

WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2013 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

PRESENT G Hiscox (Chairman) T Roberts R Smith J Dixon W Walby S Cole S McInerney

ATTENDING K Shilton (Clerk) Ward Councillor John Jarvis

1. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC Not required

2. APOLOGIES J Smith-Milne S Lowthian B Hendley D Williams

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

T Roberts and R Smith with reference to planning applications which were recorded in the register.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 8 OCTOBER 2013

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

5. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES

Bus Shelter and cycle parking. A site meeting has taken place with Balfour Beatty and the meeting proposed the best location for such a unit would be at the bus stop opposite The Crown.

Brook inspection report. The Chairman will follow up on this matter with the Working Group.

6. REPORTS RECEIVED

Chairman. The revised schedule of work for our Lengthsman is now completed together with a schedule for grass cutting.

The Chairman explained the proposal from J Smith-Milne regarding the maintenance of the School roundabout. This was agreed and appreciated by the meeting. S Cole kindly offered to provide any flowers necessary for this area. This was also appreciated by the meeting.

Council representatives and the Clerk will attend the Balfour Beatty meeting in November 2013. The Chairman has also attended the HALC AGM and Seminar.

Ward Councillor. A public meeting will be held on 20 November 2013 at 6pm at The Crown to discuss the proposals regarding the closure of Whitchurch Fire Station. Speakers from the Fire Service will attend and give a presentation reviewing all the proposals regarding cuts to their budget.

A public meeting with Welsh Water is still to be confirmed.

Lengthsman/Grass Cutting Working Group. No report available.

Finance Working Group. T Roberts reviewed the highlights from the last Working Group meeting including the budget proposals for 2014/15.

Following discussion it was agreed by majority vote that the precept be set at £25000.00 for the financial year 2014/15.

Footpaths. Our Footpaths Officer R Smith distributed a concise review of the work needed to our main Parish Footpaths. It was agreed 10 Footpaths would be selected and a site meeting held with the Lengthsman and Footpaths Officer to discuss the work detail required. It was agreed the Clerk would co-ordinate this matter. The meeting thanked R Smith for his work and effort on the Footpath Scheme.

Publicity Working Group. Defer to the next meeting.

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk reviewed the status of the bank account.

The meeting resolved (reference section 6) to request a precept for 2014/2015 of £25000.00.

The following payments were agreed:

Litter Bins £525.00

Hall rent £90.00

Lengthsman £264.00 and £24.00

Clerk fee £400.00 and administration costs £74.89

8. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

Old Nurseries Whitchurch 132706F proposed 5 new homes. T Roberts retired from the meeting whilst this application was discussed for comment (reference section 3). The meeting gave no objections. T Roberts then re-joined the Council meeting.

Watsons Cottage 132680FH extension. No objections.

Highfield 132864FH extension(application renewed). No objections.

9. PARISH PLAN UPDATE

J Dixon reported that the question paper will shortly be completed and distribution will take place early in the New Year 2014. The distribution and collection will be by hand. A further funding application is being made to cover the analysis of the completed forms.

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Clerk gave a review of the main points from the informal meeting that took place with Council members and Herefordshire Council.

11. SEWAGE SYSTEMS

Reference is made to the report by the Ward Councillor section 6.

12. WHITCHURCH FIRE STATION

Reference is made to the report by the Ward Councillor section 6.

13. CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS RESIDENTIAL HOMES IN THE PARISH

T Roberts explained that there are some 66 residents in Residential Homes in our Parish. It was agreed as in previous years that an individual card and a small gift would be purchased and given to each resident. T Roberts also

reported that depending on weather conditions the Christmas Tree at Whitchurch would be installed as the agreed schedule.

14. CORRESPONDENCE INCLUDING MATTERS CIRCULATED PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

The Chairman and Clerk have received letters from 2 residents requesting advice. The Clerk will determine the contacts needed to assist these residents.

15. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

- Unpaid work for specific projects
- Notice Board near the Village School
- Fire Station proposals
- Training
- Music Festival

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON 10 DECEMBER 2013 AT 7.00 PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL.

The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 8.50 pm

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....