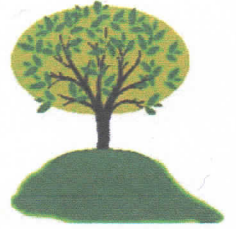


# Whittington Parish Council



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## Minutes of The Annual Whittington Parish Meeting 2016

held on Tuesday 12th April 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

at

Whittington Village Hall

- 1) **Welcome** - The Chairman of Whittington Parish Council welcomed all guest and parishioners to the meeting.
- 2) **Apologies** - Apologies were received from Cllr Adams, Mr G Richards, Mr Phillips, PCSO Pardo
- 3) **Attendance** - Cllr S Macleod and 24 Parishioners
- 4) **Minutes of Parish Meeting Held 26 May 2015**

The minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 26th May 2016 was moved, seconded and adopted as a true record of the meeting.

- 5) **Matters arising from the Meeting held on Tuesday 26 May 2015** - None

- 6) **Whittington Parish Council - Chairman's Report. Cllr Susan Macleod**

I have been Chair of the Parish Council for nearly a year and a half. This last year has been eventful and seen some changes. I have been pleased and grateful for the support of my fellow councillors Fraser Richards, Andrew Guy and Martin Baker who continued to serve on the council. I have appreciated their contributions throughout the year. I respect their views, have found their advice reasoned and valuable and I thank them for their support. Likewise I would like to thank our Clerk Carol Chambers for her experienced advice. She is a great asset to the council and the community here in the Parish of Whittington.

We have had three new councillors join during the last year. In the summer we welcomed Simon Clarke and Pat Whitehead. Although Pat felt she wasn't able to stay, Simon has, and now is our councillor liaising with both the village school and church. In January we were pleased that Ross Pearce also joined the council and he along with Fraser Richards will represent us at Village Hall Management Committee meetings.

I feel that we are a forward thinking group, who work well as a team – always with the best of intentions for our local environment and community.

This winter we had the sad news that Peter Rowe our former clerk, sadly passed away. We understand that there is to be a memorial for Peter sometime in May and when we hear details we will make them known for those who feel they would like to attend.

Moving on to the work of the Council, here is an overview of some of the topics that have been under discussion during the last year and projects that we have been involved in.

### **Development (Planning)**

The Parish Council wrote to and made representations to HM Inspector Clews objecting to the plans for 300 new houses off Swinsherd Way being included within the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP).

### **Traffic and the Environment**

The Parish Council has corresponded and met with representatives from Wychavon and Worcestershire County Councils concerning traffic and environmental issues that have been ongoing. These included discussions around:-

- Parking issues within the village and consideration of double yellow lines in the southern part of Church Lane and around the entrance/exit to the village from the roundabout or limited waiting restrictions.
- The speed of traffic through the village and consideration of speed bumps and traffic speed monitoring measures.
- The type of protective barriers used at Swinsherd way/Whittington road roundabout and the number of accidents that have happened there.

We were able to get answers from officers and were given reasons why actions currently cannot be taken.

On an environmental point, Cllr Baker, working with (Wychavon District) Cllr Rob Adams, was able to make progress over flooding in Narrow Walk. Resulting in a new drainage system being installed and the problem resolved. I would like to thank Cllr Adams for his continued support to the Parish Council throughout the year.

### **Local projects**

Funding applications have been made to the Parish Council, asking for backing for Section 106 money held by Wychavon District Council in connection with the new housing estates that have been built within the parish.

Following receipt of a clear, budgeted presentation the Parish Council has showed its support for the village Church's new Elizabethan building project. We wish them every success.

A revised Village Hall plan is now emerging and the Parish Council is looking into areas that have been highlighted and what the way forward will be. The Council feels that a Village Hall is a valuable asset to the community and would like to work positively towards the best outcome.

Parishioners will have seen two smaller new enhancements to the village; a new Parish notice board has replaced the jaded old one opposite the Swan pub. Also the addition of new flower troughs on the entrance 'gates' to the village, which our clerk Carol and her husband have very kindly kept tended and watered during the year. Thank you, Carol and Steve.

This summer marks the Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. It is an opportunity for our Community to come together in celebration. The Council wants to encourage and support local events that contribute towards the development of our local community spirit. We hope that you can help us in this aim.

**Mrs Susan MacLeod**  
Chair Whittington Parish Council  
April 2016

7) **Police Report** was read out by Cllr A Guy

**Annual Police Report 2015-16**

The last 12 months has continued to be busy throughout our policing area which extends from Whittington, Upton Snodsbury and Dormston in the north to Bredon and Beckford in the south. We have carried out active engagement within our policing area in the form of monthly police surgeries and local parish events. The whole team remain committed to tackling all levels of crime throughout the area including rural crime and poaching and providing security advice and support to victims and vulnerable residents.

This report is based using the recorded crime figures between 08/04/2015 and 08/04/2016 the comparison is relating to the corresponding dates in 2014/15.

Overall the police recorded 647 incidents that were reported by members of the public this is compared to 605 incidents reported the previous year.

Of the 647 incidents the Parish had 28 recordable crimes (incidents where a specific offence has occurred) this was in comparison to 23 recordable crimes the previous year.

The breakdown of offences is as follows:

	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2014/15</b>
<b>Burglary Dwellings</b>	2	1
<b>Burglary Other</b>	3	2
<b>Theft</b>	1	3
<b>Theft from Vehicle</b>	1	3
<b>Criminal Damage</b>	3	4
<b>Other Offences</b>	18	10

(Includes mostly domestic related incidents/assaults)

Overall the figures show a steady but low crime rate for the past few years however the area has seen an increase in other offences.

We have continued with increased patrols in the area and have issued security advice. We have spoken to residents in Walkers Lane (adjacent to Kilbury Drive) regarding setting up a neighbourhood watch scheme and believe they may be proceeding with that.

The figures clearly present the picture that Whittington and the surrounding area is still a safe place to both live and work, however we all have a responsibility to ensure we maintain this.

On behalf of the team and myself I should like to offer my thanks to the Parish Council for all its help over the last 12 months. I would also like to say thank you to the Parish as a whole for its continued support of the local policing team and for the numerous calls we have received relating to suspicious activity, all we ask is that you continue to do this.

**Pershore Rural North and South Local Policing Team**

Non-emergency phone number: 101

- 8) **Presentation of Village Charities Accounts.** Report as attached
  
  - 9) **Whittington Village Hall** - Les Wiltshire gave a verbal report. He reported that the Management Committee had opted for a new village hall on the current, he explained the need to access funds and was exploring different funding avenues and requested that Whittington Parish Council confirm funding support, Mr Wood reported that the play group that currently operate from the village hall were to move the play group in July to the premises over the road as it was difficult for the play group to set up and put away equipment at the end of each session, he also confirmed Mr Wiltshire comments on a new village hall to be built and were reviewing plans to make the new village hall bigger to accommodate additional functions.
  
  - 10) **Whittington School Report** - Report as attached
  
  - 11) **Whittington Church St Philip & St James** - Jayne Rayer read out the Report as attached.
  
  - 12) **County & District Councillor's** - None received
  
  - 13) **Any Other Business.** None
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## THE FANNY CLIFTON AND ELIZABETH STEPHENS CHARITIES

As I have reported in previous years, these two village charities have been dormant for quite some time. The Elizabeth Stephens Charity dates back to 1668, and was a legacy of £50 with which three cottages were built in Swinesherd. These were liquidated in 1880 and the interest used to provide grocery parcels for the poor and needy of the parish.

The Fanny Clifton Charity was founded by Miss Clifton's will in 1888. Her legacy of £900 was to be used to provide coal at Christmas for the poor of the parish.

The accounts show that no payments have been made and only a small amount of income in the form of interest has been received.

L Wiltshire  
Trustee

8<sup>th</sup> April 2016

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**THE FANNY CLIFTON CHARITY**

Balances as at 31 March 2015

Deposit a/c                      734.43

Income

Deposit a/c interest            .36

734.79

Balances as at 31 March 2016

Deposit a/c                      734.79

734.79

**THE ELIZABETH STEPHENS CHARITY**

Balances as at 31 March 2015

Deposit a/c                      37.81

Income

Deposit a/c interest            .00

37.81

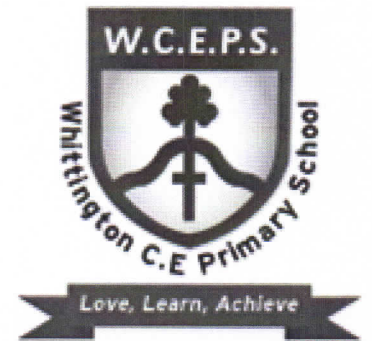
Balances as at 31 March 2016

Deposit a/c                      37.81

37.81

L Wiltshire  
Trustee

8<sup>th</sup> April 2016



## Report for the Parish Council Meeting April 2016

Whittington Church of England Primary School draws its children from the village of Whittington and the immediate area, so we see ourselves as a village school. The new developments at the end of Kilbury Drive and along Swinseherd Way both fall within the school's catchment so this will have an impact on where we draw our children from. I envisage a position where the school will fill up with pupils from within our catchment; a position which is not currently the case. There are no plans to expand the school, although as a Local Authority school any expansion would be proposed by them.

Our status as a Local Authority school will alter if there is no change to current government policy. The most recent legislation requires all schools to become academies by 2020. This process takes the school out of Local Authority control and makes it an independent institution answerable directly to the Department for Education. As a church school this process would be overseen by the Diocese, in consultation with the governors of the school. We are currently exploring a number of options and our position will be much clearer in the next 12 months.

As a Church of England school we have close links with the Church of St. Philip and St. James, located in the village. This is a very positive relationship and we base much of our work in school around our 'Core Christian Values' which are: friendship, courage, forgiveness, thankfulness, responsibility and respect. Our aim is to instil in our pupils the importance of developing positive values which will inform their conduct throughout their lives. We are very much looking forward to the arrival of our new vicar Reverend Andy Stand.

We strive for academic excellence in all areas of the curriculum and our 2015 results continued to be strong. This on-going success is due to hard working pupils, committed staff and governors, and supportive parents.

As well as children doing well in their tests we aim to provide a rich curriculum which interests and engages our pupils. We have a school choir who perform in a variety of regional events. Our children all participate against other schools in competitive sport. We participate in the 'Voices and Visions' art project each year and display artwork in Worcester cathedral. French is taught across Key Stage Two and our teaching has been described as exemplary. Drama is also a strength, with two full scale performances each academic year.

The children, my staff, governors and I are very proud of Whittington Church of England Primary School and we all work very hard to make it the best school possible. Children enjoy attending the school and we deliver a challenging, engaging and varied curriculum where all pupils apply themselves and persevere in order to achieve their best.

**Whittington C of E Primary School**  
Whittington | Worcester | WR5 2QZ  
**Headteacher**  
Gary Richards  
tel. 01905 354844 fax. 01905 350868  
email. [office@whittington.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@whittington.worcs.sch.uk)  
[www.whittington.worcs.sch.uk](http://www.whittington.worcs.sch.uk)



## Elizabethan Room Development Group

### Report to Whittington Parish Council – January 2016

**Present Position.** The Group has not met since late November having taken a break over Christmas but fundraising continues in different ways; grant applications are being put together for early submission to a number of charities and other sources, including the Heritage Lottery and events are being planned for this year.

**Section 106 Agreement.** Following the Parish Council's decision in December to support the Elizabethan Room as a community project for the District Council to take forward in negotiations with the Developer of the land between the Village and Swinesherd, we have been asked to provide full background argument for those negotiations. I have provided some information and wait to hear what more is required.

**Jubilee Room.** As you know the NW Extension to the Church (the Elizabethan Room) was granted planning permission in May 15 with the support of the Parish Council. The permission provided for the removal of the portacabin (Jubilee Room) after completion of the NW Extension but did not cover the period after planning permission ran out for the Room last November, in effect if work had not started! Consequently application has been made to extend permission for the portacabin to match that of and tie it firmly to the NW Extension by varying the Planning Permission for the latter. The application will be before you for consideration at the meeting and I'm sure I do not need to stress the importance of its approval; the facilities the Jubilee Room contains are vital to the Church in the interim. *David Chestney January 2016*

**April 2016 -Jayne Rayer** gave a verbal update on the issues raised in January 2016, she added that that the fund raising for Elizabethan Room was ongoing, she announced that the Spring Serenade flower arranging demonstration by Lynda Owen which was held on 3 March had raised £400. She added that plans to celebrate the Queens 90th Birthday were underway, the celebration lunch would be held at Whittington Village Hall on Sunday 12 June the event would also be used to welcome Whittington Church new vicar Rev'd Andy Stand who was due to join the parish in May.