

WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL**Minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2015 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall**

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

ATTENDING K Shilton (Clerk) and 2 residents

1. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC

A resident made reference to the public footpath through land of Losito Stud. Our Footpaths Officer explained this footpath was not blocked and was in good condition for walking. It had been reported that on occasions confrontation had occurred.

2. APOLOGIES D Williams S Lowthian S Cole

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

J Smith-Milne planning application land opposite the village school.

4. ELECTIONS MAY 2015

Nomination papers were distributed at the meeting and the Clerk reviewed procedures and confirmed that the March 2015 Electoral numbers were available. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact M Jenkins and S Lowthian regarding the availability of the Nomination papers.

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 10 FEBRUARY 2015

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

6. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES

Reference was made to the agenda items.

7. REPORTS RECEIVED

Chairman. The Chairman reported that he had recently walked the footpath through Losito Stud without incident.

Leisure Park. A meeting to discuss the riverside footpath has not yet been made.

The Chairman thanked S Lowthian for organising the recent litter pick up event and all residents who had participated. The Chairman also thanked Woods Of Whitchurch and The Old Court Hotel for their kind hospitality on that day and apologised to The Old Court Hotel regarding the delay in the rubbish bag removal.

The Chairman thanked S McInerney for his time and efforts organising meetings with Balfour Beatty reference the earth slippage and flooding concerns at Lewstone. The Parish Council will continue to follow up with Balfour Beatty to have the appropriate work carried out.

Ward Councillor. No report available.

Finance working group. The next meeting will take place on 31 March 2015.

Lengthsman and grass cutting working group. It was agreed starting April 2015 that one fixed day of each month should be allocated for the lengthsman to carry out maintenance work on the public footpaths. The work would be co ordinated by our Footpaths Officer.

The quotation for the lengthsman to carry out necessary work to prevent flooding at Lewstone was agreed. However the meeting gave concerns that a more detailed breakdown of costs should be made on future quotations. The Chairman and Clerk will arrange a meeting with the lengthsman to discuss this matter.

Footpaths Officer. R Smith reported that there were two outstanding work projects at Hewlins Lane and Yew Tree Lane. The blocked footpath WC60 has now been resolved. Footpath WC67 where some conifers have been cut down and caused damage to a property was not from any actions taken by the Parish Council.

Public footpath at Losito Stud. Our Footpaths Officer had walked this route to find it open and in good condition. However whilst walking this path he had been confronted by the owner requesting his reasons for being on this footpath.

Website and publicity. G Litson reviewed the progress to date and future actions required for both the Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan websites.

8. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk reviewed the bank account status.

It was agreed that £1000.00 should be transferred from the Parish Council account to the Neighbourhood Plan account whilst funding applications were being made.

The following payments were agreed.

Clerk fee £483.00 travel £16.20 administration £21.00

Herefordshire Council planning documents £44.00

N Power £32.30

9. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

150379 outline Land opposite Whitchurch village school proposed 3 dwellings and associated works.

Reference was made to the letter of response from Whitchurch school which was fully supported by the meeting. The meeting was concerned as to the lack of information available regarding this application. No drainage plan is available and there were concerns that water from this land area could run onto adjacent land and properties.

The power lines appear to be relocated but no new location is shown. The access was once again considered not appropriate for this development and should be relocated to an entry from the roundabout. The meeting objected to this application for the above reasons.

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (NPLAN) UPDATE

J Dixon reviewed the recent first public meeting where some 50 residents attended. A small group of residents have offered to assist with the NPlan development. Steering Group members will co ordinate the required 6 project segments with assistance from the appointed consultants Foxley Tagg.

11. PARISH PLAN UPDATE

The following projects were reviewed.

Litter pick up. S Lowthian It was proposed this should take place every 2 to 3 months.

Martial Arts. S Lowthian 5 people have to date shown interest.

Roads / Transport . G Hiscox A small working group is being formed.

Community . T Roberts This activity requires assistance from other Council members and group volunteer leaders to co ordinate the necessary areas. The meeting was minded that some form of identification would be necessary for home visits.

Information Pack . G Litson Initial contact has been made with the resident volunteers.

12. PLAY AREA REVIEW

The Chairman and S Cole have identified the fencing required at a cost of £1600 to £2000. Clearing of the area is necessary with possible additional planting. The meeting resolved that work should start as soon as possible. The public will be informed through the Village News and Parish Council web site.

13. RED TELEPHONE BOXES

It was agreed the first stage was to clean and paint these 3 units. This intention should be published in the Village News and website requesting help from residents as a community incentive.

14. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND DISTRIBUTED

S McInerney brought to the attention of the meeting the proposed wind turbine to be located at Welsh Newton.

15. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Litter on the A40

Access A40 at Whitchurch

Lengthsman maintenance programme

Notice board relocation opposite the village shop

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON 14 APRIL 2015 AT 7PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL

The meeting started at 7pm and ended at 9.08pm

Signed

Chairman

Date