

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING FOR WHITCHURCH

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING FOR GANAREW

Minutes of the meeting held on 10 May 2016 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

PRESENT G Hiscox (Parish Council Chairman) S McInerney D Williams S Morris M Woodward R Smith E Curtis T Watson
K Shilton (Clerk) Ward Councillor P Newman
Residents one attending

1. APOLOGIES J Smith-Milne G Litson

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 5 MAY 2015

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council.

3. REVIEW BY THE PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

The Chairman thanked all Council members and the Clerk for their support and efforts on behalf of the Parish Council.

A further thank you was given to Vice Chairman and Footpaths Officer R Smith for his outstanding work dedicated to our Public Footpaths Rights of Way and the Council website development.

The Chairman reviewed the following main subjects and activities.

Good Neighbour Scheme. This has been well received and is proving increasingly popular.

Wifi development. This will be provided by the Council for the Memorial Hall.

Roads and associated safety matters. Initial and positive meetings have taken place with Herefordshire Council / West Mercia Police / and Balfour Beatty.

Pritchards Lane now has a resolution and associated budget for repairs.

Welsh Water have proposed to support a community project and the Chairman through the Council has submitted members and residents suggestions .

Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish. This is being developed through the appointed Steering Group consisting of Council members and residents. A Community Weekend to display the Evidence base segments of the proposed Plan will be held on 14 and 15 May 2016 at the Memorial Hall.

Play Area. The first phase of an agreed refurbishment programme will start with some new fencing and play equipment.

Footpaths / Riverside Walk. A considerable amount of work has taken place over the past 12 months clearing our Rights of Way Footpaths using the P3 Parish lengthsmen scheme funding. Further work will continue on the Riverside Walk to encourage tourism.

To assist walkers all Waymarker Posts and Signs will be inspected and renewed or replaced.

Red Telephone Boxes. These will be refurbished and new uses given to them as information centres which will include working with the local history group as a part of this project.

Memorial Hall. This continues to be supported by the Parish Council a recent activity being the installation of Wifi.

4. WARD COUNCILLOR REVIEW

Ward Councillor P Newman reviewed the following subjects.

Local Plan Core Strategy. This is now adopted for Herefordshire and will be supported by the Neighbourhood Plan Development.

Budget matters. These matters remain challenging and Council members need to be minded of the possible greater need of financial involvement in order to maintain necessary maintenance and standards in the Parish.

Fracking / Hydraulic Fracking. This is a potential future issue now that licenses have been allocated.

Local attended meetings. The Ward Councillor attends regular meetings with the village schools and local community organised activities.

Pritchards Lane. The recent resolution to repair this lane is most welcome. The Ward Councillor is available to help the Council when appropriate on other local issues.

Recent review of Parish Councils in Herefordshire. Most probably all Councils will remain as they are unless a Council has a particular reason or request to change their situation.

5. PARISH COMMUNICATION MATTERS

Websites are being developed for both the Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Plan. A quarterly Newsletter is also being developed and will be hand delivered to all residents homes in the Parish.

A new notice board has been purchased and installed opposite the village shop.

Notice boards are now situated opposite the village shop / at the school / and at Ganarew.

6. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN DEVELOPMENT

The initial Evidence Base segments for the required Plan are now developed by the Steering Group members and will be presented to residents at a Community Weekend 14 and 15 May 2016 so they have opportunity to study and make comments on this base stage of the Plan.

An independent planning consultant has been appointed to assist and advise during the next stages of the Plan and the Steering Group also have an appointed advisor from Herefordshire Council.

The next stage is the prepared question paper which will be hand delivered and collected from all residents homes and which gives them an opportunity to give their wishes and comments as to how they would like the Parish to be developed in the years to come.

The meeting started at 7pm and ended at 8pm

Signed

Chairman

Date