

**Westley Parish Council minutes**

**9 March 2017**

**Present:** Chris Anderson (CA); Colin Clayton (CC); Alan Green (AG); Mike Spenser-Morris (MSM); Jim Sweetman (JS)

Jen Larner (JL, Clerk); one member of public; Karen Soons, Conservative candidate for SCC; Terry Clements (SCC)

**Apologies:** Gary Smith; Steve McClellan

**57/2017. Declarations of interest:** None received.

**58/2017. Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on 5 January 2017 were approved and signed as a true record.

**Adjournment for reports from SCC, SEBC, public participation.**

A report had been circulated by Terry Clements.

**59/2017. Newmarket Road bridge road closure:** a detailed report on progress had been circulated by MSM. The anticipated chaos hadn't happened, largely due to the signage that has been erected, and the 4 way traffic lights. Weekly reports have been requested but not yet received. The proposed end date is 7 April, followed by a period with 2 way traffic lights while the work is completed.

**60/2017. Finance – authorisation of payments:** The following payments were authorised: Chris Anderson £66.60 for signs reminding people to pick up their dog waste.

The balance in the bank is currently £3756.

**61/2017. Internal auditor:** it was proposed by CA, seconded by CC and agreed by all that Trevor Brown be appointed internal auditor for 2016-17, at a cost of £50 plus travel expenses (to be shared with Wetherden pc)

**62/2017. Westley Middle School:** CA reported back on his visit to the Head of Westley Middle School to talk about litter problems on the lane. This had been very successful, and the school will do a regular litter pick both inside and outside the school boundary.

**63/2017. Dog waste:** Signs have now been bought and erected along the lane. The Clerk will find details of the residents association on the Westley estate so that discussions can be had with them regarding joint working on the problem.

**64/2017. Spring clean/litter pick:** CA and GS will arrange a date for a litter pick and circulate it. The clerk will pass on contact details of how to access litter pickers etc from the Borough Council, and also investigate using community service volunteers.

**65/2017. Signs for the village:** An updated report had been circulated by JS and SM, proposing that 'entrance' gates be erected at either end of the village, on the chicanes, to the side of the existing bollards. Terry Clements reported that he has money in his locality budget which may cover the whole cost, but needs details by 23 March. Discussion took place regarding the desired emphasis between 'Westley village' and '30 mph' on the proposed signage. Terry Clements will confirm with SCC that we wish to proceed with the proposal. It was agreed that JS will contact Anthony Smith to arrange an urgent site meeting and discuss SCC guidelines on design etc. Councillors will be informed of this meeting.

**66/2017. Clerk's appraisal:** The annual appraisal of the clerk was carried out in January. This was satisfactory.

**67/2017. Planning:** DC/16/1681/FUL – 5 Beckett Close. It was noted that the appeal on this had been dismissed.

**68/2017. Correspondence:** letter from Pensions Regulator re staging date; Beacons of Light 11 November 2018; Bury St Edmunds Town Centre masterplan meetings

**69/2017. Arrangements for Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting.** The date set for the next meetings, 4 May, is now not possible as it is County Council election day and the hall will be a polling station. It was agreed to meet on Wednesday 3 May instead. It was agreed to hold the Annual Meeting at 7, and the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30. CA will amend the notice on the board accordingly, and circulate the information round the village.

**70/2017. Urgent matters for the attention of Councillors:** AG raised the problem of the poor condition of the main road, which was resurfaced less than 12 months ago and is already breaking up. He agreed to put together a report, including photos, to send to Highways.

The state of Home Farm Lane was also raised, as it isn't being swept. Karen Soons agreed to check whether this is an adopted road or not.

Karen Soons reported on a public meeting to be held on 21 April in Barrow with Ian Houlder, to discuss digital connectivity. Details will be circulated.

**Date of next meeting** - Wednesday 3 May 2017 at 7.00pm. (Annual Meeting) and 7.30 (Annual Parish Meeting). **PLEASE NOTE** change of day and date.