

WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 8 May 2018 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

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

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

1. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING WHITCHURCH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING GANAREW

Reference was made to the agreed and signed minutes 9 May 2017.

There were no comments made by residents attending.

Report from Parish Council Chairman. The report had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting. The Chairman highlighted key elements and thanked the Council members for making the meetings and work programmes enjoyable.

Report from Ward Councillor. This report had also been circulated to members prior to the meeting but as one resident was present at this time the report was addressed in full.

2. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Appointment of Chairman. R Smith was appointed Chairman being proposed by D Williams seconded by S McInerney and agreed by all members present.

The Chairman signed the Declaration of Office.

Appointment of Vice Chairman. D Williams was appointed Vice Chairman being proposed by R Smith seconded by G Litson and agreed by all members present.

Appointment of Officers and working groups.

It was agreed that Officers and working groups remain (reference list distributed) with the exceptions.

Planning working group – G Litson D Powell and Chairman

Trees – D Powell and Chairman

Dates of meetings. It was agreed meetings take place on the second Tuesday of each month with the exception of January and August when no meetings are held unless there are urgent business matters to attend.

Lengthsman and Footpaths contracts. These have been completed for 2018 / 2019 and submitted to Herefordshire Council / Balfour Beatty for agreement and registration.

The meeting was minded that only Footpaths receives funding – the lengthsman work funding having ceased this new financial year.

Data Protection. All relevant documents and explanations are available on the website.

Financial Matters. Financial year ending 31 March 2018 and audit preparation.

The financial report and explanations for 2017 / 2018 had been circulated to all members prior to this meeting. All relevant papers were agreed and signed by the Chairman and Clerk / Finance Officer.

3. ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

4. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC

A resident considered that tree branches near to the residents property should be cut back and the ivy removed. The Council will investigate the matter.

5. APOLOGIES S Cole and J Smith-Milne

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

R Smith and D Williams declared an interest in planning application 174508 land adjacent to Old Pound Cottage proposed new 10 dwellings amended plans.

9. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

181074 land adjacent to Wye Vale Symonds Yat proposed new dwelling and garage.

The resident / land owner described the reasons for the application and the outline of the proposed new dwelling.

The Parish Council gave no objections to this application.

174508 land adjacent Old Pound Cottage site for 10 new dwellings – amended plans.

The Parish Council object to this application.

It does not fit within the intended proposed Draft Plan presently at Regulation 14 public consultation.

It is considered that 10 dwellings are too many and plans should include bungalows in the housing mix.

180965 Tuck Mill Cottage proposal to knock down a concrete sectional unusable single garage and replace with a double garage / workshop.

The Parish Council object to this application. It is considered too large and there is not sufficient detail submitted in the application.

174138 Wye Valley Visitors Centre proposed change of use of former garden centre glasshouse to indoor adventure golf course and service area. Changing external walls from horticultural glass to double skin translucent pearl polycarbonate / construction of internal compartment partition wall and opening the former plant sales area for overflow parking.

The Parish Council gave no objections to this application.

7. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 10 APRIL 2018

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

8. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES

Balfour Beatty site meeting. A suitable date is to be confirmed.

Telephone Box opposite the village shop. Following discussion with a mix of opinions and suggestions it was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk further investigate the matter and offer proposals for consideration.

10. REPORTS RECEIVED / ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

Footpaths. Finger Posts are needed WC90 and WC26.

WC74 is blocked due to fallen trees. The lengthsman has been informed and work scheduled.

Horse riders on public footpaths. The meeting has noted an increasing level of activity to certain footpaths causing a rough surface and difficulty for walkers and will monitor the situation.

WC1 footpath adjacent to the church requires attention and will be scheduled with the lengthsman work.

Website. It is pleasing to see an increased activity of users.

Good Neighbour Scheme. G Litson representing the Steering Group attended the last meeting and gave a short review of the proposed Draft Plan for the Parish.

A summer lunch is planned for 20 June 2018.

11. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk reviewed the status of the bank account.

First precept payment received £18875.00

Payments

Lengthsman scheduled work £2155.25

Insurance £247.21

Neighbourhood Plan transfer £442.57

Clerk fee £542.00 Administration £22.02 Travel / meetings / training £30.74

12. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE / MONTHLY REPORT

The two public consultation events have now been completed.

The consultation ends 22 May 2018.

Parish Council members are invited to attend future meetings as a part of the hand over process when the Plan is completed.

13. ROADS AND TRAFFIC MATTERS

It is noted as in other Parish areas that following the winter weather several roads are in a poor condition.

Ferry Lane. The road surface has risen and cracked in specific places with the matter being reported to both Welsh Water and Balfour Beatty.

Both agencies have made site visits and are considering what actions / options are required.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

The Federation of Whitchurch and Weston under Penyard Schools have been holding a consultation (Soft Federation to Hard Federation).

Regretfully the Council were not informed in adequate time and therefore comments to the deadline date could not be made.

15. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Possible attendance / introduction of our Local Community Police Officer

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON 12 JUNE 2018 AT 7PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL

The meeting started at 7pm and ended at 8.25pm

Signed

Chairman

Date