

WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2015 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

PRESENT G Hiscox (Chairman) G Litson J Dixon D Williams S Cole R Smith J Smith-Milne

ATTENDING K Shilton (Clerk) Ward Councillor P Newman Lengthsman T Roberts and 3 residents

1. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC

A resident described a recent incident when walking the public footpath at Losito Stud. Our Footpaths Officer will revisit this area and propose improved signage to show more clearly the footpath route.

Resident owners of the land opposite the village school described their application for 3 new houses and considered that any concerns about the application had now been addressed.

2. PRESENTATION FROM AGE CONCERN Illness prevented this taking place.

3. APOLOGIES S McInerney

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None received.

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 12 MAY 2015

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

6. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES

Horse box obstruction. The Locality Steward will contact the Highways authority. Bank towards Crockers Ash. S Cole will remind the Locality Steward to inspect and take appropriate action.

Lewstone flooding concerns. The Clerk reported that although requests had been made to Balfour Beatty for an engineer to visit the site and submit a report no visit has taken place. Our Ward Councillor agreed to take this matter further with Balfour Beatty.

Litter on the A40. Our Ward Councillor reported that this was to be discussed with the authorities together with other highway concerns.

Notice Board relocation. D Williams reported on the recent site meeting and the suggested new location opposite the village store. The meeting agreed this proposal to proceed.

7. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

Orde House entrance. The comments from the Parish Council suggesting a wider entrance to be considered have been sent to the home owner and planning.

151058 Jo's Place proposed change of use for 4 parking spaces to car wash and erection of canopy. The Parish Council object to this application as they consider that there are not sufficient controls in place for water and chemical effluent waste.

151264 Losito Stud barn conversion to eco dwelling. The Parish Council were unable to comment objectively on this application because of the lack of information provided.

150379 Land opposite the village school for 3 dwellings. The Parish Council now support this application as it stands. The meeting was minded of the planning meeting to be held on 16 June 2015.

151539 Tumbletree Cottage proposed flat roof balcony and alteration to former conservatory. The Parish Council gave no objections.

151247 Land adjacent to The Old Chapel proposed erection of 2 bedroom cottage on existing foundations from previous approved application DCSE 2004 3223F. The Parish Council gave no objections.

9. REPORTS RECEIVED

Chairman. The Chairman referred to speed concerns in the Parish including the A40 which are matters included in the Parish Plan and Neighbourhood Plan. A strategy is required as to how to approach these issues.

Finance working group. Dates will be proposed to group members for the next meeting.

Lengthsman and grass cutting working group. The new schedule is working well. The lengthsman reported that some ditch work maintenance is still required at Lewstone. The Clerk will discuss this matter with S McInerney.

It was agreed the lengthsman send to the Clerk detail of maintenance work done on B roads so that this can be submitted to Balfour Beatty for approval that our lengthsman may work on such roads.

Footpaths Officer. Clearance work is progressing well. Over the next weeks various signs will be replaced or repaired to further assist walkers.

Website and publicity. The first Newsletter is being completed for distribution. Over the next weeks further details of the Parish Plan and Neighbourhood Plan will be added to the websites.

10. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk reported the latest bank account status.

The following payments were agreed.

Lengthsman work £816.00

Transfer of VAT funds £122.21 to the Neighbourhood Plan account

Clerk fee £483.00 Administration £29.72 Travel £28.80

11. PARISH PLAN AND NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

J Dixon outlined the latest proposals. More Parish Council members and resident volunteers are needed to support both initiatives.

The Parish Plan projects together with project leaders are:

Tourism Forum{ E Heyes

Good Neighbourhood Scheme: G Litson and S Borthwick.

Recycling: P Lewis

Local Information and Promotion{ G Hiscox

Litter Pick: G Hiscox will determine if S Lothian is prepared to lead a future Community event.

Neighbourhood Plan Projects.

In the short term 2 project themes would be actively continued forward.

Housing: J Dixon and J Herbert.

Natural Environment: A Thomas and possibly I Draycott.

It is to be hoped that the Newsletter and other publicity will generate the increase in membership and volunteers required to support these projects.

12. PLAY AREA

S Cole will organise a sign for this area explaining the intended improvements and welcoming suggestions from the public as to their wishes for this area. Text will be provided by G Hiscox and D Williams.

13. LITTER BINS AND DOG BINS

It was agreed to purchase 1 additional litter bin and 1 additional dog bin.

It was agreed that with immediate effect to empty all dog bins on a weekly basis from June to the end of August 2015. The matter will then be reviewed.

14. CORRESPONDENCE No further comments.**15. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

Co-option of Council Members.

Road signage

Road sweeping

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON 14 JULY 2015 AT 7.00 PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL.

The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 9.20 pm

Signed

Chairman

Date