WESTON-sub-EDGE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE BAR

AT 7.15P.M. ON TUESDAY 22nd MAY 2018

PRESENT: Bill Carruthers (parish council chairman) C/D/Cllr Lynden Stowe
5 members of the public (4 parish councillors) Lucy Print (parish clerk)
Police Officer Paul Hancock

18.01 WELCOME AND REPORT FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN BILL CARRUTHERS:

The Parish Council has functioned well during the year.

Councillors:
Bill Carruthers – Chairman
Chris Rossington
Wendy Clark
Rachel Hurley
Mike Jelley
John Measey
Edward Stowe (joined during the year)
Parish Clerk: Lucy Print (recruited during the year)

It is pleasing that the number of councillors has been re-established at 7. Edward Stowe joined during the year. Our long serving Parish Clerk resigned in summer 2017 and it took several months of recruiting to appoint a successor and the Council was delighted to secure the services of Lucy Print.

The Parish Council continues to meet monthly with the exception of December and August. Business is minuted and is available on the Parish Website

CDC and GCC councillors have standing invitations and report on matters relevant from the 2 Councils. Any queries from the Parish Council are responded to and the attendance is crucial in sustaining the link between the organisations.

Planning reviews remain a priority agenda item for the Parish Council in considering the impact on the Parish and agreeing suitable recommendations to the District Council.

Parish finances remain robust with money spent on village improvements and maintenance. The Parish precept has not been increased in real terms for the last 3 years. Grant support was obtained from Gloucester Environmental Trust and Cotswold Conservation Board Sustainable Development Fund to enable the levelling and reseeding of the recreation ground opposite the Church and a second phase of the project was commenced to fund, procure and install and commission recreation equipment to cater for all age groups in the Parish. This phase will be complete summer 2018, the project being managed by a sub group of the Parish Council.

The telephone box on Church St. was purchased from BT for a nominal £1 and will be refurbished in the next financial year.

A second defibrillator has been procured and deployed at the Village Hall, again with some grant support. Internal and external audits were conducted on the financial records etc and signed off with no qualifications. Financial support for the seniors meeting in the Village Hall has continued but sadly the Youth Club has closed due to lack of member support despite continued financial support from the Parish Council. Financial support to the Village Hall has also continued and the Parish Council is committed to working closely with the Hall Council to mutual benefit.

With budget reductions in GCC for verge and hedge maintenance etc, additional funding has been allocated by the Parish Council to ensure the village remains tidy and well maintained.

Close contact has been maintained with GCC Highways dept. maintaining a list of works required in the parish, updating and prioritising on a regular basis.

GCC have committed to financial support for a movable vehicle activated speed display in an effort to reduce traffic speeds in the village, particularly on Stratford Road coming into the village from Mickleton. This project is in hand and should be completed in 2018.

With the sad death of Doris Court, a range of historic documents has become available which the Parish Council is committed to saving and archiving.

As always, feed back from Parishioners is vital to the success of the Parish Council in continuing to meet the needs of the village to sustain our environment

18.02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: an apology for absence was received from John Measey and Edward Stowe.

18.03 APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24th May 2017: in absence of these minutes this was referred to the next Parish Council meeting in June. **ACTION CLERK**

18.04 REPORT FROM THE LOCAL POLICE: Paul Hancock, Community Support Officer from the the North Cotswold neighbourhood team attended the meeting to explain the new policing structure and introduce himself as our point of contact along with PCSO Cassie Wilford. The PCSOs can be contacted in a number of ways including website https://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/neighbourhood-policing/ where you can follow the link to your policing area and use the contact your team link. You can also use the 01452 907200 number for Cotswold District and leave a message or contact 101 with your concern and it will sent to the officer via our control room.

Paul welcomes the opportunity to talk to local groups in the area and to give advice. Meeting to be arranged with Seniors in Weston sub Edge. He is directly contactable at the station at Stow on the wold. He highlighted the use of the community alerts: https://www.yourcommunityalerts.co.uk and the positive feedback they are getting on the updates the police are giving on the incidences that have occurred. Crime stats for Weston sub Edge available, along with the minutes of this meeting. There is a requirement to check the area the database uses to produce this report. **ACTION CLERK**

18.05 REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS: Lynden Stowe
County: The county is funding a £150million project resurfacing the highways everywhere cutting down potholes in the long term. Tarmac are now the chosen contractor. The Gloucester Road Safety Community Hub Online (www.gloucestershire.gov.uk Report it) is available for anyone to report highway issues, pot holes, leaks etc. These issues are then prioritised and dealt with. Looking after Public Right of Way has now been brought back in house.
District: The Cotswold District Local Plan will be adopted in the next few months.
Grants, £200 has been secured by the Village Green Revival Team for a bench commemorating all those lost in WW1. The team have also submitted a grant application for the WsE playground equipment and awaiting notification of success. There are grants available for community buildings (enhancing a service) and youth activities.
The Cotswold District Council received no increase in funding this year and have picked up an increase in cost of adult social care.
It was discussed that all plastics that are recycled in this county go back into manufacturing chain. By separating the plastic from the rest of the recycling enables the quality to remain high and for this to be possible.

The chairman thanked Lynden Stowe for his reports and considerable support over the year.

18.06 PRESENTATION AND REVIEW OF WRITTEN REPORTS FROM THE VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS IN THE VILLAGE:

Weston Rural Cinema 2017-18

The cinema celebrated its tenth anniversary in October 2017 and will host its 107th film in May 2018 – quite a success story! At £4.00 per person the charges are still the same as they were at its inception.

We remain part of the Cotswold District Council cinema group. Members vote each month for their preferred film from a choice of 7 or 8. Occasionally we are unlucky but, in the main, the one selected is the most appropriate for the Weston-sub-Edge audience. In the last year we have enjoyed a very diverse range of films from Paddington 2 to Dunkirk and from Victoria and Abdul to Hidden Figures. The film for May will be Murder on the Orient Express and for June, The Post. It would be wonderful to be able to show new releases but this is not possible. We are reliant on films being available on DVD. Audiences vary but usually range between about 20 and 45, enough to make the evening sociable and enjoyable but not so many that screen visibility is impaired. There is a growing trend for friends to meet in the Village Bar for a pre-cinema supper and/or drink and they always receive a warm welcome from Becky and her team.
CER 18/05/2018

WESTON-SUB-EDGE EDUCATIONAL CHARITY Registered Number 297226 Annual Report for Parish Council AGM, May 2018

The Board of Trustees consists of Mrs Sarah Hudson-Evans (Chairman), Mrs Valerie Kemp, Mrs Jane Slatter, Mrs Wendy Clarke and Mr Rupert Oswell. This year the Trustees met on six occasions during the year to make awards and the move to the Village Hall bar has proved an excellent meeting place. The awards have been varied as usual and from as far as New Zealand, Canada and Kenya.

In the last academic year ended 31st August 2017-
83 valid applications were received. In total there were 52 individual applicants of whom:

4	Pre-school
10	Reception to Year 6
16	Year 7 – Year 11
6	Age 16-18
16	Further Education (18-25)

Online applications are working well and we are exploring online payments

Canon Peter Burch retired as Independent Auditor in March and in July Mr. Geoffrey Weaver kindly agreed to replace him.

The Village Bar

Report from Becky White: I have great pleasure in running the Village Bar and thank the committee for letting me become the Licencee. It gives me great pleasure to see a community enjoy a facility I feel in this day and age they are lucky to have. We have regular complements from visitors to the area on how lovely the bar is and what a surprise they get once you open the door and are greeted by a lovely space which caters for all, families, dogs and all others are made welcome. The facility between the Village Hall and Village Bar is coming together very well with almost all hires using the Bar in one way or another. My husband and I are great-full to the regular villagers that use the facility and thank everyone for making us welcome.

Pilates

Report from Beverley Smith: I am delighted to report that I have a small group of dedicated Pilates attendees on a Tuesday lunchtime in Weston sub Edge Village Hall. We meet at 1pm for an hour each week to perform strength, balance and flexibility exercises to help improve body posture, mobility and muscle strength. The group is primarily 60 and 70 year olds, several of whom have had joint replacements or spinal issues, which they are helping to overcome through Pilates. The hall is an excellent venue for this and the off street parking is particularly useful for those who come from outside the village.It would be lovely to increase the size of the group, so please encourage parish members to spread the word about the class and suggest anyone who is interested contact me via this email account.

Yoga

Report from Sophie Whitehouse: I mainly started up yoga classes locally as I wanted to create a hub of like-minded local people that I could meet as a newcomer to the area. The support I have received has been epic; I am very grateful to meet all walks of life locally that are finding for themselves the health and spiritual benefits brought by yoga.

Over the last month I have been training in Europe with my teacher, and as long as there is enough support, the classes still run with regulars on a self-practice basis — what else can I say apart from the fact that these guys are well trained! I know I'm not everyone's cup of tea, but if you at least try that makes me happy! Classes run on Tuesday nights, Weston Subedge Hall 19:00hr, £8, 90 mins, all year round!

Weston-sub-Edge Bowling Club

Report from Chris Tombs secretary: It is ironic that this club has the finest playing surface in the north Cotswolds, certainly to county standard, as said by visiting teams and yet for various reasons this season we seem to be struggling to make up teams to fulfil our match fixtures. Sadly we have death to record, some members have succumbed to illness or infirmity but on the positive note we have four new members this season who are showing good promise. A problem which seems to face the sport is that for some reason and with few exceptions it doesn't appeal to the younger generation. It would be wonderful if more people from Weston-sub-Edge could come along and try out their bowling skills; they would be most welcome. Friday afternoon is practise time for club members. The emphasis of the club is that we do our best and aim to enjoy our outdoor bowling season. We don't enjoy great success in the various competitions we enter, usually finishing up in the bottom half; it has to be said that we are up against some very accomplished bowlers in the north Cotswolds. We also have a number social events which are well attended and very enjoyable, the next being a Quiz Night on the 21st September in the Village Hall.

Allotments

At the moment all of the plots are taken and being enthusiastically gardened by the majority of the tenants. After a slow start to the growing year because of the weather conditions all seems to be looking very good now. The allotments continue to be a credit to those who have them.

U3A

Report from John Bissett: The University of the Third Age groups, history, new age kurling and mixed dancing have met throughout the year in the Village Hall. The history group continues to be well attended and much appreciated by a wide group from the local communities. This year membership has been going well with about 30 members. People travel to the group from the local area, Campden, Mickleton Willersey and Broadway. The group are very pleased with the Village Hall facilities. John Bissett the chairman celebrated his 80th birthday at the Hall this year, was really happy with the catering and bar from Becky.

Weston sub-Edge Village Hall Council

Report to the Parish Council AGM, May 2018

Overall the Hall had had a successful year measured by utilization and revenue.

The Council has seen some changes with the recent resignation of the secretary due to other priorities – we need a replacement quickly!
An appointed Chairman is still sought.
Roy Clarke representing the Bowling Club is a welcome addition as is the new rector, Scott Watts.
Meetingbs are bi-monthly with additional interim meetings as necessary.

A part time caretaker has been a welcome addition to the team. giving a capability for routine maintenance and minor project implementation

Our overarching Trust Deed has been revised making it more appropriate to the current status of the Council. New members of Council would be welcomed from organisations using the Hall with a view to becoming trustees.

Financially, revenue has gone up with regular bookings from groups and organisations providing recurring revenue with bookings for parties etc showing an increasing trend. Finances are less dependent on a single hirer with the bar, Latimers dancers, regular auctions and the Christmas Bazaar all contributing significantly. The 100 club has been expanded with over 200 members. As a result the prize money and distribution has increased.
A sinking fund has been established to provide financial resilience for capital equipment replacement and unforeseen major expenditure

Sadly the dance group ceased as did the Youth Club but there are still yoga classes, keep fit, pilates, Zumba and U3a taking up regular slots.

The rural cinema continues to be well supported and an upgrade of the audio/ video equipment was achieved with a further minor upgrade planned. A CD player and speakers has been provided in the upstairs area of the old Hall. As a result of a burglary, CC-TV surveillance has been installed by the bar licensee and the external lighting has had a major upgrade for security and winter access purposes. A patio area at the front entrance has been established giving a pleasant area during the summer months for patrons to enjoy a cooling drink!

The Bar is increasingly successful with steadily increasing trade with the food offered being a key part of the business. The opening hours have been extended and a cribbage team operates on Monday evenings during the winter.

A successful traditional Christmas bazaar was held and there wre carols in the bar with a decorated tree adjacent to the car park.

Major projects remain on the “to do” list with resurfacing the car park, roof replacement and upstairs refurbishment being the priorities.

General maintenance remains tricky with regular problems associated with drains and plumbing being particularly demanding.

The Hall Council works closely with the Parish Council, the two organization being mutually supportive.

18.07 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:
The large hole in the road near the Church on Church Street was raised as an issue.
The question why there is so little public participation in this meeting was raised, and could the format or timing be adjusted to boost public participation.

18.08 DATE OF NEXT YEAR’S MEETING:
It was agreed that it should be held on 28th May 2019 at 7.15p.m.

There being no other business the chairman closed the meeting at 8.30p.m.

Signed……Date……