

WEST FELTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of WEST FELTON PARISH COUNCIL held on TUESDAY 17TH JANUARY 2017 at 7.30p.m in West Felton Methodist Church Hall.

Present:- Parish Cllrs: Chair Ed Nicholas, Vice Chair Marian Hesketh, Carole Coles, Roger Hampson, Dianne Barnes, Pat Mabe, Rachelle Lloyd Jones, John Houghton.

2 members of the public present; Clerk: Claire Ball Mentoring Clerk: Sue Hackett

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Council received and noted Cllrs Kynaston and Jones apologies for absence.
2. DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS
Declaration of any disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed at the meeting and which is not included in the register of interests – Councillors confirmed that as residents of the parish they had pecuniary interests in setting the Council's precept for the coming year as a result sought dispensations. The Council resolved that dispensations be granted as the budget & precept were to be agreed and a quorum was required to do this. (The Clerk collected the required dispensation request forms.)
3. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17.10.16 and 13.12.16.

Council **RESOLVED** to confirm the above minutes as a true record; the Chairman was instructed to sign them as such.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Mr Jones outlined his objection to the following planning application: 16/05336/REM Proposed Residential Development Land At, The Cross, West Felton and raised the issues regarding the large pine tree which will be undermined by the construction of the new footpath on Holyhead road. These were **NOTED** by Council.

Member of public (Mr Jones) left meeting at 7.55pm.

5. REPORTS

- a. Police – Charles Iremonger, CSO from West Mercia Police attended from 8.00pm until 8.10pm. He reported the number of incidents in the area during the past year which included call-outs, thefts and RTC's. Discussion then turned to Item 9.e) on the agenda 'Queens Head Straight – Safer Roads Partnership.' CSO to report back to West Mercia Police and request a Community Speed Van to come out to the area to take readings to support that speeding was a problem along the Queens Head straight. The Parish Clerk was also instructed to contact the Safer Roads Partnership on the matter.
- b. Shropshire Council – none available.

6. FINANCE

- a) Income - to note any income received – none received.

- b) Payments - Council resolved to pay the following invoices, instructing Cllrs Coles and Hampson to check the supporting paperwork to the cheques raised before authorising payment:
 - i) Greenfingers Groundforce Ltd. £206.80, VAT £34.47 (Direct Debit)
 - ii) Web Orchard £144.00, VAT £24.00 (Cheque No. 1425)
 - iii) Penny O'Hagan £550.00 (Cheque No.1424)
- c) *To consider other invoices received after the agenda has been sent out – None.*
- d) *Budget 2017/18* The Council considered carefully the Draft Budget for 2017-18; as presented by the Mentoring Clerk. Following a number of agreed amendments and consolidations Council resolved that the Total Budgeted Expenditure for 2017-18 be £18,476. (As detailed at Appendix A.)
- e) Council resolved that the Precept for 2017-18 be set at £18,413, thereby not increasing the council tax portion relating to the Parish Council as the tax base had increased; any deficit arising from the budget set being met from Reserves. The Chairperson signed the SC Precept instruction authorising the request.

7. PLANNING MATTERS

- a) *Planning Items for Information - None at time of printing agenda.*
- b) The Council considered the following:
 - i) 16/05830/FUL (validated: 22/12/2016) Proposal: Erection of a two storey extension at 6 Grimpo, West Felton, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY11 4HG
Council **AGREED** to make no comment.
 - ii) Withdrawal of appeal relating to 15/03171/OUT Land by Dovaston Court (12 new house and new access)
The Parish Clerk was instructed to email Shropshire Council Planning Department to ask why the Parish Council had not been notified of the Appeal and to request a Summary of this Case.
 - iii) 16/05336/REM Proposed Residential Development Land At, The Cross, West Felton
The Principal Planning Officer's email response was noted. Following discussion the Council **RESOLVED** to fully support concerns raised by Mr Jones in the public participation session and request full details of the access plans as stipulated "required" by the Planning Inspector before the development commenced. The Clerk to liaise with SC Planning on the matter.

8. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES - Council **RESOLVED** to adopt all four policies and procedures:

- a) Vexatious Policy/Procedure
- b) Grievance & Disciplinary Procedures
- c) Health & Safety
- d) Equal Opportunities

9. PARISH MATTERS

- a) Transparency Grant application – Clr Houghton explained the points of the application and all were in agreement. Council **RESOLVED** to submit the Grant Application.
- b) Co-Option of Councillor - Following the re-advertisement of the above vacancy the Chairman reported that two candidates had applied for the position. Chris Lovell of West Felton (not present) and Alison Ollier of Sandford (present). Having duly considered both applications the Council **RESOLVED** unanimously to co-opt Alison Ollier as a parish councillor. Alison duly signed her acceptance of office and completed her declaration of pecuniary interest in the presence of Council members.
- c) Grant Application for Clerk’s laptop and printer – Council **AGREED** covered by the Transparency Grant.
- d) To consider the Parish Clerk attending ‘Clerks the knowledge’, part 1 training session. Councillors **AGREED** that the Parish Clerk attend this session.
- e) Queens Head Straight – Safer Roads Partnership – see Item 5.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Notification of Oswestry Area Committee meeting date change to 7th February 2017 at 7.00 pm in the Guildhall. **NOTED** – Chairman agreement to attend this meeting.
- b) Shropshire Bus Strategy 2017-2021 - Public Consultation – for consideration. The Parish Clerk **AGREED** to complete and return on behalf of the Parish Council.
- c) Correspondence regarding Streetlights on Holyhead Road - **MATTER RESOLVED**; as lights repaired.

11. NEXT MEETING - Council **NOTED** that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th February 2017 in West Felton Methodist Church Hall at 7.30p.m.

12. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC – CLERK’S CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT

The Chairman reported that the contract had yet to be finalised; Council **AGREED** to defer its approval to the February meeting.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.50pm

Chairman’s Signature.....*E.P. Nicholas*..... Dated.....*14-2-2017*.....