

WESTOW

PARISH COUNCIL

Westow Parish Council Meeting – 9th September 2020– 7.30pm – Zoom Meeting

Attendees:

Helen Crews (HC Chair), Angela Fothergill (AF Clerk), John Smith (JS Treasurer) ;Geraldine Burton (GB); Christine Smith (CS); Neil Johnson (NJ); Margaret Thompson (MT); Pennie Hamer (PH);Richard Bannister (RB); Jaynie Pateraki (JP)

Chair's opening comments

HC opened the Meeting by saying she was sorry that we were still unable to meet face to face but holding another meeting via Zoom was the responsible thing to do in the circumstances. A couple of members of the public had said that they may attend the meeting and had been invited by Zoom. HC said she would be drafting up some guidelines that would be placed on the Parish Council Website and also on the village noticeboard to help members of the public who wish to attend Parish Council meetings. The guidelines would explain how and when members of the public can contribute to meetings. Councillors thought this be a good idea and suggested that all queries/questions for the Parish Council should go through the official channels either by emailing the website or through the Clerk.

A lively discussion took place about how best to engage with parishioners and this would be further discussed at our next face to face meeting.

Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes from July's meeting were adopted as a correct record proposed by Jaynie Pateraki and seconded by Geraldine Burton

Matters Arising from Action Log

Benches Some discussion took place regarding possible new benches for Westow. This was prompted by a message from Julie Price who had raised £250 from her Art Exhibition and was willing to put this money towards some new benches. Julie wondered if the Parish Council would be able to provide matching funds. It was agreed to put this as a formal Agenda item for the next Meeting.

AF to put on November's Agenda

Salt Bins – AF had had an email back from NYCC with some costings for some extra bins. This would be discussed at the November meeting.

Dog Bins – AF waiting to hear back from Jack Garbutt of RDC to see when they can carry out the works and erect 3 new dog bins.

Clerks Update

AF reported that the potholes had been repaired.

SLCC had not received the 2019 subscription, AF and JS had looked into this and a cheque had been sent in March 2019 but seems to have got lost in the post. AF wrote a further cheque for £48 to correct this.

Budget and finance

JS had distributed his Treasurer's Report.

The Current A/c stands at £2380 (of which £1629.80 is the Transparency Fund) after payments made or pending as follows: Clerk's Salary, SLCC subscription, wood fillers, finishes and doormat to complete Village Hall floor. The separate Parish Hall A/c balance is £511.47. Outstanding hire payments of £180 are included. Actual meter reading has been submitted to NPower: a recalculated bill will be issued shortly.

Village Hall improvements

JS said that the new door has been fitted and is awaiting final trims to outside and inside. The cost of the new door has been mostly covered by the NYCC grant of £300. JS said he would forward AF the invoice when the works had been completed. JS to claim the VAT back from the works.

JS and CS had also provided some curtains at no cost to the PC. Thanks were given to JS and CS for all their generosity and hard work with regard to the Village Hall improvements.

The outside had been tidied up and strimmed. JS to go back and finish cutting the hedge. RB and NJ also offered to go and help with the tidying up outside.

Paddy Hill had been approached about looking at the guttering.

Two planters had been positioned at the front the Hall. Jaynie Pateraki offered to put some bulbs/flowers in.

Planning Applications

Mr S Tetlow, The Hollies, Westow - Removal of coal bunker and reconstruction of existing garden retaining wall, installation of 1250 litre oil tank with enclosure for external boiler, height adjustment to existing patio and alterations to wall. HC had replied to RDC saying that the Council had no objection to the Application.

AOB

1. PH had heard from Colin Payne from the Table Tennis Club with regard to the tree in memory of Roger Dunning. He said that they would prefer to plant a new tree and would be looking at possible sites in the next couple of weeks.
2. Alison Dalby from Rose Cottage, Westow had emailed the Parish Council. There are 2 Rose Cottages in Westow both on Main Street - Mrs Beryl Hatton's home is also Rose Cottage. This was causing confusion with delivery drivers and upset for both Alison Dalby and Beryl Hatton. Alison Dalby asked if the PC could apply some pressure to RDC with a view to either getting the postcode changed or the name of the street where she lived to Henlow Lane rather than Main Street, with a different postcode or some other form of identification. HC agreed to contact RDC to ask about the process and also to reply to Alison Dalby's email.

3. Peter Lamb had contacted the PC and was concerned that there had been a padlocked gate put on the entrance of Howsham Woods. PH had a copy of an Agreement between Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Foods, NYCC and Howsham Wood Trust saying that public access was to be allowed at all times. PH is checking how to contact Howsham Wood Trust and then HC will send a letter to them and copy in NYCC.

4. A resident had emailed the PC with regard to having a Noticeboard outside the Village Hall. Consideration would be given to this at the next meeting.

The meeting ended at 9 pm.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 11th November 2020

