

Weston Colville Parish Council

Chairman: Ray Vidler

Minutes

Of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 14th May 2018 at 7pm in the Reading Room, Weston Colville

Present: Ray Vidler (Chairman), Constantine Pagonis (RFO), Matt Jackson, Ian Ashbridge, John Garrod.

In Attendance: District Councillor Geoff Harvey, County Councillor Henry Batchelor.

The chairman opened the meeting at 7pm.

1. **Apologies** - were received from Bridget Durham and James Hubbard.
2. **Co-opted Councillor** – Ian Ashbridge was co-opted on to the Council. **Proposed by Councillor Vidler**, seconded by Councillors Jackson and Garrod.
3. **Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chair and RFO** – Councillor Vidler stood as Chairman. **Proposed by Councillor Pagonis**, seconded by Councillor Jackson. Councillor Durham stood as Vice-Chair. **Proposed by Councillor Garrod**, seconded by Councillor Pagonis. Councillor Pagonis stood as RFO. **Proposed by Councillor Jackson**, seconded by Councillor Ashbridge.
4. **Chairman's Report** – Councillor Vidler delivered his report at the meeting (appended).
5. **Acceptance of office and declarations of interest forms** – were completed by all councilors that were present.
6. **Close** – The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.15.

Of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14th May 2018 at 7.15pm in the Reading Room, Weston Colville.

Present: Ray Vidler (Chairman), Constantine Pagonis (RFO), Matt Jackson, Ian Ashbridge, John Garrod.

In Attendance: District Councillor Geoff Harvey, County Councillor Henry Batchelor.

The chairman opened the meeting at 7.15pm.

1. **Apologies** – were received from Bridget Durham and James Hubbard.
2. **Minutes** – The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 5th March 2018 were reviewed and agreed as a true record of the meeting. **Proposed by Councillor Vidler**. All agreed. Minutes were signed.
3. **Declarations of Interest** – There were no declarations of interest. Councillor Ashbridge commented that West Wrating Park Estate is a client of his firm, and he has an ongoing management involvement.
4. **District and County Council Reports** – Newly appointed District Councillor Geoff Harvey introduced himself. County Councillor Henry Batchelor delivered his annual report (appended).

5. **Parishioners' Question Time** – None.

6. **Presentation about the Parish Nurse Scheme** - Keith Day gave a presentation about the Parish Nurse Scheme. He explained that the Parish Nurse scheme has been running for three years. The need for a parish nurse came from the community, due to gaps in statutory services particularly from people suffering from mental health problems, dementia, terminal illnesses and chronic conditions. More than 100 people have been helped so far across the seven villages, including several from Weston Colville. The scheme has been set up by Parish Nursing Ministry UK, and there are currently 100 parish nurses across the country. It is a Christian led operation, but the service is available for all regardless of beliefs. The nurse is employed by Hildersham PCC and has 80 contacts a month with her clients. 80% are aged 60 and over, 75% are non church goers. The parish nurse is unique in the country to have an honorary contract with Granta Medical Practice, and she attends monthly multi-agency meetings with secondary, community health services, and social service colleagues, which provides an opportunity to discuss vulnerable patients. The initial scheme has been independently assessed, based on outcomes. Another two-year fixed term has been put in place at a cost of £80,000 with the addition of a community worker, who will assist with young people and young families. The funding will be raised by charitable trusts, PCCs, Parish Councils and donations from members of the community.

7. **Planning**

7.1 Planning discussed and voted by Parish Council –

Reference	Address	Proposal	Status
S/1612/18/FL	Lakeside Common Road	Erection of a single story extension and alterations to garage roof to form an annexe.	Awaiting Feedback

Councillor Vidler did not comment, as his property neighbours Lakeside. No objections were made but the Parish Council agreed to request that a 6ft fence be erected along the south east boundary to avoid overlooking the neighbouring property. **Proposed by Councillor Garrod**, seconded by Councillor Pagonis. All voted in favour.

7.2 Status of planning applications with District Council

Reference	Address	Proposal	Status
S/2984/17	Weston Woods	Installation of new portacabin office, access ramp and 5 parking bays - variation of time limit	Approved
S/3699/17/DC	Linnet Hall Barn	Discharge of access consent	Refused

8. **Matters in hand/ Arising since last meeting**

8.1 Website update – Councillor Pagonis has looked into the creation of a website in more depth. It will cost £299, no VAT, plus a £10 hosting fee. The company creating the website retains ownership of designs. IT will be a brochure website with sections such as history of the village, current amenities, parish nurse, village plan, minutes etc. Councillor Pagonis to set out the sections, domain name has been decided. The website is to be owned by the Parish Council, and councillors are to receive email addresses linked to the domain name. **Proposed by Councillor Pagonis** seconded by Councillor Jackson. All voted in favour to go ahead. The cost of the first year is £420.

8.2 Reading Room Car Park transfer from South Cambs District Council (SCDC) to Weston Colville Parish Council (WCPC) – SCDC will not move on the overage of 100 years on the site. Fees are approximately £2,000, £500 legal fees from Weston Colville's solicitor, £1,200 SCDC legal fees, plus land registry costs. **Councillor Vidler proposed**, Councillor Pagonis seconded. Remaining voted in favour, but Councillors Jackson and Ashbridge abstained.

8.3 Stream Clearing and footpath update/verges – Councillor Garrod cleared a lot of rubbish from the stream by the recreation ground at the Cricket Force weekend.

8.4 Road Drain clearance and repair update – Jetting of the drains were carried out at the bottom of Mill Hill in January, but it has not been effective. The council is still awaiting a report from County Council flood risk officer Brian Heffernan. Councillor Ashbridge is looking in to the wider flooding issues and whether there are government schemes to assist with the problem.

8.5 Speed Indicator Device (SID) update – Councillor Hubbard was absent from the meeting, so unable to share all the details. The SID were in place as part of the rotation within the villages. It has been established that there is nowhere suitable on Chapel Road to place brackets. A representative from Highways is required to sign the agreement. The devices collect data, which Councillor Hubbard can share at the next meeting.

8.6 Defibrillator contacts - Councillor Garrod has agreed to provide his address details so that people can go to his house for the code for the defibrillator. His neighbour Rachel is also will to keep the code at her house. A notice is being created to advise the public of this.

9. Matters for the Council to discuss/vote on

9.1 Standing Orders – Councillors that were present signed a form expressing that they were satisfied with the new Standing Orders for Weston Colville Parish Council.

9.2 GDPR – Councillors accepted the information that had been provided by Councillor Vidler regarding GDPR and the new policies that came in to effect on 25th May 2018. Councillor Pagonis identified an issue with parishioners email addresses, this will be resolved with council emails that will be provided with the new website. A policy is required for removing data when councillors leave the council.

9.3 Lower Wood – The Parish Council is aware of general concerns about the coppicing in Lower Wood. The wood was bequeathed by the Mayfield family to the Woodland Trust, it is unclear whether the bequest had conditions, benefit of the village etc. Councillor Ashbridge observed that forestry work often appears drastic immediately after completion, and that the Woodland Trust is likely to have a management plan. This is not currently publically available. Councillor Garrod is going to contact the Mayfield family for more information.

9.4 Parish Nurse Scheme – Councillor Vidler commented that funds were limited. Councillor Ashbridge observed that parishioners in Weston Colville had been helped, who would otherwise have fallen through the cracks of statutory care. Precepts would need to be increased to continue with funding. £500 a year is to be allocated over two years. **Councillor Ashbridge proposed**, Councillor Garrod seconded, all voted in favour.

9.5 Renewal of Insurance – The council voted on tying in to insurance with Zurich for a five year period, which reduced the premiums down to £597.43. **Councillor Garrod proposed** Councillor Jackson seconded, all voted in favour.

9.6 Pot holes, road conditions, and grass cutting – Discussion held with Councillor Batchelor. Verges are being pushed back, tarmac is being eroded at the side of the roads, leading to pot holes and soil going in to the drains. A more proactive policy is required for pothole repair, currently felt to be a very inefficient system. The possibility of installing road curbing was raised, but the significant cost would fall to the Parish Council and there was a feeling that it would change the look of the village. The village sign by Weston Colville hall has fallen down, and has been reported by Councillors Jackson and Garrod to Highways for repair. Simon Ratford will be cutting the recreation grounds, and War Memorial. Trevor Potter will be cutting the verges. Invitations to tender are to be made next year.

10. Playground – ROSPA made their inspection on 17th April 2018. Some pieces of equipment require attention – the slide at Church End, and swing. The fencing, ramp on the playhouse, and mats under the swings at the recreation ground require attention.

11. Finance

11.1 Precept – Precept will be increased by up to 3% in January to keep in line with inflation.

11.2 Payments since last meeting

Date	Chq. No.	Payee	Item	Amount
19.04.18	701	Cambridgeshire County Council	Street Lighting	£305.87

11.3 Payments agreed at the meeting

Payee	Item	Amount
Simon Ratford	Grass Cutting	£ TBC
T. J. Potter	Verge Cutting	£ TBC
Parish Clerk	Wages March/April/ May	£ 675
Parish Clerk	Expenses	£49.86
ROSPA	Playground Inspection	£189
Zurich	Insurance	£597.43
CAPALC*	Membership	£205.31
Age Concern	Funding for Small Villages Warden Scheme	£250

*Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils

Councillor Vidler proposed the above payments. Councillor Pagonis seconded this. All voted in agreement.

11.4 Account balance - **£17,747.11** on the 12th May 2018.

11.5 Budget – a draft budget was presented at the meeting by Councillor Vidler. A second draft will be sent round by Councillor Vidler for approval.

11.6 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2017/18 – The paperwork and figures for the AGAR were checked and signed. **Proposed by Councillor Vidler** seconded by Councillor Pagonis.

11.7 Final accounts for the year to 31 March 2018 have been prepared and are ready for presentation to the internal auditor – **Proposed by Councillor Ashbridge** seconded by Councillor Jackson.

12. Matters for the next agenda

12.1 Wadlow Windfarm community fund feedback – Councillor Durham

12.2 Inspection of trees by the car park

12.3 Reading Room layby update – Councillor Jackson

12.4 Phone box restoration/repurposing

12.5 Online Banking – Councillor Vidler

12.6 Parish Clerk – contract of employment, stationary, USB stick.

13. Date of Next full Meeting:

- **2nd July**

Dates of Parish Council meetings in 2018:

Full Council	<u>3rd September</u>
	<u>5th November</u>
Planning meetings (if required)	<u>6 August</u>
	<u>1 October</u>
	<u>3 December</u>

The meeting closed at 9.48pm

Jessica Ashbridge
Parish Clerk

WESTON COLVILLE PARISH COUNCIL PARISH MEETING CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I would like to start by welcoming you all to the annual parish meeting in a year that has seen the council make progress on several issues for the village.

The last year has seen the council continue to pursue activities that generally support the community led parish plan adopted 3 years ago. The key objectives progressed are as follows: -

Maintenance of Roads and Verges

The Parish Council implemented its usual verge cutting program this year and continues to provide street lighting in the village. Progress was also made with getting pot holes repaired and clearing gullies and drains. However, there is still more work to be done at Church End and a meeting was held with the County Council Highways department in January to agree a plan to fix this permanently. We are still awaiting clarification on what they plan to do.

Speeding through the village

Despite several attempts to find someone no volunteers have come forward to continue the speedwatch activity in the village. As a result, the Council decided to join in with a group of local parish councils and jointly buy some speed indicator devices. The use of these in the village has started to encourage motorists to slow down. They also log how many vehicles exceed the speed limit. This data can be used to support applications for highways grants if deemed necessary to improve road safety.

It will be interesting to see at next year's meeting how effective the use of the mobile vehicle activated signs are in getting people to slow down.

Rural nature of the village

The Council has continued to carry out its program of grass cutting and hedge trimming around the war memorial, at the Church end playing field and the play area on the Green. There has also been an extensive amount of work carried out in the village to clear the drainage ditches especially by local farmers.

Play areas

The Council has ensured that essential maintenance has been carried out for both play areas to ensure they are safe to use and kept in good order.

Community Assets

At last year's meeting I reported that the council planned to look at making Assets of Community Value status applications for Church End Playing field, the Reading Room and the Recreation Ground but further investigation showed that this would not be appropriate.

However, the parish council has made good progress with the transfer of the Reading Room car park from the district Council to the Parish Council and this will hopefully be complete by the Autumn.

Finally, I would like to end by thanking all my fellow councillors for their work in supporting the aims and objectives of the council. I would like to make special mention of Councillor Scott who has decided to stand down from the council after several years of diligent service. He has worked tirelessly on several aspects of the councils work notably but not only the Church End and the Green play areas, the transfer of the village car park as well as acting as Tree Warden. He did all this while also coordinating several other village activities. Allen has been a major asset to the council and he will be sorely missed. I would like to give him my personal thanks for his help and support and formally thank him on behalf of the council. I am sure you will all join me in wishing Allen well for the future.

Annual District and County Council Report - May 2018
Henry Batchelor and Geoff Harvey

All Change at South Cambs

The big story is undoubtedly the District Council election this month. There has been a completed change of party leadership with the Liberal Democrats taking over all control for the first time in the history of South Cambs.

The new council will be:

Liberal Democrats:	30
Conservatives;	11
Labour:	2
Independents:	2

The new council takes control at the AGM to be held on 23 May.

Our local result was:

Geoff Harvey:	659
Richard Turner:	551
Muhammad Shaheer:	144
Linda Richardson:	34

Rest of the Year

The big ongoing issue has been the Local Plan that has been under review by a government inspector for well over four years. Without the plan in place this has opened the door to developers to build housing in areas around our villages which would not normally be allowed. Over the whole district this has amounted to nearly 6,000 unplanned houses. Balsham has seen large developments approved within and just outside the village envelope as well as nearby villages such as Linton and Abington also receiving planning approval for large schemes.

We understand that the Inspector will finish her work on the Local Plan around June or July. Once it is back in place the villages will be protected again.

We have better news on the A1307 where the Greater Cambridge Partnership is proposing to invest at least £39 Million in safety and public transport improvements to the road. This will include a roundabout at the Bartlow Crossroads at Linton as well as speed reductions, improved traffic lights systems, and bus priority measures. We are expecting to hear the results of the recent consultation process in the next few weeks, see a revised plan and hope to hear that work will start on the Haverhill to A11 section this summer.

Children's Centres

The County took the decision last year to 're-designate' some of Cambridgeshire's Children's centres, which means that the County Council owned buildings that have Children's Centres in them will no longer be classed as such. We have one in Linton and this was one of the centres that was earmarked for re-designation. They are having some issues with the Trust that run the building however, as the County Council have the Children's Centre on a long-term lease, which they are struggling to get out of. They are still working through this however, so will eventually not be there.

The plan from the County Council is to offer the same services remotely via outreach programmes. Our concerns are that the transition won't be as smooth as planned and some people will be left in limbo without any support that they are entitled to.

Park & Ride Charges

The Greater Cambridge Partnership (City Deal) has agreed to take on the charge for parking at Cambridge's Park & Ride sites. This includes the annoying electronic system for actually parking the car as well as the charge. The charge for the actual bus remains however, but the charge and the system for the car park have been removed.