

Whittington Parish Council



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Minutes of the meeting of Whittington Parish Council held on 8 September 2015 at 19.30 at Whittington Village Hall

Democratic Period/ Question Time

Mr Nick Hodgetts addressed the Council with regards to a new Pond Farm plan. He explained that the first stage would be to move the village hall into the Active 8 building on Pond Farm he confirmed that the plan would be a smaller scale than the previous plan he wanted to resubmit the revised plan before 5 October. He advised that he had not completed the revised plan, but asked the council to consider the future of the site if a new plan was not resubmitted. Following questions from the Members it was agreed that the council would comment on the plan once the application had been submitted to the planning authority WDC, it was also agreed that the council as trustees would meet with the Whittington Village hall Management Committee to seek their views on the proposal to move the village hall into a new building.

Cllr Baker spoke fondly of Mr John Stanford who had sadly past away in April, Cllr Baker added that Mr Stanford had previously served on Whittington Parish Council and was a respected family man, parishioner and friend.

1) Attendance and Apologies -

Those Present:

Chairman: Cllr S Macleod
Councillors: Cllr M Baker, Cllr S Clark, Cllr A Guy, Cllr F Richards, Cllr P Whitehead
Officers: Mrs C Chambers (Parish Clerk)
Attendees: 4 parishioners

1) **Attendance and Apologies** - Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Rob Adams and PCSO Julie Pardoe.

2) Declarations of Interest and Matters.

- a To receive declarations of Personal (non prejudicial) Interests in items on this Agenda and their nature. Cllr Richards declared an interest in agenda item 7 (c) /15/02129/PN - Land Adjacent Kilbury Drive off, as he lives near the development.
- 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 14 July had been circulated to all Members with the agenda it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes be adopted as a true record.
- b The minutes of the Extra Ordinary meeting held on 22 July 2015 had been circulated to all Members with the agenda it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes be adopted as a true record.

4) Co-option of Councillor(s) to fill Vacancy on Council

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda an application from Mr Simon James Paul Clark for Co-option onto Whittington Parish Council to fill the vacancy. Mr Clark addressed the Council at the meeting held on July 14 following questions from Members it was moved to defer the election of Mr Clark until the meeting to be held in September to allow the council to check that Mr Clark fulfilled the legal criteria to be co-opted onto the council. Although Mr Clark had lived at his current address for less than a year, it had been confirmed that Mr Clark's previous address was within the parish boundary. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** to vote Mr Clark onto the Council the vote was unopposed and the Chairman declared that Mr Clark had been duly elected onto the Council. Mr Clark signed the declaration of office and signed the dispensation form. Cllr S Clark joined members on the council.

5) **Police Report** - PCSO Julie Pardoe reported by email to incidents

- 1) On the 28/08 we had a report of theft of power tools from a van on a driveway in Berkeley Close.
- 2) On 02/09 we received a report of a theft of garden tools from a shed in Berkeley Close, however this could have occurred at any point in the previous week and we think these incidents would have occurred on the same night.

The Chairman reported that she had written to PCSO Julie Pardoe to thank her for her crime report (which had been previously emailed), and invited her to attend the next council meeting as there had been no police representative in attendance at previous meetings.

PCSO Julie Pardoe replied by email which stated- *that they had approx 23 parish councils within their policing area, she added that unless there was a significant policing issue that needed to be raised they would no longer attend meetings as a matter of routine. It was suggested that it would be more beneficial to the whole of their policing area to patrol and deal with policing issues rather than attend Parish Council meetings to duplicate the monthly reports and information which was accessible on their website. She added that this was also one of the reasons behind having a PACT representative from each of the councils to act as a liaison between them so if issues were raised they could evaluate them and deal accordingly. She noted that Cllr Baker was the PACT member for Whittington they had not received any issues via the ePACT form which was sent out.*

Cllr Richards reminded members that the Deputy Police & Commissioner had reassured the council that a police representative would attend and meet with the parishioners, Cllr Baker also reiterated his frustration in organising the PACT, although the police still held their surgeries outside the Swan pub there is no attendance in the evenings or at any other time.

6) **Left Blank**

7) **New Planning Application / Consultation**

a. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING APPEAL, W/15/00212 - <http://bit.ly/1N5LxLP>

Appeal Start Date: 21/08/2015, Appellant(s) Name: Mr M Tanner - Erection of building to be used for agricultural and vehicle repairs. Three Ways, Walkers Lane, Whittington, Worcester, WR5 2NN
WPC had no objection to the application the Clerk advised Members that if they wished to make further written comments they should be submitted to The Planning Inspectorate by 25/09/2015.
It was **RESOLVED** that no further comments be made.

b. W/15/01936/PN & W/15/01937 -Resubmission of application W/15/01207 & W/15/01208

Church Farm, Church Lane, Whittington, Applicant - Trustees of the Barkeley Settlement
Proposal - Barn conversion to residential use. <http://bit.ly/1LOyItf> & <http://bit.ly/1N5LxLP>
The Clerk advised that at the Extra Ordinary meeting held on 1 July 2015 WPC commented on the pre planning application submitted by Angela Cornell of Fisher German LLP on behalf of the Trustees of

the Berkeley Settlement. Extract of the Minutes: *Following discussion it was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that WPC provisionally support the applications, but the Council requested that more information was needed as the plans currently state there would be an additional access, this would reduce the layby which was used as a passing point for vehicles and for off road parking. Further clarification on the access and egress of the conversion should be done before resubmission of the applications.* The comments as above had been forwarded to Wychavon DC, The Clerk asked if any further comments on the application would like to be made. It was **RESOLVED** that no further comments be made.

c. W/15/02129/PN - <http://bit.ly/1OdsOwk>, Location : Land Adjacent Kilbury Drive off, Spetchley Road, Spetchley, Description of Proposal : Substitution of house types on 62 plots following grant of planning permission reference W/12/02045/PN. Mr C Shaw, Bloor Homes Western, Western House, Furrowfield Park, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, GL20 8UR. It was **RESOLVED** that no further comment be made.

8) Finance.

a. **Receipts:** The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a report which listed the receipts for July & August 2015, it was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that all receipts listed for be approved.

Payments: The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a report which listed the payments for July & August 2015, it was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that all payments listed be approved.

b. **Bank Reconciliation:** The Clerk had circulated with the agenda the bank reconciliation up 31 August 2015. The 3 accounts showed an overall balance as at 31st August was £29,930.53. The original bank statements were available at the meeting.

c. **Proposals for expenditure:** To consider proposal(s) for expenditure.

d. **Came & Co Insurance Renewal** - The Clerk reported that Came & Co Insurance renewal would be due on 1 October it was expected not to exceed £300. The payment would be due before the next meeting, the Clerk request that she could make the payment on by the due date. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the payment be made.

e. **Quote for Installation of New Notice Board** - The Clerk reported that she had received a quote of £150 from Dave Allen for the installation of the new notice board. The Clerk had instructed him to install the new notice board as per his quote. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the payment be made.

f. **Autumn Flowers** -The Clerk had purchased and requested a refund for the Autumn flower beds and plastic troughs cost £62.88. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the payment be made.

g. **Paper Cutter** - The Clerk had purchased and requested a refund for an A4 paper cutter for £3.99. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the payment be made.

h. **General Information** - The Clerk also reported the following items:

1) Payment of the Lengthsman invoice for works completed in August for £183.50 (including weed killer) had been paid.

- 2) Cost of the purchase and installation of the new notice board was £1205 net. With the deduction of £512 of New Homes Bonus Grant the total actual cost to the Council for the new notice board was £693.00.

Cllr Richards agreed to check all receipts and payments against the original bank statements.

9) Highways & Byways.

To receive reports of Highways (Roads & Pavements) & Byways (bridleways & footpaths).

Highways issues. Cllr Baker reported that he and Cllr Adams were still trying to arrange a meeting with highways. Cllr Baker reported that Narrow Walk work had been completed and thanked Cllr Adams for his help in this matter. The Chairman thank Cllr Baker for his work on this matter. He also reported on the continuing problems caused by inconsiderate parking in the village.

10) Training, meetings and seminars

The Clerk circulated a letter with the agenda which advised that a Town and Parish Council Briefing: on the Proposed Main Modifications to the SWDP (2015) would be held on Thursday 10 September 2015 from 5.30pm to 7:30pm, in The Council Chamber, County Hall, Worcester. Cllr Richards and Cllr Guy and Clerk would attend.

11) District and County Councillors' Report. Apologies received.

12) 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**

Envirosort Site, Norton (CMRF) Liaison: Next meeting to be advised

West Wychavon PACT: **None**

Worcestershire CALC: **None** (all emails had been previously forwarded)

Whittington School: **None**

Whittington Village Hall: **None**

Neighbourhood Watch: **None**

Whittington Church

The Clerk reported on the new extension of Whittington Parish Church, she advised them that the Elizabethan Room Development Group had had 3 meetings to date she explained that the new community room would be to replace the jubilee room (portacabin) as the planning permission for the portacabin would expire and could not be renewed.

Faculty Application. The Faculty Application had been submitted at the beginning of August and was considered by the DAC (Diocesan Advisory Group) on 28th July. The Committee looked at all aspects. The Committee had since recommended the scheme for acceptance. The final decision would be taken by the Chancellor for the Diocese.

Funding - HLF & Section 106 Grants. It was agreed that pressure should be continued to be applied by the Church by writing to Jack Hegarty (CE Wychavon) to press for better treatment. A HLF "Project Enquiry" had been made to determine whether the project could progress to a full application. The 950 word enquiry had been made in the over £100,000 category and a response should have been received in 2 weeks.

Consultation with local community. A draft leaflet/questionnaire had been circulated and would be circulated to all households and the Church Parish. The launch for the appeal would be at the

Harvest Festival service and a gift day later in October. Arrangements were being made for gift aided donations to be made online as well as by envelope.

Chairman read out News from the Pews.

Village Hall

a) The Chairman reported on the meeting she and the Clerk had attended which was held on 11 August 2015 at Wychavon DC with Deputy Managing Director Vic Allison, Community Development Manager Jem Teal, WVHMC Chairman Roger Philips and David Hallmark. The meeting had been arranged by Cllr Rob Adams who was also in attendance. The aim of the meeting was to establish if s106 funding would be available from the Swinesherd development for the rebuild of Whittington Village Hall. Those present were informed that it would be hard to secure funding for a building, it was explained that the s106 had to meet criteria that was essential for the Swinesherd development, a new village hall building would not fall into that category, by law the money had to be spent on sport. Roger Philips highlighted that Whittington had not received any funding although Norton had received several hundred thousand pounds towards new sports facility. Gem Teal advised those present to collate evidence of the wants and needs of the community he also advised that Whittington needs a strategy, and evidence based portfolio of projects and highlighted the importance of a neighbourhood plan. Vic Allison & Gem Teal advised that there were other options to raise funds for a new village hall, they added that the parish council could borrow money and WPC could levy the precept, if this were so, both parties would need to consult the community/parishioners. Following the meeting the Chairman and Roger Philips agreed to arrange a meeting to discuss a way forward as WPC were Trustees. Following the report members were happy that s106 money had been clarified, and the last meeting showed a lack of communication, Cllr Guy added that he looked forward to constructive dialogue.

b) The Chairman also reported that she had meet with Roger Phillip of WVHMC on 7 September 2015 he had produced a VH concept plan - the plan showed 7 houses car park for church and VH and 2 houses on original VH site. She reported that Roger supported the village hall being moved to Pond Farm he confirmed that with £100k of village hall committee money & 18K of money pledged by Wychavon this plan would be affordable. Mr Hodgetts confirmed that the plan was not up to date but added that the first transaction would be to secure the swap of site, the exchange of land would be a separate transaction. Cllr Guy recommended that there be no pre determination on the idea and looked forward to seeing the new plan when it had been submitted to WDC, the council agreed. It was also agreed the WPC as Trustees of the village hall needed more clarification before we could consult with the parishioners.

13) Correspondence & Council Consultation. None

14) IT - Facebook & Communication - None

15) Enhancement - see agenda item 8f.

16) Community Events - None

17) Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will be Tuesday 10th November 2015 at Whittington Village Hall.