

WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2016 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

PRESENT G Hiscox (Chairman) G Litson S McInerney M Woodward S Morris T Watson J Smith-Milne S Cole

ATTENDING K Shilton (Clerk) Ward Councillor P Newman

1. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC Not required

2. APOLOGIES R Smith

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None reported

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 13 SEPTEMBER 2016

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

5. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES

Red Telephone Boxes. A working group is organised. Costs for repairs and maintenance are being prepared.

Resilience meeting. S Morris is coordinating a meeting date with members of the community. Wifi Memorial Hall. This is active / however a new telegraph pole is required.

6. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR

P Newman highlighted the following main points.

S Morris was thanked for organising the successful recent sponsored walk.

A new road surface has been made leading to the Ganarew Care Home and funded by the Care Home management. The works were supervised by Balfour Beatty.

Fracking. The license may not be taken for our area partly for economic reasons.

Herefordshire Council / Balfour Beatty budget review proposals has recently been presented.

Herefordshire Council are in the process to reclaim funds from the previous agency Amey.

7. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

162779 Haygrove Riverside - construction of new glass house on existing glass house site.

The meeting gave no objections.

162340 Norton Court, Whitchurch - demolition of existing garage and proposed garage with first floor annex.

The meeting gave no objections.

162969 Woodside, Symonds Yat - roof extension to existing dwelling with associated balcony / detached garage and garden room over.

The meeting gave no objections.

163068 land west of Yew Tree Close, Whitchurch - residential development of 9 sustainable detached and semi-detached houses with associated roads, sustainable drainage, new hedgerow and tree planting.

The Parish Council have in principle no objections to this application but continue to have the following concerns.

They are concerned regarding the impact on Whitchurch village from the surface water and effluent discharge from this new development.

They are concerned regarding the increased amount of traffic on the Llangrove road which will consequently result from this development and the further increased danger to pedestrians on the road where there is no footpath available.

8. REPORTS RECEIVED

Chairman. Reference agenda items.

Finance working group. A review meeting for the budget financial year 2017 / 2018 has taken place and the proposals will be presented at the November 2016 Parish Council meeting.

Lengthsman and grass cutting working group. A meeting has taken place between the Lengthsman, Chairman and the Clerk to review the winter works schedule for the Parish.

Footpaths Officer. Maintenance work continues with finger posts and way marker signs as well as repairs to selected footpaths.

Website and publicity. No further comments made.

Good Neighbour Scheme. Reference agenda item Christmas activity review.

A guest speaker will attend our November 2016 meeting on aspects for consideration to further develop this scheme.

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk reviewed the latest status of the bank account.

The second part of the precept for financial year 2016 / 2017 (£14000.00) has been received Grant funding claims have also been received for the lengthsman scheme and footpaths scheme.

Payments

Dog bins / litter bins. It was agreed to purchase 3 additional dog bins and 1 additional litter bin.

Lengthsman work and grass cutting £1974.00

External audit £240.00

Clerk fee £483.00 Administration £54.96 Travel / meetings £79.40 part share

St Swithins PCC maintenance contribution £550.00

Hall rent including Good Neighbour Scheme meetings £225.00

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN / MONTHLY REPORT

A new grant application has been submitted for funding towards the next stages of the Plan.

Data Orchard will assist the Steering Group in specific projects of the Plan development.

A public consultation event will take place 15 / 16 November 2016 at the Memorial Hall.

Banners to make known elements of the Plan or Parish Council matters are now available as required.

11. ROADS AND TRAFFIC MATTERS

The Chairman and Clerk attended a site meeting with the Cabinet member for roads together with Balfour Beatty and our Ward Councillor to progress several safety issues in the Parish:

- White lines at road junctions are being refreshed ready for the winter months.
- "Village Gateways" to facilitate traffic calming were recommended for installation in Crocker's Ash and Whitchurch.
- The anomaly of there being no speed limit on the bridge over the A40 in Whitchurch was considered and a possible answer suggested by the cabinet member for roads.
- Traffic calming measures on Llangrove Road were discussed and agreed in principle.

- Requests for road markings to delineate pedestrian areas alongside roads in Symonds Yat West and Crocker's Ash were not considered appropriate.
- The potential for a fast track Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce a speed restriction on the road to Crockers Ash was reviewed and discussed. This would involve the Parish Council in making an "up-front" payment to facilitate the scheme.

Once the Chairman and Clerk had reported these issues to the Parish Council the meeting agreed that the "Village Gateways", the speed limit issue in central Whitchurch and the traffic calming measure for Llangrove Road should be progressed. Before the Parish Council would be prepared to invest a significant amount of money in funding a fast track Traffic Regulation Order it was agreed that a consultation with the public should take place to ascertain community support for this sort of initiative.

12. PLAY AREA UPDATE

The Chairman reported that old post and rail fencing had been removed from alongside the stream. He thanked S Cole for removing the metal fencing surrounding the play area. New security fencing in front of the stream and new play equipment will be installed in the week commencing 17 October 2016.

13. WATER ON THE ROAD OPPOSITE VILLAGE SHOP

Following discussion it was agreed to request our Locality Steward inspect the situation.

14. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND DISTRIBUTED

Following discussion of the recent incident at Saw Pitts Lane where an ambulance became grounded due to the appointed turning area being blocked by a parked vehicle the meeting agreed to arrange a No Parking Turning Area Only sign to be installed.

15. CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES REVIEW

It was agreed to purchase a Christmas tree value £240.00 for the Memorial Hall and a large outdoor tree opposite the village shop.

The Chairman will determine when the tree should be installed and when the lighting was required over the Christmas period.

16. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Estimated budget for financial year 2017 / 2018

Christmas activities review

Good Neighbor Scheme presentation

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON 15 NOVEMBER 2016 AT 7PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL

The meeting started at 7pm and ended at 8.50pm

Signed

Chairman

Date