

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 19th March 2024 at 7:30pm at Westcott Cricket Club

Attendees

CLlr Sue Pusey (Chairman) (SP), CLlr Grahame Pusey (GP), CLlr Sue Lacey (SL), CLlr Kevin Ready (KR)
Ward Councillor – CLlr Ashley Waite

Part One

1. Apologies

Jo Hooper.

2. Open Forum

None

3. Declarations of Interest

None

4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19th March 2024

It was resolved that the minutes were a true and accurate record.

5. Clerks Report

BM noted that several items would be picked up during the agenda, but noted the following items:

- Streetlights have been reported, but not sure if work is complete.
- The Council is currently in co-option period, but no-one has come forward yet.
- Has spoken to Environment Agency to ask for an update regarding the Waddesdon Fires.
- That the details have now been changed with HMRC.

6. Reports.

I. Burial Ground & Churchyard

Burial due to take place on 3rd June.

II. Website

BM reported that the website had been hacked, with several links altered to point at gambling sites. The web-designer is reviewing the site and making any necessary repairs.

III. Village Green

SP noted that the football nets needed to be put up.

BM noted that the village green sign was ready to be installed.

IV. Charities

BM noted that conversations with Beck and Fetto Trustees confirmed that Hilary Vitkus had been acting as a resident, not a representative of WPC.

V. Buckinghamshire Council

CLlr Waite noted the following items:

- **Roads**
 - Ashendon Hill work is complete
 - Waddesdon Hill is closed today for emergency repairs
 - Ashendon to the crossroads 12th - 18th July closure for surfacing
 - Wooton Road 14th - 15th May Pothole Patching
 - A41 UKPN near quinton junction - ducting to be laid 28th may to 17th June
 - A41 Berryfields between Lucas world of furniture to the crossroads overnight closure 29th April to 6th May 8pm to 6am Plane and Patch

- **Hs2 Payments starting to come through**
 - These roads include roads, or part roads, which have been used as haulage routes during the HS2 construction works. Hauling work has now been substantially completed on these roads, and we have taken advantage of an available contractor and road space to ensure an early start is made on these substantial repair works.
 - Resurfacing work will start on Fidlers Field, Quinton on 29 April, as this road is already closed to through traffic. The repairs will be undertaken to the point at which the new road will connect (tie in).
 - This will be followed by works on Shipton Lee near Quinton, Frith Hill (the link to South Heath) near Great Missenden, and Kings Lane, The Lee. Where possible we would look to carry out works overnight to minimise disruption. All works are expected to be completed by the middle of June.

- **Diversion routes**
 - Being looked at as to why they are being diverted through the village.

- **Hs2 meeting**
 - Met key members on the 22nd April to discuss a number of items
 - Lorry movements and shunts - what is being tracked
 - Easels on a41, this will be tracked
 - Seismic counters possibly on a41 to track volume and weight

- **Hs2 Road safety Fund**
 - Around £600k is being made available in 2024 from Buckinghamshire's share of the HS2 Road Safety Fund. The funding was allocated by the Department for Transport in recognition of the likely disruption to communities that are not used to the volume and impact of heavy traffic associated with major construction works such as the HS2 project.

WESTCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

Barry Malki – Clerk

clerk@[westcottparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@westcottparishcouncil.gov.uk)

www.westcottparishcouncil.gov.uk

- **Planning**
 - Littleton Manor Farm (22/03384/AOP) is going back out to further consultation within the next month.

- **Community**
 - Plans for Christmas with Santa have started
 - Over 60's dinner
 - Santa Sleigh

- **Community Board**
 - £70k budget
 - Priorities for 2024 to 2025 are:
 - Health and wellbeing
 - Road Safety
 - The Environment
 - More small grants to deliver as previously done.

- **Bernie**
 - Food bank still going strong, vineyard has gone through a period of change, monthly collections are bringing in close to half a tonne each month.
 - Xmas campaign this year will be more in the villages and less Aylesbury-centric, to support local people in need. This campaign is funded with business sponsorship.

- **Trips**
 - We are looking at expanding the level of community trips we are doing, kids and old age pensioners

- **I'd like to borrow**
 - Open and active, we are taking donations from the wider area, and loans are taking place but need a wider push to sell the service.

- **I'd like a bike**
 - Bikes are being donated, refurbished and given to people in need.

VI. Speed Watch

No update

VII. Cycleway

No update

VIII. Bucks Recycling

SP reported that Bucks Recycling had been sold to a London-based company.

SP reported that she had made a complaint regarding the noise.

IX. Other

None

7. Finance

BM had circulated finance up to end of March.

BM gave an update on a new format for the finances from April

8. Planning Matters

- 24/00860/APP - Plot 9000 Westcott Venture Park Westcott Buckinghamshire - Hybrid planning application for 1) full application for the erection of two buildings for Use Classes E and/or B2 and/or B8); 2) outline application for the erection of one building for Use Classes E and buildings for Use Classes E and/or B2 and/or B8. – Cllrs had no objection but asked that the buildings be finished in a “sympathetic colour”.

9. Enhancements to the Green

Cllrs discussed the quotes for the enhancement work. Cllrs asked BM to revert to Holford Landscapes Ltd to revisit quote with more substantial posts.

10. Audit 23-24

Cllrs agreed to appoint Skeggs for the Internal Audit and to submit a certificate of exemption for the External Audit.

11. Village Green – Tree Survey, Grass Cutting Quotes and Wet-Pour Update

Cllrs discussed the tree report and asked BM to get quotes for the highlighted works.

Cllrs discussed the quotes from Grass Cutting tender and agreed to continue with Blades Turf Care.

Cllrs discussed the wet-pour quote from Caloo, noting that some of the areas have come to the end of their life and needs to be replaced, but others could still be patched. Cllrs decided to look at the costs of replacing some of the play equipment, which would include a new surface and comparing the costs with wet-pour alone. To be put on future agenda.

12. Dog Waste Bins

No update

13. Westcott School Update

SP noted that the consultation had closed, but that the statutory notice had not yet been published. SP reported that there would be a second consultation period.

SP noted correspondence from the school asking if it was possible to use the Green for Sports Day. BM to write back saying that Cllrs had no issue with the area being used.

14. Casual Vacancy

No Update

15. Village Speed Limit

SP suggested reviewing the issue once the freight strategy had been published.

16. News Items

Items for the news letter to include;

- Planning application
- Tree Survey
- Playground
- Casual Vacancy

17. Urgent matters of note

SL noted that the Cricket Club were not happy with the Council following the funding application, noting that the timeframe was “unacceptable” as their first enquiry was almost a year prior.

18. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 28th May 2024 at 7.30pm.

Part 1 of the meeting closed at 20:55

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Date Agreed:

Signed:

Position: – Chair/Vice Chair/Councillor