

Whittington Parish Council



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MINUTES of the meeting of Whittington Parish Council held at 19.30 on 11 March 2014 at Whittington Village Hall

Democratic Period/ Question Time:

Roger Philips updated the Council on the progress of the new Village Hall, he advised that communication with developers, land owners and other interested parties were still ongoing. He also aired his concern about different funding avenues that were likely to expire before negotiations had been completed, he also asked Members to consider how much funding the Parish was able to give to the project. He also raised concerns about the flooding on the road by the village hall which had almost cut off access to the hall.

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr S Brooker

Vice Chairman: Cllr S Macleod

Councillors: Cllr P Wood, Cllr A Guy,

Officers: Mrs C Chambers (Parish Clerk)

Democratic Period/ Question Time:

1) Attendance and Apologies

Attendance: Cllr Rob Adams

Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Chamberlain.

The Chairman with regret informed the Council of Cllr C Smith resignation as a Councillor for Whittington Parish Council, this was due to business and personal commitments he felt that he could not commit the time to be a Councillor. The Council thanked Mr Smith for all the work that he had done for and on behalf of the Parish.

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 received.**
- b To receive declarations of Prejudicial Interests in items on this Agenda and their nature.
- c Ethical Matters. **None received.**

3) Minutes of Previous Meetings of the Council.

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda the minutes of the Council meeting held on 14 January 2014. It was moved by Cllr SM, seconded by Cllr AG and **RESOLVED** that the minutes be adopted as a true record.

4) District and County Councillors' Report.

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Rob Adams to the meeting. Cllr Adams updated Members on that the increase in expenditure for WCC and WDC for 2014/2015 was on average 1.9%. He added that Claire Marchant will be the new Chief Executive from 1st June 2014. At the request from Members Cllr Adams confirmed that Narrow Walk and Narrow Road had been adopted by WCC. He also reminded Members about his 'Ward Walk' to meet parishioners and answer any queries they may have, it was arranged that Cllr Adams be at Whittington Church on Thursday 27 March at 1pm. He also confirmed to the Council that the NHB was calculated in October on occupied house only. He also confirmed that WCC would be taking steps to alleviate the parking problem caused by staff and visitors to the County Hall.

5) Finance.

a. **Receipts:** The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a list of receipts from 1 January 2014 to 28 February 2014, it was **RESOLVED** that the receipts for the 2 month period which totalled £693.41 be approved.

b. **Payments:** The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a list of payments from 1 January 2014 to 28 February 2014, it was **RESOLVED** that the payments for the 2 month period which totalled £922.36 be approved.

c. **Proposals for expenditure:** The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a list of expenditure. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerks administration expenses and home allowance be paid, and the registration fee for Cilca be paid.

d. **Review of WPC Financial Regulations and Health & Safety Policy:** At the meeting held on 14 January 2014 it was **RESOLVED** that Chairman SB, Councillor CS and the Clerk review WPC Financial Regulations and Health & Safety Policies. The Financial Regulations had been reviewed and changes had been implemented. The Health & Safety policy relates to a risk assessment for the works the Lengthsman is contracted to do through WCC Lengthsman scheme. It was agreed that the documents be ratified at the next Council meeting.

e. **Business High Interest Deposit Bond Account**

At the meeting held 10 September 2013 Members **RESOLVED** to reinvest £18,000 into the Business High Interest Deposit Account for a fixed 6 months from 18 October 2013, this would expire in April 2014. Members were asked if the Council would like to reinvest the £18,000 for a further 6 months from April 2014. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk reinvest £18,000 into the Business High Interest Deposit Account for the next 6 months.

6) Planning Applications & decisions - To consider new planning applications

a. W/14/00388/PN - Bentknoll Veterinary Centre Ltd, Whittington Road
Construction of access ramp to tennis court and storage shed. The Council had no objection.

b. Planning Applications – Wychavon District Council have advised that paper copies will cease from 1st April 2014. **Noted**

c. Planning Decisions – None at time of printing.

d. Other planning matters – The Clerk had circulated via email and tabled at the meeting an invitation to comment from English Heritage. English Heritage had advised that the Church of St Philip & St James, Whittington had requested a Graded listing, and requested that any comments

or objections were to be made within 21 days. The Council **RESOLVED** that there was no objection to the request for Graded Listing.

7) Highways & Byways.

Concern was raised at the meeting with regards to the flooding by the village hall which had been reported to WCC highways on several occasions and instructed the Clerk to write to Highways for an update on the situation. It was also reported that footpath 528C was blocked and the style of footpath 503C had not been replaced. Concern was also raised on the temporary pull in area outside the houses at the end of Church Lane the ground had been worn away by the recent rains it was agreed that a 'support' was needed to be put in place to stop more land slide into the road. The Clerk would report the pathways and write to Highways with regards to the pull in area at the end of Church Lane. Under agenda item 15 the Clerk had presented the Council with photos of the verges on the entrance of the village which had been damaged by cars driving onto the verges it was suggested that bollards be positioned to stop further damage it was agreed that a decision would be made once Highways had advised the Council on what bollard were suitable.

8) Training, meetings and seminars

The Clerk confirmed that Chairman SB, Councillors JC, AG and PW were booked in to attend a Neighbourhood Plan Event on 19 March 2013.

9) Neighbourhood Development Plan – New Homes Bonus – Section 106

W NDP - At the meeting held on 14 January 2014 it was RESOLVED that a separate meeting be arranged to discuss the future of W NDP. It was agreed that the meeting be arranged at the next Council meeting.

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a copy of New Homes Bonus letter from Sir Peter Luff.

10) Police Report - For Information.

No Police report was received. A parishioner reported that there was a burglary at a house in Church Lane.

11) Reports by Councillors, and Items for Future Agendas.

a) 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

Envirosort Site, Norton (CMRF) Liaison: Cllr Baker advised the Council that the next meeting with EnviroSort would be in June

West Wychavon PACT: Cllr Baker advised that the PACT meeting that had been arranged was cancelled; Cllr Adams advised that the Crime prevention Manager David Hemming and the Police Crime Commissioner Ambassador Richard Morris both operate from WDC would be helpful

Worcestershire CALC: All information had been previously emailed

Whittington School: Cllr Wood asked the Clerk to contact the land owner with regards to the overgrowth of hedge which was overhanging the path by the phone box near the entrance of the School.

Whittington Village Hall: Roger Philips had no further update

Neighbourhood Watch: See Agenda Item 12

12) Items for the Parish Magazine.

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a report by Cllr JC. She had written the report as the Councillor for Whittington Neighbourhood Watch. Following discussion it was agreed that the report would not be published in the Parish Magazine. The Council also reiterated that items for the parish magazine would be put to the Council under the editorial control of Cllr SM.

Items for the next parish magazine: Resignation of Cllr CS a vacancy as a Whittington Parish Councillor was available. Volunteers for a village litter pick event were needed. Burglary at a house in Church Lane.

13) Correspondence & Council Consultation

Badsey and Aldington Parish Council had written to WPC for support regarding several developments within their parish. Following discussion it was agreed that the Chairman write to Badsey and Aldington Parish Council on behalf to WPC.

14) IT - Facebook & Communication

Members were pleased with the updates that had been posted on face book. The Clerk confirmed that face book would be monitored.

15) Enhancement

The Clerk had circulated to all Members via email a PDF brochure of street bollards and signs, to give Members ideas on what type (if any) of signs and or bollards would be appropriate for the village. She also attached photos of the village show the damage to the verges where cars had parked or had driven onto the verges which had caused the turf to be turned over and left an uneven muddy patch. The Clerk also showed photos of excessive parking and an example of existing post to which additional signage could be attached. Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that a meeting with Highways be arranged by Cllr Adams to advise the Council on what signage and bollards were appropriate, following the advice from Highways the enhancement project would be presented to the Council and an enhancement schedule would be put in place.

16) Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next meeting would be the Annual Meeting to be held at Whittington Village Hall on 29 April 2014 at 19.30.

The date of the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will be Tuesday 13th May 2014 at Whittington Village Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25pm

Councillor S Brooker
CHAIRMAN

Signed