

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BLYMHILL AND WESTON-UNDER-LIZARD PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE
BLYMHILL HILL AND WESTON UNDER LIZARD VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM ON MONDAY 18th NOVEMBER
2019**

PRESENT: Cllr D Maddocks (Chairman)
Cllr V Cook
Cllr D McGowan
Cllr N Parton
Cllr P Maddocks

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr P Delaloye – Parish Clerk
Cllr B J W Cox – South Staffordshire District Council
Cllr V Jackson

APOLOGIES: Cllr A Lowe
Cllr B Cambridge
Cllr M Stokes
Cllr M Sutton – Staffordshire County Council

On Opening the Parish Council Meeting Cllr D Maddocks welcomed Cllr V Cook as the newly Co-opted Parish Councillor for the Weston under Lizard Ward. He also welcomed Cllr V Jackson to her first meeting as the second South Staffordshire District Councillor to Join Brian Cox following Roy Wright's retirement from the SSDC. He also welcomed back Cllr B Cox after his illness.

2058 **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None

2059 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Parish Assembly and the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 09.09.2019 be approved as a correct Record.

2060 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was asked of Cllr B Cox if there had been any news on the Bradford Estate's proposal for the new villages by Lizard Wood called Junction 3. Cllr B Cox said that SSDC had not heard any more information as to whether the proposal was to be taken into consideration along with Shropshire County Council's 3 preferred sites.

The Parish Clerk reported that since the last meeting, as requested, he had been in touch with the District Council's Street Scene department to get a quote for cutting back the vegetation and raising the tree canopy by the path of Rectory Drive to the A5 and from Beighton Lane to the Speed Warning sign on the A5. He had been informed that that actually came under the Council's purview. Cllr D McGowan did some cutting vegetation himself, then a couple of weeks prior to the Parish Council meeting Street Scene did carry out the works required.

2061 **VISITORS**

Liz Minshall the Lifestyle Co-ordinator of the Goodlife South Staffordshire Wellbeing Association (of which a local Weston under Lizard resident and ex Parish Councillor Graham Carter was a Trustee) attended the meeting and informed the Parish Council that this was a voluntary organisation with funding separate to that of the SSDC and hoped to augment services to the Community by running road shows in the different communities. She offered to run and organise Lifestyle Roadshows in connection with local groups and associations for free, to give information that may help, the elderly, carers, young families and other members of the local community. For more information contact Liz Minshall on 07340989383, email liz.lifestyle@gmail.com or visit the website <http://southstaffordshire.thegoodlife.uk.net/>

2062 **REPORT OF The COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Report was sent by email to Cllrs due to the absence of the County Coucillor

- **A5**
One of the projects I will consider putting forward is an **attempt** to reduce the speed limit along A5 through Weston Under Lizard from 40mph to 30 mph. I have to consider schemes and requests from across my Division (5 ½ Parishes) although not properly costed it would likely to be in the order of £7,000 and in order to be able to finance it I would need contributions from other organisations. I'm therefore asking the Parish if they would consider funding 50% of the potential cost and allocating it in their budget for the next financial year.
This is only the start of the process and there is absolutely **no guarantee** that following consultation it would get the go ahead, so I would need the Parish to also agree that they would still fund 50% of the cost even if the project failed the consultation process.
You would also need to consider if it's possible to have the Speed Device you fitted re celebrated and I would also need to do the same for the Highways Device.
- **Dramatic reduction in delayed transfers of care**
Figures that show the number of patients who are in hospital beds, even though they are fit to leave, have reached a new low for Staffordshire patients. Figures show that the number of patients in hospital unnecessarily has fallen by over 40 per cent in the last 12 months. They are now lower than they have been for many years.
Officially called Delayed Transfers of Care (DTOCs), it means patients who don't need to be in hospital are in a bed because the support they need to live at home is not available. Staying in a hospital bed unnecessarily can rapidly lead to Deconditioning Syndrome - serious muscle wastage and loss of confidence – especially for patients who are frail and elderly.
- **County Council declares a climate change emergency**
Staffordshire County Council has declared a 'climate emergency' and with recent wet weather not a surprise.
The move came on a day that saw record breaking temperatures across the UK. In a meeting of the County Council, councillors vowed to refresh the Council's 'Green Shoots' climate change strategy, continue their support to local councils in tackling climate change, and committed to providing a strong, unified voice on behalf of councils when lobbying the Government.
The declaration, which has cross-party support, comes a month after the county council launched its air quality initiative, which aims to improve air quality in the county.

- **Work starts on i54 western extension**
Work has started on an extension to a major Midlands business park which could generate around 1,700 jobs and lever up to £300 million of investment.
It will see i54 South Staffordshire expand to provide much-needed sites of different sizes at what is becoming a globally-recognised high manufacturing employment zone.
Machines have moved in to construct the new access road with preparation for factory platforms and services infrastructure works to follow next year. It is anticipated new occupiers could start arriving from 2022.
Planning permission has been granted for up to 100,000 square metres of manufacturing space, which will provide job opportunities for residents.
- **Support for uni-bound care leavers** News that care leavers bound for college and university were being given extra support was welcomed by local residents.
Mark Sutton said, "The gift of a laptop and stationery will help overcome one of the practical hurdles faced by youngsters without family support."
- **Farmer prosecuted for breaking TB rules**
The Farming press reported the prosecution of a Staffordshire farmer who broke livestock TB rules and kept inaccurate records.
John Sadler from Great Wyrley was handed a 27-week prison sentence, suspended for 12 months, at Stafford Crown Court on Monday.
The county council's trading standards discovered that 61 cattle had not been presented for their TB test and more than 50% of the herd remained untested at the time of the visit.

2062 **REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

Following his recent return after being in Hospital due to a stroke, had little to report other than there had yet to be a formal application put to the District concerning the building of approximately 8 dwellings on the site of the old Poultry Farm in Great Chatwell.

2063 **PLAY AREAS**

Following the annual ROSPA safety inspection there were a few remedial repairs required. Cllr N Parton was to look into this and arrange the repairs where needed.

2064 **FOOTPATHS AND HIGHWAYS**

Cllr N Parton reported that the Pathway from Grove Farm to the Old Garages was in a terrible state. The Parish Clerk was asked to get Quotes for this and to get it actioned.

- It was reported that the Cabinet Member for Highways could not attend the Parish Council meeting and an alternative date on the 20th of January 2020 separately to the January Parish Council Meeting had been made and members of the Weston under Lizard Action group would also be attending that meeting.
- Cllr Maddocks suggested that Cllr Mark Suttons offer regarding the A% be further investigated and discussed at the next meeting and when with Highways.

2065 **PLANNING MATTERS**

Planning Application considered by Parish Council since the meeting held on 9th September 2019

Application No: 19/00618/FUL Proposal: A single storey extension to the rear of the annexe at Duo Cottage, including the removal of the existing conservatory and the conversion of a current integral garage into a living space. Thus creating a stand alone 2 bed roomed single storey dwelling on a separate title.

Location: Duo Cottage 64 Blymhill Road Blymhill SHIFNAL TF11 8LS

You can find these documents online at www.sstaffs.gov.uk/planningfiles. Please respond with your observations by 14 November 2019 in writing, via ConsulteeAccess or email to capps@sstaffs.gov.uk,

Application No: 19/00638/LBC Proposal: This application is for Change of Use of the 3 floors of the East Wing of the Grade II listed Granary building at Weston Park from storage into Short-term hotel type accommodation (C1 - Hotels).

Location: Weston Park And Parkland Weston Park Weston Under Lizard

You can find these documents online at www.sstaffs.gov.uk/planningfiles. Please respond with your observations by 30 October 2019

Application No: 19/00637/COU Proposal: This application is for Change of Use of the 3 floors of the East Wing of the Grade II listed Granary building at Weston Park from storage into Short-term hotel type accommodation (C1 - Hotels).

Location: Weston Park And Parkland Weston Park Weston Under Lizard

You can find these documents online at www.sstaffs.gov.uk/planningfiles. Please respond with your observations by 30 October 2019

Planning Applications to be Considered by the Parish Council

Nil

Planning Applications approved or refused by South Staffordshire Council since the meeting held on 9th September 2019

SSDC Planning Approvals, Validation and Enforcement Emails sent to all Parish Councillors when received.

2066 FINANCIAL MATTERS

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

Balance as at 13th May 2019	£9,061.26
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Payments since meeting held on 9th September 2019 - to be confirmed

Clerks Quarterly fee	£300.00
Bradford Estates Rent (29.9.18 to 28.3.20)	£45.00
SSDC Grounds Maintenance (1st Quarter)	£216.96
J Bent Parish sign cleaning	£596.00

Payment Made as Approved since 9th September 2019

Nil

Payment to be Approved

Nil

Income received since Meeting held on 9th September 2019

Precept 6 month	2,480.00
Balance as at 18th November 2019	£10,033.30

Blymhill and Weston Under Lizard Parish Council Accounts**1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020****Prepared by Philip Delaloye Parish Clerk****STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT AS AT 18th SEPTEMBER 2019**

Funds at 31st March 2019	£11,736.02
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Income since 1 April 2019

Parish Precept – 6 months	£4960.00
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Subtotal	£4960.00
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TOTAL	£16,696.02
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Expenditure since 1st April 2018

SSDC Interest free loan (Village Hall) (2019)	£450.00
Extra Stamps for Parish Council re community shop surveys	£40.60
Clerks expenses	£131.27
Haven Landscaping for Moss removal Beighton Lane and Rectory Drive	£250.00
Staffordshire Parish Council Association	£229.00
SSDC Grounds Maintenance (4 th & 1 st Quarters)	£284.30
SSDC May 2019 Election charges	£198.67
Zurich Insurance	£353.70
St Andrews Parish (Graveyard fund)	£1020.00
St Marys Parish Churchyard fund	£350.00
Brewood and District Voluntary Car Scheme	£200.00
Blymhill and Weston Parish Magazine	£250.00
Parish Clerks Fee Quarter 1	£600.00
Weston Club – Institute rooms	£150.00
Optimus Ground Care A5 footpath clean up	£1200.00
Weston Sawmill Village sign erection	£354.78
Bradford Estates Rent (29.9.18 to 28.3.20)	£45.00
J Bent Parish sign cleaning	£596.00

Subtotal	£6,312.72
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Funds for 31st March 2019	£10,033.30
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RESOLVED: All Councilors agreed the Accounts

2067 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- SSDC had sent around communication that BT wanted to scrap the 3 Telephone Kiosks in the area. As previously the Parish Clerk was requested to send an objection to this.
- The Parish Clerk reported that the SSDC had informed him that after 31st December 2019 they would no longer be able to host the Parish Council website. He reported that he had looked at a few other Parish Council Websites including Sherrifhales and requested permission to get quotes as there was a need to have a website. The Parish Council gave permission for this.
- Cllr D Maddocks reported that he had formed a Community Shop Committee, made up of a 4 Parish Councillors and 5 of the local people who had put themselves forward to help. There had been one meeting so far and a further meeting arranged for the 26th November with 2 of the members of the Beckbury Community Shop Committee to learn more about what was involved. This would be done to be able to report back to the Parish Council on the plan and the viability of the project.
- The Parish Clerk read out the notes from the some of the Parish Councillors meeting with the members of the Weston under Lizard Action Group on Monday 23rd September 2019.

At the meeting the Weston under Lizard Action group supplied an Agenda

1. Footpaths - Ongoing maintenance concerns.

- The Action Group recognised that the Parish Council had got a contractor to clean up the Northern side of the A5 from Beighton Lane to Hatch Lane and both the Action Group and the Parish Council commented on what an excellent job Optimus Ground Care did.
- The Action Group wanted that to be continued on a regular basis, but the Parish Council said that at £1,2000 that was unsustainable on the Annual Parish Council Precept of £4960.00. Some members of the Action Group suggested that the Precept be trebled to cover the cost. The Parish Council pointed out that that would increase all residents Council Tax for something that may not affect them or that they wanted done.
- As cleaning the Footpaths alongside the A5 came under the offices of Staffordshire County Council it was suggested that any information and emails be sent to Ian Davies to collate and to forward them onto Helen Fisher Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport for Staffordshire County Council, CC'd to Staffordshire County Councillor Mark Sutton and David Maddocks Chair of Blymhill and Weston under Lizard Parish Council.
- A member of the Action Group said that to clear the footpaths of Rectory Drive and Beighton Lane, he would take his wheel barrow and clear the paths himself – other members of the Action Group said they would assist with that as well.
- The Parish Clerk said that he had been in touch with the South Staffordshire District Council's Street Scene as they were looking to introduce a Weed Spraying service in the Spring at an affordable rate.

2. Footpath alongside the Eastbound wall with Weston Park. No action.

- Again it was pointed out this came under Highways and not under the Parish Councils remit and the Length of the wall concerned would be expensive. The Action Group queried why Weston Park did not clear as the cleared the path from the Granary Gate to past the old Estate Offices. It was pointed out that Weston Park took it upon themselves to do that, but again it should be Staffordshire County Council.

3. The school bus pick up / drop off reversing into Rectory Drive.

- The Action Group said that the Bus Pick up had been changed and no action was required.

4. **Post Office / Old Forge now apparently private land - no access. But the Village Notice Board is located next to the Old Post Office**
 - The Parish Council accepted that people do not see the Notice Board as much as when the shop was the Village Post Office. It was agreed that the Action Group would make a proposal as to where the Notice would be re-sited after they had garnered the thoughts of the residents in Weston under Lizard for the best siting.

5. **Poor unclean and un-maintained Signage throughout Weston Under Lizard.**
 - The Parish Council responded that they had paid a contractor to clean the signs around all the Villages in the Parish Council's remit.
 - Some members of the Action Group said that the new Finger posts that the Parish Council had put up around the area looked very smart and suggested that a few could be erected in Weston under Lizard. The Parish Council was open to this and it was agreed that the Action Group would put forward a proposal for some sites.

6. **The road surface of Beighton Lane on the stretch from Rectory Drive to the A5 junction remains in a very dangerous and potholed state even after repair.**
 - The state of the Road in many people's opinion was not in such a bad state but again it was pointed out that anyone feeling that it was poor needed to report it on the Staffordshire County Council's Website.

7. **Weston Park wall - Westbound on the A5 immediately passed the old Post Office remains unrepaired.**
 - The Action Group needed to contact Weston Park on this as was not in Parish Council's remit.

8. **Hedge Cutting & Fly tipping in Beighton Lane causing issues.**
 - Cllr D McGowan agreed it is an issue but not one the Parish Council can deal with it as the fly tipping that was raised at the meeting had happened on the Land he Farmed and the cost of removal would down to him and not the Council.

9. **The A5 through the village remains of significant concern. Noise, speed vibration are all effecting quality of life.**
 - This both parties agreed but this is subject that had been picked up with the County Council to no avail and it was suggested that the Action Group contact Helen Fisher Directly and that the Parish Council would try to arrange a meeting with her and Highways.

10. **Recent car break ins - Rectory Drive have shown the total lack of any local police presence or enforcement.**
 - It was pointed out that it was the Police that notified the resident's concerned that the cars had been broken into after they had arrested the person involved.
 - The Parish Clerk was asked to try and get the Community Officer to attend a meeting.

11. **Tong - new housing development.**
 - Members of the Action Group were given some leaflets provided by the Braford Estates on this for information but they were still awaiting a response from Shropshire County Council as to whether their proposal would even be considered.

2068 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: That the next meeting of the Parish Council be held on Monday January 13th 2020.

Proposed meetings for 2020:

**Monday 2nd March 2020, Monday 11th May 2020 and Parish Assembly Monday 7th September 2020
and Monday November 16th 2020.**

Signed
(Chairman)

Date:13th January 2020.....