

# **WESTLETON PARISH COUNCIL**

The minutes of the Westleton Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 20 March 2023 in Westleton Village Hall.

*Ian Haines*  
**Clerk of the Council**

## **There were Present**

Cllr Paul Holmes (Chairman), Cllr Ian Johnson (Vice Chairman), Cllr Julian Alexander, Cllr Antony Clough, Cllr Colin Fisher, Cllr Amanda Freeman, Cllr Chris Freeman, Cllr Nick Shearme, Cllr Andrew Turner

## **In Attendance**

Ian Haines (Clerk)

## **PRE AGENDA MATTERS**

### **Contributions from members of the public.**

There were no members of the public present.

## **AGENDA**

### **23/47 Introductory remarks and apologies for absence:**

Cllr Barry Banks, Cllr Andrew Paige, County Cllr Richard Smith, District Cllr Norman Brooks

### **23/48 Declaration of interests**

Council members to declare possible interests they may have in any items on the agenda, either pecuniary or non-pecuniary and to consider requests of dispensation.

Cllr A Turner declared an interest in respect of a planning application on his property which had recently been submitted under reference DC/23/0772/FUL and so took no part in the discussion or voting thereon - minute 23/56 below refers.

### **23/49 Pre Agenda Report from SCC Councillor**

No report this time – ‘purdah’ period.

### **23/50 Pre Meeting Report from ESC Councillor**

No report this time – ‘purdah’ period.

### **23/51 Minutes of Previous Meeting – 27 February 2023**

It was **agreed** that the minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2023 be accepted as a true record.

### **23/52 Matters Arising from the Minutes 27 February 2023**

With reference to minute 23/41 (Appointment of Auditor), the Clerk advised that he had contacted SALC and the Parish Council audit will take place between 29 May – 2 June.

### **23/53 Council Finances and Accounts**

(a) **Income** - Income to date were acknowledged and approved.

**(b) Expenditure** – Expenditures to date were acknowledged and approved.

**(b) Invoices and Payments** – The following invoices were **agreed** for payment:-

From	Item	Amount
Ian Haines	Clerk expenses (£68.80) & salary (£451.26) – March	£520.06
Collins Forestry Services	Common Fire Clearance Work	£579.00
Westcotec	Repair of VAS inc various parts/new batteries etc	£406.20*

\* paid by direct debit

### **23/54 Community Field**

Cllr Freeman thanked those who had participated at the weekend to give help with tidying out the sheds and filling in rabbit holes.

With regard to the repairs planned for the play equipment (minute 23/33 of the last meeting refers), Cllr Freeman outlined the favoured approach which would now be taken and it was **agreed** that an order for the various items should be placed – this to also include new rubber matting for coverage of an approximate area of 90 sqm. Once all the work has been completed David Bracey will be invited back to undertake an inspection. Hopefully this can all be done in time for the opening of the school summer holidays.

The Clerk confirmed that an order had been placed for the green metal vandal proof goalposts – cost each £1160.00 + VAT and it was **agreed** that this should be met out of the CIL money allocation.

### **23/55 Common**

The minutes from the CAG meeting held on 13/3/23 had been circulated.

Cllr N Shearme reported all the gorse debris had been removed and the site was looking in very good order. There is a current wetland area (around compartment 11) which it is hoped can be retained to support wildlife. In the coming months it is intended to carry out another Safety Audit based on the approach adopted in previous years. Cllr Turner suggested that supporting photographs be taken.

Noted that a new bench had been installed and thanks were recorded to Chris Freeman for undertaking this. A plaque in memory of Roy Jones will be fitted.

It is intended that a tidy/clearance of the green container will take place and an inventory of equipment drawn. Following this, arrangements will be made to place the generator in storage there.

### **23/56 Planning applications**

From	Item	Details
The Barn, The Hill Westleton	DC/23/0772/FUL	Build a cabin on a deck at the north end of a natural swimming pond
	<b>Status:</b>	<b>Deadline for observations: 23/3/23</b> <b>Response: No objections</b>

From	Item	Details
Potton Hall, Blythburgh Road, Westleton	DC/23/0529/FUL	Conversion of craft workers cottages from 3 units for holiday lets to 6 units
	<b>Status:</b>	<b>Deadline for observations: 30/3/23</b> <b>Response: No objections</b>

### **23/57 Sizewell C - EDF Traffic Mitigation Plans for Westleton**

Cllr Turner referred to a draft joint letter to go to EDF, SCC & ESDC about a number of measures including a proposal to reduce the speed limit on the main road between Middleton and Westleton from 60mph to 30mph. However, Members were of the view that a 40mph limit was a more realistic option - Cllr Turner to convey back these comments.

Noted that the next meeting of the B1125 Joint Parishes Group will take place on 28/3/23.

### **23/58 Tree Warden Report**

No report this time.

### **23/59 Kings Coronation**

The next meeting will be held at 5pm on 10/4/23 to finalise arrangements. [Noted that details are still awaited concerning the exact timing of the Windsor evening concert].

### **23/60 Correspondence**

No items this time.

### **23/61 Westleton Flower Barrels**

Reference was made to a recent approach which had been made by the Westleton Gardening Club (email dated 27/2/23) about bulb planting and maintenance of the Memorial garden. Specifically in relation to the barrels which are dotted around the village, it was noted that several have rotted away at the base and need replacing. Cllr J Alexander is sourcing prices.

### **23/62 Date of Next Meeting**

To note that the Council next meets at 7.30pm on Monday 24 April 2023 [The Annual Residents Meeting will also take place on the same evening at 7.00pm].