WEST BRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 11 September 2017

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

**Present** **In Attendance**

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

Cllr T Hodgson

Cllr N Sharp Cllr I Sanders (WMDC)

Cllr D Spaul

Cllr L Watson West Bretton residents - 6

**1709/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Barker (WMDC).

**1709/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**1709/03 QUESTION TIME**

A resident expressed thanks to the Parish Council for pursuing, and to WMDC for undertaking the improvement works at the junction of Huddersfield Road/Sycamore Lane and the footway and drainage works near Manor House, Huddersfield Road.

**1709/04 POLICE MATTERS**

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

Cllr Sharp reported on 2 incidents involving cars being stolen in the village

It was agreed that the Clerk ask the Police if they were aware of the incidents and if so, could the Parish Council be provided with further information. It was further agreed that Insp. Brear be asked if the issue of periodical reports to the Parish Council on crime/ASB in the village could be reintroduced.

**1709/05 YORKSHIRE SCULPTURE PARK**

Belinda Eldridge presented a brief report indicating that construction of the new visitor centre was progressing with handover likely in mid April 2018 and opening in mid July.

Details were also provided on new, ongoing and closing exhibitions.

**1709/06 BRETTON HALL**

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

**1709/07 HIGHWAYS ISSUES**

i) A637 Speed limit - WMDC Highways had indicated in an email to a resident that the legal consultation on the reduced speed limit would commence during August 2017, though there was no evidence to date that notices had been posted on site.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to WMDC Highways asking for clarification on the progress of the scheme and timescales for implementation.

ii) Cllr Sharp raised concerns with regard to the location of the new pedestrian crossings and refuges at the junction of Sycamore Lane/Huddersfield Road and to parking which was now occurring very close to the junction which in turn was creating problems for vehicles, particularly HGV’s, turning right from Huddersfield Road onto Sycamore Lane. As a consequence, those vehicles were carrying on to the Bretton Lane/Huddersfield Road junction to perform a right turn.

It was agreed that the Clerk write to WMDC Highways asking again for the right turn bay at Huddersfield Road/Bretton Lane to be removed as the Parish Council considered there was a lack of space for safe manoeuvring, and reminding Highways of a decision not to provide a right turn bay at that location as agreed at a site meeting in November 2016.

iii) Community Speedwatch - Cllr Watson advised that the use of the speed monitoring equipment in the village during July had been very successful proving effective in slowing down traffic speed. Thanks were recorded to those residents who had assisted in the operation of the equipment which it was hoped would be available to the Parish Council again later in the year.

Cllr Sanders advised that he was coordinating discussions between other Parish Councils in the Rural Ward about the possibility of buying and sharing monitoring equipment, and that WMDC was looking into possible funding for purchase.

In response to a specific question, Cllr Sanders also agreed to ask if a contribution could be made from proceeds of crime funds held by WY Police.

iv) Cllr Sharp reported that a post at the Park Lane side of the war memorial had been damaged.

It was agreed that the Clerk would attempt to make local arrangements for necessary repairs to be carried out.

**1709/08 MINUTES OF MEETING – 10 JULY 2017**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2017 were received and signed as a correct record.

**1709/09 MATTERS ARISING**

Minute 1707/09 - (Strikers Hill) - Cllr Barker had advised that as there had been no positive progress regarding the grubbing and cleaning of the footpath at Strikers Hill he would continue to pursue the work with Officers at WMDC.

Minute 1707/09 - (YSP) - A decision was still awaited from WMDC Planning on the request to discharge Condition 8 relating to visibility splays attached to the planning permission for the visitor centre.

**1709/10 CLERK’S REPORT**

**Action Plan**

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

**Correspondence**

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

- correspondence from Primary Care Supplies regarding the availability of defibrillators

from the Communities Awareness Programme including details of charges for different

packages.

It was agreed that no further action be taken on this issue.

- letter from Makin Dixon Solicitors Ltd., Wakefield, stating that they had been

authorised by the Government to offer Legal aid to people who could not afford legal

advice. The purpose of the correspondence was to advise residents of the free weekly

Family Legal Advice Clinic which would run every Wednesday from 3.00 - 5.00pm at

the office at 28 Cheapside, Wakefield.

**Finance**

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

Cheque No. Amount Purpose

300355 £276.00 Clerk’s salary – August & September 2017

The Clerk also reported that a satisfactory report had been received from Littlejohn LLP following their audit of the 2016/17 accounts.

**1709/11 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 applications:-

Validated

Application No: 17/02280/LBC - 92 Huddersfield Road, Bretton - Removal of internal walls and installation of new wall partition, removal of fireplace and surround and installation of wood burning stove, new kitchen.

Determined

Application No: 17/01546/FUL - 22 Sycamore Lane, Bretton - Single detached garage to rear - Application approved

Application No: 17/02141/TCA - Bretton Village Hall, Bretton Lane, Bretton - Removal, thinning, and/or cutting back work to various trees - Application approved

**1709/12 COMMUNITY ISSUES**

**Village Institute**

Cllr Spaul reported:-

* quotes had been obtained from 2 contractors to repair the boundary wall damaged in a traffic accident on 22 July and had been forwarded to insurers for consideration;
* Approval had been granted by WMDC for various tree works to be undertaken in the village hall grounds;
* the Rainbow group had ceased to meet in the Village Hall and had moved to Netherton;
* a Quiz night was to be held on Friday 15 September; and,
* the next meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee would be on Tuesday 12 September 2017.

**West Bretton JI School – Governing Body**

There were no issues to report.

Cllr Sharp asked about the provision of Christmas lights. Cllr Spaul would raise the issue at the October meeting of the Governing Body. Cllr Sanders also agreed to contact Officers at WMDC to ensure that they were provided and switched on at the appropriate time.

**WMDC – District Councillors Report**

Cllr Barker was unable to attend but had presented a brief report which highlighted several district wide issues:-

* vandalism in parks, particularly in Rural ward;
* work being carried out by WMDC against illegal fly-tipping;
* the canvas of all residents to make sure they are included in the electoral register;
* the staging of Wakefield Walking Week encouraging all residents to become more active and enjoy the outdoors of Wakefield district, and also the Community Anchors which offered health and Wellbeing services across the district; and,
* an outline of his Mayoral duties undertaken during July and August.

Cllr Sanders provided a brief report referring to a visit to the Rural ward, including West Bretton, undertaken by WMDC Chief Executive Merran McRae, together with the Rural ward Members, and also on the successful and enjoyable Mayors Parade.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.

The next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Monday 9 October 2017.

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

**Monday 9 October 2017.**

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