

WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 October 2014 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

PRESENT G Hiscox (Chairman) J Dixon R Smith S McInerney S Cole J Smith-Milne G Litson T Roberts

ATTENDING K Shilton (Clerk)

1. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC Not required

2. APOLOGIES D Williams S Lowthian

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 9 SEPTEMBER 2014

The minutes were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

5. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES

Regretfully for the 3 action points on the agenda, the Council members responsible were not present at this meeting. The Clerk was requested to send a separate message as a reminder for action for the next meeting.

Litter pick up Day/Weekend S Lowthian.

No Tipping Sign N Jenkins.

Text for landowners/residents D Williams.

6. REPORTS RECEIVED

Chairman. Clock Tower lights. Actions with a new electrician are now in hand with installation next week.

Following the site meeting which has taken place with our Locality Stewards the Chairman will follow up on the action points discussed, including the overgrown branches on the road from Daf-y-Nant to Crockers Ash.

School roundabout parking problems. Reference was made to the new draft Parish Plan and what actions should be taken regarding this problem.

Following discussion it was agreed the Chairman with another Council member or Clerk would approach the School and the Police in the first instance to determine what actions can be taken regarding the parking problem near to the School. The meeting was minded that this is a part of a wider programme with reference to the Parish Plan which would include 20 mph zones and require participation from the Parish Council, Herefordshire Council, Village School and the Police.

J Dixon recommended that the area of the Village Shop should also be included in these discussions and programme which has an equally difficult traffic situation. This was agreed by the meeting.

Ward Councillor. No report available.

Finance Working Group. T Roberts reviewed the notes and latest budget spend. From this the following points were discussed by the meeting.

School roundabout. It was agreed the Lengthsman work should be paid.

Grass cutting budget 2015/16 including additional proposed areas. A quotation has been received from our Lengthsman, however, the meeting following discussion and by majority, agreed that a further alternative quotation should be submitted for consideration being minded of the spend involved. It was agreed S Cole would approach a further contractor for a quotation.

The meeting resolved that on the basis of the present grass cutting schedule one final autumn cut should take place. The Chairman/Clerk will inform our Lengthsman.

Christmas Tree. The meeting was informed that it was most likely that a new supplier for a Christmas Tree was necessary. Following discussion it was agreed that the Chairman and R Smith would investigate alternative suppliers. Footpaths Officer. R Smith reported the latest problems on selected footpaths.

WC94 has been reported as blocked and will be investigated.

The problem tree at St. Dubricius has been removed by persons unknown!

The meeting agreed that our Lengthsman and Footpaths Officer should continue to clear the footpath and bridge in this area and repair the signpost.

Publicity and Website Working Group. The Parish Plan will be made available on the website. Work to improve the website continues.

Commemoration World War One. In the absence of D Williams the Chairman will contact the organising Committee to determine the dates and activities involved.

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk informed the meeting of the bank account status.

The second precept payment of £12500.00 has been received.

The meeting was minded that the precept request for the financial year 2015/16 must be submitted by latest 31 December 2014.

The Finance Working Group will meet later in October 2014 to review the estimated budget for 2015/16 and present their proposals at the November 2014 Parish Council meeting.

The following payments were agreed:

Lengthsman work various matters Total £1566.00

Village Hall rent £125.00

St Dubricius grass cutting contribution £550.00

St Swithins grass cutting contribution £550.00

War Memorial maintenance £200.00

Clerk fee £483.00

Adminsitration £62.00 and Travel £51.96

8. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

No applications have been received for comment.

9. PARISH PLAN UPDATE

J Dixon reported that the draft Parish Plan will be available for a public meeting being held on 30 October 2014 at 7.30 pm at Whitchurch Memorial Hall. At this meeting the Neighbourhood Plan and its objectives and impact to the Parish will be introduced. The meeting agreed that £200.00 be made available from Council funds to meet any further costs to complete the Parish Plan project.

10. PLAY AREA

As the working group had not been available to inspect the site and prepare recommendations, it was agreed this should be deferred to the November 2014 meeting.

11. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND DISTRIBUTED

The meeting discussed the letter received from a resident regarding the condition of a BOAT. The Clerk will respond with technical input from J Dixon. Sandbags. Our Lengthsman has agreed to store 200 sandbags on behalf of the Parish Council in preparation for the winter weather. The Clerk will prepare the necessary requests and Balfour Beatty will provide the bags. It was agreed that the Chairman and T Roberts would represent the Parish Council as contacts.

A Balfour Beatty Workshop will take place on 23 October 2104 at the Shire Hall Hereford.

12. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Budget proposals for the financial year 2015/16.

Christmas arrangements.

Parish Plan next steps reference the Public Meeting 30 October 2014.

Neighbourhood Plan next actions.

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON 11 NOVEMBER 2014 AT 7.00 PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL.

The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 8.50 pm

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....