WESTON ON TRENT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the Village Hall on 21st October 2024

**Present**: Cllrs Green, Harper, Neville, Wilkins, Steadman, County Cllr Neil Atkin and District Cllrs Dan Corbin and Peter Watson.

There was 1 member of the public present.

**1.Public session**

1.**County Cllr’s report** – Cllr Atkin reported that he has been in contact with Richard Ward at DCC re the flooding in Yates Avenue with a view to setting a date for a resident’s meeting. They have met with the owner of the land opposite Red Lodge and confirmed it is in good order, There has been no response from the land owner where the ditch is at the back of yates Avenue which needs clearing. He has asked Severn Trent about work on a water main in Laurel Drive ,as to whether it has any effect on the problems in Yates Avenue, but it’s not known. He is awaiting a response for a date for the resident’s meeting hopefully in late November. The meeting will be for residents of Yates Avenue and the parts of Weston Road affected by the flooding.

Derbyshire County Council has sent a response to The National Grid consultation proposing an alternative route. It appears that some of the road numbers are wrong in the report.

**2.District Cllr’s report** - Cllr Corbin spoke about South Derbyshire District Council’s response to the National Grid consultation asking for it to go underground if the route can’t be changed.

The phone mast in Aston is progressing, the contracts have been signed and it’s now going out to other providers,

SDDC Local Plan consultation meetings are being held in Aston on 7th November and Barrow on 18th November

**3.Declaration of Interests** – none declared

**4.Apologies –** Cllrs Than and Mrs Freeman

**5.Minutes of the previous meeting** having been previously circulated the minutes were deemed to have been read and were agreed as a true record of the meeting held on 16th September 2024

**6.Matters arising from the minutes**

Network Rail – they have been working at night and there has been a road closure to facilitate cutting the vegetation back but the work on the hedges along Swarkestone Road is still waiting to be done.

Flooding issues –Awaiting finalisation of date so Derbyshire County Council can do a letter inviting residents .

National grid – The Council’s response was sent in. it will also be a subject covered at the Communication event.

Play area inspections- these will take place on 18th November

Road markings -waiting for the rest to be done

Cursus/ land sale – a for sale sign has gone up and has been vandalised with spray paint.

**7. Reports**

Chair’s report – Cllr Green reported that has been no response to comments on the Freeport- will send again to the new MP

Jo Cooke has offered the Scout’s help with planting trees obtained from the free tree scheme.

A quote to fell the conifer and remove the rubbish has been received for £950.00 plus VAT

Clerk’s report – The flower boxes will be collected on 20th October.

A resident of Mulberry Way has contacted the Council about overgrown vegetation at the back of his property for details of ownership. It is believed this portion of land is still owned by Bloors

The meeting dates for next year have been agreed with the Village Hall booking secretary but as the April meeting falls on Easter Monday it has been moved to the following week April28th

Complaints have been received about the bus service being late or full (when the mini-bus is used). Clerk to write to the operator.

There will be a service of Remembrance at Weston Church on Sunday 10th November at 3 pm. The Clerk and the Chair will attend to lay the Parish Council wreath,

Footpath Officer’s Report – all paths are in good condition,

-**8. Planning** – DMOT/2024/1243 the pruning of 2 lime trees covered by SDDC Tree Preservation order 131 at 16 Willow Park Way, Aston on Trent- no objection

**9. Correspondence**

Summer holiday play provision – a thankyou for using the service has been received from SDDC along with the number of users at each session, which were disappointing this year. 10 children attended the Play and Adventure Mobile on 22nd August and only 3attended the Sportsmobile on 29th July. This will be discussed at the finance meeting to decide if it’s worth continuing with this.

Derbyshire County Council Draft Council Plan received

South Derbyshire District Council lights switch -on – invitation for the Chair to attend this event in Swadlincote on 30th November

Temporary road closure –Trent Lane 11/11/24 for work by Severn Trent

NALC web site launch on 7th October

Annual canvas – Register of Electors – notification that the District Council will be carrying out a series of personal visits in connection with the annual canvass.

SDDC Local Plan Consultation – there will be a drop -in session at the Heritage Centre in Aston on Thursday 7th November from 4pm to 7.45 pm to view and question representatives about part 1 of the Local Plan.

Derby City Local Plan – update available on-line.

Free Tree Scheme – The Council has requested some free trees and the Clerk will collect them on 7th December.

Connect Fibre – information about the company implementing the new fibre broadband.

SDDC audit on Open Space – clerk to fill in.

**10 Section 106 –** It was reported that the new benches were being well used and we have had no reports of over full dog bins.

**11. Communication event**

This will take place on 16th November from 10.00am to 12.00 noon in the Village Hall and again in the afternoon upstairs in the hub at Richmond Village. The Clerk will serve refreshments at the Village Hall. Several of the issues covered last year are still ongoing but some new issues such as the National Grid upgrade will be added. Cllr Green will circulate last years information and the Councillors will meet on 5th November to finalise them. A flyer will be printed and the Clerk will arrange distribution.

It was decided to invite the new MP Samantha Niblett and the East Midlands Mayor Claire Ward to the event.

**12. Allotments –** it has been reported to the Council that several plots have not been worked, in some cases for several years. These plots have been paid for but are causing a nuisance to other plot holders. It was agreed that after implementing basic rules earlier this year we need to follow this up. The Clerk will write to the people concerned asking them to tidy their plots.

**13.Website** – upto date

**14. Christmas arrangements**

The Christmas light switch-on will take the same form as previous years on December 1st. the Clerk will check with Aston Parish Council as to when they are planning to do theirs in case there is a clash of dates. The lights will be installed on the week-end of 23rd /24th November. The lights will be checked in the Village Hall on 19th November to ensure they are all ok before they are installed. Cllr Mrs Freeman will ask Coopers if they can let us have some roast potatoes and the Clerk will organise the food and children’s drinks. Cllr Green will get the mulled wine.

**12.Finance**

Invoices awaiting payment

Clerk’s wages £254.45

Clerk’s expenses £28.50

SDDC Playscheme £960.00

PKF Littlejohn for Audit £252.00

Monies received

National Grid £17.77

Audit – final paperwork has been received and displayed in the information boxes

The meeting closed at 10.25