

Minutes of the meeting of Weeley Parish Council held on 16th September 2024

Present: Cllrs C. Hamilton (Chair), T. Spong, V. Cauvain, L. Fitzpatrick, G. Foster, J. Beady, K.Green and S. Gunter - Parish Clerk. Also in attendance were Cllr D. Land, Cllr Harris, Cllr. Bray and 16 members of the public.

09/24.1 Apologies: Cllrs D. Botterell and K. Millar sent apologies. Cllr Hamilton proposed to accept apologies and Cllr Cauvain seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to accept apologies.

09/24.2 Minutes of the previous meeting: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15th July 2024 were proposed by Cllr Hamilton, seconded by Cllr Cauvain and it was **RESOLVED:** To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15th July 2024 as an accurate record of proceedings.

09/24.3 Declarations of Interest: The Chair invited councillors to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests relevant to the agenda.

No Declarations

09/24.4 Clerk's Report: The Clerk presented his previously circulated report, which is attached as Appendix A. The Clerk also presented the Issues List from the Audit Report.

09/24.5 Public Participation: The Chair invited the members of public in attendance to raise any questions/issues.

- A Member of Public (MOP) mentioned Gutteridge Hall Lane. Cllr Peter Harris explained the current planning situation.
- The silt in Reed Pond was mentioned the clerk has it on his Report to look into.

09/24.6 Tendring District and Essex County Councils:

ECC Cllr Land: mentioned the following:

- Essex County Council Local Govt Reform Deal to devolve control which may lead to a bigger council covering more areas.
- Next year's electoral boundaries are now legal
- Highways have £25 million to spend across Essex some of which will be spent on Vegetation Clearance
- Work completed on Colchester Rd / The Street and more work to be done on Millers Green / Victoria Road / Pestles Hall Bridge and more to be completed before February
- Various grants awarded to WIB and WPC as well as others

Cllr Harris: mentioned the following:

- Connaught Area building work started – fencing issues reported
- Car Sales in Hillside Crescent next to the Weeley Heath signs have returned and he is looking into Byelaws to permanently remove this commercial enterprise
- A Stop Notice has been issued at Church Lane by Enforcement
- Barleyfields will take 6 years with possibly another 10 years for a school
- Full Council is 17th Sept and Cllr Harris has tabled a motion to object to the cuts in Winter Fuel Allowance. Cllr. Dan Land pointed out that there are 38,061 residents in the Tendring area will be affected by the cuts.

09/24.7 Government Housing Plans: Cllr Harris and Cllr Bray explained the new Government Housing plans and a lively discussion then occurred. Cllr. Bray encouraged everyone to complete the consultation online at

<https://consult.communities.gov.uk/planning/planning->

[reform/consultation/subpage.2024-07-30.2126027039/](https://www.parishcouncil.gov.uk/reform/consultation/subpage.2024-07-30.2126027039/) The final date for submission is 24th September 2024.

09/24.8 VE Day Celebrations: Cllr Hamilton proposed setting up a Working Group to discuss and plan VE Day Celebrations. Cllr Hamilton, Cllr Millar and Cllr Fitzpatrick as well as a few members of public will join the group. Cllr Hamilton has already made a start on collating and booking for this. A budget of £5000 was proposed to be earmarked and set aside for this event **s145 of LGA 1972** Cllr Hamilton proposed and Cllr Cauvain seconded a budget of £5000 and it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to earmark the funds for the VE Day celebrations and the working group will report back to the council on expenditure before full council approval.

09/24.9 Speedwatch Stickers / Notices: Discussion regarding these notices and it was proposed by Cllr Cauvain and seconded by Cllr Hamilton and **RESOLVED** to use laminated posters initially to see if there is any impact

09/24.10 TDC Land Purchase: Deferred to a future meeting as not enough information

09/24.11 Possible installation of Larger item of Playground Equipment: Komplan brochure was discussed as well as available funds from S106 and it was **RESOLVED** to investigate options and then return to full council with proposals

09/24.12 Membership of LGPS: Cllr Cauvain proposed and Cllr Green seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to add the clerk to the LGPS scheme.

09/24.13 Standing Orders: Cllrs discussed the updated Standing Orders and Cllr Hamilton proposed and Cllr Cauvain seconded and it was **RESOLVED** to approve the updated Standing Orders

09/24.14 Christmas Tree Lighting: Cllr Cauvain and Cllr Fitzpatrick will work together and produce a risk assessment and deliver the Christmas Tree Lighting event. Cllr Hamilton will provide them with previous running order

09/24.15 Life-Buoy for Reed Pond: The options were discussed and voted on and it was **RESOLVED** to purchase the first option on the list provided

09/24.16 Correspondence:

- a) Utility Aid – requested them to source cheaper electricity
- b) Woodland Trust – council would like to request free tree packs and Clerk will apply
- c) Essex Local Nature Recovery Strategy – individuals can comment if they so wish
- d) Careline Consultation – individuals are encouraged to comment
- e) Highways – to note closure of Station Approach North, due to commence on 23rd September 2024 for 5 days
- f) To thank Len Cordery and David Outram for painting the Parish Council noticeboards
- g) North Falls Wind Farm- invitation to the Preliminary Meeting, Notification of Hearings, other Procedural Decisions and information about the Examination
- h) Greater Anglia Grants – grant date has passed with no application
- i) SLCC Bursary scheme – applied for this for the clerk
- j) Response from Weeley Veterinary Centre noted
- k) TDC – Dog Fouling and Dog Control PSPO

09/24.17 Planning Applications: Council Members considered the applications set out in Appendix B and determined as shown.

09/24.18 Finance and Budget: The list of monthly payments was proposed by Cllr Hamilton and seconded by Cllr Cauvain **RESOLVED:** To approve the list of payments set out in Appendix C.

Small purchases of

100 Plastic Pockets	£2.49	£0.50
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Envelopes	£3.25	£0.65
Title Register and Title Plan	£6.00	£0.00
Green Paint for Notice Boards	£8.33	£1.67
Wood Stain for Notice Boards	£20.82	£4.17

Receipts of

VAT Refund Q1 24-25 (Less Duplicate)	24929.57
VAT Refund 23-24 (Duplicate)	3789.80

09/24.19 Weeley Parish Council Reports:

- a) Street Lighting: Streetlight 9038 still not working. Clerk to report to AJ Mitchell
- b) Tree Warden: It was a hard summer but trees have survived.
- c) Playing Field: A single cut was made before the festival in August and has been invoiced.
- d) Children's Play Area: as covered in the Clerk's Report.
- e) Highways: Cllr Beady presented her report which is published on the Council's website.
- f) Footpaths: Cllr Fitzpatrick has reported footpath 16 overgrown and this has been scheduled for cutting this has still not been cut and sign not mended.
- g) Transport: Cllr Millar did not attend
- h) TDALC: Cllr Botterell did not attend

09/24.20 Other Reports:

- a) Rural Policing: Cllr Hamilton reported that 8 crimes had occurred in July.
- b) Speedwatch: Cllr. Beady presented her report which is published on the Council's website.
- c) Weeley Residents Ass: presented their report which is available on the Council website.
- d) Weeley in Bloom (WiB): presented their report which is available on the Council website.
- e) Petanque Rink: presented their report which will be published on the Council's Website.
- f) Code of Conduct: Cllr. Beady provided a report

09/24.21 Public Participation: Further questions raised as follows:

- A MOP asked if the Council need a disclaimer for the Playground. It is not necessary as reasonable risk is inbuilt into equipment.
- A MOP asked about vegetation clearing on Clacton Road and it was suggested they speak to Cllr Land

09/24.22 Items to be added to the next agenda:

- Fencing around the Spinney
- TDC Land Purchase

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.24pm

Date of Next Meeting will be: **Monday 21st October at 7.30pm** at Weeley Village Hall

Weeley Parish Council
Clerks Report – 16 September 2024

	Topic	Action/issue	Information	Status
1.	New Children's Play Area	Complete installation.	<p>Playdale have informed us that the contractors will be returning on 4th August to fix the Muga corners and the tarmac at the entrance to the playing field.</p> <p>Chris Dyson has removed the dead turf and re-seeded the area so hopefully this will start to show through soon. The final payment to Playdale of £25000 will be made when the works are completed.</p>	<p>Still no progress on the MUGA corners. Jamie visited in August to refill them as they had become dangerous, but, no communication from Playdale since then. We are still holding £25000 of their money and will not release it until we are totally satisfied.</p> <p>Marcus is visiting on 10th Sept to measure and look into the MUGA issue. No notice of visit on Sep10</p>
2.	Emergency Plan	Annual update.	The final draft has been circulated for comment.	No progress this month
3.	Litter Bins	Install additional bins	It is proposed to simply purchase the hardware (bins), install and notify TDC accordingly. Reply received from TDC and it would appear we can now just purchase what we need and get them installed.	Estimate received and applied for locality fund grant from Cllr Dan Land. Grant is now available of £545 so bins have been ordered with Parish Council logos. 3 weeks delivery then we will inform TDC and install
4.	Scout Hut	Prepare a new lease.	<p>Have initiated a chat with a new solicitor from Sparlings and have sent a copy of the lease to them. Awaiting response before contacting the Scouts. It is proposed to make the lease 35 years. Estimate received for creating a new lease but also with some information for the Scouts to be passed onto them. Scouts have now appointed representation.</p>	Our Solicitor and Scouts solicitor are now working on this. Estimated cost up to £1800 for Parish Council – Scouts will pay other costs. We have purchased a copy of the title deeds for £6

5.	Weeley bypass	Determine options for the avenue of poplars	The Clerk has agreed to contact ECC Place Services to chase for a firm proposal including numbers and species of trees to plant.	No progress this month
6.	Bank Account	Process two additional signatories. Set up BACS payment process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk now added to the bank account. • Liz and Vicky have been added as signatories on the account. • Set up a BACS payments – what was the need for this? 	Liz and Vicky have now been added and can sign cheques. Unsure what the BACS payment was for?
7.	Electricity Supplier	Appoint an electricity broker.	Contact Utility Aid and investigate this.	Utility Aid are looking into this for us and will revert soon.
8.	Reed Pond	Initiate Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain costs to install a chlorine pump • Publish report on website. • Purchase and install LifeBuoy at pond • No progress on dredging 	Estimates of Life Buoys found to decide on at next meeting. To order 3 signs (will need someone to create the posts and backing for them)
9.	Audit Suggestions	Separate Issue List	The clerk has created a new Audit Report list that we can review each month	See separate list - progressing
10.	Policy Review Schedule	Prepare and circulate	The clerk has initially reviewed the new Financial Regulations and amended, but, will need council input on limits. Schedule to be draw up for further policy reviews	Standing Orders sent out for review at September meeting
11.	Investigate new Playground Equipment	Research	Contacted Kompan regarding a larger slide and they will site visit and give us estimates	Awaiting visit

Planning Applications for month to 16th September 2024

Application No.	Details	Address	Comment/ Resolution
24/01221/FUL	Planning Application - change of use of land from equine land to a mixed use for residential and equine purposes to enable standing of two residential caravans and ancillary works.	Bucklands Gutteridge Hall Lane Weeley Clacton On Sea	Object and ask Cllr Harris to call in
24/01295/FULHH	Householder Planning Application - Single storey rear extension, loft conversion including 3no velux rooflights and detached garage built on existing slab of existing garage that was demolished, and removal of chimney stack	Mr Konesh Nagarajah 9 Second Avenue Weeley Essex CO16 9HU	No Comment
24/01199/VOC	Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act for Variation of Condition 3 (occupant minimum age) of application 17/02161/FUL to allow for occupants aged 45 years or over.	Weeley Manor 23 The Street Weeley Essex	No Comment
24/01360/ADV	Application for Advertisement Consent - Installation of 3m high and 7m high Electric Vehicle Charging totem pole signage.	BP Weeley Service Station Colchester Road Weeley Essex	Object to 7m high pole as too high
22/01862/FUL/ 21/00335/ENF ENQ	Part retrospective proposed change of use of land for the creation of 1 no. Gypsy/Traveller Pitches, comprising the siting of 1 mobile home and 1 touring caravan alongside the formation of hardstanding and erection of dayroom	Land adjacent Heathfields Clacton Road Weeley Essex CO16 9EJ	Gone to appeal comments can not be added

APPENDIX C

Invoice Date	Invoice No.	Cheque No.	Payee	Service	NET (£)	VAT (£)	GROSS (£)
22/07/2024	WVH-3987	103399	Weeley Village Hall	Hall Hire April / May / Electric and Broadband	£144.50	£0.00	£144.50
25/07/2024	INV-GB-127550191-2024-382380	Debit Card	Amazon	100 Plastic Pockets	£2.49	£0.50	£2.99
25/07/2024	GB4515KUUAUI	Debit Card	Amazon	Envelopes	£3.25	£0.65	£3.90
01/08/2024	INV-0598	103400	Goldacre Contracting	7th Cut Playing Field, Verges and Reed Pond	£415.00	£83.00	£498.00
01/08/2024	INV-0599	103400	Goldacre Contracting	Removal of turf and over-seeding	£115.00	£23.00	£138.00
31/08/2024		103401	Steve Gunter	August Pay	£859.04	£0.00	£859.04
03/08/2024	IN11201445	D/D	Npower	Electricity July	£379.64	£18.98	£398.62
06/08/2024	1000005706723	Debit Card	Land Registry	Title Register and Title Plan	£6.00	£0.00	£6.00
06/08/2024	10003125047	D/D	Castle Water	Reed Pond Standing Charge	£7.14	£0.00	£7.14
02/08/2024	SB20240267	103402	PKF Littlejohn	Annual Audit	£315.00	£63.00	£378.00
20/08/2024	GB45NHTMIAUI	Debit Card	Amazon	Green Paint for Notice Boards	£8.33	£1.67	£10.00
19/08/2024	GB45MKP4MAUI	Debit Card	Amazon	Wood Stain for Notice Boards	£20.82	£4.17	£24.99
22/08/2024	INV-0620	103400	Goldacre Contracting	8th Cut Playing Field, Verges and Reed Pond	£415.00	£83.00	£498.00
22/08/2024	INV-0621	103400	Goldacre Contracting	Hedge Cutting	£500.00	£100.00	£600.00
02/09/2024		103401	Steve Gunter	September Pay	£859.04	£0.00	£859.04
16/09/2024		103401	Steve Gunter	Expenses Jul - Sep	£52.00	£0.00	£52.00
13/08/2024		103401	Steve Gunter	Canon Ink Subscription	£3.32	£0.67	£3.99
04/09/2024	IN11412553	D/D	NPower	Electricity August	£382.59	£19.13	£401.72
05/09/2024	10003390955	D/D	Castle Water	Reed Pond Standing Charge	£7.14	£0.00	£7.14
06/09/2024	INV-0638	103400	Goldacre Contracting	Additional Cut of Playing Field	£140.00	£28.00	£168.00
13/09/2024		103401	Steve Gunter	Canon Ink Subscription	£3.32	£0.67	£3.99
12/09/2024	SI-20312	103403	AJ Mitchell Lighting	Repair the Cable for the CCTV	£3,789.00	£757.80	£4,546.80
16/09/2024		103404	Christine Hamilton	Expenses July - Sep	£44.09	£0.00	£44.09
				TOTALS	£8,471.71	£1,184.24	£9,655.95

Bank balances as at 12 July 2024; current account £38,615.10; deposit account £150,003.38.