

MARKET WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Market Weston Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 18th July 2019 7:30pm in Market Weston Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs: D Fulcher, M Martin, S Allen, B. Cllr Bull & C. Cllr J Spicer

1. **Apologies:** Cllr A Hall

2. **Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

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

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

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

3 **Minutes** - Minutes of Monday 13th May 2019 meetings agreed and signed as a correct record.

4. **Meeting open to the public** 8 members of the public present.

Members of the public came to discuss the application for change of use from single dwelling house to holiday let, Liberty House. The application is going to the Development Control Committee, we believe, on the 7th August. Those residents who wanted to speak were reminded that they need to register to do so. As Ward member, WS Cllr Carol Bull will be there to represent the parishioners but as she is also a committee member, she will have to consider all the evidence before she is able to make a final comment.

5. **Report from County Councillor:**

Cllr Spicer reported that Hopton Primary School currently have a vacancy for a School Governor. Anyone who is interested should contact her for further information. The situation with the poorly repaired potholes, in Church Road, is still being looked in to. Cllr Spicer reminded us that it was Market Weston's Fete on Sunday, from 12 until 4.

6. **Report from West Suffolk Councillor: C Bull**

Cllr Bull reported that the application for Village Farm is being recommended for approval. The ecology concerns have been addressed and the conditions recommended by the Parish Council have been included. This was that the new access from the B1111 be completed before any works were undertaken. This access will also be used to access the site once the works have been completed and is in use.

There is an email currently going round where people are being told they are due a council tax refund. This is a scam and has no connection with West Suffolk Council.

Residents are being sent a 'canvas of electors' form. Residents are being encouraged to complete this form online if they are able to.

The Rural Task Force are consulting with Parish Councils about what we need in the rural areas. They will be arranging meetings for local parishes to get together to discuss their issues and concerns.

7. **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman has taken out the shelves in the book swap and reinstalled them. He has re-siliconed the glass so it does not rattle.

He has also put some dog waste bags at either end of The Green.

8. Clerks Report

8.1 SCC Highways Self Help Scheme, update following training.

8.2.1 Suffolk County Council no longer have the budget to carry out all the works on the Highway many Parishes would like to see done. They are proposing a scheme that would enable Parish Councils to carry out works, including, weed clearing, sign clearing, grass cutting, gully clearing etc. SCC would train members of the Parish Council/volunteers to undertake these works. The Clerk attended the SCC (Signing, Lighting and Guarding) Training Course and was greatly concerned at the implications of this scheme. It would appear that any works on the highway, including public rights of way, would need to be carried out by a trained operator, under the management of a trained supervisor. It was agreed that from a parish council's point of view these works could include, in addition to the works listed, litter picking (both regular street cleaning carried out by employees/contractors and one-off village events), changing the VAS and remedial repairs to street furniture. The training certainly opened the Clerk's eyes to the amount of work involved in making the highway safe for operators to work on. It would seem the barest minimum our employees, contractors or volunteers needed to cut a verge for example (this could be any works as noted above) would be the use of: men at work signs, cones and a marked vehicle (removable chevrons and flashing lamp?). The training also discourages lone working. Several concerns are immediately apparent: The Clerk raised her concerns with SCC and a meeting to discuss the ongoing scheme has been arranged for the 8th August with Cllr Mary Evans, Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Rural Affairs and Mark Stevens (Assistant Director Operational Highways, Suffolk County Council). The Clerk will take a list of concerns to this meeting, as it would seem that parish councils, particularly small, rural councils who only have one or even no employees, are at a gross disadvantage where this scheme is concerned. It was also suggested that we look at how other Councils deal with this problem. **Action Clerk**

8.2 Bench, Short grove lane.

Phoenix Farms generously donated a tree trunk bench and it is now in place on Short Grove Lane. The Clerk has written to Hopton Parish Council to thank them for organising this.

9. Finance.

9.1 Payments. To consider payments to include

9.1 Administration £603.25

9.1.2 SALC £136.26

9.2 Bank reconciliation and accounts update.

The Clerk provided the Councillors with a bank reconciliation, income and expenditure account details and a budget report.

10. Planning Matters

10.1 DC/19/0344/FUL | Planning Application - Change of use from single dwelling house (use Class C3) to a holiday let property (sui generis). | Liberty House Hepworth Road Market Weston Suffolk IP22 2PF. To discuss recommendation for the application to go to Development Control Committee for determination.

It was agreed that Cllr Martin would represent the Parish Council at the Development Control Committee. Although we have concerns over the noise and nuisance issues raised it was agreed that we would use our allocated time to speak about the importance of the conditions to be applied and how these conditions are going to be policed. In addition, the impact this application has had on the Parish and Parish Council. **Action Cllr Martin**

11. Play area report

11.1 Play area report. Ongoing.

11.2 The Green, ongoing upkeep. Ongoing.

12. Village Hall report

No report.

13. Defibrillator

13.1 Update on project.

To include rota for weekly checks.

There was some discussion about the need for a weekly check. The Clerk will investigate this matter further and see if Cllr Hall is able to help. There are at least two residents in the village who would be happy to be involved. It was agreed some training would be arranged for the Autumn and a card would be sent to all residents with the date for this and the code for the defibrillator cabinet. The Clerk will check the insurance situation and arrange for the training. **Action Clerk**

14. Councillors reports and items for future agenda

A request, that dogs can run loose at certain times, on The Green, has been received.

Unfortunately this was considered too difficult to police and as The Green is for the enjoyment of all the residents that this would not be approved.

The footpath to Hopton, from Church Road needs to be cut back. The Clerk will report this.

Action Clerk

15. Correspondence for information

15.1 Rights of way consultation. Circulated

16. **Date of next meeting:** 19th September 2019

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

17.1 Personnel Issues. None

17.2 Legal Issues. None