

WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2024 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

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

ATTENDING K Shilton (Clerk) Ward Councillor S Cole and 19 residents

1. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC

The residents attending had come to make known their concerns regarding planning application 240240 land south Symonds Yat View proposed residential development 10 sustainable dwellings with road drainage hedgerow and tree planting.

The Chairman offered all residents the opportunity to speak and explain their concerns to the meeting.

It was agreed that all the concerns would be summarised as a separate item and posted on the pc website so all residents had the opportunity to view the conclusions.

The general view was that they were not against the development in principle, but the issues of sewage capacity and surface water drainage must be resolved before any build commences.

The summary sheet (prepared 14 February 2024) representing the Council was sent to Herefordshire Council planning for their attention.

2. APOLOGIES S Hickton T Watson G Hassall

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST S Morris declared an interest in planning 240240 which was recorded in the register.

4. COOPTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Richard Mutlow was coopted to the Council signing the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and other required papers.

Samantha Hickton intended to be present and coopted but other matters prevented attendance. This will therefore take place at the next pc meeting.

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 14 NOVEMBER 2024

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

6. ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES

Play area work – slabbing to be completed March 2024

Table tennis table beautifully restored by our lengthsman, and the new picnic tables delivered.

Website photograph litigation – our solicitors have negotiated a settlement, and the necessary formal agreement papers are being prepared.

An abject lesson for the future that any such resident steering group must always consult with the Council on all matters.

7. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

240250 Galloglass House conversion garage to accommodation.

The meeting had no objections to this application.

240240 land south Symonds Yat View 10 dwellings.

Reference item 1 and the summary sheet attached to these minutes and website.

232561 Wye Vale retrospective conversion of Miners cottage.

The meeting resolved that providing the applicant changed all required parameters from the previous objections and that they satisfied the planning officer then the pc had no objections.

8. WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT / COMMENTS

S Cole explained to the residents attending the various stages of the planning application process and the importance of individual residents to submit comments to the planning officer.

9. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS AND WORKING GROUPS

Chairman – land slippage at Meeks Well Lane and Ferry Inn Lane – speaking and meeting with residents and Balfour Beatty. Attending a workshop together with our Clerk involving HC and BB and taking the opportunity to discuss these matters further with cabinet members and responsible officers.

Site meeting attended together with Clerk with our locality steward to review parish matters and concerns including inspection routines.

Footpaths – a site meeting is planned with our lengthsman to work on several footpaths / clearance for improved public use.

Finance working group – will be meeting March 2024.

Lengthsman working group - the meeting thanked our lengthsman for the excellent work clearing the pavement on the school walk route and cutting back all overhanging brambles and branches. Now a proper walk to school! Other projects are being planned regarding maintenance and drain issues. The litter and dog bins maintenance schedule is running well with planned regular inspections and service.

Community Hub Good Neighbourhood Scheme multiple activities – S Morris reviewed the team group activities and of course made clear new member visits always welcome! A new Friendship Group has now started. The Chairman and Clerk will also be attending a meeting with Community Hub Officers.

Website / App / Publicity – all continue their efforts of communication with residents. Our thanks to G Hassall for attending to the Doward What's Up Facebook correspondence.

10. FINANCE MATTERS

The Clerk reviewed the status of the bank account.

11. ROADS AND TRAFFIC MATTERS

BOATS – Chairman reviewed the recent correspondence and meetings with residents – reference also item 9. Herefordshire Council have also issued their intentions and route forward regarding inspections and repairs. Leaping Stocks Lane – BB have completed repairs (a fast response) the costs being taken from the allocated PROW budget which has consequences to other works and maintenance.

12. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED / DISTRIBUTED

Defibrillator demonstration at the village hall. This was well attended with useful practical exercises. Some Doward residents expressed a wish for further units – bearing in mind two units are already available in this area. The meeting referred to Doward group funds which potentially are available if this was a majority expressed for such use.

13. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Progress / conclusions item 12

The meeting started at 7pm and ended at 7.45pm

Signed

Chairman

Date

NEXT MEETING 12 MARCH 2024 AT 7PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL