

At an Extraordinary Meeting of Whittington Parish Council held at Whittington Village Hall on Tuesday 10th February 2009, at 19.30 Hrs.

Democratic Period/ Question Time: Some 4 - 6 members of the public were present. A local resident commented on the poor state of the local roads, especially Church Lane between the Village Hall and Walkers Lane. She was advised that the Parish Council had already reported the poor condition of the road but without success in getting significant repairs put in hand. She was recommended to write to the Highway Authority, and copy her letter to WPC which would support her case.

The main reason for public attendance appeared to be the proposed WCFC stadium development and representations were received strongly opposing the development (City of Worcester Planning Application P08Q0652)

2009.19 Attendance.

Present: M. Baker, N. Hodgetts S. MacLeod, R.A. Phillips. J.W. Stanford.

In Attendance: P.S. Roe, Clerk;

Apologies: M. Hallmark, R.C. Adams, District & County Councillor;

2009.20 Declarations of Interest and Ethical Matters.

a R.A. Phillips declared a personal interest in City of Worcester P08Q0652, as a small shareholder in St. Modwen Properties, and WCFC his holdings being below the criteria for it to be considered prejudicial.

b There were no declarations of Prejudicial Interests in items on this Agenda.

2009.21 Co-option of New Member to fill Casual Vacancy.

The Chairman had received an application from Mrs Ann Lodge, which he had passed to the Clerk. This was circulated to the Members present following which she was nominated by the Chairman, seconded by R.A. Phillips and elected unopposed.

The Clerk was to make arrangements for her to sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office as soon as possible, but it was known that she would soon be going on holiday for 6 weeks.

2009.22 Minutes of Previous Meetings of the Council.

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13th January 2009, having been previously distributed, were taken as read, and were adopted (JWS/SM) without amendment.

2009.23 Planning.

a. New and Unresolved Planning Applications:

Application Number: City of Worcester P08Q0652

Applicant: St Modwen Developments Ltd.

Location: Land East of Nunnery Way, Worcester

Proposal: Detailed approval for the erection of a sports stadium for Worcester City Football Club with commercial activities (use classes A1/A2/A3/A4/A5/B1/B8/D1/D2/ and function suite) and an office building, with car parking and associated works. and; outline planning permission, including reserved matter of access, for the erection of a health and fitness centre, motor vehicle showrooms, classB1 offices, a public house/restaurant, a restaurant, a hotel, car parking and associated works on land east of Nunnery Way Worcester.

Case Officer: A.N. Coleman

WPC Response: Members had been made aware of the application and the electronic format thereof. A copy was available on a computer brought by the Clerk. However Members were generally well aware of the nature of the development (see meeting 8/12/2008 - no significant changes noted) and had been in a position to review the application previously. Taking note of Public's comments prior to the meeting members discussed the application. They were unanimous in opposition to the proposal being concerned upon its immediate effects on the village, long term implications for development to the East of the "by pass" road, up to the edge of the M5 motorway, and the variation from the Worcester City Local Plan.

In order to respond to a question from a representative of a neighbouring Parish the Chairman - with Members' agreement - suspended the meeting temporarily. The question was resolved and generated further public comment, following which the Chairman re-convened the meeting.

The Clerk was asked to submit a response objecting to the application on whatever relevant grounds he could identify, to be e-mailed to Councillors for their review and comment before submission. The Clerk indicated that their response would need to be immediate as the Council's response had to be submitted by 13th February.

b. Previous consultations. None.

c. Planning Decisions: No planning or appeal decisions had been received, but Members were advised of the following outcome.

Application Number: W/08/03084/PP

Applicant: Mr & Mrs Guy

Proposal: Replacement of pre-fab concrete garages with double garage and dependant relative accommodation

Location: The Elms, Walkers Lane, Whittington, WR5 2RE

Application withdrawn: by applicant 16/1/2009

Other Planning Consultations:

SWJCS: Members were reminded of the further public consultation planned the most relevant being at the Countryside Centre on 18th February. He explained the intent and format likely to be used and encouraged attendance.

WMRSS: The Clerk summarised forthcoming preliminaries to the Examination in Public (EiP) and noted that District Councils were not included on the list of invited participating bodies. Members asked the Clerk to write requesting that this omission be rectified copying in the SWJCS partner councils indicating that WPC would expect them to be involved.

Other Planning Matters: None.

2009.24 Progress Reports/Updates on Matters Previously Resolved.

- a. **Wychavon Flood Grant:** The Clerk was asked to obtain a quote for laying of a base from B. Saunders a local handyman. Several Members felt that this could be something they could deal with in house, which was accepted as an alternative way forward

2009.25 Finance.

The Clerk reported as follows: -

- a. Receipts: £126 had been received on 14/1+ £168 on 3/2 from WCC re Lengthsman.
b. Payments: The following invoices and requests for payment were submitted: -

S. Gwilliam - Litterpicking Services for January 2009	£35.00	£35.00
S. Gwilliam - Lengthsman Services for January 2009	£160.00	£160.00
Totals	£ 195.00	£ 195.00

Payment was agreed (MB/RAP).

It was reported that the lengthsman had requested an increase in his remuneration to £11.00/hour for 2009-2010. On the basis of his excellent work the Chairman immediately proposed acceptance which was seconded by S. Macleod and agreed unanimously.

- c. Proposals for Expenditure. None.
d. Review of effectiveness of Internal Audit Arrangements. N. Hodgetts had carried out the review and reported that for the most part he found the arrangements satisfactory. He did however feel there were a few points that the Council should consider in terms of Risk Analysis, in particular with regard to the growing value of Council's inventory, the keeping abreast of developments, and consideration of some aspects of community safety.
e. Banking Arrangements: It was reported that the new accounts were established, and the transfer processed. RBS had not refunded their Bank Charges as promised verbally & the Clerk was to pursue this. He was not optimistic as to the outcome.
f. Quarterly a/c Report: The report to 31/12/2008 had been sent out on 15/1/2009; Members recalled this and had no queries. Its adoption was therefore agreed (MB/RAP)

2009.26 Highways & Byways.

a. Highways:

General.

R.A. Philips noted that Nicky Rogers had carried out gritting of the village roads and proposed that a bouquet of flowers be sent to her as a token of appreciation. Being seconded by S. MacLeod this was agreed unanimously and a maximum budget of £30 was set. S. Macleod undertook to organise this as it was felt "local" appreciation was important.

M5 Noise: Nothing reported.

Maintenance:

Works for the Lengthsman: No specific requests

Previous Matters: None raised, beyond noting the comments during the "public session".

New Matters: None raised.

Traffic Management:

Previous Matters:

Access only parking: Apologies had been received from a resident of St Johns who was "resident warned". He had not seen the access only notice.

The Clerk was concerned that unauthorised notices might be being used as the gentleman concerned had assumed they were from the Parish Council. The Chairman was to supply a copy of the form currently in use.

New Matters: None raised

None

b. Byways:

General: }

Bridleways: } No matters reported.

Footpaths: }

2009.27 Training.

S. MacLeod reported that she and the Clerk were to attend training on the WCC "My Parish" website facility on 23rd February.

2009.28 S.M.J. Tanner Memorial.

Red Hawthorn: Arrangements we still to be finalized by the Chairman, the Clerk requested that plenty of notice be provided to allow him to acquire the tree & post.

Oak: No developments were reported.

2009.29 Use of Rear Access to Whittington School.

The Chairman again expressed the concerns of many about the dangerous situation on Church Lane, near School Walk where parents parked to drop off and collect children, causing obstruction to traffic and a danger to themselves and their offspring. Members recalled the lack of co-operation from the School in this connection and took the view that the matter should be brought to Police & County Council attention for their views. The Clerk was instructed (MB/RAP) to write accordingly.

2009.30 Code of recommended practice on local authority publicity.

Members had not all reviewed the Consultation document which was in the circulation file. It was agreed that the item would be re-tabled at the March Meeting if any Councillor so requested.

2009.31 Whittington Parish Meeting 2009.

The meeting was set for 7.30 p.m. on 28th April 2009 at Whittington Village Hall. It was suggested that a speaker be invited to address: Road Safety Matters (especially the school) from the Police, Local Development (CPRE), or the SWJCS - representative from WDC or other participants. Members asked the Clerk to endeavour to make arrangements for the Police or CPRE to attend. A well attended Parish Meeting which had addressed the WMRSS, and with it the SWJCS, had taken place last year.

2009.32 Lengthsman Contract 2009-2010.

Resolved at item 2009.25 q.v.

2009.33 District and County Councillors' and Police Reports – For Information.

Neither party was present.

The Chairman closed the meeting temporarily to allow public comment.

A parishioner reported being contacted by CPRE for information about the Parish Council's response to WMRSS consultation.

It was also reported that the mini-moto problem was back - a rider thought to be a local resident had been seen riding up Walkers lane in the dark without lights and without a helmet.

The meeting was reconvened.

2009.34 Reports by Councillors, and Items for Future Agendas.

- a) Reports of Committees and Working Groups and of Councillors representing the Council on outside bodies: None.
- b) Reports of Councillors on other matters. None
- c) The Clerk was asked to include provision for discussion in more detail of the Review of Effectiveness of the Internal Audit and its findings on a future agenda.

2009.35 To recommend items for inclusion in the Parish Magazine.

Outstanding items were reviewed and some (now inapplicable or "out of date") discarded. Report of the Council's objection to the Stadium Development project and appreciation of Nicky Rogers' community minded action re the gritting of village roads were proposed.

2009.36 Correspondence.

A note of correspondence received had been periodically sent out to Members under the "Clerk's Digest" since the last meeting. A new Circulation File was doing the rounds.

2009.37 Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council would be Tuesday 10th March 2009 at Whittington Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 20.35 hrs.