

**Minutes of the Weston with Gayton Parish Council Meeting held on
Tuesday 7th July 2026 at 7.30 pm in Gayton Village Hall**

Present: Councillor J. Griffiths (Chairman), Councillor H. Hart (Vice-Chair), Councillor M. Davis, Cllr M. Edwards, Councillor J. Gair, Councillor J. Tallentire, Stafford Borough Councillor F.Beatty and Staffordshire County Councillor A. Mynors

Parish Clerk B Nicholls.

One member of the public.

26/036: To Receive Any Apologies and Record Any Absences – Councillor D. Leake and Stafford Borough Councillor K. Aspin

26/037: To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of Parish Council on 9th June 2026

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7:30pm on the 9th June 2026 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

26/038: To Note Any Declarations of Interest and Councillor Requests for Dispensation Relating to Items on the Agenda – None declared.

The Chairman brought forward items 26/043 and 26/046

26/043: To Receive a Report from the Borough Councillor – Cllr F.Beatty advised the Local Plan is out for consultation and advised Councillors to respond as it will have an impact on the future of Weston.

26/046: To Receive an Update on Planning Application

a) 25/40960/OUT - Land off Green Road

Cllr Hart reported a pre-planning consultation for an 800-home residential development in Hixon has been circulated to Hixon residents. As the site is within one mile of the Land off Green Road, Weston application, Cllr Hart reported that it could have a cumulative effect and raised concerns regarding the cumulative impact of the proposal and the need for this to be taken into account when determining the application. Councillors agreed that correspondence be submitted to Stafford Borough Council Planning requesting that determination of the Land off Green Road application be deferred pending consideration of the potential cumulative impact of the proposed Hixon development.

b) 26/41994/HOU – The Malthouse, Church Lane, Gayton – Cllr F.Beatty confirmed she had called in the application.

26/039: Public Participation - *Members of the public are invited to address the Council on any issue over which it has power, for up to 5 minutes each.* – No issues raised.

26/040: To Receive Announcements and Notices – A Civic Amenity visit will take place at Cherry Lane, Gayton on **25 July 2026**, from **10.00am** to **12.00pm**.

26/041 To Co-opt Vacant Gayton Seat – Cllrs **RESOLVED** to co-opt S.Wilson for the vacant Gayton seat.

26/042: To Review and Consider Correspondence Received During the Past Month

- i) Cllr Hart informed Cllrs a member of public had offered to repair Weston noticeboard.
- ii) Correspondence was received from residents regarding public access to the Village Green during an approved event. The Chairman noted that the Village Green is a public open space and referred to the Council's published Village Green Terms of Use. Councillors agreed that the Terms of Use should be reviewed

26/044: To Receive a Report from the County Councillor – Cllr A.Mynors gave an update:

- NHS health care check vans are visiting communities.
- Bus improvement across Staffordshire – current trial in Rugeley and exploration of new route between Stone and Rugeley is ongoing
- Trading Standards crackdown on vape shops
- Fly tipping – focussing on environmental crime
- 14 new crews for repairing potholes
- Community fund available for £250 for Parish Councils to apply for. Cllrs **agreed** to apply for the grant towards the War memorial planting/maintenance costs.

26/045: To Receive a Report from the Village Hall Management Committee –

- The summer fete raised £4,362, a slight increase on the previous year.
- Installation of the new guttering and fascia has been completed; however, some damage has already occurred at the rear of the building, possibly due to children climbing. Purchase and installation of surveillance cameras are being explored.
- An email was received regarding funding from Pickering and Butters, and an application will be submitted.

26/047: To Discuss Village Green, Trees and Children's Play Area issues

- a) To discuss land in front of Village Green – no update.
- b) Repair of playground wet pour particularly the corner of the swings – Clerk to renew wet pour quotes.
- c) Request use of Village Green PTFA event 17th July – Cllrs **agreed** use of the Village Green.

26/048: To Discuss Highways and Rights of Way issues

- a) To receive an update on Weston 6 Footpath – Chairman advised the Grounds Maintenance cut back overgrown foliage from the farmers road to the railway. Clerk reported she had informed PRoW but no further update from Network Rail.
- b) To discuss and consider grit bins – Cllrs did not approve and will review next year.
- c) To receive an update on the A51 overgrown footpath – The Clerk advised that correspondence had been received from a member of the public regarding grass overgrowth onto the footpath, resulting in narrowing of the path. Clerk stated the matter had been reported to Highways.
- d) To discuss Weston 2 Footpath – Cllr Hart reported that the footpath and brook is overgrown.
Action: Clerk to write to landowner and follow up with PRoW if necessary.

26/049: To Receive an Update on the Parish Plan – The Chairman advised that the survey would now be closed and the results to be analysed and reported at the next Parish Council meeting in September.

26/050: To Discuss Quiet Garden Space – Cllr Hart advised that a member of the public had offered to gift the Quiet Garden land to the Parish Council for future maintenance, ensuring continued public access to the area. Councillors agreed to investigate the proposal further.

Action: Clerk/Vice Chair to contact the landowner

26/051: To Discuss and Receive an Update on the War Memorial – Cllr Hart reported that the War Memorial is being well maintained. Volunteers to submit receipts to the Clerk for reimbursement of plants and cleaning fluid purchased.

26/052: To Consider response to Local Plan Consultation 2025-2045 – Cllr Tallentire and Cllr Edwards advised they would be attending the online seminar and **agreed** to collaborate a response on behalf of the PC.

26/053: To Consider Finance Matters

- a) To approve the monthly Statement of Accounts, Receipts and Payments - Clerk presented monthly statement of accounts which the Clerk had distributed to Cllrs prior to the meeting, this was approved and signed by the Chair. Cllrs **approved** payments listed below and included on the monthly Statement of Accounts/Receipts and Payments.

Payments Approved and made before the meeting	Net	VAT	Total
ICO	47.00	0	47.00
Payments approved to be made:			
Salaries	738.51	0.00	738.51
Office Expenses	30.50	0.00	30.50
LGPS	195.15	0.00	195.15
Grounds Maintenance June	2920.00	584.00	3504.00
Microsoft 365 (Clerk Reimburse)	84.99	0.00	84.99
	Total Net	Total VAT	Total
Total payments to be made:	3970.15	584.00	4554.15

26/054: To Request Items for the Next Meeting Agenda – Village Green Terms of Use.

26/055: To Confirm the Date, Time, and Venue of next meeting – *Tuesday 8th September 2026* at Weston Village Hall.