

WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL**Minutes of the meeting held on 13 May 2014 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall**

PRESENT G Hiscox (Chairman) T Roberts S McInerney J Dixon G Litson
R Smith D Williams S Lowthian.

ATTENDING K Shilton (Clerk) T Griffiths (Parish Lengthsman)

1. APOLOGIES J Smith-Milne S Cole W Walby and Ward Councillor J Jarvis.

2. ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Appointment of Chairman. It was proposed by D Williams, seconded by S Lowthian and agreed by all members present that G Hiscox continue as Chairman. The Agreement of Acceptance of Office was signed by the Chairman and witnessed by the Clerk.

Appointment of Vice Chairman. It was proposed by G Hiscox, seconded by D Williams and agreed by all members present that T Roberts continue as Vice Chairman.

Officers and Working Groups. It was agreed that the past 12 months had worked very well and that the Officers and delegated Working Groups continue in the same functions.

It was agreed D Williams represent the Council as our Memorial Hall Representative including the Commemoration of World War One Parish activities.

Financial Report. The report ending 31 March 2014 was reviewed and agreed by the meeting. The Chairman signed the required documents for internal and external audit.

Dates of meetings. It was agreed that the Council meet on the second Tuesday of each month except August and January when no meetings would take place unless there were urgent business matters to attend.

3. ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

4. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC Not required.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None.

6. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 8 APRIL 2014

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

7. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES

The Play Area has been cleaned and tidied by our Lengthsman. It was agreed that on a self help basis, the Chairman, J Dixon and S Lowthian would paint selected equipment and the railings.

8. REPORTS RECEIVED

Chairman. Following recent reports from the public and our Lengthsman it was agreed that the Council purchase an additional 3 litter bins and 2 dog bins.

Footpaths. R Smith reported that WC68 has now been cleared and tidied. On WC42 Saw Pits Lane the potholes are now in a dreadful condition. Lengthsman and Grass Cutting Working Group. It was reported that generally the roads on most of the BOATS were in a bad condition with numerous potholes.

Finance Working Group. T Roberts reported on the dates of the future meetings that had been planned over the next 12 months.

Publicity and Website Working Group. G Litson continues to work on the website.

Balfour Beatty meeting attended by T Roberts and the Clerk. A review of the highlights of the budget meeting presented by Balfour Beatty and Herefordshire Council was given to the meeting. Essentially funds available will not meet all the necessary work on the County roads. In addition, general services such as litter collection, road sweeping and grass cutting will be reduced. A full copy of the presentation had been circulated to all members.

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk reviewed the bank account status.

First precept payment received £12500.00

Lengthsman Scheme Grant for this financial year representing £2790.00 has been confirmed.

The following payments were agreed:

Lengthsman work £954.00

Planning documents £24.00

Insurance £281.58

Clerk fee £483.00

Travel £59.46 and administration £29.99

10. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

Highcroft 140636F replacement dwelling. No objections.

Losito Stud 140471 O outline application single dwelling. The meeting objected to this application. The dwelling being proposed is in the wrong site position with a potential of high level road safety issues. This application is ill conceived.

Honeysuckle Cottage 140697FH garage. No objections.

11. PARISH PLAN UPDATE

It was reported that the Question Paper analysis will be completed by end of May 2014.

12. WOODS OF WHITCHURCH CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

It was confirmed that these proposals had been added to the website.

13. BROADBAND

R Smith outlined the latest situation in that the new system should be live by June/July 2014 and will give the Parish the potential to have super fast Broadband providing individual households pay for the connection that best suits their needs.

14. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND DISTRIBUTED

No further comments were made.

15. BALFOUR BEATTY/LENGTHSMAN/POTHOLE TRIALS

It was confirmed that the Lengthsman would require special training to obtain the required qualification. It was confirmed that if required the Lengthsman had the necessary time available to carry out these trials. From correspondence received from Balfour Beatty the proposed trial is on our BOATS where Balfour Beatty would carry out work on the most severe potholes and our Lengthsman work on the smaller potholes on the same designated road.

Following discussion it was agreed that this subject needed greater time to consider all implications and therefore a special meeting was agreed for 27 May 2014.

Lengthsman jetter work. The meeting agreed that where jetter work carried out by the Lengthsman had not achieved the success required, then the Lengthsman would report the matter directly to Balfour Beatty for their inspection and action.

16. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Litter in the Parish.

Road signs.

Potholes/Lengthsman trials.

NEXT MEETINGS TO BE HELD ON 27 MAY 2014 AND 17 JUNE 2014 STARTING AT 7.00 PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL.

The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 9.10 pm.

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....