

WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 19 December 2017 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

PRESENT R Smith (Chairman) D Williams S McInerney S Morris T Watson S Cole

ATTENDING K Shilton (Clerk) Ward Councillor P Newman and 5 residents
Chairman of The Local History Society together with two members

At the start of the meeting the Chairman explained that to assist the residents attending the agenda item order sequence would be altered.

1. APOLOGIES G Litson

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST The Chairman and D Williams both declared an interest in planning application 174508 land adjacent to Old Pound Cottage which was recorded in the register.

3. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC

Local History Society. The Chairman of the Society thanked the Council for the recent contribution of £1000.00 which they are using towards refurbishing the Red Telephone Boxes the first being located at Crockers Ash. The cost to date is approximately £400.00.

It was explained by the Society that when the presentation was given to the Council at the 10 October 2017 Parish Council meeting for the WW 1 Commemorations their understanding was that an additional £1000.00 was given for these activities.

Discussion took place as to how so far the funding had been used – what funds the Society held – what fund raising the Society has done or intended to do for funding their activities.

Suggestions were given by the Council as to possible grants available and they would also offer the contact detail of small grant funding.

The Chairman of the Society requested if further funding might be available from the Council budget 2018 / 2019.

The discussion concluded that this whole subject should be an agenda item for the February 2018 Parish Council meeting giving everyone the opportunity to consider the matter further including alternative funding routes and opportunities.

7. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

The Chairman closed the meeting to allow residents to address the Council.

Two residents made the following comments.

Daf- Y- Nant proposed 24 hour opening. They felt that the PC decision to submit comments of no objections did not give consideration to residents living in close proximity to the location.

The Chairman advised that they were able to submit their own views and opinions regarding this matter.

174508 – land adjacent Old Pound Cottage Whitchurch proposed 10 new dwellings.

The residents stated that they had in principle no objections to the planning proposal but would prefer to have a smaller development of bungalows and also an improved access.

The Chairman opened the meeting for Council discussion.

174508 – as above – Following discussion and individual comments the Council submitted that they had in principle no objections to the proposed development and supported the residents views of bungalows and improved access. They were aware of the NPSG recommendation.

174283 Biddlestone Orchard Llangarron proposed development of polytunnels and associated works to the project.

In principle the Council members had no objections to the proposals however they support the recommendation that the Chairman and Clerk meet with representatives of the responsible Parish Council and determine what support can be considered.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 NOVEMBER 2017

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

5. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES

Christmas activities review and update. The Chairman thanked Tom Watson John Williams and Shane Williams for all their help efforts and ingenuity installing the Christmas Tree. All these people and their tactics were certainly required !

An appreciation for the Tree being installed once again has been published by the local village store.

Good Neighbour Scheme Christmas Party. Sue Morris reported that all was organised and that Council members on the day if they can give some time would be warmly welcomed !

Residential Homes. Sue Morris will visit Whitchurch Home with cards and gifts and the Chairman and Sean McInerney will visit Ganarew Home.

6. WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT

Paul Newman highlighted.

Whitchurch Primary School – congratulations in achieving the highest Key Stage results in Herefordshire.

Black Bridge incentive. The Ward Councillor fully supports this incentive with full details circulated to all members.

Will be a helper and supporter at the GNS Christmas Party.

Will be supporting the Bishops Wood Christmas Lunch.

Ganarew Church special service with Minstrels is highly recommended.

The Ward Councillor wished all Council members a very happy Christmas and best wishes for 2018.

8. REPORTS RECEIVED

Chairman

Attended a meeting / site meeting with the Clerk and Balfour Beatty to discuss – barriers at Whitchurch – water supply to the school roundabout – hedgerow situations on the Doward.

Site area inspection with the lengthsman to address all grit bin locations and to replenish as required with several new bins installed to replace damaged or missing bins.

Meeks Well Lane – a new dog bin installation is recommended next to the grit bin.

Finance working group.

The precept request for 2018 / 2019 has been submitted to Herefordshire Council.

The group will meet February 2018 to review income and spend.

Lengthsman and grass cutting working group.

Reference above report from the Chairman.

Website and Publicity.

The Chairman / Clerk are preparing the Council News Notes for circulation January 2018
All members are invited to submit contributions.

Footpaths Officers.

The recent heavy snow has brought down numerous tree branches onto footpaths which had been previously worked and cleared for walkers. A new programme will be developed for clearance in the New Year.

The Bridleway at Ganarew – Balfour Beatty have replaced the old original problem gate with a new bridle gate suitable also for horse riders.

9. FINANCE MATTERS

The Clerk confirmed that the precept request for 2018 / 2019 has been submitted to Herefordshire Council.

The Clerk reviewed the status of the bank account.

Payments

Lengthsman schedule work £916.80

Clerk fee £525.00 Administration £37.99 Travel £42.66

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE AND MONTHLY REPORT

In the absence of G Litson the Clerk gave an update regarding the development of the Draft Plan. The Steering Group anticipate to be able to submit the Draft Plan for Regulation 14 end January / early February 2018 to Herefordshire Council.

This will then be followed by a public consultation for their views and opinions.

Before this submission the Steering Group will present the Draft Plan and its elements to the Parish Council for their comments and resolution of approval.

11. ROADS AND TRAFFIC MATTERS

The detailed report and recommendations from the Herefordshire Council / Balfour Beatty consultants had been circulated to all Council members prior to the meeting.

All members supported the speed control recommendations proposed. The Clerk will inform the consultants accordingly.

The report together with the support statement from the Parish Council will be published on the website.

Road condition of Church Lane. The road surface is now in a poor condition. The Clerk will request Balfour Beatty to advise the Council regarding the status of this road and what actions can be considered.

12. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND DISTRIBUTED

No further comments were made.

13. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Local History Group – potential additional funding

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON 13 FEBRUARY 2018 AT 7PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL.

NO MEETING WILL BE HELD IN JANUARY 2018 UNLESS THERE ARE URGENT BUSINESS MATTERS TO ATTEND.

The meeting started at 7pm and ended at 8.25pm

Signed

Chairman

Date

