

WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2017 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

PRESENT R Smith (Chairman) S McInerney D Williams S Morris M Woodward G Litson

ATTENDING K Shilton (Clerk) Ward Councillor P Newman and a representative of the Local History Group

1. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC

The representative of the Local History Group gave a brief review of their proposals towards the WW1 Commemoration activities programme. (Full details had been circulated to all members prior to this meeting.)

Following discussion by the Council it was agreed as summarised by the Chairman that the Council would contribute £1000.00 (from the funding from Welsh water) to the History Group to use as they wished be it this Commemoration proposal or Telephone Boxes which has been long under consideration or other ideas they may have.

2. APOLOGIES S Cole T Watson J Smith-Milne

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None submitted

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2017

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

5. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES

5.1 Christmas activities – actions to date. The tree has been ordered (the Clerk explaining that to obtain a cost effective 20ft tree may be a problem in future years). N Power supply to the tree booked. December 2017 GNScheme party main hall booked. Some Christmas presents for the Residential Homes purchased.

The Chairman will discuss the installation of the tree / coordination of the lights with T Watson as D Williams no longer has direct access to the installation equipment.

5.2 NO FISHING OVERNIGHT – this is yet to be actioned.

5.3 Stream inspection Whitchurch – The Chairman and Clerk have inspected the stream and this is flowing well and free of debris. The other side of the A40 will also be inspected.

5.4 Play Area – concerns regarding the annual report. A response to our concerns has been received with the emphasis that any matters arising were ranked at very low risk / low risk being excellent ratings by safety standards.

5.5 New litter bin – this has now been installed at the Church car park and will be included in the regular Parish maintenance schedule.

6. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR

P Newman highlighted the following activities and information.

Acted as a Steward for the annual Community Charity Walk.

Will attend the next Local History Society meeting.

Responded to the consultation – minerals - with particular concern of Fracking in our Parish AONB.

Reported on the overspend situation Blueschool House and the actions being taken.

7. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

No new planning applications have been received for comment.

173625 Marsden House – matters related to planning conditions 143823 and 143824.

The Council were minded that Herefordshire Council were not inviting comments.

8. REPORTS RECEIVED

8.1 Chairman. The Chairman and Clerk attended the Herefordshire Council workshop covering planning issues / Nplan matters / code of conduct / and responsibility towards vulnerable people.

8.2 Finance working group. A meeting will be held on 18 October 2017 to review the accounts and develop estimated budget proposals for the financial year 2018/2019.

8.3 Lengthsman and grass cutting working group. The regular schedule for roads and maintenance continues with the grass cutting ending October 2017. Winter schedule will commence November 2017.

8.4 Website and publicity. Details of the future meetings and activities of the Good Neighbour Scheme will be provided by S Morris.

8.5 Good Neighbour Scheme. The next meeting will be attended by Community First. It is anticipated that the Scheme may also gain visits from one of the Residential Homes.

9. FINANCE MATTERS

The Clerk reviewed the status of the bank account.

Letters of appreciation for our maintenance contributions have been received from St Dubricius and St Swithins.

Payments

Lengthsman scheme work / grass cutting / footpaths £1597.20

Good Neighbour Scheme Hall rent £120.00

Clerk fee £525.00 Administration £46.65 Travel £46.60

Workshop training £198.00

Residential Homes Christmas gifts £99.05

New litter bin £420.57

10. ROADS AND TRAFFIC MATTERS

Balfour Beatty proposals – reference minutes 12 September 2017. The Clerk has responded with the comments made by Council members and is waiting for further quotations.

The recent consultations from ADL on behalf of Balfour Beatty for speed measurements and parking concerns were discussed - the general opinion being that little could be done to improve the parking situations and the speed checks will clarify the actual situation.

The meeting proposed that the Chairman and Clerk respond on behalf of the Council.

11. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN / MONTHLY REPORT

The special meeting on 24 October 2017 was discussed (subsequently changed to 7 November 2017) for a presentation to PC members from the Steering Group.

The Draft Plan is approaching Regulation 14 and it was agreed that this was an appropriate stage for the Steering Group through G Litson to provide comments as required on new home applications to the Council to assist them in their conclusions.

The meeting was minded that at Regulation 16 the Plan is taken into consideration on planning applications both by the PC and Herefordshire Council.

12. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND DISTRIBUTED

The Clerk has attended a Data Protection workshop and a Code of Conduct for Councils workshop.

The Chairman made reference to recent correspondence from a resident requesting that the PC take over the maintenance of the Doward Chapel churchyard. The Chairman confirmed past Council meetings where the resolution was made not to maintain this churchyard. The meeting further confirmed and supported these resolutions.

Concerns were made regarding activities on the land at Quarry Wood Barn. The Clerk will report the matter to Herefordshire Council.

13. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

No new items were submitted.

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON 14 NOVEMBER 2017 AT 7PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL.

The meeting started at 7pm and ended at 8.05pm

Signed

Chairman

Date