. FINANCE:**

**Bank Balance** £14,735.09

**Balance at this time last year** £12,363.25

**Clerk's expenses** £16.01 (includes £8.51 Annual Assembly refreshments)

Clerk's part salary (+expenses) £554.27

ALCA re Ian Holding attending course on 22.10.19 £40.00

Councillors signed off two cheques

Clerk had received request from Parochial Church Council at Sts Peter and Paul church for donation towards repair of wall. There was a suggestion that the companies which the parish council had written to following their lorries using the B3124 when the M5 was closed, should be written to seeking a donation towards the repair. Following discussion Clerk to acknowledge receipt and invite a representative of the church along to a parish council meeting to advise what they are going to do, when they have obtained quotes for the work.

**6. PLANNING**

**List of Planning Enforcement updates in Weston in Gordano.** Councillors had received this prior to the meeting and noted contents.

**Notice of decision re Woodcroft, Clevedon Rd,** - Fell T1 –Magnolia Soulangeana - NOTED

**Advice of Appeal letter re Sprigg Farm,** Erection of a dwelling house including demolition of 2no. barns and 2no. residential building. NOTED

**Application 19/P/1923/FUL: Weston Lodge Farm, Valley Road,** - Erection of a barn to link two existing farm buildings and the extension of a further barn. Comments due date 14<sup>th</sup> October, Target date 6<sup>th</sup> November. Councillors previously circulated and no comments.

**Application 19/P/2272/FUH – Silver Birches, Clevedon Road:** Proposed extension of first floor rear dormers. Comments due date 21<sup>st</sup> October, target date 18<sup>th</sup> November. Councillors previously circulated and no comments.

**7. HIGHWAYS/PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY:**

Parish Councillors advised that the public footpath signs next to Westfield and opposite Cadbury Lane are in a poor state of repair. Clerk asked to write to North Somerset Council about this.

Cars have been parking in front of the planters in the road, but they are not in front of the speed signs. However, they do make it difficult for people exiting Cadbury Lane onto the B3124.

**8. ROUTINE CORRESPONDENCE:**

**From North Somerset** — None

**Don Hill, Walton in Gordano Clerk** - Email from parishioner re poor state of coast path.

Clerk asked to reply that Weston in Gordano Parish Council support any necessary repairs to this.

**ALCA** - email re Consultation on the new Code of Audit Practice - NOTED

**ALCA** - email re preparing for website accessibility regulations - NOTED

**Clerks and Councils Direct** – Newsletter - CIRCULATED

**Open Spaces Society** – Newsletter - CIRCULATED

**Fisher German** – Letter advising of cathodic protection investigation survey. Clerk has passed on a copy of this to Avon Wildlife Trust for information.

**Age UK** – Information about their work – NOTICEBOARD

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**9. SPEEDWATCH:** Clerk had received email from Damien Devanny at Avon & Somerset Police regarding Speedwatch and the local co-ordinator and had replied with Kevin Cranshaw's email address.

The Speedwatch sign which noted numbers of speeding vehicles captured through the village on Churchfield Barn had been removed as the property is up for sale and a new location for the sign is to be sought.

**10. GORDANO GREENWAY:** This is progressing slowly.

**11. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH:** This scheme is not active in the village. It is hoped a villager with an interest in this will apply to be Co-ordinator.

**12. RURAL BROADBAND:** Truespeed have been active in the village seeking house owners to sign up to their proposals. BT could still be installing fibre broadband, which they are still obliged to provide.

**13. MIDDLE HILL COMMON/BRIDLEWAY:** . There was nothing to report.

**14. VILLAGE GREEN** - Following Clerk sending cheque for £150 to Greenwood Maintenance, she had now received a reply (dated 10<sup>th</sup> September) as follows:

*"Thank you for your letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> August 2019, apologies for the delay in response.*

*Greenways do not believe the amount of £150 is not an appropriate settlement.*

*There wasn't any clear instructions from the parish council about what was required for the village green. When Greenways met with the councillors at the parish meeting before the work was agreed to be carried out, a full plan had been put together by us with recommendations, however this was disagreed and the parish councillors that were at the meeting put their plans/ideas across briefly that were wanted.*

*Before any work was carried out on the site, it was cleared of any 'old' plants and weeds and these were removed from in and around the water pump too, and the whole site was also mowed – we can provide photos of this if required. Every time we visited the site we took pictures and these were forwarded to Jon Bennett and not at any point were we informed that the work we were carrying out was inadequate or not to the parish councils requirements because if this was the case we could have then sat down again and made adjustments.*

*Again we asked for a plan of exactly what the parish wanted but we were informed to do what we can and the gardening team would also be out to help and to have their input but this was not arranged either.*

*I think overall there was a lack of communication and planning but I do not believe that Greenways should be blamed entirely for this and the whole invoice 073 should be paid out to us to cover our costs for the resources as well as time spent and fuel etc.*

*I look forward to your response."*

Following discussion, Clerk to acknowledge letter and reply that as Greenways have accepted and cashed the parish council's cheque, the councillors believe the matter is now closed.

The Gardening Club are awaiting good weather in order to clear the Green and proceed with the plans. The stone plinth around the base of the pump is in good order and safe. The village has been canvassed on their views about whether to install a new pump and most replies have been to leave it as it is, although the wood around the pump may need to be repaired.

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**14. VILLAGE GREEN (continued)**

The planters in the road have now been planted up and there have been good reviews on their effectiveness. The large planter by the pub near the phone box has been cleared ready for planting next year.

**15. ANNUAL ASSEMBLY:** This was held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September with Karen Black from Natwest Bank giving a presentation about how to avoid scams and well attended. Refreshments had been provided by Dot Yates-Round, Anne Redway and Angela Borland, to whom Clerk had sent thanks.

**15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

Although the development was not in the village, parish councillors were advised that 480 homes are proposed for land next to Tower Farm estate, Portishead, which could affect the village with extra traffic.

The WiG Social Committee are planning a celebration on 8<sup>th</sup> May (Bank Holiday) next year. The parish councillors thanked Mrs Catherine Dixon, retiring Clerk, for all her work over the years and gave her a card, flowers and voucher for a coach day trip in April next year to Cardiff Flower Show, for which she was very grateful.

**Meeting closed at 9.30 pm**

**Future PC meetings: – 2019 5<sup>th</sup> December.**