WESTON-UNDER-PENYARD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th January 2017 at 7.30pm in Weston Village Hall

Present: L. Dunn (Chair), R Barker, P. Marshall, G. Weston, C. Bailey, B. Davies, D. Byrne, C. Morris

Absent: L. Kearns

Clerk absent: R. Barker temporary minute taker

Lengsthsman (Wayne Reed) in attendance for part of the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence: L. Kearns**

2. **To receive declarations of interest and written requests for dispensations:** None received

3. **To approve minute of last meeting:** Minutes were approved with amendments. It was noted that the VETS telephone number had appeared in the minutes against Council instructions.

4. **Open forum:** To hear views of local residents on Parish Matters. No-one in attendance.

5. **Council matters:**
   - 5.1 Election update/councillor co-option. It was noted that Dr. H. Watts had decided not to join the Council, following her co-option at the previous meeting, without completing registration. Co-option process to be re-started. R. Barker will contact Herefordshire Electoral Services and an advertisement will be placed in the February edition of the Weston News.
   - 5.2 Two emails had been sent to BT about the telephone box. Both replies acknowledged our wish to purchase the telephone box, and stating that due to high demand there would be a delay in processing the application.

6. **Lengthsman.** The Lengthsman reported that he had moved the dog bin at Hopes Ash Farm. The hedge in the churchyard had been trimmed, but he would be inspecting it to ensure that it had been done properly. B. Davies expressed his concern that he had not been consulted over the removal of the dog bin, despite a prior agreement that he would. He sought, and was given, assurances that he would be consulted well in advance for any future work. All landowners must be consulted by the Lengthsman well in advance of any work to be done. The Lengthman's invoice for £150 was approved.

7. **Locality Steward** (Kevin Williams) again failed to attend despite assurances that he would be present. This is for the fourth successive month.

8. **Defibrillator project.**
   - 8.1 It was agreed that the clerk is requested to produce and maintain a complete, accurate and separate account of defibrillator money, itemising

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fully each and every receipt and payment. The present account requires a date column to be added.

8.2 Agreed to pay D. Skeggs £24 on production of invoice.

8.3 Void: Claim withdrawn.

8.4 Suggested attendees on First Aid course were approved, except for B. Davies (who did not want the training). N Price to be added in his place. It was noted that L New does not live in the Parish. The date of training is to be checked.

R. Barker gave a verbal update in the progress of the project. It was agreed that L. Dunn would produce a note on VETS for the Weston News. Congratulations were offered by the Council to all those who had made the Defibrillator project such a success.

9. **Reports from appointed officers on Parish Projects.**

9.1 R. Barker reported that he had not heard from the Community Safety Partnership again, and would chase. He would also investigate a warning sign as in operation in the Lea, and an HGV sign such as that in Lyonshall. He reported that a parishioner had written to express his disappointment at the Council's decision not to consider installation of SIDS on the basis of cost. It was pointed out that this decision had been made after lengthy discussion on cost/benefit.

9.2 It was reported that the ACV application was in the legal department of Hereford Council, and that the owners of the Weston Cross had objected to it.

9.3 No report. D. Byrne showed examples of hi-viz vests imprinted with "Weston Parish Council" which would be used for activities such as litter picking. 10 had been bought. She also expressed concern that there was no provision for care of the elderly in Weston. Possible projects include locality stewardship, emergency phone numbers and lunch club. D. Byrne would pursue these ideas, possibly assessing interest from the community via the Weston News. She floated the idea of an Easter egg hunt in the village.

9.4 No report

9.5 Open Day. This would be held on 25th February. All appointed officers to prepare stands. L. Dunn and D. Byrne would coordinate. Coffee/tea to be offered. Timing 10.30 to 16.00.

10. **Footpaths:**

P. Marshall (Footpaths Officer) tabled a draft note which it was agreed should go into the Weston News. Further publicity for footpaths would be given at the Open Day. Priority for work would be given to footpaths/ROW highlighted in J.Smart's report. It was agreed that, since the Lengthsman grant had to be spent by end March, P Marshall was authorised to employ additional help up to a total of £1675.

11. **Financial Matters.**

11.1 Payment to Lengthsman in the sum of £150 approved.

11.2 The year-to-date spend was noted

11.3 The Clerk's timesheet and payment of £379.49 were approved.

11.4 Clerk's expenses of £1.10 were approved.

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11.5 Payments to HALC of £197.28 for training was approved.
11.6 Payment of invoice for use of Village Hall for £100.75 was approved.

Additionally, the Council discussed the Budget which had been tabled at the previous meeting. The precept of £12500 was agreed. The budget for the Lengthsman was increased to £3000. It was confirmed that the full amount of HC Lengthsman grant would be claimed. The budget for HALC subscription was reduced by £200. With these amendments, the budget was approved.

12. **Planning Group.**

12.1 The PG recommendations for application P163858 – Land at Upper Weston was agreed, subject to removal of phrase "with no way forward" at the end.
12.2 The PG recommendations for application P163701 was approved. D Byrne objected to the inclusion of the word "tasteful" in the report.
12.2 The PG monthly report was noted.

Comments from the Parish Council will be sent to Herefordshire Council which will determine the result of the applications.
J. Smart's email concerning reserved matters relating to P163324 land to the east of Penyard Gardens was noted.
L. Dunn updated the council on the new build in School Lane and the comments made by the enforcement officer at Herefordshire Council.

13. **To note and approve Parish Council Policies.**

13.1 Financial regulations policy. Further discussion on this policy was postponed until the next meeting. It was noted that this policy had already been discussed, amended and agreed by the Council.
13.2 Code of Conduct. The up-to-date version was approved and adopted.

14. **Correspondence received and distributed.**

An email had been received from a parishioner regarding the litter bin in the Penyard Gardens bus shelter.
All other correspondence had been dealt with during the meeting.

15. **Items for next meeting;**

Setting up and membership of a Financial Working Group
Financial regulations
Appointment of Clerk
Election/co-option of Councillors

16. **Dates of next meetings**

16.1 March 6th 2017
16.2 April 3rd 2017
16.3 May 8th 2017

L.M. Dunn
6/3/17