

WESTON BEGGARD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council,
Held online via Zoom – due to the Coronavirus Pandemic
On Monday 8th February 2021
At 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: Keith Bayliss (Chairman), John Young, Roger Barnett and Keith Lawrence.

In attendance: Emma Thomas – Parish Clerk
Ward Cllr Jonathan Lester

Public: 0

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence
None

2. To receive any declarations of interest or written applications for dispensation from Councillors on agenda items
None

3. To agree and sign the minutes of The Group Parish Council meetings held on 23rd November and 21st December 2020
The minutes were APPROVED and duly signed by the Chair.

It was RESOLVED to defer item 4 until Jeanette Cohen-Brand had joined the meeting.

5. Public Question Time
None

Jeanette Cohen-Brand – Engagement Manager Census 2021 – Herefordshire joined the meeting

6. Ward Cllr's Report and Q&A time
Cllr Lester's report included the following items:
- Both the Southern Link and Western Bypass projects have been cancelled
- There is a budget meeting on Friday 12th February. Council tax is set to increase by 4.99%.
- Consideration is being given to decreasing the hours that the recycling centres are open.

Ward Cllr Lester left the meeting

4. To welcome Jeanette Cohen-Brand (Engagement Manager – Census 2021) and receive information on the 2021 Census data collection.
Jeanette Cohen-Brand was welcomed to the meeting. The following information was RECEIVED:
- Census Day is the 21st March 2021 – data will be collected online
- Support will be available for those who cannot complete it online – paper copies can be ordered.
- There will be new questions relating to veterans and sexual orientation this year.
- All households will receive a postcard with details on from the 22nd Feb, and a Census pack from early March.
- Support centres can be found at Bishops Frome and the Kindle Centre – Hereford.
- No-one will be asked to pay for support.

Jeanette Cohen-Brand left the meeting

7. Finance

7.1 To note the February Finance Report and Bank Balances – Appendix 1
The clerk REPORTED that finances were healthy for the period. The report was APPROVED as evidence of budget monitoring and bank reconciliation.

7.2 To consider the following invoices for payment
7.2.1 The clerk's salary
7.2.2 The clerk's expenses £133.00 – previously circulated
The above invoices were APPROVED for payment

7.3 To note the following payments made between meetings under Clerk's Delegated Authority
7.3.1 The Clerk's salary (approved 23rd Nov 2020)
7.3.2 Autela Payroll Services £68.16
7.3.3 HMRC £61.80
The above payments were NOTED

8. Highways and footpaths

8.1 To consider work to be undertaken on the parish footpaths
It was NOTED that the landowner of the stile behind Longlands has been informed of the need to repair the planks. It was NOTED that he had laid some Easy Mesh that was now proving to be a trip hazard. The clerk will let the landowner know.

8.2 To consider road issues for reporting to Balfour Beatty

9. Community Matters

None

10. Correspondence

None

11. To consider items for the next meeting – No discussion

Switch bank account and register for online banking.

12. To note the date of next meeting – 17th May 2021

NOTED

A resolution was passed to exclude the press and public from the following confidential item

13. Employment Matters – Clerk's Annual Review

The clerk's Annual Review was deemed successful. The clerk's knowledge and experience across various Parish Councils was NOTED as advantageous and useful.

The meeting closed at 19.47

Signed: _____



Dated: _____

17-5-21