

WESTON ON THE GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

www.westononthegreen-pc.gov.uk

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Chairman: Mrs Diane Bohm

Clerk: Mrs Jane Mullane

Parish Clerk Update – 7th April 2021 Parish Council Meeting

1. Virtual Parish Council meetings to end on 6th May 2021

Government rules state that virtual Parish Council meetings will not be legal from 7th May 2021 and physical meetings would therefore have to be held. Possible plan for next few months meetings to be discussed:

- 5th May virtual meeting – Annual Parish Council meeting and normal Parish Council meeting.
- Scheme of delegation could be approved at 5th May meeting as a back up to ensure we are covered should there be further Covid complications. "This would allow the clerk/RFO to make certain decisions for the council, which would be especially important if the council were unable to hold meetings due to COVID-19 risks. In reviewing/adopting a scheme of delegation the council should ensure there is clarity around which decisions are delegated and which are not, for how long the scheme of delegation is in place, and when the scheme of the delegation will end or be reviewed."
- Delay June PC meeting until after 21 June when all restrictions may be lifted and we will have more information on vaccines. AGAR to be approved before 30th June so could combine June/July meetings to reduce the risk and hold it before 30th June, assuming road map continues as planned.
- We are able to have a meeting in the Village Hall from 17th May with a maximum capacity of 45.
- As we are not in an election year we are able to be more flexible around Council meetings.
- Attached is the latest advice from OALC which highlights all options.

2. Purchase of Playing Field and Spinney

With regards to the purchase of the playing field and spinney I have received two further emails from our solicitor, Andrew Woods - Spratt Endicott:

- 16th March 2021: confirming he has noted our comments on the draft contract and transfer documents. Mr Woods commented that with regard to Material Development he is seeking to allow the Parish Council to include the construction of buildings in connection with the recreational use of the land. However, it should be noted that if we were to add to the low-cost housing project, this would attract a value and overage may well be payable to the Duchy of Cornwall.
- 25th March 2021: requesting clarification on the signing protocols for deeds by the Parish Council. This information has been confirmed back to Mr Woods as the chairman and vice chairman. It was also highlighted that we are still awaiting confirmation that government funding is available, and we are therefore not in a position to complete until this is available. I have requested him to let us know if this becomes a problem with the purchase and if there is a required date to progress this so I can highlight that to the loan board.

There has been no further communication from the loan board on the approval for the Parish Council to borrow, despite chasing by OALC and myself.

3. Gullies Reported to Councillor Griffiths

I have sent off information on the gullies which require clearing to Councillor Griffiths who indicated they could carry out the work when they visit Bletchington.

I will be meeting the Highways Inspector after Easter to run through outstanding issues and to discuss drainage/flooding issues on Knowle Lane.

4. Playground and Village White Gates

The playground was bio-cleaned on 25th March 2021. The village gates have also been sprayed to kill off algae. Painting will now be undertaken on the gates which require attention – Chequers set and ones on road to Wendlebury. It is suggested that the gate alongside the new Southfield Farm housing development should be left until the works have been completed due to the level of dirt but this will be monitored.

5. COMF (Containing Management Outbreak Fund) – Additional Funding Requested

I submitted a further application for the COMF funding which included the new external fire door for the Village Hall, contribution towards an event for post lockdown/playing field and spinney purchase completion, children's allotment equipment and a contribution for new litter bins. Due to having provide figures for year end and Easter break they were only able to include the Village Hall fire door contribution (£1,000).

6. Dog Litter Bin – Key Issue

The new dog litter bin, which was purchased in March, did not have a key included for it. I requested a new one to be sent and that one has not been delivered so am still chasing again for it to be sent.

7. Salt Bin – Knowle Lane

The salt bin did not get placed at the entrance to Knowle Lane again this year and I am enquiring again as to the reason why not and will try again for this coming winter.

8. Parish Council Website – Weston Walkers and Links with Village Hall/Village Groups

Graham Barnett has sent me details on a number of walks from Weston which I will upload to Parish Council website under the Weston Walkers section. The Village Hall also has a new website to link to so will amend our Parish Council website structure so it is clearer to see the other village information. We are not able to have a joint website with the Village Hall as it is in the constitution of the Village Hall that they have a separate one.

9. Sign posts in village

The redundant sign posts have been removed in the village. A resident has also highlighted some discarded roadwork sign holders and railings in the village when out walking, I am finding out exact locations and will try and get them removed too.