WEST BRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9 January 2017

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

**Present In Attendance**

Cllr D Spaul(Chair) Clerk – S.C.Bladen

Cllr T Hodgson

Cllr M Hofton West Bretton residents - 3

**1701/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Sharp, Cllr Watson, Cllr Barker (WMDC) and Cllr Binns (WMDC).

**1701/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**1701/03 QUESTION TIME**

No issues were raised.

**1701/04 POLICE MATTERS**

There was no Police representation at the meeting though the Clerk had been provided with a report which indicated that there had been no reported incidents of crime or ASB in the village during December 2016.

**1701/05 YORKSHIRE SCULPTURE PARK**

Belinda Eldridge was unable to attend but had sent a brief report to the Clerk which outlined a new exhibition in the Bothy Gallery, “Beyond Boundaries: Art by Email” celebrating the notion that ideas and art can travel even if artists from outside the UK cannot; and the clearing of the Not Vital exhibition in the underground gallery in preparation for a new main 2017 exhibition by Tony Cragg.

 **1701/06 BRETTON HALL**

Belinda Eldridge reported that work on the extension of the road from the Bretton Country Park would commence in February with the demolition of the accommodation blocks forming the aggregate for the road structure.

**1701/07 MINUTES OF MEETING – 12 DECEMBER 2016**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2016 were received and signed as a correct record.

**1701/08 MATTERS ARISING**

Further to discussions at the meeting on 12 December, Cllr Hofton advised that Yorkshire Water had agreed to visit the village and investigate the problem of the foul smell coming from a stream between Stoneybrook Close and Cobbler Hall.

Further to discussions on the new “Community Speedwatch" initiative being set up by West Yorkshire Police, the Clerk advised that he had contacted the co-ordinator of the initiative to obtain further information on the detail of the scheme and the equipment to be used.

It was noted that Notton and Sitlington Parish Councils had expressed a willingness to be involved in the scheme and it was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Clerks of those Parish Councils to gain further information on the operation and use of the equipment provided, and also on the success of the scheme, before making any decision on participation.

**1701/09 CLERK’S REPORT**

**Action Plan**

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

**Correspondence**

 - a series of advisory emails received from YLCA:-

 i) the Cabinet Office had published draft legislation setting out proposals for a new

 Public Service Ombudsman which would abolish the existing Parliamentary & Health

 Service and Local Government posts. The draft Bill proposed that all local councils

 would be brought into the scope of the new Ombudsman;

 ii) the Government’s proposed council tax referendum principles will not be extended

 to **all** local councils in 2017/18;

 iii) proposals for an event to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of World

 War 1, involving the lighting of beacons on 11 November 2018.

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

 towards the costs of transport for educational visits.

**Finance**

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

Cheque No. Amount Purpose

300336 £138.00 Clerk’s salary – January 2017

300337 £750.00 Wakefield MDC re Christmas tree contribution 2014

300338 £91.50 HMRC re PAYE 2016/17 (3rd Qtr)

300339 £1150.20 T&D Contractors re grounds maintenance 2016

 **Budget and Precept 2016/17**

The Clerk presented a proposed spending plan and budget for 2017/18 as a basis for discussion. Following consideration of the proposals it was agreed that the precept for 2017/18 be set at £5250.00 and submitted to Wakefield MDC.

**1701/10 PLANNING MATTERS**

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

**1701/11 COMMUNITY ISSUES**

**Village Institute**

Cllr Spaul reported:-

* the refurbishment of the kitchen still required a few minor works to be undertaken;
* the Management Committee was to meet on 10 January 2017and would give preliminary consideration to the 2016 accounts.

**West Bretton JI School – Governing Body**

No report.

**WMDC – District Councillors Report**

No reports were presented but the Parish Council recorded its thanks to Cllr Barker for the efforts he had made at Wakefield MDC to ensure that lights were provided on the Christmas tree.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

The next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Monday 13 February 2017.

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

**Monday 13 February 2017.**

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