

## WHITCHURCH AND GANAREW GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2024 at Whitchurch Memorial Hall

**PRESENT** R Smith (Chairman) D Williams S Morris R Mutlow S Cole T Watson  
A warm welcome was given to Tom – everyone pleased to see him again.

**ATTENDING** K Shilton (Clerk) Ward Councillor S Cole and 1 resident

**APOLOGIES** S Hickton G Hassall

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** None reported  
Members updated Declarations of Interests have been sent to Herefordshire Council.

#### 1. OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PUBLIC

The resident made reference to application 240240 and asked if the Council had written to the planning officer supporting Balfour Beatty opinions and recommendations regarding the drainage issues. The Clerk confirmed that this had been done on 16 September 2024.

The Ward Councillor offered an explanation as to why there was a delay on such matters being available on the HC planning website.

The Ward Councillor gave an update on the situation and that the application would when satisfactory go to planning committee.

#### 2. NOTES FROM THE MEETING 9 JULY 2024

##### NOTES FROM THE MEETING 10 SEPTEMBER 2024

These were agreed and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

#### 3. ACTION / FOLLOW UP POINTS

Grit bin situation – Chairman explained the errors made when Balfour Beatty had visited the parish with grit in September.

The matter has been fully explained to both Herefordshire Council and Balfour Beatty with a detailed site meeting planned with the locality steward to hopefully once and for all resolve the continuous problems associated with this service.

A delay in progress is due to a change in locality steward and the Chairman Clerk and Balfour Beatty will meet as soon as new people are available.

The Clerk reviewed the intended plan for service and improved grit bins and revised locations which was approved by the meeting. This may involve the use of a Community Commissioning Model.

Community police van – visit for the public. The van visited Whitchurch but in the hours available no residents attended.

#### 4. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

No new applications had been received this period.

#### 5. WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT

The recent report had been circulated to all members and is available on the parish council website.

#### 6. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS AND WORKING GROUPS

Chairman – reviewed the meetings attended with the Clerk – Herefordshire Council summit and Balfour Beatty review.

Footpaths – several footpaths now require attention and will be allocated to our lengthsman.

Finance working group – budget preparation 2025 / 2026

Lengthsman working group – a review meeting has recently been held including winter service schedules and future project work.

Community Hub and Good Neighbour Scheme activities – 22 December a community carol service will take place at Grange Park green. A reminder also to members for Remembrance Day.

Christmas parish activities – chocolates will once again be given to the two residential home residents.

Website / App / publicity – all running well.

## **7. FINANCE MATTERS**

The proposed budget for 2025 / 2026 together with supporting notes had been distributed to members prior to the meeting.

Although savings through a greater value in use is being gained from parish maintenance programmes discussion and resolution concluded that the precept remain at the present level £52500.00 for the financial year 2025 / 2026.

Members will monitor progress and parish related suitable programmes for future review.

## **8. ROADS AND TRAFFIC MATTERS**

The Chairman made reference to the latest updates.

Meeks Well Lane

A40 landfall and works

Whitchurch end A40 new signs replaced by Highways

## **9. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE PARISH RELATED CORRESPONDENCE**

S Morris referred to the footpath WC 93 and its associated walkers problems and large trees with potential property damage.

It was agreed this would be reported to the PROW officer for further investigation.

## **10. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

Dropped curbs – although past surveys have been made it was agreed to further discuss this matter.

The meeting started at 7pm and ended at 7.50pm

Signed

Chairman

Date

**NEXT MEETING  
WILL BE HELD ON 19 NOVEMBER 2024 AT 7PM AT WHITCHURCH MEMORIAL HALL**