

WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW PARISH COUNCIL**Minutes of the meeting held on 17 May 2016 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall**

PRESENT G Hiscox (Chairman) D Williams G Litson T Watson S Cole S Morris M Woodward S McInerney.

ATTENDING K Shilton (Clerk) Ward Councillor P Newman.

1. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Appointment of Chairman. G Hiscox was appointed Chairman being proposed by D Williams seconded by S Cole and agreed by all members present. G Hiscox signed the Declaration of Office of Chairman.

Appointment of Vice Chairman. R Smith was appointed Vice Chairman being proposed by D Williams seconded by S Cole and agreed by all members present.

Appointment of Officers and Working Groups. No changes were made to these appointments reference list prepared 17 May 2016 of responsibilities and attached to the main minutes.

Report from Chairman. Reference was made to the report given at the Annual Parish Meeting held on 10 May 2016.

Report from Ward Councillor. In addition to the report given at the Annual Parish Meeting on 10 May 2016 the meeting was minded of the subject of Hydraulic Fracking in our Parish area now that a licence has been granted. It was agreed that the Parish Council should consider this matter and that it is also included in the Neighbourhood Plan preparation.

Dates of future meetings. It was agreed that these remain at the second Tuesday of each month starting at 7.00 pm with the exception of August and January when no meetings will be held unless there are urgent business matters to attend.

Financial Report for 2015/16. This report and explanation notes had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting. The report had been approved by the internal auditor. The Financial Report was agreed and papers for the external audit were signed by the Chairman and Clerk/Financial Officer.

2. ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

3. APOLOGIES R Smith (Vice Chairman) J Smith-Milne E Curtis.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None submitted.

5. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC Not required.

6. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 12 APRIL 2016

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

7. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES

Red Telephone Boxes/History Group. The History Group have further confirmed their interest in participating with local historic information at these telephone box locations. Examination of these units shows that some renovation/repairs will be necessary and a budget allocated.

Tourist Notice Boards. These also require repairs. Maps obtained by the NPlan Steering Group may also be appropriate for these information boards.

Training. The Clerk will review the availability submitted by Council Members.

Wifi Facility Memorial Hall. The application has been made to BT for installation.

New Notice Board. This has now been installed.

8. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR

Reference the report given at the Annual Parish Meeting and Section 1 of these minutes.

9. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

161225 Magpies Whitchurch proposed alteration and extension including accommodation space in the roof/extension of time. The meeting gave no objections.

Watsons Cottage change of use of garage to holiday let. The meeting gave no objections.

10. REPORTS RECEIVED

Chairman. Welsh Water will consider a community initiative project in our Parish. Suggestions have been submitted by the Chairman following consultations with residents and discussion at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Finance working group. A meeting was held on 19 April 2016 to review the financial year 2015/2016 and the budget for 2016/2017.

Lengthsman and grass cutting working group. The summer maintenance schedule continues in the Parish.

Footpaths. The next project is to replace / repair waymarker posts and signs. Further work on the Riverside Walk will also be scheduled.

It has been reported that the bridle path is blocked near the Ganarew Care Home. The Clerk will report the matter to Balfour Beatty for investigation and action.

The footpath near the Church and leading to the brook has a low barbed wire fence which could cause problems to walkers. The Clerk will report this situation to our Footpaths Officer for investigation.

Website and Publicity. G Litson reported that the quarterly Parish Council Newsletter is well received by residents.

Next actions regarding the NPlan website are to add future meeting dates of the NPlan Steering Group and all segments of the NPlan Evidence Base documents and summary.

Good Neighbour Scheme. It was agreed S Morris determine the cost of a weatherproof banner to announce the coffee mornings. An out of doors book sale will also take place on 28 May 2016 at Whitchurch.

11. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk reviewed the bank account status.

The first precept payment representing £14000.00 has been received.

Financial Regulations. The proposed Regulations had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting. These Regulations include special projects estimated to be £1000.00 or more

when at least 2 quotations will be submitted for resolution by the Council. These Regulations were agreed by all members present.

Payments

Lengthsman work £1062.00

Insurance £270.06

Special signs £41.94

Newsletter costs £182.48

Clerk fee £483.00 Administration £29.83 Travel £46.44

12. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Minutes of the Steering Group meeting had been circulated to all members of the Council. G Litson reported on the recent Community Weekend Event with 126 residents attending. Question Papers related to the NPlan development are now printed and will be hand delivered (and later collected) to all homes in the Parish. Council members that are able to help in this matter should contact G Litson directly.

13. ROADS AND TRAFFIC MATTERS

Proposals are being prepared for submission to Herefordshire Council / Balfour Beatty and will be reviewed at the next Council meeting June 2016.

14. LITTER ON THE A40

The meeting welcomed the recent news that Balfour Beatty are working with Highways England to remove litter from our area.

15. PLAY AREA / NEXT ACTIONS

As resolved the Play Area is temporarily closed for the first phase of renovation work. The Chairman is preparing a specification for the new fencing to obtain quotations.

16. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS

No further matters were discussed.

17. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND DISTRIBUTED

The Church is organising a party 2 July 2016 to celebrate the birthday of the Queen. As requested the Chairman will investigate if the Beacon can be used as a part of the celebration.

18. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Emergency coordinators for situations in the Parish.

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON 14 JUNE 2016 AT 7PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL

The meeting started at 7pm and ended at 8.25pm

Signed

Chairman

Date

