

**WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2012 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall.**

**PRESENT** S Lothian (Vice Chairman) D Williams S McInerney T Roberts J Everard G Hiscox R Smith W Walby M Norman

**ATTENDING** K Shilton (Clerk) Ward Councillor J Jarvis

**This parish Council meeting had been called by members of the Council to discuss specific matters.**

**1. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC** Not Required

**2. APOLOGIES**

P Walshe (Chairman) J Dixon S Bucknell J Smith-Milne

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** None

**4. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR**

J Jarvis gave a review of hopeful short term actions and possibly longer term solutions that could be given to road repairs on BOATS such as Ashes Lane and Meeks Well Lane. This was warmly received by the meeting. It was reported that a meeting would be organised with Herefordshire Council representatives and residents to review an anticipated action plan from the proposed solutions available.

**5. CHRISTMAS TREE FOR WHITCHURCH VILLAGE**

T Roberts reviewed the availability of a suitable tree and the meeting discussed options and locations for installations with the preferred option being near to the village shop. T Roberts kindly offered to supply suitable lighting. It was agreed to follow regulations, the lighting and electrical feed and installation would need to be carried out by a competent electrician and as necessary a certificate supplied. S Lothian agreed to investigate this matter.

**6. CHRISTMAS GIFTS TO RESIDENTIAL HOMES**

It was agreed as in previous years to give a Christmas card and a small gift to all the residents of Residential Homes in our Parish.

The Working Group was agreed as:

T Roberts, M Norman and J Everard.

## **7. PREPARATION FOR WINTER CONDITIONS**

It was estimated that 4 tons of salt grit mix is still available from the previous season. It was agreed the Clerk request from Amey on the supposition that the Self Help Scheme was still available, a further 6 tons in readiness for the winter. Of this as much as possible to be requested in 25 kg bags for easier handling.

J Jarvis agreed to discuss with Amey which areas of the Parish would be gritted by them.

In order to have clear communication it was agreed that T Roberts act as a Group Leader with the direct contact to our Lengthsman to co-ordinate any necessary winter actions. No other person has this authority.

It was agreed D Williams R Smith and G Hiscox co-ordinate any proposed gritting areas giving the necessary information to T Roberts.

The Clerk reported that faster than expected a further 5 tons of tar mix had been obtained and delivered to our Parish.

## **8. PLANNING**

S McInerney expressed concern how recent planning applications had not been discussed openly and together as a Council, but by individual selected conversations or emails to Council members which is not acceptable.

The meeting resolved that all applications without exception should be treated in the same manner which involved discussion by the Council at a Parish meeting or as necessary a specifically held meeting for the application and such a meeting would be announced on the notice board and open to the members of the public.

As applications are received and distributed by email, it was agreed to be both time and cost effective all members consider and study the applications privately and bring their individual notes and comments to the meeting for discussion.

## **9. BUDGETS**

S McInerney was concerned regarding the lack of information given to Council members to date on the budget process and particularly any proposals being discussed by the Finance Working Group. M Norman apologised that in her absence at the September 2012 Parish Council meeting, although budget figures had been available for this meeting, they had not been discussed and agreed to distribute these proposals for 2013/14 shortly in order to give members time to study this information.

## **10. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

Budget and Precept 2013/14

Parish Plan The Path Forward

Selected Footpaths requiring attention

Information leaflets for Defibrillators

Amenities Group proposed tour of the Parish

The meeting started at 7.30 pm and ended at 9.25 pm

**NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON 13 NOVEMBER 2012 AT 7.30 PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL.**

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....