

## MARKET WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Market Weston Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021 7:30pm  
Via Zoom

**Present:** Cllrs: D Fulcher, J Loden, A Hall, M Martin, P Freeman, W.S Cllr Bull, C. Cllr J Spicer plus 3 members of the public.

### 1. **Apologies for absence**

### 2. **Co-option of new councillor**

Paul Freeman was co-opted and welcomed on to the Parish Council. The Clerk will sort out the relevant paperwork. **Action Clerk**

### 3. **Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

3.1 To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda. None.

3.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests. None.

3.3 To grant dispensations as appropriate under Section 33 of the Localism Act. None.

### 4. **Minutes**

The minutes of the Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020 meeting were agreed and approved as a correct record.

### 5. **Meeting open to the public**

A resident raised concerns over an application DC/20/2097/FUL, for the installation of attenuation wall at Liberty House. These included that fact that this is another retrospective planning application, and not what the original application described. The application form has no detail regarding the height, the length and the groundwork /footings in place. There are number of inaccuracies in the application not least that the border shown on this latest plan is once again incorrect. The footings appear very shallow and the wall too close to the edge of the ditch in part which makes it potentially structurally unsound. Noise has and remains an issue. The resident will make a detailed submission to West Suffolk Council giving more detail about these and other concerns they have.

Another resident raised concerns about an increase in traffic using Ponds End Lane. This issue was discussed further under Cllr Spicer's report.

### 6. **Report from County Councillor:**

#### **Weight limit Ponds End Lane**

It has been reported that there is has been an increase in large vehicles using Ponds End Lane as a short cut. There have been articulated lorries using the Lane as a short cut or, indeed, because that is the shortest route shown on a Satnav. Articulated vehicles are unable to negotiate the junction with The Street without reversing and manoeuvring several times, this causes damage to the surrounding verges. It was proposed that a vehicle count was carried out on the road before any further action is taken. The Parish Council would support this idea. Cllr Spicer felt that she could probably pay for the count, although it would be unlikely to take place before April/May. Cllr Spicer reported that flooding in the area has been quite exceptional, Coney Weston has been particularly hard hit. It was good to see that the B1111, where flooding has been a problem in the past, doesn't seem to have been a problem this time. A resident, at the meeting, raised an issue regarding flooding with Cllr Spicer, it was agreed that they will discuss this matter outside of the meeting.

Both Suffolk County Council and West Suffolk Council are responding to the further lockdown. Cllr Bull will give more information about this under her report. The Covid vaccine programme is still a bit patchy in the area but work is being done to address this.

## **7. Report from West Suffolk Councillor: C Bull**

It was noted that a new application, for change of use at Liberty House had been received that afternoon. It was agreed that we would postpone any discussion about this until everyone has had a chance to look properly at all the documents.

Cllr Bull reported that grants were available to anyone who had been adversely effected by Covid. Anyone who is experiencing problems is encouraged to contact West Suffolk Council for advice. There is also another tranche of grants available for Village Halls.

Tim Passmore is carrying out a consultation about increasing the precept to deliver extra policing, this consultation has been circulated amongst the Councillors.

## **8. Chairman's Report**

### **8.2.1 Use of footpath by horse riders.**

A complaint has been received about horses using a footpath off New Common Road. Cllr Fulcher has investigated this and there was evidence of a horse using the route. It was hoped that this was just a one off as there is an abundance of bridleways for horses in and around Market Weston. An eye will be kept on the situation.

### **8.2.2 Defibrillator**

#### **Replacement pads, versus annual agreement**

There has been an issue with the pads for the defibrillator. Cllr Fulcher noted the pads were out of date and arranged for new ones to be sent. We received a bill for nearly £100 for these. There was some confusion as we were under the impression that we were covered by an annual agreement with The Community Heartbeat Trust. After investigation, this agreement was confirmed and the invoice cancelled. Cllr Fulcher was thanked for his work monitoring the defibrillator.

## **9. Clerks Report**

### **9.1 Request from Hepworth re 'quiet lanes project'.**

We have been asked by Hepworth Parish Council if we have any objections to a quiet lane being created, from Hepworth. Market Weston Road (Hepworth) is one of their suggested lanes and it continues into the Parish of Market Weston as Hepworth Road. They have asked if we would allow them to use our financial allocation, granted from SCC, to pay for any works associated in Market Weston. This is understood to be £600 per parish. There would be no cost to Market Weston directly. The Parish Council had no objections to this but would like to know where the quiet lane would end in Market Weston. The Clerk will ask about this.

#### **Action Clerk**

## **10. Finance.**

### **10.1 The following accounts were approved for payment.**

Admin	£601.34	
Community heartbeat trust	Defibrillator	£151.20
MWVH	S137	£300.00
MWPCC	S137	£300.00

### **10.2 Bank reconciliation and accounts update.**

The Clerk provided details of the transaction for approval an up to date bank reconciliations and a budget report.

### **10.3 Confirmation of Precept request.**

Following on from the previous meetings discussion, and after having sight of some further information, the Councillors had agreed to precept for £6,500. This represents an annual increase of £3.58 based on a band D property.

## **11. Planning Matters**

11.1 Liberty House DC/20/2097/FUL | Planning application - installation of attenuation wall | Liberty House. The following comments were made.

Market Weston Parish Council would need reassurance that a professional acoustic engineer will carry out tests, to ensure that this wall is fit for purpose, before they are able to support the above application. They would like sight of the report so that they can satisfy themselves that the wall, as constructed, will actually reduce sound nuisance for the neighbours rather than amplify it.

11.2 DC/20/1654/HH Shed and office building (following demolition of existing outbuilding) | Post Office Yard, The Old Post Office Church Road Market Weston IP22 2NX **To note Permission Granted, by WS.**

11.3 DC/20/1895/HH | a. front porch b. two storey side extension (following demolition of existing garage and flat roof extension) c. single storey rear extension d. detached double garage e. new vehicular access and driveway | 1 Hepworth Road Market Weston **To note Permission Granted, by WS.**

11.4 DC/21/0016/FUL Planning application - change of use from single dwelling house (C3) to a holiday let property (sui generis) Liberty House Hepworth Road Market Weston, Ms J Hargrave, JJ Leisure Holdings Ltd

The above application was received just prior to this evenings meeting. The Clerk had anticipated that an extension of time would be sought to enable the Councillors the opportunity to fully read and understand the application. To this end she had agreed, with Conner Vince, the planning Officer, an extension up to the middle/end of February. The Clerk will make the arrangements for this extraordinary meeting.

**Action Clerk**

## **12. Play area report**

12.1 Update on owl box cleaning.

Cllr Fulcher, and his son, have spent a great deal of time, at least 10 hours, cleaning and repairing the owl boxes on the Green. We are all very grateful to them for this.

12.2 Treehouse on The Green.

Despite issuing the polite request below, the tree house is still insitu.

Market Weston Parish Council politely request that the newly constructed tree house be removed. Unfortunately, the structure cannot be covered by our insurance and as it is Parish Council land, we are left with no choice but to have it taken down. We would appreciate its removal by the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 2021.

Therefor we have been left with no option but to remove it ourselves. Arrangements for its removal will be made as soon as the current Covid restrictions allow members to meet to carry out the necessary work.

**Action All**

12.3 Overgrowing branches on The Green.

These have been removed.

## **13. SCC tree planting initiative.**

To include a report from the Clerk regarding free tree initiative from a local charity.

The Clerk has been in contact with a new charity, being set up by Sicon, a software provider based in Bury St Edmunds. During lockdown, the founders of Sicon decided to set up a charity foundation to provide trees. They would be able to provide plant and look after the trees, until established. She will pass this information on to Cllr Hall. Cllr Hall is still looking at possible sites as well exploring options with oak England.

**Action Cllr Hall/Clerk**

#### **14. Councillors Roles**

The following councillor roles were confirmed. These roles will be revisited once our new member, Paul Freeman, has settled in.

Chair: Cllr Fulcher

Vice chair: Cllr Martin

Social media: Cllr Loden

Footpaths: Cllr Fulcher

Trees: Cllr Hall

Roads, potholes etc.: Cllr Fulcher

Defibrillator: Cllr Fulcher

Village Hall: Cllr Martin

Community assets: Cllr Fulcher

The Green: Cllr Fulcher & Cllr Hall

Community and safety: Cllr Hall

Play area: All

#### **15 Review of policies and documents**

Financial and standing orders

It was agreed to adopt the revised standing and financial orders.

**Action Clerk**

#### **16. Councillors reports and items for future agenda**

Cllr Loden will explore social media options for the Parish Council.

It was asked if future plans for the village green could be an agenda item.

A newsletter for the village was also suggested as a topic for a future agenda.

#### **17. Correspondence for information**

None received.

#### **18. Date of next meeting:** 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021

#### **19. To consider the exclusion of the public and press in the public interest for consideration of The following items:**

19.1 Personnel Issues.

19.2 Legal Issues.