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Minutes of Weston by Welland Parish Council Meeting held in the St. Mary the Virgin Church on Wednesday 13th September 2023 at 7.30 pm.

Members Present	Cllrs B Roberts (Chair), N Garratt, V Score, A Cowling and S Emery.
Others in Attendance	Mrs J Medwell (Clerk), NNC Cllr D Howes and one member of the public

Minute		Action
407	<p>To receive and approve apologies: Cllr S Grandidge NNC Cllr M Tebbutt</p>	
408	<p>Member's declaration of interest in items on the agenda and any changes to the members Register of Interests: There were no declarations of interest in items on this agenda or changes to the members Register of Interests.</p>	
409	<p>To approve and sign the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th July 2023 were agreed as a true record of that meeting and were duly signed by the Chair. Proposed Cllr Roberts Seconded Cllr Emery All in favour.</p>	
410	<p>Matters Arising from the last Parish Council meeting: A response had been received from National Grid regarding the outstanding works on the substation. These are due to be addressed. Cllrs Roberts, Score and Emery had met to start the process of drawing up an Emergency Plan.</p>	
411	<p>Open Forum and Exchange of Information: NNC Cllr Howes raised the new streetlight on Home Farm which was due to be moved to the other side of the road and asked whether the Council would consider changing this and the other lights in the village to a more vintage style lamp. The Council had looked at this previously and had agreed it would be cost prohibitive. Cllr Cowling expressed an interest in becoming a river warden and will pursue further.</p>	
412	<p>Co-option of New Councillor: The Council considered the two applicants for the casual vacancy arising from the previous resignation of Jonathan Baggott. Cllr Emery proposed Mark Whitehouse and was seconded by Cllr Score. The Council was unanimously in favour of co-opting Mr Whitehouse for the position of Councillor. The Chair thanked the unsuccessful candidate for putting himself forward.</p>	

Minute		Action
	It was confirmed by the NNC Monitoring Officer during the meeting that Mr Whitehouse could stand again as a councillor for the second time during this election cycle.	
413	<p>Specific Matters:</p> <p>(a) Recreation Ground: The Chair advised that the lease is now signed and that a grant application for £15,000 had been submitted to the Government Levelling Up Fund. A separate working group is to be set up to look solely at fund raising.</p> <p>(b) Report from Environment Working Group: Thanks were extended to the residents who had refurbished both the benches on Northlea and opposite the Church. A new bench is now being purchased for siting on Richard Hart's land on Sutton Hill.</p> <p>(c) Report from Highways Working Group: A discussion took place on the overgrown shrub on the bank on The Green. This had been looked at by Ben Wright from Keir during his recent visit to the village. The advice given was that this could be cut back or removed but this may have the effect of increasing traffic speeds as visibility would be improved. Councillors will look at this again before making any further decision. The member of the public left at this point. Reference was made to the correspondence regarding the 'Rutland TT' and the campaign to install average speed cameras on the B664 to try to reduce the problem of speeding motorbikes. The Council agreed to support this, Cllr Garratt will communicate the petition link to the village. Cllr Emery will chase up new post for the TVAS and look at altering the range at which the TVAS picks up moving vehicles. Clerk will contact the Safer Roads Team to request a traffic speed survey.</p> <p>(d) Village Maintenance: Pavement repairs had been identified and scheduled by Keir. The small stretch near the church will be patched imminently. The two extended stretches on the RHS entrance into the village from Ashley and the LHS stretch on the lower half of the hill at the Sutton side entrance will require improvement and modification, rather than patching and repair and will be done in the medium to long term.</p> <p>(e) Safety Review of Parish Assets: The Chair had carried out the review of parish assets and circulated the report. The Council agreed to add the recreation ground to the list to be checked on a regular basis.</p> <p>(f) Review of Communications Policy and Strategy: The Council agreed to review this. The Chair asked Councillors to reflect on how this has gone over the last year for discussion at an informal meeting.</p> <p>(g) Council Plan 2023-25 The Chair had circulated the completed Council Plan. It was agreed to distribute this to the village in a newsletter form and to ask Cllr Whitehouse to do this.</p> <p>(h) D Day June 2024 The Council agreed to organise a beacon lighting event to commemorate this occasion. Further arrangements will be made nearer the time.</p>	<p>All Cllrs</p> <p>NG</p> <p>SE</p> <p>JM</p>

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	<p>(i) Village Sign: The Council discussed the dilapidated state of the village sign. It was agreed that a new one would be cost prohibitive and that the best option would be to look at refurbishing this. Councillors were asked to consider whether there were any residents with the skill set to do this. Cllr Score advised that there was a small amount of money available to put towards this from the Community Fund.</p>															
414	<p>Financial Matters:</p> <p>(i) Payments The following were presented to the Council and unanimously agreed:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Swarco – TVAS Brackets</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£105.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D Ollett – Grant Expenses – Plaque</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£30.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S Emery – Grant Expenses, Bench Repair materials</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£232.31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A Cowling – Grant Expenses, Seeds</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£127.37</td> </tr> </table> <p>(ii) Financial Statement and Bank Reconciliation</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Current Account</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£9,057.01</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ring Fenced Environment Grant</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£2,194.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Balance of Reserves</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>£6,862.98</u></td> </tr> </table> <p>The Bank Reconciliation was unanimously approved and signed by the Chair.</p>	Swarco – TVAS Brackets	£105.00	D Ollett – Grant Expenses – Plaque	£30.00	S Emery – Grant Expenses, Bench Repair materials	£232.31	A Cowling – Grant Expenses, Seeds	£127.37	Current Account	£9,057.01	Ring Fenced Environment Grant	£2,194.03	Total Balance of Reserves	<u>£6,862.98</u>	
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415	<p>Planning: There were no applications to discuss.</p>															
416	<p>Correspondence: There was no further correspondence to discuss.</p>															
417	<p>New items for inclusion on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting: 2024/25 Budget Setting</p>															
418	<p>Date of next meeting 8th November 2023</p>															

The Meeting Closed at 8.49 pm.

Signed Chair Dated