

WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2022 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

PRESENT R Smith (Chairman) T Watson S Cole S Morris G Hassall

ATTENDING K Shilton (Clerk) and two residents

1. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC

1.1 Herefordshire Council – proposed recycle bins for the Doward

The representative will attend the November 2022 meeting.

1.2 Doward – part of the U71235 is collapsing and as a consequence causes a very narrow part of the lane section for traffic to negotiate.

We will request our Locality Steward to inspect and recommend actions.

2. APOLOGIES S McInerney Ward Councillor Y Watson

The meeting also granted a leave of absence to L Gardner and J Smith-Milne.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None reported.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 12 JULY 2022

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

As planned no meeting was held in August 2022.

No meeting was held September 2022 in respect to the death of the Queen.

5. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES

5.1 WC59 – the gate system has had attention but a holding post requires replacing.

We will request the lengthsman to attend to the matter.

5.2 WC1 – maintenance much improved. The high standard would indicate that HC footpaths have carried out this work and very much appreciated !

5.3 Parking problems around the village – these continue – hopefully a traffic warden will be persuaded to visit although it was always highlighted by the traffic engineers that control of parking would be difficult away from the main routes of traffic.

Our local CPO has said he will visit the school area at main commute times.

5.4 Remove overgrown branches Rockleach Cottage – this has been completed and we thank those responsible for the prompt action.

5.5 Missing post box – coordinated replacement by S Morris whose determination has gained a name and reference number for future follow up.

5.6 Proposed man shed – we still require a location and the search continues. Grateful thanks to all the people supporting the project proposal including financial support and donation of tools.

6. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

There were no new application for discussion / comment.

A pertinent question was raised by G Hassall that although we often comment about increasing traffic in our parish area we have no relevant statistics.

The meeting agreed that this was a very valid point and requested the finance working group to consider this into the next budget / precept application and investigate possible agencies qualified to carry out such recordings of traffic movement.

7. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR

The monthly report and comments related to our parish matters had been circulated to all members and is available on the pc website.

8. REPORTS FROM THE APPOINTED OFFICERS AND WORKING GROUPS

8.1 Chairman – regular meetings with the Clerk / finance working group / parish related maintenance work / as well as responding to individual residents concerns.

8.2 Footpaths Officer and Tree Officer – all in general good state with regular inspection around the parish continuing.

8.3 Finance working group – a review of our affairs and future projects for consideration will take place ready to report to the Council at our November 2022 pc meeting.

8.4 Lengthsman working group – review of maintenance work has taken place with new project proposals for the play area and improved facilities. The Clerk is coordinating these matters.

8.5 Community Hub / GNScheme / Sticky Little Fingers – all progressing well with regular and increased participation.

The church will apply for wifi funded from the Community Hub grant.

8.6 Publicity / website / App – thanks to G Hassall for all his communication and coordination on the App.

The pc website is fully updated within all sections.

8.7 Christmas activities - we will try to bring back some of the events that covid last year prevented. The tea party will be held at St Dubricius church / a carol get together on Grange Park green / visiting the Residential Homes with gifts of chocolate. The Jubilee tree is not considered possible due to safety vision concerns also due to the high cost of electricity to maintain the supply this account has had to be closed. An alternative solar tree has demonstrated to be too expensive and difficult logistics. The meeting following discussion considered that perhaps more could be made of the Memorial Hall and will approach the committee for their thoughts.

9. FINANCE MATTERS

The Clerk reviewed the status of the bank account.

Payments

Lengthsman scheme maintenance work £4243.03

Website £384.91

Defibrillator maintenance £96.00

10. ROADS AND TRAFFIC MATTERS

The Council was asked to consider maintenance work on the hedges overhanging the pavement on the walks to school. A winter site inspection including the stream will take place shortly and this will be included. It was positive to note that residents had themselves cut back some vegetation.

Crockers Ash junction U71232 and C1251 at Fernbank Cottages overgrown branches – we will request our locality steward to investigate and take appropriate action.

A dog bin has been requested to be situated at the Memorial Hall. The meeting approved the recommendation.

11. GEORGE VI MEMORIAL TREE – PROPOSAL FROM THE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Correspondence from the Local History Group had suggested three possibilities to improve this memorial.

The meeting recommended the option of siting directions near to the public footpath when History Group funds would allow this.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

A resident living at Dry Arch has complained regarding the speed / volume / and heavy large vehicles using this road. With the assistance of our Ward Councillor the Safety Roads Team will investigate and as appropriate suggest improvements where possible.

Light Pollution at the two service stations A40 Whitchurch. These now have full planning permission to operate 24 hours but local residents and Doward residents complain about light pollution. Our Ward Councillor is involved in such programmes and will include this situation in considerations.

Power supply failures Whitchurch. The company - through our MP Jessie Norman - has offered to attend a public meeting to discuss the situation. The Clerk has offered possible dates but as yet has had no response.

13. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

No new items reported.

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON 8 NOVEMBER 2022 AT 7PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL

The meeting started at 7.10pm and ended at 8.10pm

Signed

Chairman

Date