WEST BRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 8 January 2018

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

**Present** **In Attendance**

Cllr M Hofton(Chair) Clerk – S.C.Bladen

Cllr T Hodgson Cllr I Sanders (WMDC)

Cllr N Sharp Cllr K Barker (WMDC)

West Bretton residents - 7

**1801/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr N Sharp and Cllr L Watson.

**1801/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Declaration of Interest Register was presented to and completed by Members.

**1801/03 QUESTION TIME**

No issues were raised.

**1801/04 POLICE MATTERS**

There was no Police representation at the meeting and no report was presented.

No issues relating to any crime or anti social behaviour in the village were raised by the Parish Council or residents in attendance.

**1801/05 YORKSHIRE SCULPTURE PARK**

Belinda Eldridge was unable to attend but had presented a brief report to the Clerk which made reference to the launch of a new Arts Council exhibition entitled Revolt and Revolution, and the continued development of the visitor centre.

**1801/06 BRETTON HALL**

There was no report on progress on the development of Bretton Hall.

**1801/07 HIGHWAYS ISSUES**

A637 Speed limit - It was noted that WMDC Highways had still not commenced the legal consultation on the proposed speed reduction, and no indication had been given as to when that consultation would commence.

(Minute 1710/07 refers) - WMDC Highways had not yet replied to the concerns raised by Mr Lewis and Mr Shaw in October 2017 at the problems caused by inconsiderate parking on Sycamore Lane and seeking the implementation of residential parking controls. Further correspondence had been sent to WMDC by Mr Lewis seeking an update on any proposals to remedy the problems.

**1801/08 MINUTES OF MEETING – 11 DECEMBER 2017**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2017 were received and signed as a correct record.

**1801/09 MATTERS ARISING**

Minute 1712/03 - (Safe Scheme) - The Clerk advised that he had written to West Yorkshire Police requesting details of the cost and benefits for the village of participation in the Safe Scheme but had not received a reply.

It was agreed that a further request be made to West Yorkshire Police for the information.

**1801/10 CLERK’S REPORT**

**Action Plan**

The Clerk presented an updated Action Plan which was received and noted.

**Correspondence**

- a letter from West Bretton JI School thanking the Parish Council for its recent grant

towards the costs of transport for educational visits.

- letter from WMDC Electoral service detailing changes to the register of electors.

- letter from HMRC giving preliminary notice of changes to be made to the procedure

for claims of VAT refunds. Further advice would be sent in due course.

- emails from YLCA relating to:

1. a decision of the Government to defer for three years the setting of referendum

principles to Town and Parish Councils in respect of budget precepts, and

2. raising the awareness of the potential for a bird flu outbreak in the UK

**Finance**

The Clerk presented the financial statement and presentation of accounts payable.

Cheque No. Amount Purpose

300363 £138.00 Clerk’s salary – January 2018

300364 £91.50 HMRC re PAYE 2017/18 (3rd Qtr)

300365 £1310.40 T&D Contractors re Grounds maintenance 2017

**Budget and Precept 2018/19**

The Clerk presented a proposed spending plan and budget for 2018/19 as a basis for discussion. Following consideration of the proposals it was agreed that the precept for 2018/19 be set at £5400.00 and submitted to Wakefield MDC.

**1801/11 PLANNING MATTERS**

There had been no planning applications submitted to and/or determined by WMDC since the date of the last meeting of the Parish Council.

**1801/12 COMMUNITY ISSUES**

**Village Institute**

Cllr Spaul reported that a social event held in the Village Hall on Christmas Eve had proved very successful with over 100 residents and visitors attending.

The next meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee would be on Tuesday 9 January 2018.

**West Bretton JI School – Governing Body**

Cllr Spaul presented a brief report which highlighted the success of the School Christmas Fayre which had been held in the Village Hall.

**WMDC – District Councillors Report**

Cllr Barker presented a brief report which highlighted several district wide issues:

- the availability of interest free loans of up to £7000 from the Wakefield Home Energy and Improvements Scheme to enable Wakefield District residents to make essential repairs and improvements to their homes;

* a WMDC scheme seeking volunteers to sign up as snow wardens to help keep local roads and paths clear of snow and ice;
* and, an outline of his Mayoral duties undertaken during December .

Cllr Sanders provided a brief report on problems with the festive lights on the Christmas tree in the school premises. It was considered that there were insufficient lights given the height and spread of the tree and it was agreed that the Parish Council would liaise with Cllr Barker and Cllr Sanders at an appropriate time to ensure that additional lights were placed on the tree at Christmas 2018.

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.

The next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Monday 5 February 2018.

**Minutes approved by the Parish Council at the meeting held on**

**Monday 5 February 2018.**

**Signed: Chair...............................................................................**