

WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2018 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

PRESENT R Smith (Chairman) D Williams G Litson S McInerney S Morris S Cole T Watson
J Smith-Milne

ATTENDING K Shilton (Clerk) Ward Councillor P Newman W Bloxsome Data Orchard
Steering Group member G Hiscox

1. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC Not required

2. APOLOGIES None required

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None reported

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 13 FEBRUARY 2018

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – DRAFT PLAN TO REGULATION 14

Data Orchard were introduced to the meeting being the independent consultant to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Data Orchard gave a brief review of the stages of the Draft Plan from Regulation 14 to the Plan Referendum and completion.

All Council members had received copy of the Draft Plan and Housing Report and the Chairman gave each member the opportunity to comment.

One point of concern was the proposed 3 new dwellings near to The Old Court Hotel (site 24) which Council members required this to be further addressed and an alternative location or locations proposed.

Council members would also like this Draft Plan to offer some lower priced more affordable housing to encourage families to remain in the Parish.

On the basis that the Steering Group address these issues to the satisfaction of the Parish Council the meeting gave a resolution that the proposed Draft Plan should be submitted to consultation to Regulation 14 being proposed by S Morris seconded by S McInerney and agreed by all members with the exception of 1 abstention.

The Ward Councillor fully supported the Parish Council resolution.

The meeting agreed that the letter of objection (reference plot 28) received from The Old Court Hotel be attached to the main minutes as a record.

The Chairman thanked all Steering Group members for all of their time and efforts particularly the SG Chairman G Litson for bringing this Plan to the stage of public consultation.

5. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES

Welsh Water – the Clerk will make contact regarding concerns related to drains and sewage.

Balfour Beatty – a site visit will be arranged to discuss the reported issues.

Trees Church lane – this will be included at the above site meeting.

Water on the road – village shop – discussion resulted as to what could be done (drainage) and perhaps the village shop could report the matter if concerned.

Standing water issues were reported at the exit A40 (Garage workshop exit) which will be reported to Highways. It was also considered that this corner area was very untidy and required some attention.

6. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR

P Newman reported on the latest changes to Herefordshire Council Cabinet.

He thanked the members of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group for all their work and time given to this project.

Meetings recently attended.

The Good Neighbour Scheme

Local History Society and AGM

The Ward Councillor described his recent actions and efforts regarding the Doward Hill Fort and an intended meeting with the appropriate agencies to determine how this historic landmark can be further promoted. The Council Chairman agreed to assist and will also attend any future meetings arranged.

The concept of Permissive Footpaths was also outlined with a potential community involvement.

7. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

No new applications had been received and no planning matters were reported.

8. REPORTS RECEIVED

Chairman. The Chairman thanked all the people who had helped neighbours / residents during the recent snow conditions and in particular Tom Watson and Mark Williams who had given so much of their time to snow clearance to allow traffic to move.

The Chairman proposed that the Finance working group should consider a contribution to reflect their time and costs. This was fully supported by all Council members.

Finance working group. They will be meeting shortly to review the financial year end accounts.

Lengthsman and grass cutting working group. Appreciation was given to our lengthsman team for their assistance in the bad weather and maintaining all the Parish grit bins full and ready for use. All grips to ditches have been repaired and all drains cleared and jetted ready for further winter weather.

Footpaths Officers. Due to the bad weather the planned schedule has slowed down and a catch up programme is now in place.

Website and publicity. A great deal of action will be taking place over the next weeks preparing and supporting the Draft Plan public consultation and displaying all the necessary documents required.

Good Neighbour Scheme. The birthday party celebrations were a great success and the Chairman and Ward Councillor were thanked for attending.

A new Treasurer has been appointed who will work with the Clerk for fund deposits.

9. FINANCE MATTERS

The Clerk reviewed the status of the bank account.

All VAT refunds have now been received for 2017.

Payments

Lengthsman scheduled work £790.80

Clerk fee £525.00 Administration £11.50 Travel / Meetings / Training £22.96

11. ROADS AND TRAFFIC MATTERS – PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS TRO

All members had been circulated with the revised proposed parking restrictions TRO prepared by the appointed Consultants / Balfour Beatty.

Following discussion the meeting resolved to fully support these latest proposals and thanked the Agency and Balfour Beatty for their work and support to our Parish.

The Ward Councillor confirmed his full support to the resolution.

12. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND DISTRIBUTED

Local History Society – a letter has been received giving a review of the work intended to be done regarding the Red Telephone Boxes.

The Council members were pleased that this overdue renovation programme was now active.

13. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Amenities in the village (SM)

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON 10 APRIL 2018 AT 7PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL

The meeting started at 7pm and ended at 8pm

Signed

Chairman

Date