

WESTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of Westleton Parish Council at the meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 26 October 2020 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 Barry Banks, Cllr Antony Clough (for minutes 20/108 – 20/122 only), Cllr C Fisher, Cllr Amanda Freeman, Cllr Chris Freeman, Cllr A Paige, Cllr Nick Shearme, Cllr Andrew Turner

In Attendance

Cllr Richard Smith (SCC for minutes 20/108 – 20/111 only)
Ian Haines (Clerk)

PRE AGENDA MATTERS

Contributions from members of the public.

There was 1 member of the public present who attended as an observer.

AGENDA

20/108 Introductory remarks and apologies for absence:

Apologies: Cllr N. Brooks (ESC).

20/109 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 Nick Shearme advised that he was receiving a cheque from the Parish Council for services provided - see minute 20/114.

20/110 Pre Agenda Report from SCC Councillor

Cllr Smith advised that EDF Energy recently announced that it has notified PINS of its intention to formally request a number of material changes to their DCO application. A primary change appears to be proposals to make more use of rail and sea to deliver construction materials for the project, with an increase in trains (expected to be overnight) and alterations to the proposed beach landing facility. EDF Energy are intending to undertake a 30-day consultation, indicated to start in the week commencing 16 November.

A latest update was also given with regard to the Covid outbreak within Suffolk.

20/111 Pre Meeting Report from ESC Councillor

Cllr Brooks was not present but a report had been earlier emailed and circulated.

20/112 Minutes of Previous Meeting – 28^h September 2020

It was **agreed** that the minutes of the meeting held on 28th September 2020 be accepted as a true record.

20/113 Matters Arising from the Minutes 28th September 2020

Electric Car Charging Points (minute 20/90), the Clerk reported that he had passed details

to the Centre Manager and it appeared that the Village Hall Trustees were interested and would explore the Suffolk CC supported idea.

Village Environmental Concerns (minute 20/100), the Clerk reported that the two untaxed vehicles had now been removed.

Speeding through the Village (minute 20/102), the Clerk advised that he was awaiting a response from Suffolk Highways with regard to the possibility of whether road humps could be installed along the B1125 approaches. It was also noted that a communication had come through from David Blencoe to confirm that he was now standing down as Coordinator of the local Speedwatch group. Cllr A Turner commented that a decision would also need to be taken at some stage over whether to upgrade the existing equipment (speed gun calibrator) or if it may be more effective to consider the purchase of new electronic display equipment to act as a better deterrence. Further consideration to take place.

Remembrance Sunday (minute 20/105), it was confirmed that the service would still be going ahead on 8th November observing social distancing rules. Arrangements were discussed for the wreath laying service which will commence at 12.30pm.

Westleton Village Green & Adjoining Development (minute 20/106), the Estates Officer at East Suffolk Council is coordinating setting up a meeting with the owner of the site and it is hoped this can take place within the next couple of weeks.

20/114 Council Finances and Accounts

(a) Projected Year End Figures

Statement circulated showing projected available funds as at financial year end. This included a breakdown illustrating internal ring fenced funds.

(b) Budget 2021/22 – draft budget discussed. The Clerk advised that a directive had been received that day from East Suffolk Council asking Town & Parish Council's to delay setting their Precept until January.

(c) Income – no information provided this month. It was however noted that a CIL payment (Community Infrastructure Levy) of £1,602.20 had been received from ESC and that the Parish Council had 5 years in which to utilise/spend. Further consideration would need to be given towards appropriate worthwhile projects.

(d) Expenditure - no information provided this month.

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

	Item	Amount
Ian Haines	Clerks expenses (£54.72) & salary (£414.00) October	£468.72
David Bracey	Annual Play Equipment Inspection	£120.00
Royal British Legion	Donation to Poppy appeal	£50.00
Jim's Mowing	Tree cut on The Common	£150.00
Citizens Advice	Donation	£50.00

20/115 Community Field

Cllr A Freeman provided an update.

The annual play equipment safety inspection report (produced by David Bracey) had been circulated. Various upgrade works & minor repairs will be undertaken in the coming weeks.

20/116 Common

Cllr N Shearme reported that the Volunteer Group had recently met on site and a large amount of gorse clearance work had been undertaken. As previously identified, a significant amount of hedge cutting and additional clearance around the site is still required and an outside quote for undertaking this work is being sought.

Cllr Shearme referred to some preliminary discussions which had taken place concerning the possibility of reinstating a vehicle access directly from the main car park to provide a second emergency route onto the site. The Chairman, Cllr P Holmes, reiterated the position that nothing on this had yet been decided and his view, expressed last time, was that any proposal would first of all need to be properly examined and discussed in the full by the Common Advisory Group. This would then need to come back to the Parish Council to determine. The Clerk advised in this respect that there had already been 5 letters of objection received, as well as an email from the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and these communications had been circulated to all Members for information.

It was also noted on a separate matter that Roy Swindell had formally resigned from being a Co-opted Member of the Common Advisory Group – but he had indicated that he was prepared to carry on with being involved with the Volunteer Group.

20/117 Planning applications

From	Item	Details
Quines, Dunwich Road, Westleton	DC/20/3693/FUL	Change of use of 1 bed annex to allow short term holiday lets.

Deadline for comments 3/11/20:

No objections

20/118 Other Planning Matters

Notification had recently come through of a Listed Building Consent (DC/20/4163/LBC) for Lavender Cottage, The Street. The proposal involved fitting a pair of external doors in lieu of an existing kitchen window. The deadline for comments on this was 19/11/20 and so the Planning Sub Committee will look to formulate a response.

Cllr A Turner additionally reported on the receipt of what was effectively 3 separate public consultations being carried out by the ESC Planning office:-

- (1) Statement of Community Involvement/Engagement
- (2) Cycling & Walking Strategy
- (3) Protection of Habitats

It was agreed that Members should pass any comments through to Cllr Turner with a view to him formulating a response on behalf of the Parish Council.

20/119 Tree Warden Report

Cllr A Clough reported that there was a problem with drains being blocked on the link road at the front of the village pond causing flooding. The Clerk advised that this had previously been logged but it appeared that a response vehicle had not been able to gain access due

to parked cars in the vicinity. The matter would be reported again and this time Suffolk Highways to be asked if they can advise us when they would be carrying out the work so that bollards can be put out the night before to prevent obstruction.

Cllr N Shearme also referred to ongoing concerns over the smell emanating from a main drain located on the Darsham Road. Clerk to report to Anglian Water.

20/120 Appointment of Representative to serve on the Village Hall Committee

No decision on this was reached. The Clerk would give appropriate feedback to the Secretary of the Village Hall Trustees.

20/121 Correspondence

See comments under minute 20/116 above.

20/122 Parish Council Meeting Dates 2021

The following timetable of meetings for next year was **agreed**:-

25 January 2021
22 February 2021
29 March 2021
26 April 2021
24 May 2021
28 June 2021
26 July 2021
27 September 2021
25 October 2021
29 November 2021

20/123 Local Housing Scheme*

***The whole discussion on this item was moved into the Part II/Confidential section of the meeting and public excluded based on the sensitivity and exempt information involved.**

Given the circumstances, it was **agreed** that the Clerk should now seek to establish further contact with Mr Watson with a view to holding an urgent meeting covering the different points raised.

20/124 – Date of Next Meeting

Monday 30 November 2020 at 7.30pm at Westleton Village Hall.