

## MARKET WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Market Weston Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 21 September 2023 7.00pm  
in Market Weston Village Hall

Present: Cllrs: D Fulcher, P Barham, P Freeman, C Snelling & W.S Cllr Bull

### **1. Co-option of new Parish Councillor**

### **2. Apologies for absence**

Apologies received from Cllrs A Hall, M Martin & C. Cllr J Spicer

### **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.

**8. Minutes** - The minutes of the Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023 meeting agreed and approved as a correct record.

**5. Meeting open to the public** None present.

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

Cllr Spicer was unable to attend the meeting.

### **7. Report from B. Councillor:** C Bull

The Abbeycroft Leisure Partnership Task and Finish Group are seeking views / comments on our experience, or our residents' experiences, of using their leisure centres or engaging with other programmes that Abbeycroft Leisure provides. Cllr Bull will forward an email explaining how we can take part in this survey. Cllr Bull reported that there is a recommendation being made to change plans for the new Western Way leisure facilities in Bury St Edmunds due to national financial uncertainty for public services. Instead, West Suffolk Council would look to reinvest in the existing Bury St Edmunds leisure facilities to bring them up to scratch and to ensure the pool provision remains open during these challenging times. This recommendation could also have a knock-on effect with the provision of a new records office at Olding Way. It is understood that several West Suffolk Councillors, including Cllr Bull, have concerns about this recommendation and would like to see a proper cost analysis done and an extend timescale to consider the evidence before a decision is made. Cllr Bull will keep us apprised of the situation. Following a concern raised at the last meeting, Cllr Bull has looked into the report of a vehicle, that appeared to have been abandoned, near some garages in the village. As this vehicle is on private land and is SORN, it is not a matter for either the District or Parish Council.

### **8. Progress reports. For information, from:**

#### **9.1. Chairman**

The Chairman had no additional report to make.

#### **9.2 Clerk:**

9.2.1 Councillors roles and responsibilities.

As, we again did not have a full compliment of Councillors present, it was agreed that the Clerk would do some work around this and send out suggestions for discussion/agreement.

**Action Clerk/All**

9.2.2 Emergency Plan update.

The Clerk will send this document out again and the Councillors will make sure any changes they make are shown in the 'track changes' option.

**Action Clerk/All**

9.2.3 To discuss 20's plenty's campaign.

Although the Councillors do not necessarily support a blanket reduction to 20 mph in the village, they would like to explore options for some traffic calming. There have been several occasions recorded when vehicles, travelling too quickly for the road conditions, have mounted the pavement and gone into people's gardens/hedges. Fortunately, there have been no pedestrians on the pavement at those times so serious injury has so far been avoided. The councillors will put together a list of areas for concern and the Clerk will arrange for a site visit with an engineer from SCC Highways to discuss possible options. We will also explore the possibility of a portable Vehicle Activate Sign (VAS) for the village as these seem to be an effective traffic calming measure in other areas.

**Action Clerk/All**

## **10. Finance.**

10.1 The following payments/income were approved/noted.

Admin	Various	£659.29
Election costs	West Suffolk	£81.91
Insurance	Gallagher	£408.35
VAT repayment	HMRC VAT	£579.66

10.2 Bank reconciliation and accounts update.

The Clerk provided the Councilors with a bank reconciliation, schedule of payments and budget report for information.

10.3 End of Year Accounts. Receipt of documents – notification of exempt status, 2023.

The notification of exemption certificate was received from PKF Littlejohn.

10.4 Budget 2024/25 to discuss items for next year's budget.

The Clerk prepared some information for consideration.

It was agreed that we may need to look at increasing the budget for the grass cutting of the Green. The mower is still not working, and we need to consider its replacement/repair and/or the cost of employing a contractor. Also, as discussed above, we need to consider the cost of any traffic calming measures that may be coming forward. There is also going to be a cost attached with repairing/replacing the safety mats under the basket swing (currently costed at approx. £1700). The Clerk will write to the village hall and the Church to see if they still require the donation, we have been making annually to them and if so, is it sufficient and what will they be using it for. All this information will be discussed when discussing and setting the budget at our November meeting.

**Action Clerk**

10.5 VAT claim update

A VAT repayment of £579.66 was received from HMRC.

10.6 To discuss options for insurance provider.

The Clerk did some work to see if we could get a better price for our insurance. Our current provider was still the best price. It was agreed to stay with them.

10.7 To confirm grants to Village Hall and Church grass cutting.

See under item 10.4.

10.8 To agree DD for ICO.

It was agreed to pay the Information Commissioners Office our data protection fee by direct debit. This reduces the payment from £40 to £35.

**Action Clerk**

10.9 Barclays, request for compensation.

The Clerk has written to Barclays bank with a request for compensation for the issues caused over the recent review.

**11. Planning Matters** to include any applications/decisions received since the agenda was posted.

11.1 Copart application. DC/22/2190/HYB DC/22/2190/HYB | Hybrid planning application - (A) (i) Full application on 27.56 ha of the site for the storage, distribution and processing of accident damaged and non-damaged motor vehicles, together with the construction of ancillary buildings (B8 Use Class), perimeter fencing and landscaping works (ii) Full application for a new roundabout/road and additional landscaping on circa 5.37 ha of the application site - (B) (i) Outline application for the construction of buildings for commercial/roadside uses (Use Classes B2, B8, C1, E (excluding E(a)), and a hot food takeaway and pub/restaurant) on circa 2.7 ha of the application site (Plots A, B and C) with all matters reserved except for access (ii) Outline application for the construction of building(s) for general employment uses (Use Classes B2, B8 and E(g)) on circa 1.37ha of the application site (Plot D) with all matters reserved except for access. | Land At Shepherds Grove Bury Road Stanton Suffolk.

The Parish Council have asked the Clerk to submit comments expressing their concerns about the potential increase in traffic, both at the junction with the B1111 and the A143 and the potential of extra traffic using the village as a cut through.

**Action Clerk**

**12. The Green/Play area report**

12.1 to receive an update on the continuing maintenance of The Green.

Cllr Fulcher has continued to cut the green, for which we are very grateful. As discussed under item 10.4 it was noted that our mower has still not been repaired. Cllr Fulcher will continue to pursue this matter. Meanwhile the Clerk will check with the contractor, who offered the most realistic quote last year, if they would be willing to hold that price if we need to call on their services.

12.2 To discuss matter raised on Annual inspection report.

The Clerk met with a contractor and their advice was that there was no value in removing any rot and algae. The Clerk will look at some signage to help with this situation. This would only return. It was noted that the bench, near New Common Road is no longer fit for purpose. It will be left in situ at the moment. Cllr Fulcher will clean the algae from bins and the composite seats etc where possible.

**Action Cllr Fulcher/Clerk**

It was agreed a new sign should be put up stating that well behaved dogs, under control are allowed on the Green and that all dog mess should be picked up.

**Action Clerk**

**13. Tree Warden report.**

To receive any update from the Tree Warden. No report received.

**14. Councillors reports and items for future agenda**

14.1 To confirm works to noticeboard.

Cllr Barham will collect the noticeboard key from Cllr Fulcher and will then look at the work to be done.

**Action Cllr Barham**

14.2 To receive feedback on flowers overhanging pavements.

It was understood that this matter was still in hand with Cllr Hall.

**Action Cllr Hall**

14.3 Website.

Cllr Barham and the Clerk are getting together, to remove out of date information and update the current information on the website. Due to time constraints, it was agreed that at this time no additional works to the site would be undertaken.

**Action Cllr Barham/Clerk**

## **15. Correspondence for information**

15.1 New policing model: PCC and Chief answer your questions, drop-in sessions.

New policing model: PCC and Chief answer your questions

The way local policing is delivered in Suffolk is changing and a new county policing model goes live in December 2023. In advance of the changes, the Police and Crime Commissioner, Tim Passmore, and Chief Constable, Rachel Kearton, are hosting a series of meetings to talk through the plans with local communities and answer any questions they may have.

Meetings will be held across the county through September and October with an on-line meeting in November. All meetings start at 6.30pm and there is no need to book, just turn up on the evening.

WEST AREA: Thursday September 21, 2023, at Bury Town Football Club, Cotton Lane, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1XP.

SOUTH AREA: Wednesday October 4, 2023, at Police Headquarters, Portal Avenue, Martlesham IP5 3QS

EAST AREA: Tuesday October 10, 2023, at Wherry Hotel, Bridge Road, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft NR32 3LN

MID SUFFOLK: Tuesday October 17, 2023, at the new Stowmarket Police Station, IP14 2QU

There is also an on-line meeting on Tuesday November 7, 2023, at 6pm via Microsoft Teams.

Please email [spcc@suffolk.police.uk](mailto:spcc@suffolk.police.uk) to register and an invite will be sent through via email in advance of the meeting.

The Clerk will be attending the MID SUFFOLK session on Tuesday October 17, 2023, at the new Stowmarket Police Station, IP14 2QU

**Action Clerk**

## **16. Aide memoire**

16.1 Tree planting project, Cllr Hall.

16.2 Flooding issues, Cllr Hall.

## **17. Date of next meeting: Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 7.00pm 2023**

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

18.1 Personnel Issues. None.

18.2 Legal Issues. None.