

Whittington Parish Council

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MINUTES of the Extra Ordinary meeting of Whittington Parish Council held on October 8th 2013 at 19.30 at Whittington Village Hall.

1) Democratic Period/ Question Time: Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Chairman welcomed the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner Mr. Barrie Sheldon who had come to speak and answer questions relating to Policing within West Mercia and Warwickshire. The Chairman also welcomed and introduced to the public, Community Support Officers Julie Pardoe and Simon Williams. Prior to inviting Mr. Sheldon to speak, the Chairman provided an update on progress relating to the Whittington Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan. There were approximately 40 members of public in attendance. The Chairman acknowledged that Whittington was a relatively low crime area but spoke of the issues, largely due to the close proximity of the motorway and the surrounding dual carriageways that impact on the safety and quality of life of parishioners. Mr. Sheldon outlined the benefits of the merger between West Mercia and Warwickshire. He reassured Parishioners in respect of response policing, safer neighbourhood teams, neighbourhood watch, the pending community consultation strategy and the need to manage effectively the policing budget without effecting quality of service delivery. Mr Sheldon responded to questions raised in respect of speeding on the B4084, Pershore Road, anti-social parking within the village and Spetchley Road, anti-social and dangerous behaviour of speeding motor cyclists on Swinesherd dual carriage way, particularly over week-ends and the current project on how to make PACT (Partners and Communities together) forums more effective. (Mr. Sheldon and CSOs Pardoe and Williams departed and were thanked for their attendance and contribution).

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr S Brooker

Vice Chairman: Cllr S Macleod

Councillors: Cllr A Guy, Cllr M Baker, Cllr C Smith

Officers: Mrs C Chambers (Parish Clerk)

2) Attendance and Apologies

Cllr Jean Chamberlain and Cllr P Wood

3) **Declarations of Interest and Ethical Matters.**

a To receive declarations of Personal (non prejudicial) Interests on items on the Agenda and their nature. The Chairman, Cllr SB declared a prejudicial interest in item 4(a) as he had been invited by the applicant at the applicants expense to meet somebody in order to benefit from that person's experience of preparing a WNDP. Council had agreed to offer to meet applicant's expenses but until that had been finalised the Chairman believed it was ethical to declare an interest that could be perceived as prejudicial.

b To receive declarations of Prejudicial Interests in items on this Agenda and their nature. None received

c Ethical Matters. None received

4) **Planning Applications & decisions**

a) W/13/01893/CU - The Drive Church Lane, Whittington - Change use of the garage to an office plus infill extension to the side. Removal of condition 2 of Planning permission W/04/01941/CU to allow the office to be used for habitable accommodation ancillary to the dwelling known as The Drive. Cllr AG raised concern that the application appeared to be retrospective and suggested that the applicant or new owners of the property had a right to build a garage additional to the existing property without first having to obtain planning permission. Councillors agreed (except Cllr SB who had declared an interest) that the Parish Council as consultees did not object to this planning application. It was moved and seconded and **RESOLVED** that the application be approved subject to the condition that the applicant or future owners be required to seek planning permission should the intention be to build a garage in addition to the existing building.

b) W/13/01935/PP - 20 Grasshopper AVENUE, Worcester, WR5 3TB - Proposed two story extension to provide additional lounge/dining and bedroom facilities. As consultees, the Parish Council found no grounds to object to what appeared to be a reasonable extension to an existing building and within keeping of both the dwelling and the character of the area. It was moved by Cllr SB, seconded by Cllr CS and **RESOLVED** that the application be approved.

5) **Date of Next Meeting.**

The date of the next Meeting of the Council would be Tuesday 12 November at 19.30 at Whittington Village Hall.

6) **Other Matters Discussed Not on the Agenda**

A brief and informal discussion took part in respect of the Neighbourhood Development Plan. Cllr AG expressed concern in respect of outside interest in the Development Plan and suggested that the Council should consider the services of a Consultant or professional Project Manager. Councillors agreed to hold this suggestion in abeyance until after the Neighbourhood Planning Seminar at Wychavon on the 22nd of October and discuss further at the next Parish Council meeting on the 12th of November.

It was reported that the Doomsday Book had been located at Mr Peter Roe's residence and that Mr Roe would return the Doomsday Book to the Council 3 weeks from the date of the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.30pm

Councillor S Brooker
CHAIRMAN

Signed