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WESTON BEGGARD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council,
Held at Yarkhill Village Hall
On Saturday 23rd November 2024
At 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: Keith Bayliss (Chairman), John Young, Clare Fenton and Keith Lawrence

In attendance: Rosie Thomas – Parish Clerk

Public: 1

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. Minutes

3.1 To agree and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th September 2024
The minutes were APPROVED and duly signed by the Chair.

4. Public Question Time
None

5. To consider the following planning application for determination by Herefordshire Council

5.1 222728 - Whitwick Manor, Lower Eggleton, Ledbury, Herefordshire HR8 2UE
The erection of and the construction of an anaerobic digestion (AD) plant with associated facilities, including feedstock storage clamps; tanks; lagoons and wetland filtration system; and connection to the national gas grid, together with the installation of photovoltaic panels on buildings, a grain store and dryer and the construction of a new vehicular access to the A417.
It was RESOLVED that the previous objection to the application should be resubmitted, and that changes made were not sufficient to change opinion. It was also NOTED that green principles of anaerobic digesters were for small sites, not for large industrial ones such as this.

6. Reports

6.1 Ward Cllrs report & Q & A time
Ward Cllr Jonathan Lester emailed his apologies and sent a written report that was NOTED.

7. Finance

7.1 To consider the November finance report and bank balances – Appendix 1

7.2 To consider the following invoices for payment

- 7.2.1 – Clerk's expenses £38.76 previously circulated
 - 7.2.2 - Yarkhill Village Hall – September and November meeting hire - £32.00
 - 7.2.3 - HALC webhosting and domain name – £72.60
 - 7.2.4 – Autela Payroll Services - £52.85
- The above payments were APPROVED for payment by BACS.

7.3 To note payments made between meetings under clerk's delegated authority

- 7.3.1 Clerk's September salary
 - 7.3.2 Clerk's October salary
 - 7.3.3 Clear Insurance – £454.24
- NOTED

7.4 To consider the draft budget and precept for 2025-26 – Appendix 2

It was RESOLVED to APPROVE the draft budget and precept figure of £4600 for 25/26. This means an annual precept figure for an average Band D house of £52.96.

8. Highways and footpaths

8.1 To consider work to be undertaken on the parish footpaths
None

8.2 To consider road issues for reporting to Balfour Beatty
Potholes on Weston Beggard Lane
Ditches on Weston Beggard Lane and standing water

9. Community Matters

9.1 To receive update on the investigation of installing SIDS and next steps

The clerk reported that Herefordshire Police no longer allowed for SIDS installation on 50 mph stretches of road in most cases. The

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9.2 To organise distribution of Smart Water

The council were advised of the best ways to organise Smart Water distribution. It was AGREED that distribution would begin following the meeting.

10. Correspondence

10.1 To note the tree and hedgerow consultation

NOTED

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

To receive an update on the Smart Water distribution

To receive an update on speed data on the A4103

12. To consider the dates of meetings in 2025.

The dates for 2025 were AGREED as follows: 7pm February 1st 2025, 7pm May 10th 2025 to be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting, 7pm September 6th 2025, 7pm November 22nd 2025.

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

13. Employment matters

13.1 Clerk's six-month appraisal and salary review as per the contract

The council and clerk undertook the clerk's six-month appraisal. It was AGREED that it was going well and the new scale point 22 was agreed as per the contract.

13.2 To consider awarding the clerk the recent National Pay Increase from NALC and back-dating it to the 1st April 2024

It was RESOLVED to reward the clerk the NALC approved National Pay Increase backdating to 1st April 2024.

The meeting closed at: 20:06

Signed: _____



Dated: _____

1-2-2025