

WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2016 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

PRESENT G Hiscox (Chairman) R Smith D Williams S McInerney E Curtis T Watson G Litson S Cole S Morris M Williams

ATTENDING K Shilton (Clerk) Ward Councillor P Newman and 2 residents

1. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC

Ganarew Bridleway GN14. A resident described the difficulty using this bridleway when riding her horse at the area of the Ganarew Care Home and as a consequence the need to use the adjacent farmers field. On the same bridleway a land owner has fitted to a gate a dangerous weighted device which could injure horse riders and their horse as well as walkers. This matter has been reported to the police who are in the process of instructing its removal. (Subsequently reported this action has been carried out).

The resident requested the Parish Council to assist in achieving a solution to this bridleway so that it can be safely used by horse riders and walkers.

This matter was discussed and a resolution made under Section 8 Footpaths Officer of these minutes.

A resident from Old Ross Road described the difficulty in using the pavement along this road due to overhanging branches in specific places. The resident also complained that in his opinion the road and pavement condition was not of the same standard as the Main Street at Whitchurch. The resident requested locations for lower curbs for wheelchair users.

The meeting advised the resident in the first instance to discuss overgrown hedges with the applicable home owners and that the Council would also report the matter to Balfour Beatty for inspection and advice to home owners.

Regarding road and pavement conditions the resident was made aware of the infrastructure of different roads and that if he wished to take the matter further with Herefordshire Council.

2. APOLOGIES J Smith-Milne

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None reported

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 17 MAY 2016

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

5. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES

Red Telephone Boxes. The Chairman is meeting the History Group and will report back at the July 2016 meeting.

Tourist Notice Boards. There was concern that these notice boards are now in a poor condition and any new maps should be considered to be installed at the Red Telephone Boxes.

R Smith and the Clerk will circulate maps of the Parish for members to consider for the July 2016 meeting.

Training. Members were not able to attend the proposed training session and were minded that the Autumn programme will be available shortly.

Wifi at the Memorial Hall. There is a delay of approximately 1 month.

8. FOOTPATHS OFFICER / BRIDLEWAY GN14

R Smith Footpaths Officer reported that the Bridleway GN 14 at Ganarew had effectively been closed for many years and as a consequence public users had developed a diversion route through adjacent land.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Chairman / Footpaths Officer / and Clerk would meet and prepare a response to Balfour Beatty that a suitable bridleway be enforced for public use.

6. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR

The following highlights were reported.

The Local Transport Plan has now been agreed by Herefordshire Council.

Balfour Beatty Review presentation which has been distributed to all Council members.

Review of recent changes regarding Cabinet members.

8. REPORTS RECEIVED

Chairman. The Newsletter will be available for distribution end June 2016.

Finance working group. All papers for the financial year 2015/2016 have been submitted to the external auditor.

Lengthsman and grass cutting working group.

It was noted that the road sign near the Scania location is covered by overgrown branches.

The Chairman requested members to report similar situations to the Clerk for coordination.

Website and Publicity. The Neighbourhood Plan website has now been much improved and made user friendly. Future meeting dates of the Steering Group will also be made available on this website.

Good Neighbour Scheme. Age Concern have made contact and will attend a future meeting to meet and talk to residents.

Dates of meetings will also be available on the Parish Council website.

A weather resistant banner is being prepared to further advertise these meetings.

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk reviewed the bank account status.

Payments.

Lengthsman work/maintenance/grass cutting/projects £4804.08

Neighbourhood Plan VAT transfer £722.76

Clerk fee £483.00 Administration £10.54 Travel £22.96

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE / MONTHLY REPORT

The next Steering Group meeting will be held 27 June 2016.

Question papers to all households are now distributed and will be collected end June / early July 2016.

It is estimated the costs to develop the Plan will be £12000.00

11. ROADS AND TRAFFIC MATTERS

The Chairman is preparing a report for distribution to the Cabinet Member and Balfour Beatty.

12. PLAY AREA / ACTIONS TAKEN

The Chairman has prepared a specification for new fencing and installation and will obtain quotations from suppliers.

We are waiting a response from Welsh Water regarding potential funding assistance.

13. RESILIECE PLAN FOR THE PARISH

S Morris and the Clerk will hold an informal meeting together with selected residents and representatives.

14. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND DISTRIBUTED

It was noted that a notice board at Symonds Yat although well used is in a very poor condition. It will be investigated if notices can be incorporated in the Red Telephone Box in the area. Litter on the A40. Removal of litter appears slow. The Clerk will contact Balfour Beatty for a status on this matter.

15. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Reference the above action points.

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON 12 JULY 2016 AT 7PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL

The meeting started at 7pm and ended at 8.25pm

Signed

Chairman

Date