

Democratic Period/ Question Time: No Members of the Public were present

2009.103 Attendance.

Asterisks after the names of those members present indicate late arrival. Corresponding asterisks in the left hand margin indicate the point of arrival.

Present: M. Baker, G.L. Coldicott, N. Hodgetts, M. Hallmark*, A. Lodge, R.A. Phillips.

In Attendance: P.S. Roe, Clerk; PCSO Alex Fogwill.

2009.104 Declarations of Interest and Ethical Matters.

- a There were no declarations of Personal (non prejudicial) Interests in items on this Agenda.
- b There were no declarations of Prejudicial Interests in items on this Agenda.
- c Ethical Matters. Members were reminded of the need to keep their Register of Interest entries up to date, and that this was their personal responsibility.

2009.105 Minutes of Previous Meetings of the Council.

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 14th July 2009, having been previously distributed, were taken as read, and were adopted (AL/GLC) without amendment.

2009.106 Planning.

- a. New and Unresolved Planning Applications: None
- b. Previous consultations. None
- c. Planning Decisions: None reported.
- d. Other Planning Consultations: None
- e. Other Planning Matters:

Concern re advertising signs: Concern had been expressed regarding the proliferation of advertising boards at J7 and whether there was any Planning Permission or need for therefor. The Clerk had investigated and was advised that the signs probably needed Planning Permission.

Concern was also expressed about the signs at Whittington Hall, it being thought that the original temporary Planning Permission therefore had lapsed.

The Clerk was requested (MB/RAP) to write to WDC Planning Dept appropriately.

City of Worcester: Worcester LDF City Centre SPD 23/02/2007) and Archaeology & the Historic Environment SPD (7/9/2007) both adopted as dates noted.

Wychavon D.C.: Gypsy & Traveller Issues Scrutiny Team - progress report - a letter had been placed in the Circulation File

2009.107 Progress Reports/Updates on Matters Previously Resolved.

- a. Whittington School. The Chairman reported that he had not been contacted yet (the new term having just commenced) by the Head Teacher regarding his proposed visit.
- b. Aquasacs: NH confirmed that the Aquasacs had been placed in the shed and undertook to place a set of laminated instructions there. Members of the Public were to be advised to contact any Parish Councillor in event of the Aquasacs being needed.

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At this point PCSO Fogwill arrived and the Chairman adjourned the item to allow him to report and return to operational duties with the minimum of delay. His report is given in numerical sequence at 2009 113.

- c. S.M.J. Tanner Memorial Garden at Village Hall: The Clerk reported that turfing etc. was in hand

2009.108 Finance.

The Clerk reported as follows: -

- a. Receipts: To receive a report of receipts since the last meeting: from WCC re Lengthsman £138.60 received (re 07/09) and £184.80 was awaited (for 06/09 having been submitted late).
- b. Payments: Invoices and requests for payment were reported as follows: -

Expenditures: 08/09/2009	Date of invoice	VAT No	Net	Gross
S. Gwilliam - Lengthsman Services for July 2009 (Paid)	27/7/2009		£132.00	£132.00
Clement Keys - Audit fee for year 2008-2009			£120.00	£138.00
S. Gwilliam - Lengthsman Services for August 2009			£176.00	£176.00
S. Gwilliam - Litterpicking Services for August 2009			£35.00	£35.00
P.S. Roe - Contribution re Shredder agreed at July Meeting			£25.00	£25.00
Total			£ 488.00	£ 506.00

Payment was agreed (MB/RAP) unanimously.

- c. Proposals for Expenditure. To consider proposals for budgeted expenditure. The Clerk reminded Members of the Budget provision of £150 for Churchyard Maintenance. It was agreed (MB/AL) that this sum be paid to the DCC for Churchyard Maintenance, and a cheque was drawn.

- d. Quarterly Accounts Report: This had been submitted on 14/7/2009, but consideration had been delayed to allow Members time to review it. Its adoption was agreed (AL/RAP).
- e. Audit for 2008-2009: The external audit had been completed and an unqualified report given. The required notices had been posted at Village Hall and at the Swan. A query had been raised re the reason for the accumulation of funds which the Clerk had resolved, a copy of his response was in the Correspondence File.
- f. Fixed Term Deposit Account: The Clerk reported that this matured soon and that unless the Council indicated otherwise he would redeposit the money - the current rate was 0.45%.

2009.109 Highways & Byways.

a. Highways Matters:

General: None

M5 Noise: None

Maintenance:

Works for the Lengthsman:

MH asked if the Lengthsman could be instructed to extend the visibility splay at the NW corner of the access road near the Swan Inn at its junction with Old Road. The Clerk was to investigate and action as appropriate.

Previous Matters:

It was reported that no action had been taken regarding the small tree at The Coach House, Church Lane. The Clerk, having written following the last meeting, was to inform the Highway Authority appropriately

New Matters:

It was reported that the sponsorship of roundabouts in the parish seemed to have lost its way and that the sponsor's boards were now merely a revenue raising device. The Clerk was asked to raise this with the County Council to ascertain the position and encourage improved planting/maintenance.

Traffic Management:

Previous Matters: None

New Matters:

The Chairman reported that a request via the EnviroSort Liaison Group for a 30 m.p.h. restriction on Pershore Road had been rejected, but that the Highway Authority would reconsider if public demand was sufficient to merit it. He would be seeking to co-ordinate a petition & requested Parish Council support for such a restriction. Members were in favour and instructed (MB/AL) the Clerk to co-operate in submitting the request.

It was also reported that the 40 m.p.h. restriction had been extended East of Woodbury Lane and that the proposal to place a traffic island at the Junction of Woodbury Lane with Pershore Road had been dropped and a "T" junction would remain.

b. Byways Matters:

General:

AL asked NH if she could please have the Definitive Map and other accoutrements of the Parish Paths Warden.

He agreed to look for these and pass whatever he found to her.

Bridleways: None

Footpaths: None

2009.110 Training.

There were no reports of relevant training.

2009.111 Public Sector Equality Issues.

In the absence of S. MacLeod who had requested this item its consideration was again deferred

2009.112 District and County Councillors' Report – For Information.

The County and District Councillor was not present.

2009.113 Police Report – For Information.

PCSO Fogwill reported one crime in the village since the last meeting - theft of number plates.

There had been other local incidents notably a spate of thefts from outbuildings in Drakes Broughton and theft of Land Rover wheels at Stoulton.

There had apparently been fewer problems with unauthorised motor cycling on bridleways 511 & 521, but MH advised that she had seen learners leaving the area on Sunday last.

School, and other parking was still being watched and pro-active action taken. More "Residents Permits" were needed - one driver had indicated (mendaciously) that he/she had been authorised to park by the police - and the Clerk was asked (RAP/MB) to obtain these.

2009.114 Reports by Councillors, and Items for Future Agendas.

- a) Reports of Committees and Working Groups and of Councillors representing the Council on outside bodies, to ask relevant questions, and to consider appropriate action.

EnviroSort Site, Norton (CMRF) Liaison Group: The Chairman reported that he would be attending the meeting next week. Minutes of Meetings might be accessed via the Web at <http://worcestershire.whub.org.uk/home/wcc-waste-management-cmrf-minutes?highlightTerm=norton>

- b) Reports of Councillors on other matters. Norton
- c) Inclusion of the following items on a future agenda was noted.

Budget 2010-2011: The Clerk sought guidance re the budget and proposals for expenditure.

S.M.J. Tanner Memorial: Progress & arrangements re the Tump. The Clerk asked when this should come back on the Agenda. It was agreed to leave in abeyance pending advices from S. Macleod.

2009.115 Inclusion of items in the Parish Magazine.

AL reported that the editor had advised that he had not received copy recently. Therefore, in SM's absence, it was agreed (NH/MH) that AL undertake the submission of items.

Items to be included this month were notice re Aquasacs, the Churchyard maintenance grant, and relevant police/parking matters.

2009.116 Correspondence.

A note of correspondence received had been periodically sent out to Members under the "Clerk's Digest" since the last meeting. The following were reported:-

Various correspondence relating to local democracy and Rural Affairs was reported, including a letter from Peter Luff MP urging the Parish Council to respond to the current consultation (deadline 2/10/2009) on Strengthening Local Democracy. Other items received related to the Rural Services Network "Rural Manifesto, and an e-mail re the extension of the powers of Town and Parish Councils. The Clerk was asked to circulate details, and to respond appropriately to the relevant bodies on receipt of Members' comments,

The following were also reported/highlighted:-

Wychavon Area Forum Meetings as previously advised to members

West Midlands Local Government Association had renamed itself West Midlands Leaders Board w.e.f. 13th July 2009.

WDC - Standards Committee Meeting 9/9/2009 at 6.15 p.m.

2009.117 Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council would be Tuesday 10th November 2009 at Whittington Village Hall. A. Lodge submitted her apologies as she would be on holiday.

The Meeting closed at 20:20 hrs