

WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2012 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

PRESENT P Walshe (Chairman) T Roberts D Williams J Everard G Hiscox J Dixon S Lothian W Walby S McInerney J Smith-Milne R Smith.

ATTENDING K Shilton (Clerk) A Fletcher from Age Concern.

1. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC

A Fletcher representing Age Concern explained the development taking place to apply for a grant which would significantly increase the activities of Age Concern for the area.

The anticipated projects will address 3 parameters. Discussion then took place with the Parish Council.

Better access to information.

Liaison Officer for the elderly in the Parish.

A friend to ask for help i.e. face to face relationships.

The use and knowledge of existing networks.

Using the Village Shop as a contact point.

Adopted telephone box as an information point.

The better use of existing services such as meals on wheels, GPs and WRVS.

Rural Isolation.

Transport issues.

Help to the shops.

The Postman as information point.

Supply simple mobile telephones.

Confidence factors to be considered.

Influencing decision makers.

No voice.

Online Survey Forums.

Daytime meetings not evenings.

2. APOLOGIES Ward Councillor J Jarvis, M Norman, S Bucknell.

The Chairman informed the meeting of the resignation of S Bucknell.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

G Hiscox and J Everard planning application Ye Olde Ferry Inn.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 11 September 2012 and 9 October 2012

Both sets of minutes were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

5. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES

S Lothian confirmed that appropriate actions were being taken regarding the notice boards.

6. REPORTS RECEIVED

Chairman. Report distributed prior to the meeting. The following points were highlighted:

Parish Plan meeting with residents held on 14 November 2012.

Website. The grant application has not been successful.

A possible informal meeting of the Council may be held in January 2013.

Village Maps. These maps are deteriorating due to a product error when being made. It was agreed J Smith-Milne will discuss this matter with the supplier.

It was agreed no further charges should be made to the advertisers featured on the Village Maps.

Ward Councillor. No report available. J Dixon expressed great disappointment that in the absence of J Jarvis, no report or update had been issued concerning the actions for BOATS. Following discussion the meeting agreed that J Dixon and the Chairman draft a letter to be sent to J Jarvis regarding the concerns on the lack of progress made and the poor communication to date on this issue. This draft was prepared during the Parish Council meeting and its contents agreed by the members present.

Finance Working Group. In the absence of M Norman the Chairman reviewed the prepared report.

Amenities. S Lothian. Report distributed prior to the meeting. In addition the following points were highlighted:

Footpaths. It was agreed the Lengthsman should clear all entrances as necessary to these paths.

Several drains and culverts require jetting by Amey. The Clerk will liaise with the Lengthsman and report these matters to Amey.

Play Area. D Williams agreed to investigate possible work volunteers especially for work on the trees.

Storm drain opposite Grange Park requires attention. S Lothian will co-ordinate an inspection and actions with our Lengthsman.

Several 30 mph signs have been stolen from the road Symonds Yat to Whitchurch. S Lothian will provide further information to the Clerk so the matter can be reported to the Highways Agency.

Christmas Tree. It was agreed to proceed with a power supply for a tree using Amey. The tree lights cost was kindly agreed to be shared between T Roberts and J Smith-Milne. The meeting thanked these two Council members for their generosity. It was agreed the Lengthsman should dig the necessary holding hole for the tree.

Safety railings which have been damaged on the approach to the fly over. The meeting resolved that this was the responsibility of Amey/Highways and that the Parish Council should not be involved in repairs or costs involved.

Notice Board. The board from the village shop area will be examined by S McInerney to determine if repairs can be made and re-used at some other

location.

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

P Walshe reported the main elements prepared by the Finance Working Group for the budget 2013/1014. It was agreed that this important issue should have a separate meeting for debate. This was agreed for 26 November 2012 at 7.00 pm at Whitchurch Memorial Hall. The following payments were agreed:

- Chairman expenses £29.98
- Lengthsman £268.80 and £570.00 and £288.00
- Defibrillator Cabinets x 2 £1000.00

8. PLANNING

Ye Olde Ferry Inn S122411F. Land change of use for parking cars/canoe customers and a Tipi. The meeting objected to this application for the following reasons:

Traffic flow on this narrow lane will be increased and is inappropriate for the width and infra structure of the lane. Increased noise from canoe delivery vehicles and customers. Concern for a possible future development of this land area involved in this business.

9. REVISION FOR TIMES OF MEETINGS

It was resolved by majority vote (7 agreed 3 against) that all Parish Council meetings will start at 7.00 pm and end at 9.00pm. This to be reviewed again in 6 months time.

10. TRAINING Various Training Courses were reviewed.

11. DEFIBRILLATORS

It was agreed it would be beneficial to have a training course as to how these operate.

12. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

- Co-option of Council members
- BOATS update
- Christmas arrangements update

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 11 December 2012 at 7.00 pm and Whitchurch Memorial Hall.

The meeting started at 7.30 pm and ended at 10.05 pm

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

