

## WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2018 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

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

**ATTENDING** K Shilton (Clerk) Ward Councillor P Newman and 1 resident

#### 1. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC

The resident attending had two concerns regarding Parish matters.

1.1 Planning application 182995 – 1 Old Dry Arch proposed single storey building for dog breeding.

The resident explained that there was already excessive noise of dogs barking day and night and often high pitched yelping which was distressing to families living nearby.

The proposed application will only increase this constant problem.

Local business is already affected by the above noise problem with reduced visitor returns and once again the proposed expansion would increase this problem.

Dogs are often found wondering on the roadside which residents try to catch to prevent them being injured and prevent traffic incidents on this busy A road.

The entrance to the site is not suitable for this already dangerous part of the main road and the proposal would only increase the traffic to this site by visitors and suppliers.

There are already many traffic incidents in this area where the road is narrow and this proposal will only increase the risk of more incidents.

A Council member further confirmed the problem of escaped dogs on the main road and the reason for being late attending the meeting was to help residents catch a wondering dog from this site.

1.2 The resident expressed serious concerns regarding the number of traffic incidents / accidents on this part of the A4137 where the road is narrow and difficult to navigate especially with the frequent use of large vehicles.

Again the proposed application as above will only increase the problem situation.

It was confirmed that at a recent Marstow Parish Council meeting residents had also attended and had expressed concerns regarding the same two situations.

The meeting agreed that the Clerk write to Balfour Beatty (as Marstow Parish Council had also resolved) to describe the concerns and accidents occurring at the hump back bridge / Dry Arch area of this A road and request that a traffic engineer inspect and investigate what further warning / safety measures could be considered to warn travelers of this danger area.

#### 6. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

182995 – 1 Old Dry Arch proposed single storey building for dog breeding.

Council members fully supported the concerns of residents and confirmed the points that had been raised

The Council members agreed to object to this application for the reasons stated.

182948 – Coppett View proposed extension and detached garage.

Council members had no objections.

181673 – River Wye Caravan Park 3 static caravans – retrospective.

Council members had no objections.

181674 – River Wye Caravan Park replacement toilet block – retrospective.  
Council members had no objections.

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

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** None reported

**4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 11 SEPTEMBER 2018**

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**5. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES**

Reference was made to items on the agenda.

**6. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR**

P Newman reported the following matters.

Lydbrook Bridge (Black Bridge) Steering Group members are delighted that this bridge is now open for residents and visitors to enjoy.

Attended the Good Neighbor Scheme boat trip which was very well attended.

Confirmed that he attended and has joined the Wye Rapid Cottages residents group to assist them in their efforts.

**8. REPORTS RECEIVED**

8.1 Chairman.

Attended the Good Neighbour Scheme boat trip.

Confirmed from the regular inspections being made that the land slip situation was getting worse giving increased concerns to local residents.

Reported suspected building work / land leveling Sandyway Lane which had been reported to the Enforcement Officer for investigation.

Delbourne Farm has increased its number of outbuildings (without any known applications) which has also been reported to the Enforcement Officer for investigation.

8.2 Footpaths.

A great deal of work has taken place over the recent months with actions to fallen trees and the continued programme of replacing sign posts and markers.

WC7 is now fully cleared.

WC1 continues to receive complaints from residents and as applicable further work will be carried out pending weather conditions.

8.3 Finance working group.

The estimated budget and precept for the financial year 2019/2020 prepared by the working group had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting.

The main elements were reviewed particularly the increase of maintenance work to continue and improve the standards established in the Group Parish. The meeting was minded that no funding is available for the lengthsman scheme from Herefordshire Council and all costs have to be paid by the Parish Council.

It was resolved being proposed by G Litson seconded by S Morris and agreed by all members that the precept request for financial year 2019/2020 be made at £49100.00.

8.4 Lengthsman and grass cutting working group.

A meeting will take place with the lengthsman to review the winter work schedule and any outstanding maintenance projects.

The Chairman / Clerk / Lengthsman will also carry out a review of the locations / usage of the litter and dog bins as a part of a strategy to maintain low litter levels in the Parish.

### 8.5 Website and publicity.

The Council website will undertake a content review update and will include more photographs to further encourage usage.

### 8.6 Good Neighbour Scheme.

The recent boat trip was a great success and encourages more residents to take part in the regular meetings.

A grateful thank you was given to the river boat company who made the kind gesture of no charge to the event knowing it was for the local Good Neighbour Scheme.

## 9. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk reviewed the status of the bank account.

The second precept payment £18875.00 has been received.

Payments

Lengthsman scheme work £330.00

Clerk fee £567.00 Administration £36.46 Travel meetings £16.96 / training £45.00

Soldier silhouette to commemorate WW1 – The Chairman explained the purchase of this silhouette which will be donated to St Dubricius to stand beside the names of remembrance. Cost represents £150.00

## 10. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN DEVELOPMENT

10.1 G Litson thanked the Parish Council members attending the recent joint meeting of Steering Group and Council members to finalise specific revision points to the Draft Plan. Reference minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 11 September 2018.

These resolutions will now be drafted into the Plan by the consultant Data Orchard who will then submit to the Council for approval towards Regulation 15 of the Plan development.

10.2 The Chairman recently attended the seminar organised by Herefordshire Council introducing new developments to increase affordable housing in the County.

This is longer term but may well involve the Parish at some future date.

It was agreed it would be beneficial to have a specific presentation to members at a future Council meeting.

## 11. ROADS AND TRAFFIC MATTERS

Reference item 1 – The Clerk will write to Balfour Beatty regarding the concerns / traffic incidents at the Dry Arch area A4137.

The Chairman / Clerk will also include this at the next site meeting agenda.

The TRO for speed and parking issues continue the process for consideration / approval.

It was reported that the school crossing point has no sign indication.

## 12. CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

Christmas tree. A resident has kindly donated a tree which T Watson confirmed could be made suitable. T Watson and Chairman will arrange the installation.

Lights. The Clerk confirmed that the registration of the power has been completed being from 1 December 2018 to 2 January 2019 from 4pm to 11pm as previous years.

Cards and gifts continue to be purchased for the residential homes.

The Christmas party refreshments have been arranged.

## 13. CORRESPONDENCE

It was reported a tree was blocking WC1 – the Footpaths Officer will investigate.

WC1 and WC2 footpath signs are missing. The Footpaths Officer explained this was a part of a programme to replace all signs and markers.  
Captains Turn – residents complain of the incorrect use of this part of the road. It was agreed to involve Balfour Beatty for their opinions and possible improved signage.  
Coffin Slide – it was requested to inspect if the steps were now secure.

The Chairman explained his recent research into the ownership of the Clock Tower.  
It was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting when perhaps more information was available.

**14. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

- Clock Tower
- Apparent stray dogs in the Parish
- Christmas Activities

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

The meeting started at 7pm and ended at 8.35pm

Signed

Chairman

Date