

West Ilsley Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the West Ilsley Parish Council held on Monday 14 September 2015 at 7.30pm

1. Apologies:

None.

2. To receive any changes to declarations:

None received.

3. To receive and, if approved, confirm the minutes of the meeting of the West Ilsley Parish Council held on Monday 13 July 2015:

Signed as a true record.

4. Matters Arising:

Chairman Hagen raised the issue regarding the compensation proposed to be paid to District Cllr Mr Clive Hook with respect to his damaged wall. It was decided that the West Ilsley PC would resolve the matter privately.

5. Correspondence received:

The WI PC Clerk noted that she had received postal correspondence from the Duchess of Kent Hospice requesting a donation. It was decided that the WI PC would decline to make a donation, on the grounds that West Ilsley was a small community with limited financial resources. The WI PC Clerk was asked to write a polite response accordingly to the Hospice.

6. Improvements to existing open spaces:

There was general discussion about how to spend the remaining money available for the improvement of green spaces in the village (about £1500):

- Cllr Bloor is still waiting for quotes for materials on tidying up the pond area (top soil, grass seed, gravel, etc).
- Rachel Hudson had proposed that some of the money be used to purchase an outdoor table tennis table that had originally been discussed as part of the Green Spaces Fund at the beginning of this year. The WI PC Clerk was asked to request quotes for a table from Rachel Hudson.

Chairman Hagen will write to WIN to ask residents of the village their view. Cllr Bloor will finalise getting quotes for tidying up the pond area and determine what exactly needs to be done.

7. Village Funding applications:

No new applications.

8. WB Council Community Grants 2016:

The WI PC discussed the issue of the WB Council Community Grants for 2016 which are granted to deserving Community Projects. In order to be eligible, the WI PC must be able to match the amount of funds that the WBC is itself prepared to donate. The closing date for

applications is 16 October 2015. No new community projects were proposed at the meeting. Chairmen Hagen asked the WI PC Clerk to refer this matter to Rachel Hudson (Chair, WI Village Fete Committee) for her views.

9. Village Hall update:

Following the discussions regarding the village hall work programme, it was reported that the ceiling panels (tiles) had been purchased and delivered.

Mr Ian Fewtrell-Smith will establish a working party. The overall plan of work is: (a) isolation, (b) affix the panels, and (c) install / affix the lights.

10. Transport and Safety (VAS update):

Cllr Bloor reported that he had met with Mr. Davies (Highways Officer, West Berkshire Council). They had agreed the spot (at the western edge of the village) to where the existing unit (VAS) would be moved. The work in this regard would be completed before the end of the year.

Cllr Bloor had also discussed with Mr Davies the "Give Way" sign at Catmore Road. It was agreed that it would be adjusted so it points in the correct direction and the overhanging branches cut back to improve visibility. Additionally, Mr Davies had noted that the white line at the end of Catmore Road needed to be repainted. Finally, Cllr Bloor and Mr Davies had discussed the possibility of erecting a white gate further up Catmore Road to indicate the start of the 30 mph zone.

11. Environmental issues:

The WI PC Clerk announced that she had received correspondence from the Highways and Transport Department of the WBC in connection with groundwater flooding and work undertaken by Jacobs Engineering to develop appropriate modelling for predicting and determining the impact of future groundwater flooding (including the production of groundwater flooding maps relating thereto). WI PC feedback on the groundwater flooding maps was sought. It was agreed that Mr Melvyn Cook and Chairman Hagen would discuss the issue offline, and they would provide written feedback to WBC by the deadline of 16 October 2015.

Chairman Hagen reported that he was going to meet with the Chairman and Clerk of East Ilsley PC in order to discuss the dredging of the pond. WBC funded part of the dredging costs against a contribution made by East Ilsley PC itself, and Chairman Hagen wanted to find out how East Ilsley PC approached the matter. There was general discussion about when the WI pond should next be dredged, and whether there was any merit in WI dredging its pond at the same time that East Ilsley next dredged theirs.

12. Cricket Club/Play Area/Tennis:

No matters for discussion.

13. Accounts for payment/receipts received:

The following invoices were presented and approved:

- A cheque for £2360.40 to pay to Mr Fewtwell-Smith for acoustic ceiling panels;
- A cheque for £100.00 for Village Hall hire; and
- A cheque for £48.00 for WBC new councillor training for the WI PC Clerk.

14. West Ilsley Trust

No requests for donations (other than the one noted in item 5 above).

15. Planning Applications:

- A planning application for the renovation of the house belonging to Alan Beaumont at 32 Church Way, West Ilsley, Newbury, Berkshire, RG20 7AH received no objection.
- A planning application for the renovation of the house belonging to Adrian Dray at Main Street, West Ilsley, Newbury, RG20 7AA received no objection (the application was received while the WI PC Clerk was on leave and the time for making submissions passed).
- A planning application in relation to Poplar House for the replacement of corrugated plastic sheets on the car port with a new pitched roof in slates to match the house received no objection.
- A planning application for the replacement garage with studio above belonging to P MacKenzie-Charrington at 26 Main Street, West Ilsley, Newbury, Berkshire, RG20 7AR received objections. The concern was that the garage structure would be too high. It was agreed that Chairman Hagen, on behalf of WI PC, would request a site visit and “call in” the application with the WBC, thereby enabling a thorough planning application discussion in connection with the matter at the next WBC Committee meeting.

Planning applications would continue to be circulated by the WI PC Clerk electronically for approval (with a link to the relevant documents).

16. Resignation of Councillors:

Chairman Hagen and Cllrs Mr Ryan and Mrs Clifton indicated that they would be resigning from the WI PC with effect from the next meeting on Monday 9 November. Chairman Hagen will work with the WI PC Clerk in connection with the process of inviting candidates for election to the Council.

17. AOB:

None.

18. Open forum:

No items minuted.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.00pm.

Next meeting: Monday 9 November at 7:30