

WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2023 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

PRESENT R Smith (Chairman) D Williams S McInerney S Morris S Cole

ATTENDING K Shilton (Clerk) Ward Councillor S Cole

1. APOLOGIES J Smith-Milne

LEAVE OF ABSENCE All members present agreed leave of absence to T Watson and G Hassall.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS None reported

3. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC Not required

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 4 JULY 2023

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

5. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES

Maintenance matters – a replacement sign directs the footpath from church car park to the river.

Play area – meetings and quotations continue

Llangrove Road Community Commissioning Model – all site meetings completed and now waiting for the quotation of the proposed improvements.

Community Hub – meeting with lead manager. Chairman and Clerk attended reviewing the pc involvement and budget spend to date. It is intended to start real live meetings and networking with other parish hubs soon.

6. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

232453 The Mine Pits renovation of house and single storey extension

The meeting gave no objections to this application.

232481 Little John Cottage proposed extension

The meeting gave no objections to this application.

232561 Wye Vale Miners cabin to holiday let

The meeting objected to this application. The location is already difficult for traffic / parking / and service transport and this proposal will further increase the local difficulties experienced.

232498 Wye Vale variation condition 2 planning 181074 allow new revised design

The meeting objected to this application until the proposed new plans and details were submitted.

7. WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT / COMMENTS

S Cole gave a review of recent meetings attended.

8. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS AND WORKING GROUPS

8.1 Chairman – Attended several agency and residents meetings (some with our Clerk) including Community Hub and our related parish activities and Doward residents regarding BOATS matters.

8.2 Footpaths – land adjacent to Ferry Inn and new related parking. This has been reported to HC enforcement officer who will investigate the matter further as there appears to be no formal application for the work carried out.

8.3 Finance working group – a budget meeting will take place this month and the proposed precept for year 2024/2025 will be submitted at the October 2023 meeting.

Lengthsman working group – summer maintenance schedule is working well.
Our lengthsman will also be involved with some aspects of the play area upgrading to reduce costs from other suppliers.

Overgrown branches from flyover to Sandyway Lane to be investigated.

8.5 Other matters – Doward Farm – residents have complained to the pc that dumping of building waste is taking place causing them concern and further anxiety.

The matter has been reported to the HC enforcement officer who will consult with colleagues regarding need for inspection.

8.6 Community Hub / Good Neighbour Scheme and activities

S Morris was pleased to report that new groups would be starting this Autumn - a craft club a games club and a toast and chat club.

Well done to all our kind-hearted residents group that give so much of their time and effort to our parish and its people!

8.7 Website and publicity – our website is full of pc activities and matters related to help and assistance which is reflected in the growing readership!

9. FINANCE MATTERS

The Clerk reviewed the status of the bank account - being minded of the next precept payment end September 2023.

The finance working group are meeting shortly to review an estimated budget for year 2024/2025 and proposed precept which will be submitted to the October 2023 meeting for members discussion and consideration.

A new lengthsman scheme grant from HC / Balfour Beatty has been confirmed which will reduce our working costs. It is most welcome to have this scheme once more for our parish.

10. ROADS AND TRAFFIC MATTERS

Reference item 5.

The Chairman reviewed further recent correspondence and meetings with residents regarding Doward BOATS followed by discussion by Council members.

11. CIVILITY AND RESPECT POLICY FOR TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS

This is a policy proposed for adoption from the Local Government Association / National Association of Local Councils and Society of Local Council Clerks.

The policy is available to view on the pc website.

This policy also includes the behaviour spoken and written by the public when related to parish council matters.

The meeting resolved to adopt this policy as an additional policy on matters related to the code of conduct.

12. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED / DISTRIBUTED

A resident had reported concern of the condition and ownership of trees adjacent to their property. They were advised to contact Herefordshire Council for investigation.

13. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Christmas activities / precept 2024/2025 /enforcement orders and their progress

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON 10 OCTOBER 2023 AT 7PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL

The meeting started at 7pm and ended at 8.10pm

Signed

Chairman

Date