

WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2014 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

PRESENT G Hiscox (Chairman) D Williams S McInerney G Litson J Dixon J Smith-Milne M Jenkins T Roberts R Smith S Cole S Lowthian.

ATTENDING K Shilton (Clerk) Ward Councillor J Jarvis and Ross on Wye Police Community Officer A Dore.

PRESENTATION FROM ROSS ON WYE POLICE

A new initiative called STOP THAT THIEF has been developed to help prevent local crime. It is intended to hold a public meeting some time in the future at our Village Hall and an invitation will be given to other local Parish Councils. It was agreed that the Clerk would arrange a suitable date for the main meeting room at the Village Hall and Ross on Wye Police will organise all necessary publicity for this meeting.

1. **OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC** Not required.
2. **APOLOGIES** None.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** None.
4. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS HELD ON 13 MAY 2014 AND 27 MAY 2014**
These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.
5. **ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES**
Reference was made to the agenda items.

6. REPORTS RECEIVED

Chairman. The Chairman highlighted the main points from a meeting held with Balfour Beatty (Chairman and Clerk attending) regarding the proposed trials involving potholes/Lengthsman/Balfour Beatty. There were concerns regarding adequate supervision and co-ordination of these proposed trials, and in particular the responsibility and litigation exposure when the Lengthsman/Parish Council were involved. Following discussion it was agreed by all members present that the Clerk confirm to Balfour Beatty that the Parish Council did not wish to participate in these trials unless Balfour Beatty and Herefordshire Council took full responsibility including all legal responsibility. It was highlighted that Herefordshire Council have a statutory duty to repair the roads in our Parish. It was also considered unreasonable that the Parish Council were expected to pay the costs and time of the Lengthsman for such a proposed trial.

Ward Councillor J Jarvis has arranged a meeting with Herefordshire Council Legal Services to discuss the above matter and will respond to the Parish Council within the next few days.

Ward Councillor. An inspection of selected roads has taken place with the Ward Councillor/Balfour Beatty/ and our Chairman. This included the water drainage problem on Well Vale Lane.

Lengthsman and Grass Cutting Working Group. No other matters to report. Finance Working Group. The next meeting will be held on 24 June 2014.

Footpaths Officer. R Smith reported that inspection walks continue together with co-ordination of work as required with our Lengthsman to keep the footpaths open. Wye Valley walk is blocked and it was agreed that our Footpaths Officer write to the local walking group for them to report and action this matter.

Publicity and Website Working Group. It was considered that the website should be further publicised to the community. Work on the website continues to make progress.

World War One Commemoration. D Williams reported that an information brochure was in progress.

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk reviewed the bank account status.

The following grants had been received:

Neighbourhood Plan £4986.00

Footpaths P3 Scheme £1200.00

The following payments were agreed:

Lengthsman work £663.60

N Power £32.55

Clerk fee £483.00

Travel £49.76 and administration £51.57

8. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

White Rocks 141108FH single storey garage/workshop. No objections.

D Williams reported that a Tepee site has been erected and advertised in our Parish where it was considered that no planning application request had been made. It was agreed this should be reported to Herefordshire Council Planning. R Smith will provide the Clerk with the location details.

9. PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Under the regulations of Parish Council member attendance to meetings, G Jones no longer qualifies to continue to be a member of this Parish Council. A letter will be prepared confirming this situation.

10. PARISH PLAN UPDATE

An initial draft of the key issues is being prepared for consideration and discussion.

11. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

It was agreed that this project will commence on completion of the Parish Plan.

12. PARISH MATTERS

T Roberts highlighted the need for the hedges to be cut back on the road from Daf-Y-Nant to Crockers Ash. There is also a tree requiring attention to avoid falling onto the road. It was agreed this is the responsibility of Herefordshire Council and Balfour Beatty. The Clerk will report this matter once again to these authorities.

It was suggested that near the Village School a 20 mph zone should be implemented at selected key times during the school day. It was agreed this could be considered as part of the Parish Plan.

Litter bins and dog bins are ordered and will be delivered early July 2014 for installation.

To assist in reducing litter problems S Lowthian agreed to organise and co-ordinate a litter pick up day involving residents.

M Jenkins suggested on Ashes Lane a NO TIPPING sign should be installed. It was agreed that M Jenkins investigate this matter further.

S Lowthian reported that near The Paddocks Hotel ditches and verges require attention. It was agreed a site meeting be arranged with our Lengthsman and a quotation submitted to the Clerk for consideration by the Parish Council. Clock Tower replacement lights. J Smith-Milne reported that installation will take place within the next 10 days.

13. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND DISTRIBUTED

Reference water drainage problems Well Vale Lane and actions from our Ward Councillor. Section 6 of these minutes.

14. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA None.**NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON 8 JULY 2014 AT 7.00PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL.**

The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 9.05 pm.

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....