

Weedon Parish Council Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 24 August 2022 6.30pm

Minutes of an Interim Meeting of Weedon Parish Council held in The Old Schoolroom 24 August 2022 6.30pm

Present: Cllrs J Rose (Chair), W Kett, G Delaney, P Gupta

Members of the Public: None

48/22 Apologies and Members' Interests

Members accepted apologies for absence from Cllrs S Gibbs, T Jameson-Evans, D Atkins and Clerk R Millard.

Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Weedon Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

Cllr JR declared an interest in item 51/22.

49/22 Open Forum For members of the public to raise any issues. No visitors.

50/22 Approval of Minutes

Members **AGREED** the minutes from the General Meeting 20 July 2022 as a true account. The Chair signed the minutes.

51/22 Planning

22/02648/ALB Manor Farmhouse 32 High Street Weedon Buckinghamshire HP22 4NW. Listed building application for repairs to fire damaged timber frame barn.

As Cllr JR had declared an interest, Cllr WK took the Chair. The plans are for a restitution of the building exactly as before the fire, and Members **RESOLVED** No Objection or Comment.

52/22 Urgent Works Required

a. Pond

i. Members considered plans for dredging the pond urgently, due to low water level. This had been done very satisfactorily in 2011 by George Cheshire. Due to the number of ducks, build-up of manure will be a recurring problem. A quote had been requested from GC and another contractor; however, only GC was able to carry out the work in the required timescale.

Members therefore **RESOLVED** to accept GC's quote for £800 + VAT to dredge the pond with a digger, then transport the silt using a dumper truck to a nearby field farmed by Bob Gregory.

ii. Treated softwood posts acting as bollards in the grass are degrading, as they are over 5 years old.

Members **RESOLVED** to source hardwood timbers and replace as required. Cllr GD volunteered to action this.

In addition, Members **RESOLVED** to purchase a roll of composite metallised "wrap", which will be put round each new post to add protection from rot (cost £39 inc VAT). No new posts will be installed until the dredging works are complete.

b. TPO Beech Tree in the Chapel grounds

Two quotes were considered for the works to the TPO tree, which is overhanging Abbey Cottage and touching the roof. The Council accepted its Duty of Care for the tree, as it is in the area of the Chapel grounds subject to the Lease from the Methodists.

Members **RESOLVED** to accept the quote of £950 + VAT from South Bucks Tree Surgeons, which was more detailed as to its proposals. There may be an additional charge of £165 for a road permit.

Members also **RESOLVED** to pay the administration charge of £75 for South Bucks TS to prepare the TPO application.

Members **RESOLVED** to ask the owners of Abbey Cottage for a contribution towards the works, as they had originally offered to pay to cut overhanging branches.

Additionally, a Poplar tree in the grass verge outside Hinton House had been reported to the Council as requiring emergency works. It has a large overgrown limb overhanging power lines and the pavement. South Bucks TS had inspected this tree when they came out to look at the copper beech. They confirmed the tree had multiple cavities and fungal growths and recommended felling in the interests of safety. The Council accepted its Duty of

Care for this tree, too, as it is on the highways verge within the 30mph limits, and therefore included in Devolved Services.

As the tree is in the Conservation Area, permission would be required. South Bucks had suggested that the works on this tree and the chapel beech could be put on the same application to Bucks Council.

Members **RESOLVED** to ask South Bucks to add this tree to the trees application and to carry out the works at the same time (quoted at £880 + VAT).

Members **RESOLVED** to ask the owners of Hinton House for a contribution towards the works, as the tree is right on their boundary.

NOTE: Subsequent to the meeting the Parish Clerk advised the Chair that the Poplar tree was not the responsibility of the Parish Council as trees were not mentioned in the Devolved Service contract. The Planning office informed the Chair that the Poplar tree was outside in the Conservation Area.

c. Park gates

Only one quote had yet been received for the replacement of the gatepost, and there was a question still outstanding on it. Members RESOLVED to seek a second quote and an answer to the question on the first one, with a view to agreeing works at the September meeting.

53/22 Annual PC newsletter

Clr JR had circulated a final draft of the newsletter to Members, who were asked to check and comment on it. Members RESOLVED to have 200 copies of the newsletter printed in the same format as previously, at a likely cost of under £200. [subsequently confirmed quote as £178.50]. Newsletters would be distributed free to the village by mid-September.

54/22 Date of next meeting

The date of the next general meeting was agreed as Tuesday 20 September 2022 7.30pm. Due to works in the Old Schoolroom, the venue would be changed to the Chapel.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Chair Signature

Date.....

Minutes prepared by

Joanna Rose

25/08/22