

WEST KNOYLE PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk – Mrs. L. C. Wood

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, 12th September 2023 at 7.30 p.m. in West Knoyle Village Hall.

Present: Councillors Paul Yates (Chairman), Marcus Randall (Vice-Chairman), Tony Davis & Paul Vita.
Also Wiltshire Cllr. George Jeans

Public Session

- None

156. Apologies for absence received from Cllr. Mrs. Alex Davies.

157. Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Paul Yates declared a personal interest in the planning application PL/2023/06220 as the applicant was a contractor of his.

158. Minutes – RESOLVED to approve Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, 16th May 2023 on proposal made by Cllr. Paul Yates, seconded by Cllr. Randall and carried with a unanimous vote of those present on 16.5.23

159. Matters Arising from previous meetings

a) Minute No. 153d) Clerks Vacancy – the Clerk said that the advert had been put onto social media and the October edition of Mere Matters. The Chairman said he had spoken to East Knoyle Parish Council and had discovered that their Clerk had also resigned and so they were looking for a new Clerk also. The Clerk said that she would advertise the vacancy on the free version of Indeed but it may also be necessary to advertise in the Blackmore Vale Magazine too and this would, obviously, incur some costs.

160. Planning

a) To consider the following planning application:

Application No:	PL/2023/06220
Application Type:	Full planning permission
Proposal:	Change of use of an agricultural yard to storage area (Class B8 use) for siting of shipping containers
Site Address:	Park Corner Farm, West Knoyle, Warminster, Wilts, BA12 6AH
Planning Register Link:	https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0i3z00001BKTRb

Cllr. Randall pointed out that the application was actually within the parish of Mere. The Clerk pointed out that she would have raised this on both Mere & West Knoyle agendas since the planning application would affect West Knoyle as much as, if not more than, it would affect Mere. The Chairman explained that he had spoken to the applicant who had explained that the intention was for storage. Cllr. Vita said he was initially concerned about a number of large lorries coming into and out of the site but the Chairman explained that

apart from the initial stage of having the containers arrive, this should not be an issue as the storage would be accessed by cars and vans. Cllr. Randall said he was aware that there was no intention to provide electricity or water to the storage containers. RESOLVED to recommend approval of the above application.

b) Wiltshire Council Local Plan Consultation - in-person and online events. The Clerk urged councillors to attend the meeting and/or online events and stressed the importance of the Local Plan which would shape housing, infrastructure, employment growth, highways and transport for the next 15 years.

161. To receive report from Wiltshire Councillor - Cllr. Jeans gave a brief report on the resilience event that he had attended in Tidworth explaining that they had been given a demonstration showing that a polythene sheet is required behind the bags to make a near water-tight seal. The possibility of National Power cuts was also discussed and should this happen, we were informed that mobile phone transmission would only last for 30 minutes to 2 hours during a power cut. We were also informed that analogue telephone lines are now being phased out and we are going over to fibre broadband telephone system which should be in place by the end of 2025. This will depend on an electrical connection although a battery backup can be provided to all those in need but this will only last for about two hours. Cllr. Jeans also explained the issues currently taking place at Lynch Close in Mere and the concerns being expressed by the existing residents.

162. Footpaths, Highways, Traffic & Transport

a) Highway & Footpath issues for Parish Steward – Cllr. Davis reported that the verges had now been cut, he asked the Parish Steward to trim back by the railings where he can and he asked him to get an engineer to look at the road by the junction near the Hovis site where the road surface was rising.

163. Play Area

a) To consider RoSPA Play Area Inspection report and make task sheet – the Clerk said that she had not received the Play Area Inspection report yet and therefore assumed that the play area inspection had not yet happened. However, unfortunately a large oak tree branch had fallen down on the zip line. The Clerk was concerned that the zip line may have been damaged. The Chairman agreed to get a number for the Woodlands Trust to try and get the tree dealt with and also it was agreed that a letter should be written to the Woodland Trust to see if they would carry out a tree inspection and provide a report of the other trees around the play area. The Clerk expressed some concern about the play area inspection and the fact that she didn't know whether the inspection had taken place and the fact that the Parish Council may need to take some action to take the equipment out of service and disable it until it has been inspected once the tree branch has been removed. It was agreed to try and get some urgent action taken on this matter.

b) Signage for Play Area – it was agreed that the sign should include the following:

- No Dogs, No Smoking & No Drinking.
- No Kite Flying

There was a discussion about whether the sign could be mounted on a gate or on two posts. There was also a discussion about the telephone contact number and it was agreed to tell the supplier that the number may need to be changed.

164. Finance, Policy & Resources

a) Payments: To approve the following payments:

T. J. Thornley		59.99 (Pd. 6.7.23)
West Knoyle Social Club	Donation to cover cost of insuring the Village Hall building	438.68
L. C. Wood	Salary 2023/24 – Q2 30.9.23	£220.00
HMRC	PAYE – Q2	£ 55.00
Rob Pearce Ground Maintenance	Grass cutting – play area	£280.00

Playsafety Ltd	Annual RoSPA Play Area Safety Inspection	Invoice not yet received
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b) Report on latest bank reconciliation – the Clerk reported that the bank reconciliation stood at £18,606.

c) To discuss ideas for expenditure of CIL receipt – The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had received a CIL payment for the house that was rebuilt £3344.65 at Greenfields. The Clerk then read out an email from Corinne suggesting that the money be used towards another bench for the paved area outside the Village Hall commemorating the Kings Coronation to match the Queens Jubilee bench. The Clerk said that the Town and Parish Councils must use their CIL receipts to support the development of the parish area or any part of it by funding “the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area” and she didn’t feel that the provision of a second bench was really addressing demands when the Parish Council had a play area to maintain and would need to spend some money on the play equipment in the near future. It was agreed to await the RoSPA inspection and assess whether or not any damage had occurred to the zip wire and to discuss this matter again at the next meeting. The Clerk advised that the Parish Council had 5 years to spend or allocate this funding. Cllr. Randall suggested that the Parish Council might want to purchase a second SID for the other end of the village.

165. General Items

a) Update on SID repair – the Clerk reported that the Speed Indicator Device was currently being repaired by the manufacturer in Fordingbridge. Cllr. Randall said that he would collect it when it had been repaired.

166. Date of next meeting – it was agreed that the next meeting should be held on Tuesday, 28th November and this meeting would incorporate the budget setting.

Meeting closed at 8.31 pm