WESTON-sub-EDGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE

HALL OF FRIENDSHIP AT 7.15P.M. ON 27th SEPTEMBER 2011

PRESENT: Cllrs Bill Carruthers (chairman) Joan Jenkins Jenny King Chris Rossington David Smith

IN ATTENDANCE: D/Cllr Mark Annett 2 members of the public clerk

11/087 COUNCILLORS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were none.

11/088 NOTICE OF ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were received from Alan Edmonds and Mike Jelley.

11/089 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26.07.11:

Councillors unanimously resolved approval of these minutes; the chairman signed them as a true record of the business conducted.

11/090 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

No report was available.

11/091 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT:

Mark Annett brought a copy of an email which he had received at 17.45 today from Joel Hockenhull, to David Smith, about flood resilience in the village and said that as he had not been briefed on the contents, hasn't had time to read it and would not be able to make any comment on it tonight.

The chairman found this totally unacceptable as Mark Annett was present to represent Cotswold District Council in it entirety and knew first hand of the importance of this topic to the parish council. When asked why Lynden Stowe and David Fowles were not present Mark Annett said as far as he knew they were on other business and that he didn't want to get involved. This was despite David Fowles having given an assurance four months ago that he would personally attend the Weston-sub-Edge parish council meetings until a flood alleviation solution was achieved.

The chairman stated the parish council's frustration over the failure of CDC to provide an engineered and fully costed flood relief scheme for the village, as promised for May 2011 then revised to September, asking why had David Fowles and Lynden Stowe more pressing appointments for this evening and why the CDC representative had not been briefed on the situation?

The meeting heard that whilst a CDC representative *(Joel Hockenhull)* was conducting surveys of flood alleviation measures prior to obtaining consent from property owners to potential works at their property which appeared to be a complete waste of time and money by CDC.

Mark Annett agreed to pass on these points, said it wouldn't make any difference and also that he had attended a meeting in Weston-sub-Edge together with CDC officers some 18 months ago and was surprised there had not been more progress. **ACTION MA**

The chairman agreed to write to David Fowles, copied to Lynden Stowe and Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, with the parish council's view on the present situation. **ACTION BC**

11/092 PLANNING MATTERS:

1.0 TO DISCUSS PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND AGREE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CDC:

11/03592/FUL Broad Close farm amendment conversion and alteration of barn to one holiday let unit

Councillors having met on site on 13th September to consider this application agreed that there was no need to comment on this minor amendment.

2.0 TO RECEIVE DECISION NOTICES FROM THE PLANNING AUTHORITY: there were none.

3.0 MARK ANNETT TO EXPLAIN THE BACKGROUND TO THE GRANTING OF A SALE OF ALCOHOL LICENCE AT UNIT 28 WESTON INDUSTRIAL ESTATE:

Mark Annett spoke of the process by which the licensing sub-committee of three, in the presence of the CDC legal advisor Ian Church, considers each application against four criteria embodied in the Licensing Act 2003; namely the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm. Having heard from the applicant of this application and of those raising objection, the sub committee decided that none of the four criteria would be contravened and so granted the licence. The concern of the parish council was jeopardising security on the site. Councillors were told that the sub committee dismissed this on the grounds that the industrial estate is a private site making security the responsibility of the owner and so not relevant to the application. The parish council formally recorded their disappointment at the fact that the details of the licensing application had been sent to Chipping Campden and only belatedly sent to Weston-sub-Edge giving no time for consideration by the parish council, three days two of which were a weekend.

11/093 FINANCE:

1.0 TO RECEIVE INTERIM STATEMENT AND BANK RECONCILIATION:

The monthly financial statement and bank reconciliation were before the meeting. The clerk reported that a further grant (£179.90) for the youth club has been received from the Weston Leisure Group. The clerk was asked to identify the various funds allocated for expenditure on young people in the 'reserves fund' section of the cashbook. Councillors asked for an agenda item on the budgeted expenditure for village improvements at next meeting. **ACTION CLERK**

2.0 TO APPROVE PAYMENTS DUE:

Cheque	date	paid to	item	amount	VAT	total
200409	26.07.11	Alan Edmonds	plants for Latimers verge	18.00	0.00	18.00
200410	29.09.11	Chris Tombs	clerk's salary Aug/Sep	220.00	0.00	220.00
200411	29.09.11	Hall of Friendship	hall hire	45.00	0.00	45.00
200412	29.09.11	Moore Stephens	external audit fee	120.00	24.00	144.00
200413	29.09.11	HMRC	clerk's PAYE 2nd quarter	82.50	0.00	82.50
200414	29.09.11	Young Gloucestershire	youth club service 31.08.11	45.00	0.00	45.00
200415	29.09.11	Alan Edmonds	plants for Latimers verge	15.80	0.00	15.80

David Smith proposed and Chris Rossington seconded making these payments which councillors unanimously **resolved** approval.

3.0 TO CONSIDER THE SUITABILITY OF CONTINUING TO BANK WITH SANTANDER:

It was agreed to review this at the end of the year.

4.0 TO RECEIVE THE RESPONSE FROM THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR:

The external auditor Moore Stephens has returned that 'on the basis of our review, in our opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practises and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.'

11/094 TO REVIEW VILLAGE MATTERS:

1.0 TO CONSIDER THE REPLACEMENT OF THE ALLOTMENT WATER SYSTEM:

A scheme was before the councillors prepared from the suggestion of an allotment holder George Foster who is wiling to arrange the supply of the materials and equipment and carry out much of the work. Eight taps and the horse trough will be connected to the existing system through a network of new pipes. The cost is expected to be £483 plus VAT with an additional £40 for posts to support the taps. The clerk will write to all allotment holders informing them of the plan and requesting permission to enter their plots to carry out the work. October 15th is likely to be the date when the work is carried out. Councillors were in agreement that it should take place. **ACTION CLERK**

2.0 TO RE-HANG THE BUCKLE STREET GATE AT THE ALLOTMENT SITE:

A new gate post is needed at a cost of £16.31 plus VAT and the gate re-hung enabling it to open against the hedge and provide one more car parking space. **ACTION CLERK**

3.0 DISCUSSION OF THE ALLOTMENT RENT:

Councillors agreed to hold this discussion at the next meeting. **ACTION CLERK**

4.0 CONSIDER THE FORMATION OF AN ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION AND THE HOLDING OF A TENANTS MEETING:

After discussion it was thought that both would not be welcomed by the allotment holders.

5.0 TO FORMULATE A PLAN TO PUBLISH THE PARISH COUNCIL NEWS SHEET:

It was agreed to produce 4 editions per year on good quality paper and hand delivered to every household. The chairman and clerk agreed to draw together a report on the council's business over the last three months; a contribution from the members of the youth club was suggested. **ACTION BC/CLERK**

6.0 TO REVIEW RESPONSE FROM BOB SKILLERN (GLOS HIGHWAYS) ON ROAD ISSUES IN THE VILLAGE RAISED AT LAST MEETING:

Parsons Lane speeding: it was agreed to follow up the suggestion to involve Garry Handley GCC road safety person. **ACTION CLERK**

Church Street parking: seems to have been solved for the moment with the intervention of Mike Jelley and the local police.

Church Street/B4632 junction: move or enhance existing village entry sign. **ACTION CLERK**

It was suggested that a request could be put in the Messenger for people to report incidents at this site.

Church Street speeding: the clerk was asked to publish the recent survey and locate accidents statistics for the parish. **ACTION CLERK**

The clerk was asked to invite bob Skillern to come to the village to view these issues. **ACTION CLERK**

11/095 WHAT DOES LOCALISM MEAN TO US NOW?

In the absence of information from the district councillors the clerk presented documents from a government website and a summary from the BBC. The clerk was asked to circulate the summary. **ACTION CLERK**

11/095 TO NOTE MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE:

11/007 3.0 **Salt bin** for Harris Lane *(after the meeting Harry Roberts confirmed no bins are available from Glos Highways)*

11/033 3.0 **Flood resilience money from the EU**. **ACTION BC**

11/063 **Frances Ellis trust** status update – Geoffrey Weaver has said that the trustees' opinion is that it should be wound up. It was agreed that the chairman should write to suggest the Hall of Friendship as a possible recipient of disbursed funds in the event of winding up. **ACTION BC**

11/073 Fresh start for the **Emergency Plan** – action awaited. **ACTION BC**

Dog fouling: CDC can only take action on a witnessed sighting of a fouling event – date, time, place, name of dog owner, photograph if possible. It was suggested the pavement in Church Street should be swept. The clerk was asked to contact Glos Highways. **ACTION CLERK**

Weeds on the allotment – an exchange of correspondence has taken place resulting with the removal of most pernicious weeds.

11/096 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING:

A list of correspondence received was before the meeting concerned.

The clerk was asked to contact GRCC to apologise for the possible absence of a representative from the parish council at the AGM. **ACTION CLERK**

There being no other business the chairman closed the meeting at 9.25p.m.

Signed……Date…….