

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 7th February 2018

Public Participation session: 15 minutes maximum

Cllr. Carmen Griffiths: commented on her monthly briefing report that had been circulated a few days earlier. She was seeking clarification as to the £15,000 that county councillors had made available to them from OCC, as to what the monies could be spent on and how we could apply for it. Concern that parishes don't ask for enough for the monies that are available. She wants to make sure that villages take advantage of the monies that are available.

Verges: according to Ian Hudspeth (Leader of OCC), there are monies still available and we should apply. Action: Parish council to look at our maintenance schedule to see what we need and whether these grant monies can be used for that.

N.M. Concern that there is a lack of anything specific as to what is happening at Southfield Farm. PC to seek clarification from CDC. Also seek clarification on ownership of ditch and pond.

C.G. – Potholes – there's been a vast increase in reports of potholes to OCC in comparison to previous year. Additional funding is needed to deal with problem.

Council Business:

17.320.1 To receive any apologies for non-attendance

Attendees: Cllrs. Bohm, Davis, Donne, Miller, Norris & Roper.
Apologies received from Cllr. Hessan.

17.320.2 To receive any declarations of interest

None declared

17.320.3 To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 10th January 2018 and those of the supplementary meeting on 25th January to discuss and agree Precept.

Minutes approved as read.

17.320.4 Past Subject Matters – for the purpose of report only

Actions arising from previous meetings.

17.319.4 – Clerk had spoken with owner of Walnut Tree Cottage who explained his ownership of part of the footpath between Westlands Ave and Village Hall car-park. Owner willing to contribute physically and financially towards upkeep of his part of the footpath.

OCC have been notified via the web reporting facility. A supply of hoggins has been requested.

17.319.7 – a question had been raised as to whether it would be appropriate to donate money to the campaign group looking at the possible School-Field redevelopment (Weston-Front 2). Guidance from OALC had been sought. By supporting such a group the Parish Council could be perceived as being "predetermined" and "biased" if they were later consulted on a planning application.

17.320.5 To receive update on Neighbourhood Plan.

An update was provided by Cllr. Bohm

- 17.320.6 To receive information on Planning Applications and note decisions**
Cllr. Donne gave an update of the current situation:
- A TPA for work on the willow tree near Oak View had been submitted. Work had already been carried out as parts of the tree were in a dangerous condition.
 - No. 2 Knowle Lane – extension. Cllrs. had no objections
 - No. 2 Knowle Lane – new detached building in garden. Objections submitted.
 - Starbucks A34 northbound, drive through bakery. Objections submitted.
 - Westfield Farm Barn – application for two detached dwellings in adjacent “garden” – considered as overdevelopment of the plot and objections would be submitted.
- 17.320.7 To receive update on finances.**
No outstanding invoices to consider.
An external auditor had been identified who currently acts for a number of local parish councils and also councils outside of our area. His annual fee for councils of a similar size to Weston on the Green is based on the annual financial turnover of the council and would be approximately £240 - £300per annum. He will be providing a formal quote.
Clerk briefly described the new Data Protection Regulations that come into force in May this year. There are implications for WOTG and the above mentioned auditor will cover those obligations as part of his remit. Clerk to provide summary document.
- 17.320.8 To receive report from Traffic Calming Advisory Group.**
Cllr.Bohm reported on the work of the group. A proposal to erect “20mph” advisory signs in Church Road / Church Lane was discussed. A proposal as to where the signs would be placed had been circulated. Approval was sought to spend approximately £780 on 20 such signs and was agreed by Cllrs.
- 17.320.9 To receive update from Transport Advisory Group**
A meeting between Middleton Stoney, Chesterton, Bucknell and WOTG had been arranged by Chesterton PC primarily to discuss local issues and problems such as traffic volumes, speed, weight limits, etc. It was agreed that not enough pressure had been put on bus companies and OCC to help resolve some of the bus withdrawal issues. It was proposed that Chesterton draft a letter that would be circulated to attendees prior to submission to the new Chief Executive of CDC (Yvonne Rees) expressing concern over way CDC handle various issues and the inconsistencies between and within departments.
- 17.320.10 To receive report on Playing Field and Play-area – including Spinney**
Children would like re-instate their allotment. Cllr. Miller agreed to help them do this if necessary.
Clerk reported that OCC are surveying villages experiences in broadband performance and mobile phone coverage.
This year’s Litter Pick will take place on Saturday 17th March.
- 17.320.11 Date of next meeting: March 7th 2018**
Dates for 2018: April 11th, May 9th (AGM), June 6th, July 4th, August – no meeting, September 5th, October 3rd, November 7th, December 5th.