

# Whittington Parish Council



Clerk to the Council: Carol Chambers, 1 Crookbarrow Cottage, Whittington, Worcester, WR5 2RL  
**Email** whittingtonpc@live.co.uk: **Tele** 01905 358470  
**Web Site** Worcestershire.gov.uk/myparish **Facebook**.com/whittingtonpc

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Whittington Parish Council held on Tuesday 14 November 2017 at 19.30 at Whittington Village Hall

**Democratic Period/ Question Time:** The Chairman welcomed Mr Robert Stepniewski to the meeting. Mr Stepniewski addressed the Council to explain how he would like to improve connectivity to parts of Whittington as worked as a project manager to deliver superfast Worcestershire programme across Worcestershire, as a member of Worcestershire CC infrastructure team he added that although broadband speeds across Whittington were ok, they could be a lot better, especially as more and more ultrafast was being rolled out across the UK. He explained that currently there were no plans for improved connectivity in Whittington through either commercial or superfast Worcestershire deployment, hence his decision to pursue it via a community scheme in a personal capacity he had recently managed to secure a grant (up to £30,000 or up to 75% of the total cost) from Openreach. he added that a majority of houses within Whittington should receive in a region of 24mbps, which meant they are classed as 'superfast' premises and therefore are not eligible for any future investment. there is a major drive across the country for 'ultrafast' premises (100Mbps – 1000Mbps), which would not be achievable for Whittington. As a result he decided to explore this option for our community, although fibre broadband via the 'Superfast Worcestershire' was available his broadband failed very often in the evenings due to the fact that so many people now use the service for anything from banking, homework, school work, tv etc. So as things become even more digitalised Whittington's service would deteriorate. The fibre from the junction box outside the Swan pub would feed through the existing underground and then over to telegraph poles. The Council welcomed extra fast broadband, Cllr Pearce would like fibre and asked to consider the businesses in the area and asked how much the short fall for the cost per premises. Cllr Boase added that the bottom of Wildmore does not have fibre but new developments would automatically be given fibre - Robert added it is down to the developer to discuss with bt/openreach and added he would like the Councils support and required no funds.. The Chairman thanked Mr Stepniewski for his report.

### Those Present:

**Chairman:** Cllr S Macleod  
**Councillors:** Cllr A Guy, Cllr Boase and Cllr Pearce.  
**Officers:** Mrs C Chambers (Parish Clerk)  
**Attendees:** Cllr Adams and 2 Parishioners and Mr Robert Stepniewski

### Agenda 11/17

- 1) **Apologies - None**
- 2) **Declarations of Interest and Ethical Matters.**
  - a Declarations of Personal (non prejudicial) Interests in items on this Agenda. **None.**
  - b Declarations of Prejudicial Interests in items on this Agenda and their nature. **None.**
  - c Ethical Matters. **None.**

3) Minutes of Previous Meetings of the Council. The minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2017 had been circulated to all Members with the agenda, it was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the minutes be adopted as a true record.

4) \* **Finance.**

a. **Receipts and Payments:**

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a list of the receipts and payments for September and October 2017. Original Receipt and Payment invoices were available to view at the meeting. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the receipts and payments for September and October 2017 be approved. Full list is annexed to this report.

b.\* **Bank Reconciliation** The Clerk had circulated with the agenda the bank reconciliation for September and October 2017. Original copies of HSBC Bank Statements were available to view at the meeting. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the bank reconciliations for September and October 2017 be approved. The bank reconciliation are annexed to this report.

c. **Proposals for expenditure:**

**c1). Notice Board - Wildmore Estate.** The Clerk reminded Members that at the meeting held on 12 September 2017 the Clerk had received a quote of £1,155 + £55 P & P plus VAT -for a new notice board. including the installation the total cost would be £1,732. she added that following the meeting with Chris Shaw of Bloor homes, he had advised that Bloor Homes would pay for the notice board and installation. The Clerk had sent Bloor Homes an invoice for £1,732.00 payable to WPC. Bloor Homes had not yet paid for the invoice. It was **RESOLVED** to wait until WDC had adopted the land and then pursue Bloor homes for payment and request permission from WDC to erect the notice board.

**c2). Whittington Church** - The Clerk advised Members that the payment of £150 to Whittington Church for the maintenance of the Church yard which had been agreed and has been budgeted for. was due for payment. it was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the payment of £150 to Whittington Church be made.

**c3). Enhancement** - The Clerk requested authorisation to purchase winter flowers for the village troughs. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the Clerk make the purchase. The Chairman requested that Daffodil bulbs be planted on the Wildmore Estate it was **RESOLVED** to wait until WDC have adopted the area.

**c4). Modem Router** - The Clerk advised Members that she had purchased a new modem router as her modem was not working, she requested a refund of £64.99. She advised that the cost of the modem could be reclaimed under the transparency fund. Original receipt will be available at the meeting. She also presented several receipts for the purchase of Christmas enhancement and stationery which totalled £29.82 It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the Clerk be refunded £64.99 and £29.82 it was also **RESOLVED** that the Council support the Clerk in applying for the transparency fund which would enable the Council to become compliant with the transparency law.

d. **WPC Financial Regulations** - The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a copy of WPC Financial Regulations. She requested that Members read the financial regulations for review/change and adopt at the meeting to be held on 9th January 2018.

f. **Banking Mandate.** The Clerk reminded Members that at the meeting held on 12 September it was agreed that Cllr's Guy and Macleod be signatories on Whittington Parish Councils bank account. The Clerk had since recommended that an additional signatory be added. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that Cllr Boase also be added as a signatory.

e.\* **Budget 2018/2019.** The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a report which explained that the precept for the year 2018/2019 would have to be set. The current years Actual - v- Budget figures up to September 2017 (half year) were attached for Members information. The Clerk asked members to consider any new projects that may need to be budgeted for and to consider how much budget to set against the existing or new budgets headings. The report is annexed to this report.

**5)\* Planning Applications -**

**Application Number:** 17/02099/RM

**Location:** Land Rear Of Hill House, Swinesherd Lane, Spetchley

**Description of Proposal:** Reserved matters application for the erection of 111 dwellings and associated infrastructure in accordance with outline planning application W/15/01514/OU.

**Applicant:** Persimmon Homes Ltd.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Guy for all his work on the TPO's. Cllr Guy reminded members that the TPO's were only for 6 months and needed to be converted from temporary to permanent before 6 months had elapsed. also the footbridge should be built before development began to protect pedestrians. Cllr Boase added that the cycle path on Wildmore estate would connect to the new footbridge. Members considered planning application 17/02099/RM and referred to their comments made against application no W/15/01514/OU. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that WPC Object to the application. Full WPC comments are annexed to this report.

**6) Police Report - None**

**Clerks note:** PCSO Julie Pardoe email the report below on 15 November 2017

*We do not have any incidents to report for the last month. A number of sheds and outbuildings have been broken into elsewhere on our area and we would encourage residents to review their security and consider fitting a shed alarm and overtly marking their power tools etc with their postcode in permanent marker. If anyone has any queries please do not hesitate to contact the team.*

**7) Highways & Byways.** To receive reports of Highways.

Cllr Adams announced that funds could be available to support the celebration of 100 years of the 1st world war in 2018. Also the new Swinesherd sign invoice would be revised for £397.40.

**Village Visit re parking in the village** Cllr Ross Pearce would agreed to meet Kieran Hemstock from Highways at 9am in Whittington on 1st December to discuss parking on the corner of the turning by narrow walk drivers are forced into the middle of the road.

**Ward Walk** Cllr Adams suggested dates for a Ward Walk for Tuesday 23 or Thursday 25 January 2018 around Whittington Village and Wildmore Estate, Cllr Adams would request a weekend date which may help to get more parishioners involved as many are at work during the week.

He would also request replacement bollards along walkers lane.

Cllr Adams also reported on the Cabinet meeting held at the County Council although the budget was tight WCC were still moving on with many projects such as: recycling - the energy waste plant at Hartlebury landfill had been reduced by 6%, also the Wire Piddle bypass and Carrington bridge plans, and the new Railway bridge on Crookbarrow Way and Parkway Railway Station, he added that there were more projects in Kidderminster and Bromsgrove in partnership with the Enterprise Partnership.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Adams for his report. Cllr Pearce asked about the installation of railings on Crookbarrow hill, the Chairman mentioned the railings on the Swinesherd/MEB roundabout as

they had been knocked down again with cars running of the road into field. Also concerns were expressed about the county hall roundabout as the railings had already been knocked down within weeks of them being erected. Cllr Pearce would meet with Mr Gerry Berenza and Kieran Hemstock on 1 December meeting and would discuss the above.

**8) Training, meetings and seminars.** Cllr Boase reported that he had been on 3 CALC courses publication & transparency 3ms and 5ps, standards and code of conduct, he added that the courses were very useful and recommended the courses.

**9) District and County Councillors' Report.** - See agenda item 7

**10) Reports by Councillors, and Items for Future Agendas.**

To receive the reports of Committees and Working Groups and of Councillors representing the Council on outside bodies, to ask relevant questions, and to consider appropriate action.

WPC staffing Committee: **None.**

Worcestershire CALC: **None.**

Whittington School: **None.**

Whittington Village Hall: The Chairman reported that a meeting had been arranged to meet Stoulton Village Hall Committee on 30 November to get advice/guidance from them, electrical survey and radiators had been serviced, the cooker had been repaired. no management accounts have been produced.

PACT/Neighbourhood Watch:**None.**

Whittington Church: **None.**

Brethren Church; David Ball gave a brief update on the Church, The Chairman thanked him for his update.

Allotments; see agenda item 15

**12) Correspondence & Council Consultation. None.**

**13) IT - Facebook & Communication - Transparency Code Fund**

The Clerk reported that the Smaller Authorities Transparency Code came into force on 1 April 2015 which required the online publication of certain information which the Government requests, to provide taxpayers with a clear picture of the authority's activities, spending, and governance, and would improve the ability of communities to hold local public bodies to account. All smaller authorities must make sure they are compliant. The funding was put in place to help smaller parish councils to comply, and for adequate financial provision to be made to enable councils to meet the new burden. The Clerk added that WPC may be entitled to some funding and asked the Council to support the application to apply for funding. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that Council support the application for funding.

**14) Enhancement** - see agenda item 4c

**15) Allotments** - There was no additional update.

**Wildmore Estate** - Development Issues/Update. Residents were still in discussion with Bloor homes regarding street signs, the bridge over the brook needs additional fencing on both sides to

prevent people falling into the brook. Bloor had erected road sign for Honywood place, Persimmon had erected another sign for Honywood Place by the side of the Bloor sign. Trees had been planted around the green open space area. The boundary of Swinesherd way, behind the allotments, the trees had been pruned back, residents would like additional trees as there were gaps that need to be filled to act as a sound barrier, acoustic fencing had been installed but not all the way along, Cllr Adams would enquire. Wildmore do not meet the criteria for additional post boxes. There are 2 rubbish bins on the play area, but residents would like additional bins installed on the estate. Chairman suggested that additional bins could be placed once the estate has been adopted.

The Chairman advised Members that she had written the Berkeley family to send the Councils condolences on the passing of Mr Berkeley.

**16) Date of Next Meeting.**

The date of the next Meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 9th January 2018 at Whittington Village Hall.

# Whittington Parish Council

---



Clerk to the Council: Carol Chambers, 1 Crookbarrow Cottage, Whittington, Worcester, WR5 2RL  
**Email** whittingtonpc@live.co.uk: **Tele** 01905 358470  
**Web Site** Worcestershire.gov.uk/myparish **Facebook**.com/whittingtonpc

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Whittington Parish Council held on Tuesday 12 September 2017 at 19.30 at Whittington Village Hall

### Democratic Period/ Question Time:

#### Those Present:

**Chairman:** Cllr S Macleod  
**Councillors:** Cllr A Guy, Cllr F Richards,  
**Officers:** Mrs C Chambers (Parish Clerk)  
**Attendees:** Cllr Adams and 2 Parishioners

**Democratic Period/ Question Time:** Simon Clerk former WPC Councillor expressed concern about the Wildmore play ground which seemed to attract lot of teenagers, he also reported that drivers were cutting across the grass verge/footpath from Dalziel Drive into Staplow Road. The Chairman confirmed that Cllr Boase had reported it and was in talks with Bloor Homes to add an extra bollard to stop the vehicles cutting through, Cllr Adams also confirmed action would be taken. Mr Clerk also thanked the council for their work and support whilst he was a member, the Chairman thanked Mr Clerk for his work on the Council. The Chairman also announced that Christine Watts had resigned as Councillor as she felt that she wanted to do more charity work.

### Agenda 09/17

- 1) **Apologies.** Apologies for absence were submitted by Cllr Boase and Cllr Pearce.
- 2) **Declarations of Interest and Ethical Matters.**
  - a To receive declarations of Personal (non prejudicial) Interests in items on this Agenda and their nature. **None.**
  - b To receive declarations of Prejudicial Interests in items on this Agenda and their nature. **None.**
  - c Ethical Matters. **None.**
- 3) **Minutes of Previous Meetings of the Council.**
  - a The minutes of the meeting held on 9 May 2017 had been circulated to all Members with the agenda, it was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the minutes be adopted as a true record.
  - b The minutes of the extra ordinary meeting held on 23 May 2017 had been circulated to all Members with the agenda, it was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the minutes be adopted as a true record.

#### 4)\* Finance.

##### a. Receipts and Payments:

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a list of the receipts and payments for April, May, June, July and August 2017. Original Receipt and Payment invoices were available to view at the meeting. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the receipts and payments for April, May, June, July and August 2017 be approved. Full list is annexed to this report.

b.\* **Bank Reconciliation** The Clerk had circulated with the agenda the bank reconciliation for April, May, June and the bank reconciliation for July and August 2017. Original copies of HSBC Bank Statements were available to view at the meeting. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the bank reconciliations for April to August 2017 be approved. Both bank reconciliations are annexed to this report.

##### c. Proposals for expenditure:

1. **Notice Board - Wildmore Estate.** WDS Signs Ltd had confirmed the cost of supplying a double A2 portrait vandal resistant public notice board design with arched top heading, lettering and logo in the top middle mounted on a matching support frame with finials, all powder-coated as before would cost £1,155.00 + Vat. Plus secure packaging and insured delivery of £55.00 + Vat.

**Note** - Following the meeting with Chris Shaw of Bloor homes on the Wildmore Allotment Site on 11th August 2017 Chris Shaw asked the Clerk to forward the quote to him, as Bloor homes would pay and install the new notice board on the Wildmore Estate. The Clerk added that no confirmation from Bloor Homes had been received.

2. **Swinesherd Signage. See agenda item 7**

3. The Chairman mentioned about the broken bollards on the verge outside the village hall, Cllr Richards thought that the bollards might come under the VH refurbishment and would inquire about the cost of new bollards, the Chairman mentioned the funding available from the PC.

d. **Conclusion of 2016/2017 Year End Audit.** The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a copy of the Conclusion of Audit Notice from the external Auditors, Grant Thornton. **Noted.**

e. **New Banking Mandate.** The Clerk had requested that the bank mandate be updated. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the signatories on the new banking mandate for HSBC Bank be Cllr Susan Macleod and Cllr Andrew Guy.

#### 5) New Planning Application

<b>Application Number :</b>	17/01734/FUL - <a href="http://bit.ly/2gMTA9t">http://bit.ly/2gMTA9t</a>
<b>Location:</b>	Hill End, Church Lane, Whittington, WR5 2RQ
<b>Description of Proposal:</b>	Part removal of existing rear lean-to Single-storey rear extension with hipped roof, New pergola and patio area to south side of extension Additional parking spaces to north side of site North elevation: replacement of 2 ground floor windows with a single window, Internal alterations including new lift, WCs and staff kitchen, Repair/rebuilding of brick boundary wall to LPA approval
<b>Applicant :</b>	Fine Agrochemicals Limited
<b>WPC Comments:</b>	<b>No Objection</b>

## **Planning Application/Consultation - For Information**

**Application No:** 17/01117/FUL  
**Location:** Pond Farm, Church Lane, WHITTINGTON, WR5 2RQ  
**Description of Proposal:** Enclosure of an existing agricultural building to improve use.  
**Applicant:** Mr N Hodgetts  
**WPC Comments:** **No Objection**

### **6) Police Report - from PCSO Julie Pardo, West Mercia Police extract below**

*We do not have any incidents to report however we are receiving reports from residents on the new Wildmore estate of anti-social behaviour from some of the young children living there. We have been in contact via leaflet with all the residents and have spoken to a number of children from the estate. We have also received reports of vehicles being driven over and through public footpaths. Councillor Adams has been contacted and one of the drivers (delivery) has been identified and reported. The Chairman thanked PCSO Julie Pardo her work on the Wildmore Estate.*

### **7) Highways & Byways.**

The Chairman asked Cllr Adams about a speed sign along the straight road on Church lane, she requested that the DFS sign should cover the length of road from the Church past the Village Hall, Cllr Adams would speak to WCC. The Council also requested additional signage to stop Lorries driving through the village as the existing sign 'not suitable for HGV's was not clear and signage needed to be put at the both ends of the village

a **Tree Preservation Orders** - Cllr Guy reported that the TPO Officer at WDC, Sally Griffiths had not responded to several emails over several months to which he had requested confirmation from her that the TPO's had been issued, he expressed concern as the developers, Persimmon had started ground work on the site where 300 new houses are to be built. He added that there were 2 trees which are protected and should have a TPO, he expressed his frustration at the lack of communication from Ms Griffiths and the disregard of the Councils concern to protect the trees on this site. Cllr Richards asked Cllr Adams follow up, the Chairman added that she would like written confirmation that the TPO's had been issued.

### **b Swinesherd Signage - Whittington Walk Development**

Cllr Guy had requested that his report (below) be considered by the Council -

I am very concerned about the rebranding of Swinesherd, for marketing purposes, by the developers. The SWDP and previous Local Plans have been drafted specifically and carefully to preserve local distinctiveness and prevent the coalescence of settlements. The Strategic and Significant Gaps policies have been and are in place to ensure that developments do not merge different places in South Worcestershire into one amorphous urban sprawl. The Significant Gap in what was the M5 Protection Corridor was hotly debated when the SWDP went to Examination in Public by HM Inspector and whilst its resultant extent was set specifically to incorporate this development at Swinesherd, it was to do so without compromising the principle of preventing coalescence.

I would therefore like to think that the developers will be encouraged to rethink their branding of this development, with a formal letter from Whittington PC to Wychavon DC objecting to the name proposed. Persimmon (Pegasus and Robert Hitchin before them) have not engaged in any form of

communication, correspondence or consultation with Whittington PC over this development and such disregard for local interests and sentiment is more than a little disappointing. Swinesherd cannot be allowed to merge with Whittington anyway, despite the clearly expressed and documented spirit and intent of the SWDP, and the views of local residents, by simply changing its name of a thousand years.

So, I hope we can all agree that the costs of erecting a welcome sign for Swinesherd at the entrance to the development will be worth every penny to ensure a Worcestershire settlement dating back to Anglo-Saxon times is not lost forever thanks to the whimsy of a marketing executive at a PLC head office over 150 miles away. I attach an email from Worcestershire County Council regarding the ordering of such a sign and suggest that we get this sign ordered and up sooner rather than later. Whittington PC took the view that signs for Whittington village would be money well spent, at a time when Whittington had fewer dwellings than the number now coming to Swinesherd... and so it was! Those at the entrances to Whittington are most effective in ensuring that every visitor (and resident) knows they are entering a place with its own identity, and character.

It is only right that what has worked so well for Whittington should be replicated for Swinesherd. It may also be sensible to order another of the roadside "gate" features for Swinesherd at the same time. The gates and flower boxes into Whittington have amplified the welcoming effect and let all who see them know that not only do we have our own identity, we also take real pride in it.

**2. Highway Signage Quote** - from Nicky Fletcher BA, Worcestershire County Council, Traffic management engineer (Signage)

Thank you for your enquiry. While I deal with a few other signs please be aware that the costs to the Parish Council will depend on how many signs are required, but most schemes will cost around £900 for 1 sign and £1550 for 2 signs + the cost of the sign but will include labour, stop/go traffic management, foundations, 76mm posts & fittings, cherry picker hire, site visit, administration fees, utility and planning searches, and VAT. Prices will increase if larger posts or more extensive traffic management is required.

Once implemented the costs of maintaining the signs must be met by the Parish Council. The County Council will advise the applicant of any works required to be carried out and the costs, once agreed the work will be scheduled, however if no authorisation is received, then the signs, for the whole route, will be removed and a bill raised to recover costs from the Parish Council.

**3. Clerks Report**

a) In response to the above, the Clerk had contacted Debra Sollis at Wychavon DC, she reminded the Clerk that WPC had been consulted on the development and referred to an email sent on 27th April regarding street names for this development and received the following names from WPC for the first phase.

Swinesherd Lane  
Skylark Rise  
Mollys Run  
Woodpeckers Lane  
Oak Turn  
Old Meadows  
Saxon Fields

She also confirmed that the roads would be named as above and the name Whittington Walk was a development name which the developers would use to market the properties.

b) **Whittington Parish Boundary**

The Clerk highlighted that there were currently 2 properties in Swinesherd that fall within Whittington Parish Boundary, the new development (Whittington Walk) will be within Whittington Parish Boundary and not in Swinesherd. She also asked the Council to consider the ongoing cost, such as cleaning, repairing and maintenance of the sign(s) as it is unlikely that Highways would adopt them.

**Resolution:** Cllr Guy asked the Council to commission a sign for Swinesherd, Cllr Richards added that the developers, Persimmon, did not communicate and there was no consultation with parishioners, he agreed with the proposal. Cllr Guy added that Adrian Roberts would arrange for representative to come to WPC meeting. Following discussion, the Chairman had reservations on the siting of the sign being in Swinesherd, but would not want street furniture and suggested that the council wait until new residents move in. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the Council commission a sign for Swinesherd. It was also **RESOLVED** that no street furniture would be installed until new residents had moved in.

Cllr Guy reported on the bridal way under motorway, which had been closed for 6 months he added that the temporary closure was disproportionate, due to Badger sets, several parishioners had complained, Bridal way number wt523. from 22 August, he also reported maze had been planted across pathway 517 which had completely blocked and pathway'516 had 'bull in field sign'. The Clerk would report the complaints.

8) Training, meetings and seminars. Cllr Boase had attended a Calc Course for new Councillors.

9) **District and County Councillors' Report.** Cllr Adams confirmed that an extra bollard would be placed at the footpath from Wildmore to Staplow drive which would stop vehicles driving through as a short cut. Cllr Adams also mentioned that he would be arranging a Ward Walk in November with Jack Hegarty and other senior members of Wychavon he added that the Walk would include Wildmore, Whittington Village and Swinsherd, the visit would include the speed limit along the dual-track, Whittington Walk and TPO's. The Chairman thanked Cllr Adams for his report and for arranging a Ward Walk to which councillors would be in attendance.

10) **Reports by Councillors, and Items for Future Agendas. None.**

WPC staffing Committee The Chairman reported that at the Staffing Committee meeting held on 15 May 2017 it was agreed to recommend that the Clerk be enrolled in the WCC Pension Scheme. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** to enrol the Clerk, Carol Chambers into the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Worcestershire CALC: It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** the Cllr Boase would be WPC representative to Worcester Calc

Whittington School: **None.**

Whittington Village Hall: Cllr Richards as Chairman of the WVHMC reported that the safety inspection on the VH was out of date, at meeting of WVHMC on 27 July it was decided to close the VH with immediate effect on Health & Safety grounds. A Fire Risk and electrical inspection had been done and remedial work had been completed to bring the Fire Safety and Electrical standards in line with the insurance boundaries, he added that the grounds had been cleared and an entrance gate had been installed. A WVHMC meeting would be held on Monday 18 September, the meeting would discuss the way forward and the accounts would be submitted to the committee and put to an external auditor. Mr Richards reported on a meeting he had attended with Committee Vice Chairman Malcolm Macleod and WPC Chairman Susan Macleod and WPC Clerk Carol Chambers with Senior Members of WDC, they advised of the best way forward and gave good advice on the correct survey and documentation, they discussed several options that the Committee could take such as PWLB loan, increase in precept they also confirmed the funding that had been ring fenced for the

VH...S106 £8.5K + £51,111 Kilbury drive development for community facilities £22,500 Swinesherd Way which had been allocated but not available yet + £103K in the VH bank AC + £18K from the parish council, Mr Richards added that WDC officers were very open and engaged and advised the committee to put together a proposal with a survey of cost estimate and a plan, they also advised that because the VH was a polling station and additional £9k could be made available from the community grant. The Chairman thanked Fraser for his work, Cllr Guy was also acknowledged and praised his work. The Chairman also thanked Cllr Adams for arranging the meeting with Wychavon

PACT/Neighbourhood Watch: It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** the Cllr Boase would be WPC representative to PACT/Neighbourhood Watch.

Whittington Church: **None.**

Brethren Church; David Ball reported that a large amount of the congregation had visited their Church for Friday evening service, he apologised for any inconvenience caused by parking on Walkers Lane as their car park was full, the Council and Chairman of the WWHMC offered the use of the VH car park.

Allotments; It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** the Cllr Boase would be WPC representative for Allotments. The Clerk reported that she has asked Cllr Boase to help with administering the allotments

**12) Correspondence & Council Consultation.** The Chairman read out a letter from Nigel Huddleston MP. The letter advised the Council to contact him if there were items on the agenda that he should be made aware of, he also acknowledged the vital contribution the parish council makes in the community. **Noted.**

**13) IT - Facebook & Communication. None.**

**14) Enhancement. None.**

**15) Allotments - Wildmore Estate** - Development Issues/Update. Report by Cllr Boase.

**1)** The Council had been made aware of several issues with the street signage on the Wildmore estate that were of concern to the new residents. Cllr Boase as a resident has been in touch with Chris Shaw at Bloor Homes and the issues listed below have also been relayed to Chris Shaw by the Clerk.

**Montgomery Mews** - this road is an extension of Pitscottie Place and is completely invisible to anyone unless they know they need to turn off the main road and into Pitscottie Place first. It's the road for which we are most frequently asked directions.

**Pitscottie Place** - this sign is placed on the blind side of the junction with Dalziel Drive. It would be helpful if it were to be moved to the other corner and had 'leading to Montgomery Mews' added to it.

**Grandison Gardens and Deane Drive** - both of these road names are on the blind side of their respective junctions with Dalziel Drive for incoming traffic and simply need moving to the other side of the road to make them visible.

**Disbrowe Dive** - this is a short stretch of road about 25 yards long, as an extension of a branch of Dalziel Drive. The sign has been placed part of the way down this short stretch of road sideways and would be more helpful if it could be turned to face the traffic. It has 'leading to Honywood Place' included on the sign. However, Honywood Place will have been seen by most drivers long before they see Disbrowe Drive. Having this extra wording is superfluous, although it does no harm.

However, we believe there should be a sign for Dalziel Drive at the junction where it splits in two directions, with one of the signs including the words 'leading to Disbrowe Drive'.

2) The initial response from Chris Shaw of Bloor Homes is copied below.

*'I will ask the Site Manager to comment on this but in our experience most people tend to use use Sat Navs and as long as streets are marked with signs this confirms where the Sat Nav is taking you and visitor , friends etc soon learn the layout . .*

*Also the issue tends to be a short term one as people quickly find their way around and once the postie and friends , delivery drivers etc. have been to the area they soon learn the layout .*

*The layout has been carefully designed so that low vehicle speeds are the norm-the main spine road has bends in it and is designed to ensure safe highway conditions .*

*I have visited the site many times over the build period and whilst the spine road is not yet linked with Persimmon part way through their build the layout does in my experience tend to limit the speed at which cars travel which is a good thing as the Travel Plan exercise we carried out suggests a lot of people are walking to local schools and nearby facilities . Once the cycle way and footpath links (and the bridge ) are completed this should be encouraged even more.*

*Notwithstanding the comments above I will come back to you on this as obviously residents have a concern'.*

### **3 Allotments**

An inspection of Uffnells Allotments was held on Friday 11 August with Chris Shaw Planning Manager Bloor Homes with Lynn Stevens, Wychavon DC Senior Parks and Greenspace Officer and WPC Clerk and Cllr Boase. The Clerk reported that the allotments looked well maintained (there were just a few weeds). The fencing had been erected around the allotment site and 2 water taps had been installed. The top soil looked good, Lynn dug approx. 1 foot down. Bloor Homes are to install 2 gates on the allotment site. Chris Shaw of Bloor Homes had verbally agreed to erect and pay for a WPC notice board, to be positioned in the middle of the estate and not on the allotment site, cllr Boase would advise on the position for the new notice board.

The Clerk also reminded Members of the ongoing cost that needed to be considered -

- 1) A hedge to be planted around the allotment site. This would be on the outside perimeter of the allotment site on Wychavon land, Lynn, WDC officer had agreed in principal that we could plant a hedge, if the Council wish.
- 2) Paths on the allotment would have to be regularly sprayed for weeds.
- 3) Water charges

### **Wildmore - Cllr Richard Boase Report**

*I'm sorry to be missing this meeting given the anti social behaviour issues that we have been facing on the Wildmore and Hatton Grange developments. These are ongoing, but the Police Safer Neighbourhood team have been very supportive. You and Carol are aware of these issues from*

earlier email correspondence, but if you would like a chat with me ahead of the meeting, please let me know.

*I have copied you into emails to Bloor and Wychavon District Council in relation to the inadequate road signage and I have also supplied photographs of street junctions to my fellow Councillors and made suggestions for how signage might be improved. I hope you will have the time to discuss these suggestions at the meeting.*

*Finally, the new footbridge (design based on the Spetchley Bridge) has now been installed between Grandison Gardens and Leslie Walk. It has become a firm favourite for children as a play area, which in itself is not a problem, but I am concerned about safety measures. Already I have seen children crossing the bridge on the outside edge by holding on to the railings and sliding along a very narrow ledge. There doesn't seem to be any form of barrier to prevent children from accessing the outside edge of the bridge. Already a child has been seen falling down the unprotected steep slope to the side of the bridge and into the brook below. Apparently he got up immediately and he didn't appear to be harmed, but next time he or one of his friends may not be so lucky. The footbridge is a great asset, but unless natural fencing or other barriers are erected to the side a child could hurt themselves by playing there. These children are also using the brook below the bridge as a place where they can throw builders rubble and other material to create a dam in the brook. I realise the footbridge hasn't been adopted by the District Council yet so I have reported it to Bloor Homes, but I think it is something of which the Parish Council should also be aware.*

**16) Review of WPC Standing Orders** - The Council had reviewed WPC Standing Orders - No amendments were made.

**17) Date of Next Meeting.**

The date of the next Meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 14 November 2017 at Whittington Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.55pm.

Councillor S Macleod  
Chairman

Whittington Parish Council

Receipts

Date	Chq No	Details	Precept	Support Grant	Lengtnsman Scheme Grant	Money Manager		Total
						Interest Bond AC	A/c	
26.09.17		Worcestershire CC			184.80			184.80
28.09.17		Precept	4947.50					4947.50
28.09.17		Support Grant		191.50				191.50
30.09.17		Interest					0.71	0.71
								<b>5324.51</b>

Payments

Date	Mintute Ref	Details	Wages	Lengtnsman Payments	Insurance	Training	VAT	Gross
24.09.17		Calc training				25.00	5.00	30.00
24.09.17		S Gwilliam Sept		139.50				139.50
24.09.17		C Chambers	202.64					202.64
24.09.17		HMRC	50.60					50.60
27.09.17		Came & Company Insurance			297.69			297.69
29.10.17		Calc training				25.00	5.00	30.00
29.10.17		HMRC	50.60					50.60
29.10.17		C Chambers	202.64					202.64
								<b>1179.67</b>

## Whittington Parish Council

### Bank Reconciliation

as at 31 October 2017

Balance as per Statement	31.08.17		Current a/c	£12,569.84
Balance as per Statement	31.08.17		Deposit a/c	£21,638.21
<b>Total</b>				<b>£34,208.05</b>
<b>Plus Receipts</b>				
	Sept	5,324.51		
				£5,324.51
<b>Total Receipts</b>				<b>£39,532.56</b>
<b>Less Payments</b>				
	Sept	896.43		
	Oct	283.24		
				£1,179.67
			<b>Balance</b>	<b>£38,352.89</b>
Balance as per Statement	31.10.17		Current a/c	£16,713.97
Balance as per Statement	31.10.17		Deposit a/c	£21,638.92
				<b>£38,352.89</b>

Whittington Parish Council Budget  
Half Year Actual-v-Budget 2017/2018  
Draft Budget for 2018/2019

Receipts

Payments

Heading	Budget Current Year	Receipts to Date Current Year	Draft Budget	Budget Current Year	Payments to Date Current Year	Draft Budget
	2017/2018		2018/2019	2017/2018		2018/2019
<b>RECEIPTS</b>						
Precept	£9,897	9897.00				
Support Grant	£383	383.00	£383			
Neighbourhood Dev Plan						
Interest	£60	3.36				
V.A.T.		347.19			143.37	
Lengthsman Scheme Grant	£1,815	1053.90	£1,815			
New Homes Bonus	£722		£981			
<b>PAYMENTS</b>						
Wages inc pension				£3,040	1529.44	£3,900
Lengthsman Payments				£1,800	1034.50	£1,800
Administration				£1,250	603.76	£1,250
Insurance				£300	301.65	£320
Allowance				£100		
Enhancement				£1,000	68.01	£1,000
Community Grants & Events				£500		£500
Allotments/Water Charges				£0		£800
Training Cilca				£200	25.00	£200
Election Expenses (R)				£0		
Property & Equipment				£200		£200
Churchyard				£150		£150
Charitable Donations				£50		£50
Local Transport				£0		
Speedsign & Maintenance				£300		£300
Neighbourhood Watch				£0		
Neighbourhood Plan				£0		
Contingency				£1,087		£1,000
<b>SPECIAL PROJECTS CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS &amp; RESERVES</b>						
Village Hall				£2,400	300.00	£2,400
To other Capital Reserves				£500		£500
Election Fund (R)						
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£12,877</b>	<b>£11,684</b>	<b>£3,179</b>	<b>£12,877</b>	<b>£4,006</b>	<b>£14,370</b>

# Whittington Parish Council

---



Clerk to the Council: Carol Chambers, 1 Crookbarrow Cottage, Whittington, Worcester, WR5 2RL  
**Email** whittingtonpc@live.co.uk: **Tele** 01905 358470  
**Web Site** Worcestershire.gov.uk/myparish **Facebook**.com/whittingtonpc

by email to [stephen.holloway@wychavon.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.holloway@wychavon.gov.uk)

Mr Stephen Holloway  
Planning Officer  
Wychavon District Council  
Civic Centre  
Queen Elizabeth Drive  
Pershore  
Worcestershire  
WR10 1PT

15 November 2017

**Application Number** : 17/02099/RM

**Location**: Land Rear Of Hill House, Swinesherd Lane, Spetchley

**Description of Proposal**: Reserved matters application for the erection of 111 dwellings and associated infrastructure in accordance with outline planning application W/15/01514/OU.

**Applicant** : Persimmon Homes Ltd

Dear Mr Holloway

At a meeting on 14 November 2017 of Whittington Parish Council, **Members believe that such a major application should be decided by the planning committee.** It was resolved that the council submit comments on this application as follows:

1. The applicant has identified just two veteran trees for retention in their development scheme. That only two trees are to be preserved is a surprise and disappointment. It is the strong opinion of the Parish Council that there are many more trees that should be preserved and the applicant's design should be revised to incorporate them.
2. There is scant detail regarding the bridge over the A4440 and this should be forthcoming before the development as proposed can be approved. The Parish Council also believes that the bridge should be completed before the any other development begins to ensure the safety of residents. The bridge is currently referred to in the applicant's proposals as a "foot and cycle" bridge, yet the development site is also served by a number of bridleways and therefore the proposed bridge should be of a design and construction to cater for equestrian uses too.
3. The SWDP and the Wychavon Local Plans that preceded it have all made clear that the coalescence of settlements in this area is to be prevented. The Significant Gap policy and the Strategic Gap policies in and around the Parish are there specifically to ensure that ancient settlements do not merge. However, it is evident from the applicant's submissions that it is their intention to refer to and promote this development site as "Whittington" instead of "Swinesherd". To do so would extend the commonly understood boundaries of the village of Whittington far beyond those that have been observed for centuries – and effectively wipe Swinesherd off the map. Contrary to the applicant's assertions, there have been dwellings here since Anglo-

Saxon times and the Parish Council feels very strongly that the applicant's marketing department should not simply "rebrand" a settlement. Therefore, the Parish Council are seeking assurances from Wychavon District Council that the name of Swinesherd will be preserved. Previously the Parish Council has been invited to make road name suggestions on new developments and for this site we are very keen to see the arterial road serving this development formally adopt the name "Swinesherd Lane" along its entirety, with variations for the routes branching off it to include "Swinesherd Fields", "Swinesherd Pastures", "Swinesherd Meadows" and such like.

4. The applicant's house designs make no concession to the location and appear to be indistinct from houses they erect elsewhere in the country. Hill House, Catnaps Cattery and Little Lodge Nursery will be the "gateway" buildings which every visitor to this development site will pass. All three are of an architectural design recognisably Worcestershire in character which the applicant should replicate across the development. In the opinion of the Parish Council, the applicant should be required to incorporate architectural features into the designs of all the proposed dwellings that will make them visibly different from others elsewhere. The inspirations for such features should be unmistakably taken from buildings in this part of the county of Worcestershire.

Yours sincerely

Susan MacLeod  
Chairman of Whittington Parish Council