

WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 15 November 2016 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

PRESENT G Hiscox (Chairman), S Morris, M Woodward, G Litson, T Watson, R Smith and J Smith-Milne

ATTENDING K Shilton (Clerk), Ward Councillor P Newman and 6 residents together with Chrissie Pepler the Church and Society Link Officer Good Neighbour Scheme.

1. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING THE GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME Chrissie Pepler Church and Society Link Officer

The following main points were highlighted through presentation and discussion.

By 2020 grants from Central Government are ending and so Herefordshire Council may only be able to carry out statutory duties regarding social justice and social responsibilities.

Key words / elements for the future are Resident Communities / Self Sustaining Communities. Herefordshire Council as a part of cost reduction schemes are investigating Digital Services in an attempt to be more cost effective in their Social services.

Generally housing associations are also receiving less funding and so have less financial resources to build / purchase new homes.

New ventures are emerging such as Charity Incorporated Organisations / sustainable models for example growing and marketing flowers.

As a result of the above scenario the Good Neighbour Scheme is becoming increasingly important within the structure of the community.

Some points which need to be considered for the future for our own emerging activities are.

DBS checks are necessary and will be financially supported by Herefordshire Council.

Training is available for helpers and coordinators.

Toolkits are available as reference models.

Insurance required / needs selection and consideration for the best and most practical value in use to meet such social requirements.

Increase in the use of media advertising to reach the community members. Possible consideration is one example to have a page in the PC Newsletter describing / advertising the Scheme and its activities.

2. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC / PARISH RELATED MATTERS

Not required.

3. **APOLOGIES** S McInerney, S Cole and D Williams

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** None reported

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 11 OCTOBER 2016

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

6. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES

Resilience Plan meeting. Conflicts with other Parish matters has so far prevented the initial meeting.

Wifi at the Memorial Hall. Following discussion it was agreed J Smith-Milne would speak with the member of the Village Hall to advise as to how to upgrade the system.

7. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR

Attended the Good Neighbor Scheme coffee morning and had the opportunity to offer advice to residents as was requested by them.

Herefordshire Council budget discussions will commence shortly.

8. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

163303 land at The Old Nurseries Whitchurch development of 6 new residential dwellings. The meeting gave no objections to this application.

9. REPORTS RECEIVED

Chairman. Highlighted correspondence from the Pensions Regulator / item for the next agenda. The meeting was minded of the NPlan Community Event weekend 18 / 19 November 2016 at the Memorial Hall and Council members invited to attend and support this latest Plan update to Parish residents.

Riverside Walk public footpath. A meeting is planned with the land owners to discuss the actions required to progress this public right of way.

Finance working group. Financial year 2017/2018 budget and precept proposal / reference section 10 of these minutes.

Lengthsman and grass cutting working group. The winter maintenance schedule continues and will now include leaf clearing at required areas to prevent drain blockages.

Footpaths officer. Way-Marker posts and signs are being replaced / installed over the next months and footpaths will be monitored for actions required due to the winter weather.

Website and publicity. Input into the web sites continues.

Good Neighbour Scheme. In addition to the two Wednesday morning meetings each month at the Memorial Hall the scheme is expanding to include every week a meeting at St Dubricius Church each Thursday from 2pm to 4pm.

10. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Finance working group proposals for the budget and precept request for the next financial year 2017/2018.

The information and notes had been circulated to all members prior to this meeting.

J Smith-Milne reviewed the proposals on behalf of the working group. During discussion on matters related to the Clerk the Clerk left the meeting room.

The meeting resolved to adopt the proposed budget for 2017/2018 and to request a precept for £32000.00.

Payments

Lengthsman work £616.80

Play area fencing £748.02

St Dubricius contribution to churchyard maintenance £550.00

Clerk fee £483.00 Administration £27.57 Travel £45.32

11. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE / MONTHLY REPORT

Reference the minutes of meetings circulated to all Council members.

G Litson reviewed the main elements of progress of the Plan and the content and activities of the next Community Event weekend 18 / 19 November 2016 at the Memorial Hall.

The main features of the community event will show.

Vision and Objectives

Proposals for land development in the Parish as submitted by local land owners / residents /

Call for Sites proposals

Review of the analysis by Data Orchard of the question papers received from residents earlier this year

Members of the Council are warmly invited to attend and hear the comments of the community.

12. ROADS AND TRAFFIC MATTERS

The Chairman made reference to the recent site meeting attended with the Clerk and Balfour Beatty together with a traffic engineer from Herefordshire Council. The meeting was most useful with the following areas agreed for further work and consideration.

Crockers Ash . New signage proposed and installation of white entry gates. Vegetation to be cut back by our lengthsman .New signage painted on the road.

Main Street from the A40. New larger entrance sign and speed restriction sign.

H bars at required locations on the main street entrance drive ways and village shop.

Parking near the village shop proposed a 2 hour maximum waiting time.

Llangrove Road. Improved calming measures including marking on the road to connect existing pavements.

A TRO is in place to consider a 30mph speed limit on the bridge over the A40.

13. PLAY AREA

New equipment is now installed. A tree stump near the swings has been removed.

New perimeter fencing will be installed in the next few weeks.

Publicity for an opening ceremony and for the Play Area will be planned for the New Year.

14. CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

The tree for the village green area has been ordered. Installation of the tree and lighting will be organised by D Williams and T Watson.

Lighting times for the tree over the Christmas period and New Year has been booked with NPower.

The tree paid by the Parish Council for the village hall has been delivered.

S Morris and M Woodward reviewed the details for the Christmas tea party and it was agreed that this should be advertised in the Parish with banners and flyers.

Gifts and Christmas cards will be available for the visits to the Residential Care homes.

15. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Pensions Regulator for Parish Councils

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON 13 DECEMBER 2016 AT 7PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL

The meeting started at 7pm and ended at 9.25pm

Signed

Chairman

Date