

**P A R I S H O F W E S T O N I N G**

**MINUTES of the Meeting of**

**Westoning Parish Council**

**held on Wednesday 8th June 2022 at 7.30pm**

**In the Village Hall, Westoning**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs J Nethersole (Chairman), Cllr P Ellis, Cllr E Bhasin, Cllr C Luff,

Cllr E Russell, Cllr P Kelly

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs K Barker (Clerk), no members of the public were present

Agenda published on the noticeboard and on the website

**7648 Apologies for absence** – Cllr A Rayment, Cllr E Leftly, Cllr B Rogerson, Cllr R Botterell,

CBC Cllr J Jamieson

**7649 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th May 2022 were not approved as there were not enough Cllrs who had been present at the May meeting. To be held over to the July meeting.

**7650 Declaration of interests**

Cllr Ellis - finance Point 7655.2

**7651 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**7652 Chairman’s actions**

There were no Chairman’s actions.

**7653 Reports and representations**

CBC Cllr Jamieson was not present.

**7654 Public Participation**

There were no comments from members of the public.

**7655 Finance**

7655.1 Bank balances and finance report:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Account** | **£** |
| TSB Community Account | 50,219.74 |
| TSB Instant Access Account | 66,650.60 |
| **TOTAL** | 116,870.34 |

7655.2 Cllr Nethersole proposed, seconded by Cllr Bhasin the approval of the following payments, agreed by all present:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Payment Method** | **Payee** | **£** |
| 000638 | Clerk – salary | 512.14 |
| 000638 | Clerk – expenses | 68.64 |
| 000639 | HMRC – Clerk tax | 4.00 |
| 000640 | Parish Warden – village tidying | 275.00 |
| 000641 | D J Granger – playing field/village 022531 | 630.00 |
| 000641 | D J Granger – playing field 022554 | 192.00 |
| 000641 | D J Granger – playing field/village 022590 | 630.00 |
| 000642 | Lamps and Tubes Illuminations – Jubilee Signs | 127.06 |
| 000643 | W J Marshall – Internal Audit | 150.00 |
| 000644 | Npower – Electricity bill April | 72.26 |
| 000645 | P Ellis – trophies | 27.98 |
| 000646 | Westoning Village Hall – hire | 18.00 |
| 000647 | Laybury Construction – Rec Ground Driveway | 20,814.00 |
| 000648 | B Rogerson – plants | 122.00 |
| 000650 | D J Granger – playing field Inv 022615 | 192.00 |
|  | **TOTAL** | **23,835.08** |

7655.3 Other finance matters:

7655.3.1 Anesco Solar Farm £3,283.79 – receipt awaited

The payment is awaited. The Clerk to chase up. (**Action Clerk**)

7655.3.2 Annual Audit of Accounts

7655.3.2.1 Governance statement/Accounting Statement

The Parish Council approved the Annual Governance Statement and the Accounting Statement. The Annual Governance Statement and the Accounting Statement were proposed for approval by Cllr Bhasin, seconded by Cllr Nethersole and agreed by all present. The Chairman signed the statements and the Clerk to place them on the website. (**Action Clerk**)

7655.3.2.2 Internal Audit Report

The Clerk read out the report and this was noted:

*The Agenda for the 9 March 2022 council meeting includes an item ‘review of policies’ and the minute of that business shows that all current policies were reviewed and re-adopted; the current risk assessment document includes that review date so implicitly, it was included as part of the review. The requirement to carry out a review of the risks to which the council is exposed is an explicit legal duty under the Accounts & Audit Regs 2015 and as such, for reasons of transparency and for the avoidance of doubt, the agenda and the minute should always include a specific reference to demonstrate that the council has met its obligations. A better form of words for both might be ‘to review the risk assessment and other policies …’*

*Despite a second challenging year arising from the ongoing limitations due to Covid 19, the council and its diligent clerk have continued to maintain good standards of governance. I am pleased to be able to report that having tested all the aspects of the council’s internal controls that I am required to consider, based on the information made available to me I am satisfied that in all significant respects, the internal control objectives were achieved throughout the financial year to a standard adequate to meet the council’s needs.*

**7656 Highways**

7656.1 Highways Issues

There were no issues to report.

**7657 Recreation Ground**

7657.1 Recreation Ground driveway

The new driveway has been done. The Clerk to invoice the Recreation Club for £4,000 for their contribution to the new Recreation Ground driveway: (**Action Clerk**)

7657.2 Recreation Club Licence

Nothing to report.

7657.3 Dogs on the Recreation Ground

The Chairman said that the Parish Council were asked for permission to allow dogs on the Recreation Ground for the Jubilee Event on Sunday 5th June. The Chairman said that Cllr Rayment had refused the request on behalf of the Parish Council but said that if anyone did arrive at the event with their dog that they could be allowed. The Chairman said that there was concern that the Recreation Club had since advertised the event and said that dogs would be welcome, this comment was subsequently removed as requested by Cllr Rayment.

**7658 Village Matters**

7658.1 Christmas Event

Cllr Bhasin suggested that all Cllrs be involved in the event and this was agreed. Cllr Kelly said that he is happy to take on the organizing of the event.

7658.2 Jubilee Event

Cllr Nethersole said that although the Parish Council organise a successful Christmas event, she was disappointed that the Parish Council had not made any significant contribution to the Jubilee celebrations apart from putting up some flags. No one entered the cake competition which was very disappointing and this may have been due to a lack of advertising. The trophies purchased were therefore not awarded. The Recreation Club held an event on Sunday 5th June and this may have contributed to a lack of enthusiasm for the Parish Council to arrange an additional event. It was suggested that the Parish Council could arrange a summer event.

7658.3 Rural Match Fund Scheme application

Nothing to report.

7658.4 Flower Planters

Four planters have been planted up and put in place. The Chairman said that she will ask Cllr Leftly if she can water the planter under the village sign. There are 8 more planters left to be planted out. (**Action Cllr Nethersole**)

Cllr Ellis agreed to obtain a quote for someone to maintain the planters. Cllr Russell to find out if the people who volunteered to sponsor a planter are still interested.

(**Action Cllr Ellis/Russell**)

7658.5 Rock Snake

It was reported that the rock snake has been damaged. The Parish Council were very disappointed with this news. A lot of stones have been removed and the Parish Council agreed that a piece should be put in the next edition of Westoning on Sunday.

**7659 Play Area**

7659.1 Picnic Bench x 2

Nothing to report.

7659.2 Area under gate replacement

Nothing to report.

**7660 Planning**

7660.1 Planning Applications:

No planning applications were received.

7660.2 Other Planning Matters:

7660.2.1 Solar Farm

Nothing to report.

7660.2.2 Land Off Flitwick Road

Nothing to report.

7660.2.3 West View Farm, Park Road

Nothing to report.

**7661 Committees/Sub Groups/Representatives/Reports**

Nothing to report.

**7662 General correspondence:**

There was no correspondence.

**7663 Date of next meeting: Parish Council Meeting**

**Wednesday 13th July 2022 at 7.30pm**

**In the Village Hall**

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

Approved: ………………………………………………. Date: ……………………………………………………….