

Minutes of the meeting of Weeley Parish Council held on 21 November 2022

Present: Cllrs C. Hamilton (Chair), M. Brown, T. Spong, D. Botterell, J. Beady, L. Fitzpatrick and G. Foster. Also in attendance were TDC Cllr P. Harris, K Harkin Parish Clerk and 13 members of the public.

- 11/22.01 **Apologies:** Apologies were received from Cllrs K. Green and P. Taylor and ECC Cllr D. Land
- 11/22.02 **Minutes of the previous meeting:** The minutes of the meeting held on 17 October were proposed by Cllr Botterell, seconded by Cllr Spong and approved as an accurate record of the meeting.
- 11/22.03 **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Botterell declared that his company is included in agenda item 11/22.014
- 11/22.04 **Clerk's Report:** The Clerk presented a brief summary of his previously circulated report, which is attached as Appendix A.
- 11/22.05 **Public Participation:**
- a) Concern was expressed about the request submitted for a time extension on the planning application for the development of the Barrack Field housing development. In particular with relation to the insufficient provision for visitor parking provision.
 - b) It was reported that the Community Rail Network has agreed to erect picture boards on Weeley Bridge.
 - c) A request was made to erect/paint 30mph signs on Thorpe Road. It was explained that Highways probably will not agree but that a request will be made to Cllr Land.
- 11/22.06 **Tendring District and Essex County Councils:** Cllr P. Harris reported
- a) that a decision was taken not to call-in planning application 22/01439/FULHH as Planning Services agreed to make the consent conditional on no access on to the bypass.
 - b) He provided an update of the current situation with regard to the occupation of the Spinney. Local residents are concerned about the apparent unlawful occupation. Planning application 22/01862/FUL had been validated today. Cllr Harris agreed to call-in this application. UKPN inspected the site today following a localized power cut. Highways had inspected the pothole in the road.
 - c) Cllr Harris continues to seek a solution to the noise complaints emanating from the Mill Lane Care Home.
 - d) He reported that TDC Planning Enforcement is being strengthened.
 - e) A beach hut consultation exercise has started and end on 8 January 2023.
- 11/22.07 **Correspondence:** The Clerk reported on the following items of correspondence.
- a) North Shore Wind Farm consultation exercise has opened.
 - b) A request to erect a notice board on the perimeter fence was agreed subject to the Clerk agreeing the proposal prior to erection. Concern was expressed about it becoming a target for vandalism.
 - c) The contents of the letter relating to the Thorpe Farm Solar Park were noted.
 - d) A complaint from a resident about the encampment on The Spinney was noted. The Clerk was asked to provide a response updating the resident of the situation.
 - e) The complaint made by a resident about the undergrowth clearance at The Loop was discussed. The Clerk was asked to provide a response.
- 11/22.08 **Internal Audit Report 2022/23:** The report had been circulated to members. A copy of the audit letter containing six minor recommendations to improve the Council's financial controls is attached as Appendix B. Proposed by Cllr Hamilton, seconded by Cllr Botterell and it was **RESOLVED:** To accept the report.
- 11/22.09 **Land commonly known as The Spinney, Clacton Road, Weeley Heath:**
An update of the current situation had been covered by Cllr Harris under item 11/22.06 (b) above.

- 11/22.010 **Grant Application:** The Clerk reported the receipt of a grant application from St Andrew's Parish Church. Cllr Hamilton proposed, Cllr Spong seconded and it was **RESOLVED:** To approve a grant of £750 to St Andrew's Church for the upkeep of the Churchyard.
- 11/22.011 **Litter and Dog Waste Bins:** Cllr Hamilton reported that she had completed a survey of the litter and dog bins in the Village. She passed around copies of her survey report. The hope is to supplement the existing provision in Weeley Heath. After some discussion, it was agreed to provide Cllr Harris with a copy of the report in order to allow him to discuss its recommendations with Cllr M.Talbot, the TDC Environmental Services Portfolio Holder.
- 11/22.012 **Wilder Towns, Wilder Villages:** The Clerk reported on his meetings with TDC officers and Essex Wildlife Trust's Wilder Communities Manager. Cllr Hamilton proposed, Cllr Botterell seconded and it was **RESOLVED:**
- a) To approve a proposal to enter into an annual license agreement with TDC in order to allow the wilding project at Second Avenue to proceed.
 - b) To agree to commission a survey by Essex Wildlife Trust of Reed Pond at a cost of up to £500.
- 11/22.013 **Planning Applications:** The Council's stance on the planning applications set out in Appendix C were proposed by Cllr Hamilton, seconded by Cllr Botterell and agreed unanimously.
- 11/22.014 **Finance and Budget:** The list of monthly payments were proposed by Cllr Botterell, seconded by Cllr Brown and it was **RESOLVED:** To approve the list of payments set out in Appendix D.
- 10/22.015 **Weeley Parish Council Reports:**
- a) Street Lighting. Just one streetlight No. 9023 only out this month.
 - b) Tree Warden. Nothing to report in Cllr Green's absence.
 - c) Playing Field. Nothing to report this month.
 - d) Children's Play Area: Three quotations have been received and will be included for consideration on next month's agenda.
- 11/22.016 **Other Reports:**
- a) Highways and Footpaths. Cllr Beady presented her report, which is attached as Appendix E.
 - b) TDALC. Next meeting later this week.
 - c) Rural Policing. The Police UK website shows that there were 27 crimes reported. In total, 9 in Weeley and 18 in Little Clacton.
 - d) Speedwatch. Cllr Beady presented her report, which is attached as Appendix F.
 - e) Weeley Residents Assn (WRA). Mrs Miles presented her report, which is attached as Appendix G.
 - f) Weeley in Bloom. The recent rain has curtailed work. A residents survey (150 residents) is being conducted about proposals for the open space on Second Avenue. Formed two new flower beds at station approach.
 - g) Petanque Rink. Bet gave report attached as Appendix H. Xmas Dinner 36 diners booked in
- 11/22.017 **Public Participation:**
- a) Residents of Verity Gardens requested confirmation that the two planning applications relating to the Barrack Field development will be considered. It was confirmed.
 - b) Clarification was requested about the type of use of a building in Gutteridge Hall Lane. The Clerk agreed to write to TDC Services.
 - c) It was reported that the Christmas tree lighting arrangements are progressing well. The lights will be turned on Sunday 4 December at 5pm.

Close of meeting: 9.02pm

APPENDIX A**Clerks Report – 21 November 2022**

Topic	Action/issue	Who	Notes	Status
Children's Play Area Refurbishment	Consider options for the renewal of the facility.	DB and KG	Quotations received from three suppliers.	Ongoing
Defibrillator	Replace pads (routine mtnce régime).	KPH	Supplier finally identified	O/S
Emergency Plan	2021 annual update.	Cllr H	Cllr Hamilton has agreed to conduct a review.	Ongoing
Litter Bins	Reassessment of provision.	Cllr H and KPH	Agreed to review the litter bin survey.	Ongoing
Scout Hut	Prepare a new lease.	KPH	Thompson Smith & Puxon Solicitors has been asked to prepare a new lease.	Ongoing.
Street Lighting	Convert lamps to energy efficient LED	KPH	Conversion work will be completed this autumn/winter in batches of 20.	Ongoing
Weeley bypass	Determine options for the avenue of poplars		Await a proposal from ECC Place Services about how many and what species trees to plant.	Ongoing
Bus Shelter, Clacton Rd	Replace roof	KPH	Awaiting a quotation for this work.	Ongoing
Vermin on playing field	Reports of rats in vicinity of the Play Area	KPH	Pest Control advised to cut off food source e.g. use litter bins.	Ongoing
Weeley Heath Gateway sign	Locate new sign as it represents a safety hazard	Dan L	Highways has agreed to relocate the sign.	Ongoing

1. Complaints have been received from residents of Clacton Road about the 3authorized work taking place on the area known as The Spinney. TDC has been informed and urgent action to stop the work requested.
2. An overhead power lines company working on behalf of UK Power Networks were working on Clacton Rd and remove one of our streetlights because it represented a safety hazard. WPC's contractor has been asked to replace it.
3. Meeting held with EWT to discuss the Wilder Towns, Wilder Villages initiative that WPC signed up to. Agreed to commission a survey of Reed Pond at the cost of £400-500. This will hopefully provide a management plan to assist WPC to move from a reactive to a planned maintenance regime.
4. Met with TDC to discuss the 'wilding' project at Second Avenue. TDC insists on a annual license arrangement to allow it to approve the proposed work.
5. The Clerk wrote to TDC to request a replacement road sign at Kempton Park.

APPENDIX B**Internal Audit Report 2021/22**

My report explains the work undertaken and evidence gathered. Please pass my thanks to Kevin for the very well organised presentation of the information required to undertake the internal audit.

There are a few matters to which I would like to draw your attention, highlighted in pale blue in my report, which the council may like to take forward:

- Adopt latest model Standing Orders and Financial Regulations (section B).

- Strengthen internal financial controls (section C).
- Consider additional risk mitigation measures (section C).
- Earmark reserves for specific projects (section D).
- Review Property Damage Cover (section H).
- Deposit some funds with a second banking institution (section I).

I would like to stress that none of these matters raised any great concerns but are highlighted for your consideration. If you would like to discuss anything in the report, please let me know.

Jan Stobart

APPENDIX C

Planning Applications for month to 21 November 2022

Applicati on No.	Details	Address	Comment/ Resolution
22/01733/ TPO	To fell Cherry Tree T28 which is leaning towards a neighbouring property.	Land adjacent Hillside House on the corner of Church Lane and Clacton Road Weeley	Proposed Cllr Spong, seconded Cllr Beady and RESOLVED: To object to the application.
22/00979/ DETAIL	Reserved matters application for 280 homes, including offices, land for a new primary school, railway footbridge, attenuation basins, open space, play equipment and associated infrastructure, considering details of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale, pursuant to outline planning consent 19/00524/OUT .	Land to The South of Thorpe Road Weeley Essex	The Clerk was asked to write reiterating the comments previously made.
22/01602/ LBC	Proposed demolition and reinstatement of damaged garden wall and external repairs to main house following damaged caused by crashed vehicle. Damage repair to west elevation of main house and re-render to make good finish.	Tocketts Thorpe Road Weeley	No objection and no comment.
22/01768/ VOC	Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act, to allow a variation of conditions 1 (Approved plans and documents), 2 (Clear to ground visibility splay), 3 (Internal road site access and footway layout), 8 (Traffic Regulation Order), 14 (Hedge height) and 23 (Existing 'Great Bentley' village signs and associated 'Village award sign') of 1/00977/DETAIL to reflect the latest plan reference.	Land to The South of Weeley Road Great Bentley Essex	This planning application is not in this Parish.
22/01851/ TELLIC	PROPOSAL: The removal of the existing 3no. antennas and the installation of 3 no. replacement antennas. The removal of existing 300mm dish and the replacement of 1 no. 300mm dish and additional 1 no. 600mm dish and ancillary development thereto including the installation of 9 no. Remote Radio Heads (RRHs) and 3 no. BOBs.	Land adjacent to Church of St Andrew Church Lane Weeley Essex	No objection and no comment.
22/01232/ FUL	The application seeks approval for the erection of one bungalow. The application has been referred to the Planning Committee (24/11/22) as the proposed development would conflict with the requirements of the Development Plan, Policy SPL2 (Settlement Development Boundaries) of the Local Plan 2013-2033 and Beyond Section 2 (adopted 2022) being located outside of any defined settlement development boundary and has a recommendation of approval.	REEDLANDS. Gutteridge Hall Lane WEELEY	No objection and no comment.

Planning Determinations

Application No.	Detail	Address
22/01387/FULHH Approval – Full 19.10.2022 Delegated Decision	Proposed garage. 1 Barnfields	Clacton Road Weeley Heath CO16 9EF
22/01458/FULHH Approval – Full 21.10.2022 Delegated Decision	Proposed single storey rear extension.	47 Colchester Road Weeley CO16 9JP
22/01610/TELLIC Deemed Consent 26.10.2022 Delegated Decision	Proposed removal of the existing 3no. Antennas and the installation of 3 no. replacement antennas. The installation of 1 no. 600mm dish and 1 no. 300mm dish and ancillary development thereto including the installation of 9 no. Remote Radio Heads (RRHs) and 3 no. BOBs.	Land adjacent to Church of St Andrew Church Lane Weeley CO16 9AT
22/01526/TPO Approval – Full 01.11.2022 Delegated Decision	1 No. Oak – remove and replace with new tree.	Reedlands Gutteridge Hall Lane Weeley CO16 9AS
22/01439/FULHH Approval – Full 15.11.2022 Delegated Decision	Proposed erection of detached building to form guest annex.	76 The Street Weeley CO16 9HH
22/01851/TELLIC Deemed Consent 17.11.2022	The removal of the existing 3no. antennas and the installation of 3 no. replacement antennas. The removal of existing 300mm dish and the replacement of 1 no. 300mm dish and additional 1 no. 600mm dish and ancillary development thereto including the installation of 9 no. Remote Radio Heads (RRHs) and 3 no. BOBs.	And adjacent to Church of St Andrew Church Lane Weeley CO16 9AT

APPENDIX D

CHEQUES/PAYMENTS FOR AUTHORISATION: November 2022

Invoice Date	Invoice No.	Cheque No.	Payee	Service	NET £	VAT £	GROSS £
03-11-22	IN005068484	Direct Debit	Npower	Electricity Consumption	606.90	30.34	637.24
01-10-22	36587	103249	A&J Lighting	Monthly Mtnce	99.98	20.00	119.98
03-10-22	36620	103249	A&J Lighting	Repair & convert 8 x streetlights	1,891.30	378.26	2,269.56
06-10-22	36626	103249	A&J Lighting	Contract Termination	899.82	179.96	1,079.78
31-11-22	INV-0165	103250	Goldacre Contracting	Grass Cut (9 th cut)	415.00	83.00	498.00
31-10-22	INV-0166	103250	Goldacre Contracting	Repairs to Playing Field	435.00	87.00	522.00
14-11-22	INV-0174	103250	Goldacre Contracting	Remove green waste	290.00	58.00	348.00
16-11-22	-	103251	Cllr C Hamilton	Refreshments for Warm Hub	43.03	0	43.03
25-10-22	16963	103252	TT&SS Ltd	Connect Xmas Lights	90.00	18.00	108.00
31-10-22	-	103253	HMRC	PAYE months 4,5 and 6	512.44	0	512.44
29-09-22	-	103254	Essex & Herts Air Ambulance	Grant donation	250.00	0	250.00

17-11-22	2539	103255	DM Payroll Services Ltd	Admin of payroll (oct 22–Mar 23)	60.00	0	60.00
30-11-22	-	103256	Mr K Harkin	November Salary	912.23	0	912.23
11-11-22	-	103256	Mr K Harkin	November Expenses	114.15	22.83	136.98
				TOTALS	6,619.85	877.39	7,497.24

Bank balances as at 02 November 2022; current account **£45,420.97**; deposit account **£82,330.34**.

APPENDIX E

Highways Report

The 30 mph sign in Bentley road is still knocked on its side but is now visible although someone has turned the sign around so it it now denotes that the end of Bentley Road is a 60mph road and not a 30ph road. In Colchester Road/Thorpe Road on the North side, cable was laid underneath the path. The workers left the path in a much better condition than before they started, filling in more holes than they had created. The potholes and 'cracks' stretching' from one side of the road to the other in Second Avenue has been reported. (Ref no: 2806011) and other than the above no unreported road problems were noted. The 2 bridges needing repair on Public footpaths were reported by Christine Hamilton.

APPENDIX F

Speedwatch Report

In October we logged 89 speeding vehicles. One of the hour long sessions on Thorpe Road was cut short after 8 minutes due to rain but in those 8 minutes we logged 10 speeding vehicles.

Of the 89 speeding vehicles 9 were repeat offenders with 1 being logged for the 3rd time, 3 were had no MOT, 1 had no tax, One should have thought better about speeding as they had a SORN (Statuary Off Road Notice) on it. The fastest was logged on Thorpe Road which is a 30mph road was doing 59mph and the next day on Colchester Road again a 30mph road, we logged one doing 52mph.

APPENDIX G

REPORT FOR WRA

We had a very successful Halloween Evening, and it was good to have some children present too We shall have had our visit to the Southbank Christmas Market and to see the Christmas Lights when this report is given to the PC. (an update at the meeting) On 21 st November we have our presentation from the East Coast Distillery (an update at the meeting). On 26 th November we shall have our HOY evening, this was re arranged following the death of Her Majesty the Queen. On Sunday 4th December we shall have our Christmas Party for Members, there will be no cost to members as this our gift to them for their continued support throughout the year. Our diary for 2023 starts with an evening with Andy Wilshire on 21 st January in the village hall, when he will be singing familiar songs from the Rat Pack Classics. Tickets are available from Kevin at £15pp. Other popular events planned for next year will be a quiz in May and the regular Bingo and Hoy evenings throughout the year. There are several outings planned and we cannot confirm arrangements until January. The WRA send their Christmas Greetings to all members of the Parish Council.
Diane Miles, Chairman

APPENDIX G

Petanque Report

As stated in my report last month, playing numbers are still high because of the weather. Apart from last Wednesday, when we were rained off, we have had 20 players at each of our last three sessions which proves how popular it has become. We held our final of the competition we have been running throughout the year and we will be presenting trophies for the winners and runners up at our Christmas Dinner to be held at the beginning of December for which we have 36 attending. I reiterate, we do carry on playing throughout the winter, weather permitting, we just have to put a few more layers on!
Bet Holt