WEST BRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 13 February 2017

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

**Present In Attendance**

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

Cllr T Hodgson Cllr K Barker (WMDC)

Cllr M Hofton Cllr I Sanders (WMDC)

Cllr N Sharp

Cllr L Watson West Bretton residents - 5

**1702/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None

**1702/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**1702/03 QUESTION TIME**

A resident raised concern at the lack of progress on the implementation of the agreed reduction of the speed limit to 40mph on A637.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Highways service with a request for more definite information on the timetable for this scheme, and seeking an assurance that implementation would occur in April 2017 as stated by WMDC Highways officials to the meeting of the Parish Council in November 2016.

**1702/04 POLICE MATTERS**

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

**1702/05 YORKSHIRE SCULPTURE PARK**

Belinda Eldridge attended and presented a brief report which highlighted details of ongoing, closing and new exhibitions throughout the Sculpture Park.

**1702/06 BRETTON HALL**

Belinda Eldridge advised that demolition of the accommodation blocks around Bretton Hall had commenced, and as reported previously, the aggregate from the demolition would be used to form the basis of the new road into the hotel which would traverse the top section of the Country Park.

**1702/07 MINUTES OF MEETING – 9 JANUARY 2017**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2017 were received and signed as a correct record.

**1702/08 MATTERS ARISING**

Min 1701/08 - (Stream - foul smell complaints) - It was noted that since the last meeting, the problem of the foul smell coming from a stream between Stoneybrook Close and Cobbler Hall had been eradicated.

WMDC Cllr Barker also informed the Parish Council that a meeting was to take place at 9.30am on 15 February 2017, between WMDC Officers and representatives from Yorkshire Water to discuss technical issues relating to ownership of the stream and responsibility for future clearances.

Min 1701/08 - (Community Speedwatch) - Correspondence had been received from the Neighbourhood Policing Team Co-ordinator asking for volunteers to operate a Speed Indication Device in identified areas in the Village, as a means to reduce speed and improve road safety.

Whilst supporting the scheme in principle, the Parish Council wanted more detailed information on the size and type of equipment to be used, responsibility for any necessary storage of that equipment, and on the training and level of support to be given to any volunteers.

It was agreed that the Clerk would seek this additional information.

**1702/09 CLERK’S REPORT**

**Action Plan**

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

Item 6 (8) - It was agreed that WMDC be requested to undertake work on the footpath at Strikers Hill, on Bretton Lane towards Branch Road, to clear vegetation and other debris which was preventing use of the full width of the footpath.

(Cllrs Barker and Sanders also agreed to contact the Community Action Group with regard to this work)

Item 2 - Cllr Hodgson advised that some gully clearance work had been carried out in the last week by WMDC.

Cllr Hodgson advised the Parish Council that he had contacted WMDC with regard to encroachment on the verge as part of a new development at the junction of Sycamore Lane/Bretton Lane, an issue which had initially been reported in October 2016 but which was still awaiting a response from Highways service. WMDC had again been requested to provide an indication of what action it would take to remove the unauthorised new hedgerow, turf and trees, and when that work might be undertaken.

Cllr Sharp drew attention to the actions of residents who had cut back overhanging vegetation in response to letters sent out by WMDC stating that the work required to be done.

**Correspondence**

* letter from WMDC Electoral Services detailing amendments to the register of electors
* letter from WMDC Strategic Communities inviting the Parish Council to nominate a representative to attend the Wakefield West local Area Action Group meetings and participate in future priority and project planning.

It was agreed that Cllr Spaul would be the nominated representative of the Parish

Council to serve on the Area Action Group, with any other Parish Councillor available

to substitute if so required.

- email from Mr M Lewis, Sycamore Lane, West Bretton advising that he had been in

correspondence with WMDC regarding the condition of the grass verge along

Bretton Lane, particularly the section between Bramley Lane and Branch Road.

WMDC had responded by arranging for a litter pick to be undertaken and for all fly

tipped material to be removed. It was also intended that a scheme was to be

developed and approved to create a low earth bank along the affected areas, and

to install reflective bollards to prevent further vehicular damage to the verge.

Mr Lewis would advise the Parish Council on any further correspondence received

from WMDC on this issue.

**Finance**

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

Cheque No. Amount Purpose

300340 £164.98 Clerk’s salary – February 2016 & refund for printer ink

300341 £100.00 West Bretton Over 50s Club re room hire (S.137 grant)

300342 £75.00 Church in West Bretton - contribution towards printing costs of “Village Voice” magazine (S.137 grant)

**Budget and Precept 2017/18**

The Clerk confirmed that the proposed spending plan and budget for 2017/18 as agreed by the Parish Council at the meeting on 9 January 2017 had been submitted to Wakefield MDC. An acknowledgement had been received with confirmation that the precept of £5250 would be paid to the Parish Council on 15 April 2017.

**1702/10 PLANNING MATTERS**

The Clerk presented a schedule of planning applications which had been submitted to and/or determined by WMDC since the date of the last meeting of the Parish Council.

The schedule which was noted included details of the following validated applications:-

Application No:17/00217/FUL - Yorkshire Sculpture Park - remodelling of existing car park to include new permeable surfacing, land drainage and associated landscapes

Application No:17/00240/GDP - Woodside farm, Denby Dale Road, Bretton - single storey rear extension.

Application No:17000015/FUL - Old Oak Barn, Bullcliffe Grange, Denby Dale Road, Bretton - formation of equestrian area.

Application No:17/00371/LBC - 1 Bretton Mill, Huddersfield Road, Haigh - gas flue to side of house below ground level.

**1702/11 COMMUNITY ISSUES**

**Village Institute**

Cllr Spaul advised that the Management Committee was to meet on Tuesday 14 February.

**West Bretton JI School – Governing Body**

No issues were raised.

**WMDC – District Councillors Report**

Cllr Barker presented a brief report which highlighted the following district wide issues:-

* Wakefield secondary schools had been classified as the best in West Yorkshire after being judged against a new government benchmark “Progress Eight”
* new powers given to Councils to take action against fly-tippers;
* regeneration schemes in Wakefield City centre;
* support given by WMDC to help local businesses and the creation of apprenticeships; and
* the 11th Rhubarb festival which was to be held from 17 - 19 February.

Cllr Sanders presented a brief report which highlighted several issues:-

* WMDC Neighbourhood Improvement Grants and the work being done by the Ward Councillors to encourage local groups to submit applications;
* increasing problems of dog fouling across the District;
* the monitoring of speeding issues on Denby Dale Road; and,
* work being done in conjunction with the Police to re-establish Youth Groups in the Rural Ward in an effort to reduce the incidence of anti social behaviour.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.

The next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Monday 13 March 2017 and commence at 7.30pm

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

**Monday 13 March 2017.**

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