

Weston Longville Parish Council.

Meeting of the Parish Council – Minutes

Monday July 8th, 2024 at 7.30pm
Hall for All, Church Street, Weston Longville

Parish Councillors present:	Clare Morton	CM (Chairman)
	Peter Ross	PR (Vice Chairman)
	Justin Cohu	JC
	Paul Cowley	PC
	Ruth Horton	RG
	Rick Parsons	RP
	Dawn Clarke	DC (Clerk)

13 Members of the public, including County Councillor Greg Peck (CCGP)

- 2024/044 Chair's welcome and to receive apologies for absence.
- The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and it was resolved to accept apologies from Bob Banks and Peter Bulman.
- 2024/045 To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda and consider any requests for dispensations.
- All council members noted their interest in the A47/Norwich Western Link, SEP and DEP projects.
- 2024/046 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on May 13th, 2024.
- The minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.
- 2024/047 To report on items not on the agenda from the last meeting
- None.

2024/048 Open forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from members of the public and County and District Councillors.

Councillor Greg Peck updated the council with news of Norwich being twinned with Liv area in Ukraine, members attended the Norfolk Show and there are hopes of trade links. There has also been a twinning agreement made with the region Normandy.

2024/049 Planning (Portfolio CM) Verbal update
By Delegation.

49.1 2024/1399 Weston Covert Field Road Weston Longville Norfolk NR9 5JN
Change of use from private swimming pool for residential use, to use by small groups as health spa and pool. (objection)

To Consider a response.

49.2 FUL/2024/0033 Pump Farm, Weston Green Road Weston Longville
Change of use of dwelling and converted barn (C3 Use Class) to a temporary care home (C2 Use Class)

49.3 Any application received after the publishing of this agenda.

49.1 Noted – an objection was submitted with respect to traffic management.

49.2 Some local residents are unhappy with the proposal, the building has previously been used by Ukranian families, however they were frustrated by its secluded location and felt isolated and frustrated by the lack of transport and accessible services.

With respect to the current application, it was noted that the change of use is temporary – however temporary was requested to be 5.5 years this is a significant period of time.

The purpose of the use is to provide accommodation to residents of other facilities while they are being refurbished. The number of residents was indicated to be 6 and support staff. The other staff, doctors, teachers, physios, school busses and taxi drivers were not counted in the expected vehicle movements. The road is a national speed limit, single track and unsafe to walk as there are no pavements and thus all visitors would need to drive. The number of parking spaces may not be sufficient for the number of staff. There will be additional light pollution due to the additional car movements.

There is no mains drainage, the previous capacity was 8 people, given the residents plus support staff there would need to be a sufficient system put in place to process the black water. The application makes reference to the property being connected to the mains system which is not true.

There is no possibility of integration with the community due to location and the short time children spent there whilst the works are being carried out.

The application states that the applicant has and will engage with the

local residents and Parish Council this has not happened.
The documentation states that other locations have been considered over the last 2 years, this would have given ample time for consultation.

RP asks for a clearer number of people who will be there.

RH notes that these homes are used when a foster family is not available and the care and staff numbers reflect the needs of the child. These children will be the most vulnerable in the care system.

CM noted that the application was temporary for 5.5 years during which there will be 22 childrens' homes re-furbished, the documentation indicates between 2 and 8 children, plus staff.

CCGP Has spoken to the officer regarding the application and understands that there will be a small number of vulnerable children.

It was agreed that the Parish Council had insufficient information to either support or object. CM to compile for the clerk to submit for clarification and comment.

2024/050 Roads(Portfolio RH) Verbal update

50.1 To receive an update and agree next steps on A47 and Norwich Western Link.

- a. To ratify the response to the mitigation proposals.
- b. To ratify the response to the NWL planning application

The Parish Council has been working together with Norfolk County Council (NCC) and had 3 presentations, during this time figures were queried and after a lot of thought and discussion there is an agreement between the councillors that the best way forward is to reduce speed limits across the parish and to create traffic calming within the parish

The proposal:

We considered and rejected mitigations which would have prevented traffic entering the village either through Marl Hill or Paddys Lane on the basis that while they did predict significant reductions in through traffic through the centre of the village this was also predicted to result in an exponential increase in the volume of traffic passing through the single lane roads such that it would be unsafe for all road users. The proposal was to keep through traffic but put multiple calming features in place. It was agreed that that NCC would be asked to work up Proposal 11 in more detail for subsequent consultation with the Parish.

PR asked for clarification about how we move forward from having made this decision RH It was agreed that all 3 of the slide shows would be put on the website as one of these has already been distributed to another organisation. It is understood that NCC would now work out the detail and return to the Parish with a public consultation. RH felt that the submission balanced calming with safety and did not force vehicles onto

unsuitable roads causing danger for all. It is understood that it will be around 3 months to receive the detailed proposals from NCC then go to consultation. Each resident will make their decision.

JC asked about the process from now.

RH anticipates that NCC will be willing to work closely with parish council before they finalise their traffic calming measures. A time scale was in the last slide show.

CM Previously the scheme was developed with the Parish Council and presented to the public – amendments were subsequently made to that plan based on feedback from the consultation before it became the final scheme.

These mitigations relate to the A47 dualling, the Western link will bring additional problems when it is started, at that time these measures may need to be re-assessed and modified.

A resident asked if the Parish residents rejected the plan would it be accepted by NCC. RH did not know but past experience was that amendments were usually taken into consideration, but it was unclear if they would then return to the Parish Council to re-consult after any amendments. There will be a narrative within the final plan which will explain why other options are being implemented or rejected.

A resident asked about Ringland Road, it was clarified that Ringland Road was not included in the consultation.

A resident asked for completion times, Summer 2025 was the suggested date.

A resident asked about traffic lights, at the Weston Hall Rd / A1067 junction. This has been raised many times but is not progressed as the construction of the Western Link is the priority. It was noted that any installation of lights will require construction of compliant road infrastructure which is an extensive project.

A resident congratulated the parish council for getting to this point and also including Marl Hill (that is beyond the parish boundary) in the scheme.

b. NWL response, the date was noted as August 19th – CM and RH would compile a response.

Residents were encouraged to submit a response.

A resident asked if they could view the response. The response will be available for the public when submitted on the planning portal.

2024/051 To receive any update respect to the Weston Green Crossroads – Junction of Weston Green Road and Paddys Lane/Honingham Rd, residents' group.

Norfolk County Council have agreed to go forward with changes in the speed limits for Marl Hill, Honingham Road and Paddys Lane. Marl Hill to 40 mph, Honingham Road to part 30 mph through Weston Green and part 40 mph. Paddys Lane to 30 mph through Weston Freen and part 40mph.

Morton Lane: the highways speed criteria doesn't justify moving to 30 mph, but any incidents should be logged so that there is evidence to support a future request.

2024/052 To progress the blanket 40 mph Speed Limit parish wide.

This has been requested and RH will chase.

2024/053 Parish Infrastructure (Portfolio BB) Verbal update

- a. To discuss the current Allotment arrangements.
- b. To consider increasing rent.
 - a. All 6 plot are in use at £20 for a full plot. All plot holders have paid their dues for the 2024 season.
 - b. After a discussion it was agreed that council needed more information with respect to water usage before deciding to implement a rent increase.

PR felt that the water costs should be included in rent.
JC felt that no profit should be made but it should not be subsidised.
It was noted that both the leak that has now been repaired and that some plot holders are leaving the tap running. Other plot holders with adjacent homes use their own domestic water.
The clerk reminded council that a full year of notice was required for any rent increase. Plot prices in the area are variable, Weston Longville plots were below the local average. Deferred to September.

2024/054 An update regarding Land Registry progress.

No update available. Expected response in a year.

2024/055 To discuss purchasing a replacement (shared) SAM2 machine

It was agreed to contribute £150 to the shared Great Witchingham/7 Chairs shared SAM2 to support maintenance.
Alternative official safe locations may need to be addressed.

2024/056 To resolve maintenance requirements for the Parish SAM2 machine

The Weston Longville SAM2 Machine has 2 batteries, one no longer holds charge. It was agreed that a new battery be purchased from

Westcotec. Clerk to arrange.

2024/057 Environmental Considerations (Portfolio PC) - Verbal update

a. To receive an update on the Hornsea 3 and Equinor SEP and DEP.

No update with the SEP and DEP

Hornsea 3 have now completed all of the drills and ducting with the exception of the area in front of the Hall for All – PC is waiting for notice of this happening. It is more complex than other locations. The next stage is making the junction locations where the cables are joined. Cable will be pulled in 2025. There will be a pause in this area until 2025 as they are working in other areas.

The latest newsletter is available. The Hall for All has applied for funds towards the playground refurbishment.

2024/058 Seed Planting (Clean & Bloom).

Clover is available for verge regeneration from Clare Morton.

2024/059 Parishioner Engagement (Portfolio RP) - Verbal update

None

2024/060 Update in the booklet of Walks / Footpath Map and to resolve the next step.

The footpath walk has developed further and is in a position to be progressed to printing. A copy was passed around the members present. There are around 30km of walks that Rick Parsons has walked and checked. It extends beyond the parish also.

The Golf Course were preparing their walk around the perimeter of the course and it is nearly ready.

RP would like to distribute walking guide to parishioners and via the pub for visitors.

OS publish maps but there is a licence cost – RP to look into map options so that the routes are clearer.

CM to seek a quote for printing from Norwich Printing Services.

A resident asked for an enlarged copy somewhere in the village for visitors.

2024/061 Communications (Portfolio JC) - Verbal update

Included in 2024/062

2024/062 Mobile phone Signal Improvement

JC has only had a response from 1 mobile phone provider regarding the minimum service that should be delivered. There has been no clarification of the term 'vulnerable', JC has had 3 residents contact him for help. JC is happy to help anyone when changes happen

2024/063 Inter stakeholder Liaison (Portfolio PR) - Verbal Update

The 7 Chairs meeting was held in May in Weston Longville. There are no minutes as agreed by the group. Topics covered at the last meeting were - offshore power cables, traffic issues, planning, Great Witchingham spare speed monitoring equipment and VOIP. The next meeting is on September 4th in Great Witchingham.

2024/064 To receive a progress update regarding the Playing field.

PR has proposed a meeting with Lady Anne and her daughter.

2024/065 Administrative Matters - Clerk's Report (Verbal Update)

Parish Partnership will be opening for grants, pathways (pavements) were suggested.

There has been mail regarding wide loads through the parish and our support has been requested.

The 'Handy Guide' was on the chairs and it is suggested that it is added to the website.

2024/066 To resolve to adopt updated policies.

The Grant form has been amended.

It was agreed to adopt the amended form alongside as the current policy.

2024/067 To note the dates of the Electors Rights.

The electors' rights have been published and run for 30 consecutive working days: July 1st to August 9th 2024

2024/068 To agree the payment list

The payment list was approved.

2024/069 To note any income and payments made since the last meeting.

Noted.

For Authorisation			
1	Dawn Clarke	Expenses / WFH Allowance / Mileage	61.45
2	Dawn Clarke	Clerk Salary - July	259.13
3	Dawn Clarke	Microsoft	59.99
To note the payment			
4	Wave	Allotment Water	292.52
5	Westcotec - Bus Shelter	Full Payment	7268.40
6	Dawn Clarke	Clerk Salary - June	259.13
Income			
7	Allotment Holders	RN, PH, TD, EF, BB	50.00

2024/070 To note and sign the bank balances and reconciliation dated July 8th 2024

Balances of £14,177.98 and £14,647, a total of £28,835.58 was noted.

2024/071 To consider a grant request from All Saints Church.

It was agreed that a retrospective grant of £750 will be paid in respect to grounds maintenance for the year of 2023. There is an external company providing the service.
Awaiting the 2024 application.

2024/072 Correspondence

There has been a request for support for the E-Battery Bill to go through parliament. This was noted.

2024/073 Any other business (for information only) and items for the next agenda.

Summer Fete, it's been considered for 2025.
Allotment rent increase.

2024/074 To confirm the date and venue of the next meeting:
Monday September 9th, 2024 at 19:30 in the Hall for All
The meeting closed at 21:25

Signed:

Date