

## WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting held on 10 September 2019 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

**PRESENT** R Smith (Chairman) D Williams D Powell S McInerney G Litson S Morris T Watson

**ATTENDING** K Shilton (Clerk) Ward Councillor Y Watson and 2 residents

#### 1. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC

A member of the Local History Society Group explained how they wished – pending good weather conditions – to renovate the second Red telephone Box at Symonds Yat West. The Council members welcomed this proposal and the meeting discussed the issues that existed respective to this telephone box.

Any soil that requires removal from site will be organised by the Parish Council.

The History Group seek advice to carry out any required work including soil removal around the telephone box / inspect and make safe any electricity cables / possible consideration for refurbishment of the steps nearby / and address the foundation and access of the unit.

The Parish Council will investigate land ownership around the telephone box and will then send a short summary note the History Group member.

Planning application 192795 – The company representative explained the reasons for this application for future energy sustainability for the company manufacturing needs which also detailed how maintenance would be carried out and security of the proposed site including provisions of road safety during installation.

Parish Council members then discussed this matter and resolved to fully support this application.

**2. APOLOGIES** J Smith-Milne S Cole

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** None reported

#### 4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 9 JULY 2019

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

#### 5. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES

Dropped curbs required. Our Ward Councillor is discussing this matter with Balfour Beatty. Clock Tower. We are waiting a response from the National Trust.

#### 6. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

192795 land adjacent A4137 and A40 junction to Burnthouse Green proposed installation of ground mounted solar pv panels to include ancillary equipment inverters substation perimeter fencing cctv cameras access track and associated landscaping.

The Council members fully supported this application for future sustainable energy supply.

192697 The Wainhouse Symonds Yat alterations and additions to The Wainhouse and associated buildings within its curtilage.

The Council members considered that there was not sufficient information / detail submitted with this application to be able to make a resolution .

192882 Ashgrove Symonds Yat proposed outline application for the erection of a 3 bedroom dwelling.

The Council members considered that there was not sufficient information / detail with this application to allow a resolution.

184496 Reconsultation land rear of Old Court Farm proposed erection of 2 semidetached dwellings and garage block – construction of associated works.

The Council members objected to this application - the reasons remain as the previous application and Council members would request planning refer to the email 23 January 2019 which states these objections.

192753 Stonefield Symonds Yat extension to existing stone and masonry dwelling construction of new double garage.

The Council members considered that there was no sufficient information / detail submitted with this application to allow a resolution.

## **7. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR**

The Ward Councillor monthly report had been circulated to all members.

In addition Y Watson highlighted.

Tourism Task Group – this is being organised with a special objective of involvement of local business groups. This was fully supported by the Council members.

Potential traffic control measures Llangrove Road.

Training / Herefordshire Council – walking to school.

Dropped curbs at Whitchurch – investigations with Balfour Beatty continue.

Wish List items – football pitch at Whitchurch – Hereford bypass – use of cycling facilities (these items were discussed by all Council members).

## **8. REPORTS RECEIVED**

8.1 Chairman. Attended together with our Clerk a website workshop arranged by Herefordshire Council. We found this most useful and informative and as a consequence have redesigned and evaluated our PC website to become more user friendly. We are also reconsidering what is useful information and what is no longer required. A new section will be made for the Good Neighbour Scheme.

Attended a Parish walk about with our Ward Councillor highlighting related problems and discussing matters with residents.

8.2 Footpaths Officers. Chairman has walked WC1 which demonstrates it is passable with some care as is the case with several other footpaths.

8.3 Finance working group. A meeting is arranged for 26 September 2019 to review our accounts and prepare the initial submission to Council members for the estimated budget 2020/2021.

8.3 Website and publicity. The Chairman has carried out an analysis of contacts using the site and the segments of interest.

8.4 Lengthsman and grass cutting working group. Scheduled work continues / the winter schedule will commence November 2019.

8.5 Good Neighbour Scheme. A boat trip on the river Wye is planned for 2 October 2019 – all Council members are welcome.

It is hoped that the Mothers and Toddlers Group (Sticky Little Fingers) meetings will be able to start 1 October 2019 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall. To assist the finance of this new group the Council members agreed to pay for the room hire October to December 2019 inclusive. The matter will then be reviewed.

## **9. FINANCE MATTERS**

The external audit process has been completed and returned.

September 2019 – the second precept payment will be made by Herefordshire Council.

**Payments**

External audit fee £240.00

Lengthsman and grass cutting scheduled work £4118.16

Clock tower electricity £86.77

St Dubricius churchyard contribution to maintenance £550.00

St Swithins churchyard contribution to maintenance £550.00

Clerk fee £567.00 Administration £63.38 Travel / Meetings £32.22

**10. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE**

The Plan is presently with the independent external examiner – Council members will respond to any questions or comments coordinated by G Litson.

A Referendum for Parish residents is expected for November 2019.

**11. ROADS AND TRAFFIC MATTERS**

Parking problems and associated road blockage problems were discussed by the meeting where it appears visitors are reluctant to pay parking charges.

**12. CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES**

The following agreements / actions were resolved.

Christmas Tree. The Clerk will arrange this together with delivery details / times required.

Electricity supply. The Clerk will arrange the supply and dates / times required.

Technical support. T Watson and the Chairman will arrange tree installation and lights. Other members are also most welcome to assist !

The Christmas tea party will be held on 18 December 2019 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall from 2pm to 4pm. S Morris as lead coordinator but once again members assisting will be very much appreciated !

Christmas cards and gifts to the Residential Homes. S Morris and her helpers have kindly volunteered once again to carry out this service.

**13. SUPPORTING TOURISM IN THE PARISH**

Reference section 7 report from Ward Councillor.

**14. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND DISTRIBUTED**

The meeting was minded that the consultation for the new vicar of St Dubricius will take place on 12 October 2019 9.30 to 12.30pm.

**15. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

No new items were requested.

Several maintenance issues were reported which will be addressed by the Clerk and Chairman.

**NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON 8 OCTOBER 2019 AT 7PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL.**

The meeting started at 7pm and ended at 8.40pm

Signed

Chairman

Date

