

Whittington Parish Council



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Minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2018 at 19.30 at Whittington Village Hall.

Democratic Period/ Question Time: None.

Those Present:

Chairman: Cllr S Macleod

Councillors: Cllr K Wolseley Charles,
Cllr D Bayliss, Cllr S Brooker
Cllr S Burrows, Cllr R Boase

Officers: Mrs C Chambers (Parish Clerk)

Attendees: Cllr Adams and 4 Parishioners

Guest: Mr Colin Bedford and Mr Tom Terrence National Allotment Society

1) **Attendance and Apologies - None.**

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.

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.**

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda the minutes of the meeting held on 8 May 2018. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the minutes including the amendments (to agenda item 12 Allotments) be approved.

***4) Co-option**

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a completed application form for co-option onto Whittington Parish Council from Stephen Douglas Burrows. The Chairman welcomed him to the meeting and invited him to address the Council. Following questions from Members, it was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** to vote Mr Stephen Douglas Burrows onto the Council, the vote was unopposed, the Chairman declared that Stephen Douglas Burrows had been duly elected onto the Council. Stephen Douglas Burrows signed the declaration of office form and signed the dispensation form, Cllr Stephen Douglas Burrows joined Members on the Council.

5) **Vice Chair** - The Election of Vice Chair of Whittington Parish Council was deferred at the previous meeting. The Chairman asked for nominations, it was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that Cllr Brooker be the Vice Chairman of Whittington Parish Council for the municipal year.

6) **GDPR PLAN** - Cllr Boase had contacted the ICO for clarity on the GDPR which was circulated with the agenda. Cllr Boase also gave a verbal update and explained the following; He would be doing a training session for Councilors in the near future. Some files were kept in unlocked cabinets. the Clerk to get quotes for lockable cabinet one key for clerk and one key for Cllrs. He had prepared a sub group terms of reference, draft of data register, and drafting a privacy notice which outlined what the Council do with individuals information, he had also drawn up a letter of confidentiality He added that he had written to the ICO who had replied that;

Comment [Action1]: Clerk

Data Controller A person or organisation who determines the how and what of data processing.
eg: Parish Council and/or Councilors'

Data Processor

Any organisation or person who processes personal data on behalf of the data controller.
eg: IT Company, HR, Payroll, Computer software. Cllr Boase full report would be circulated for the next meeting. The Clerk added that Allotments agreements did not state that their information would be used for other Cllrs, and terms of reference had not been agreed. she felt that the tenants should be informed before their information was passed on. Cllr Boase added that the allotment names were not being sent to a third party as the per information regarding the Data Controller. The Chairman highlighted that Cllr Wolseley Charles may use the information for her personal use.

Cllr Boase proposed that all personal data held by the Council should be made available to all Councilors' for legitimate use. The Council Agreed.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Boase for his work on the GDPR

7) **Best Practice** - The Chairman addressed the Council with regards to the amount of emails that had been sent and asked them to be kept to a minimum and asked Members to respect each other.

Agendas need to be published on the Wednesday before the meeting on the following Tuesday.

Comment [Action2]: Clerk

She added that the Clerk to submit the minutes no later than 2 weeks after the meeting,

She also requested that an action and timings be put on the minutes.

Councilors who want items on the agenda are to submit their request 2 weeks prior to the meeting.

Comment [Action3]: Clerk

The Chairman would announce that the meeting would be recorded at the start of the meeting.

Comment [Action4]: Chairman

3 Cllrs not paper 3 Cllrs would like paper copies.

***8) Finance.**

a. **Receipts and Payments:** The Clerk had circulated with the agenda the Receipts & Payments for April May and June 2018. The original receipts and invoices were available at the meeting.

b. **Bank Reconciliation** for April May and June 2018. The Clerk had circulated with the agenda the bank reconciliation for April, May and June 2018. Original Bank Statements were available at the meeting.

c. **Proposals for expenditure:** The Clerk presented the Council with the invoices for photo copies of the agenda and reports as her printer had broken. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the invoices for photo copies be paid, and that the Clerk order a new printer.

d. The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a copy of the internal Auditors recommendations for Action the Clerk updated the Council on the recommendations.

R1 - Set up Direct Debit for Information Commissioners Office. The Clerk added that she had paid ICO but direct debit would have to be set up for next year's renewal.

R2 - Vat had been claimed and refund had been received.

R3 - Control of S106 projects - Village hall Project committee Members Councillors Macleod, Brooker and the Clerk to arrange a meeting with the VHMC treasurer and Chairman of VHMC

R4 - Staff Holiday payments - Staffing Committee to review

Comment [Action5]: Named Cllrs & Clerk

e. **Banking Mandate. Additional Signatory**

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a report which reminded Members that at the meeting held on 12 September 2017 it was agreed that that Cllr's Guy and Macleod be signatories on Whittington Parish Councils bank accounts. At the meeting held on 14 November 2017 the Clerk had recommended that an additional signatory be added. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that Cllr Boase also be added as a signatory. Since that meeting Mr Guy has resigned as Councillor, therefore 2 additional signatories are needed for Whittington Parish Councils HSBC Bank Accounts. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that Councillors Bayliss, Macleod and Boase be signatories on Whittington Parish Councils HSBC bank accounts. Clerk to get mandate form.

Comment [Action6]: Clerk

f. **Proposals for Expenditure.** The Clerk had circulated with the agenda the budget figures for the Allotments and Notice Board

1)	Allotments	
	Receipts	£ 840.00
	Budget	£1,600.00
	Total	<u>£2,440.00</u>

2)	Notice Board	
	Receipts	<u>£1,732.00</u>
	No Budget Set for 2018/19	

***9) Allotments** (Discussed after agenda item 5)

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a report by Cllr Wolseley Charles which listed suggestions for the allotments storage, such as individual sheds, tool boxes and communal shed. Cllr Boase asked for clarity as the Tenancy agreement state that tenants must get written permission from the Council for structures. The allotment guidelines state that they may put up structures. The Clerk added that tenants without permission have already placed two benches on the allotment site, and painted part of the fence by the benches therefore the allotment guidelines need to address these structures to. Cllr Boase added that he had given permission for the allotment fence to be painted around the bench. Cllr Wolseley Charles asked the Council to focus on whether sheds were allowed and whether the Council would pay for the sheds. The Chairman suggested tool boxes which would not take up too much room and block the light. Cllr Brooker suggested that the views of the allotment tenants should be considered.

Cllr Wolseley Charles reminded Members that the Council needed to decide on whether the Council are going to buy sheds or allow tenants to put sheds onto their plots before a tenant survey could be done. Representatives of the Allotment Society added that they were not aware of landowners buying sheds for the allotments, they advised that foundation for sheds could be concrete slabs. The Clerk moved to deferred this agenda item as the cost of the allotments have not been budgeted for and reminded Members that there was £2,240 (including receipts) in the current year's budget. The Chairman added that 3 Members had an pecuniary interest as 2 Councillors were allotment tenants and 1 Councilors wife was an allotment tenant. Cllrs Boase, Wolseley Charles and Baylis abstained from Voting.

1) It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the Council will NOT purchase sheds. Chairman thanked Cllr Wolseley Charles for her report.

Cllr Wolseley Charles left the meeting

2) It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that allotment holders may place their own small sheds on the Communal Allotment (no size was specified), and the Council to pay for the communal plot to be slabbed. Clerk to get quote.

Comment [Action7]: Clerk

3) It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that tool boxes of approximate size of 105 x 55 x 45. would be allowed on individual plots.

It was agreed that the guidelines to be reviewed to reflect the above resolutions.

Comment [Action8]: Review next meeting

***10) Notice Board** The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a quote £2,235 + VAT for a double sided notice board for the Wildmore Estate, the Clerk added that a quote for the installation, foundations and removal of the fence would have to be obtained once the Council had decided to purchase the notice board, she also added that the Council would have to gain permission from the land owner before the notice board could be installed. It was noted that the Council had received £1732 from Bloor Homes the balance for the notice board and installation would be paid from reserves. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the Clerk order the notice board, get quote and relevant permissions to install it.

Comment [Action9]: Clerk

Contact Bloor for permission and contact Wychavon for permission.

Comment [Action10]: Clerk

Notice of emergency numbers on water taps on the allotments from Severn Trent.

Comment [Action11]: Clerk

***11) Highways Traffic Report:** Whittington Parish Traffic Matters - The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a report by Cllr Brooker, which highlighted the issues that parishioners have regarding traffic in the village on Old Road and also the dual tracks on Whittington Road and Swinesherd. Following discussion it was agreed that Cllr Adams would liaise with Cllr Brooker to meet Gerry Berenza of Worcestershire County Council in the village to point out the issues. It was noted that the access only order was not working, also there was a risk to life on exiting the village at both ends as the traffic is too fast and busy.

Comment [Action12]: Cllr Adams, Cllr Brooker

Amend letter and Submit the letter to Chief constable, crime commissioner, MP to arrange to meet

Comment [Action13]: Clerk

12) Police Report - Steven Tinkler, Police Community Support Officer had emailed his report; The team have one crimes to report for this month.
Theft of pedal cycle – 22/06
We currently have no other issues to raise either.

13) Planning Applications

a) Application Number : 18/01075/FUL

Location: Land Adjacent Kilbury Drive Off, Spetchley Road, Spetchley

Applicant: Bloor Homes

Description of Proposal: Substitution of house types on 125 plots following grant of planning permission as approved under reference

W/12/02045/PN Without compliance with condition 27 to allow for the removal of highway improvement works and instead provide an additional financial contribution.

<https://bit.ly/2KORhwV>

Noted

b) Application Number: 18/01075

Location: Land Adjacent Kilbury Drive Off, Spetchley Road, Spetchley

Description of Proposal: Erection of 256 dwellings including a proportion of affordable housing, new vehicular access off Walkers Lane and Spetchley Road, provision of public open space including an equipped area of play and community allotments, internal estate roads and associated works. Without compliance with condition 27 to allow for the removal of highway improvement works and instead provide an additional financial contribution

<https://bit.ly/2KORhwV>

Noted

c) Application Number : 18/01175/FUL

Location: Land And Buildings At, Walkers Lane, Whittington

Description of Proposal: Formation of tarmaced car park surface to approved car park (W/15/01485/CU) - Retrospective

Applicant : Diglis Lane Gospel Hall Trust

<https://bit.ly/2KK0NV5>

Noted - No Objection

d) Application Number : 18/00928/COU

Location: Grove Cottage, Church Lane, Whittington, Worcester, WR5 2RL

Description of Proposal: Change of use of existing one bedroom residential garage conversion to use as a self contained unit.

Applicant : Mr & Mrs Martin Baker

<https://bit.ly/2u4V7Lj>

Noted - No Objection

14) District and County Councillors' Report.

Cllr Adams updated the Council on the EnviroSort planning application. He also reported on the highway issues. The County Council no longer use plastic cups. Carrington Bridge would be closed for 3 nights at the end of July and the end of August to move electric pylons. Cllr Adams confirmed that he would contact WCC Highways with regards to new Whittington signage on the Wildmore Estate. The Chairman gave him draft letter regarding traffic issues in the village.

15) Training, meetings and seminars

Cllr Boase reported on the 5p's course held by CALC at County Hall, he found it very informative.

Document Retention with an eye to GDPR" course had been re scheduled for Wednesday (11th July) they had re-arranged the "Document Retention with an eye to GDPR" session for Wednesday 18th July at 7pm at County Hall.

Chairman reported on the meeting she and the Clerk attended at Wychavon which covered the new homes bonus which Whittington may be eligible for the Chairman added that the money must be used on legacy projects, such as village halls, community hall, church hall or something for the community long term, she added that WPC would need to register an interest if the village hall wanted the funding.

16) 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: It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that Cllr Bayliss be on the staffing committee.

Whittington School: None.

Whittington Village Hall: The chairman reported that the VHMC were working on a proposal to be presented to the community

Safer Neighbourhood/traffic Cllr Brooker had spoken to Gary Sheppard of the Safer Neighbourhood Team who would arrange for him to come to the village hall.

Whittington Church: None.

Brethren Church: None.

Worcestershire CALC: At the previous meeting it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Boase be CALC representative. Cllr Boase has declined the position, as he had been appointed to the position without consultation; and CALC advised that the information was via the Parish Clerks.

17) Communications; Facebook/ Parish Mag/ EMAILS ADDRESS

Cllr Bayliss reported on the .gov email addresses for Councilors, cost of £120 per year for all Councilors to have, to register whittington-pc.gov.uk £109 for 2 years then £70 for two years. it was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that whittington register a .gov email.

Comment [Action14]: Cllr Bayliss

Cllr Brooker will submit a report to the parish magazine, allotments one allotment spare, notice board on Wildmore estate, concerns was expressed on road safety etc.

Comment [Action15]: Cllr Brooker

18) Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next Meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 11 September 2018 at Whittington Village Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.10pm

Councillor S Macleod
Chairman

Whittington Parish Council
Receipts
April May June 2018

Date	Chq No	Details	Support			Allotments	Vat	Amount	
			Precept	Grant	Interest				
05.04.18		Plot 5				60.00		60.00	
08.04.18		Plot 1				60.00		60.00	
08.04.18		Plot 10				60.00		60.00	
09.04.18		Plot 7				60.00		60.00	
14.04.18		Plot 4				60.00		60.00	
30.04.18		Precept	5796	192		5988		5988	
30.04.18		Interest			1.25	<u>1.25</u>		<u>1.25</u>	<u>6289.25</u>
08.05.18		Plot 9				60.00		60.00	
14.05.18		Plot 15				60.00		60.00	
17.05.18		Plot 12				60.00		60.00	
17.05.18		Plot 3				50.00		50.00	
19.05.18		Plot 11				50.00		50.00	
28.05.18		Plot 6				<u>60.00</u>		<u>60.00</u>	<u>340.00</u>
18.06.18		HMRC Refund					847.48	<u>847.48</u>	<u>847.48</u>

Whittington Parish Council
Payments
April May June 2018

Date	Minute Ref	Details	Wages	Admin	Grants	Enhancement	Training	Allotments	Equipment	Vat	Gross	
28.04.18		C Chambers	201.90								201.90	
28.04.18		HMRC	50.63								50.63	
28.04.18		HMRC	50.40								50.40	
28.04.18		Calc Membership		609.72							609.72	
28.04.18		Worcestershire CC	74.19								74.19	
28.04.18		Worcestershire CC	15.53								15.53	
28.04.18		Whittington Church Church Yard			150.00						150.00	
28.04.18		Whittington Church WW1 Grant			300.00						300.00	
30.04.18		Enhancement (C Chambers)				32.56					32.56	1484.93
18.05.18		Geof Bradley - Internal Audit			95.00						95.00	
28.05.18		Worcestershire CC	89.72								89.72	
28.05.18		Annual meeting refreshments		53.06							53.06	
28.05.18		C Chambers	201.90								201.90	
28.05.18		HMRC	50.63								50.63	
28.05.18		Viking Direct - Shreder							139.00	27.80	<u>166.80</u>	<u>657.11</u>
16.06.18		Calc					25.00			5.00	30.00	
24.06.18		C Chambers	201.9								201.90	
24.06.18		HMRC	50.4								50.40	
24.06.18		Worcestershire CC	89.72								89.72	
24.06.18		Hodson Garden Services						180.00			<u>180.00</u>	<u>552.02</u>

Whittington Parish Council
Bank Reconciliation
as at 30 June 2018

Balance as per Statem31.03.2018		Current a/c	£18,164.24
Balance as per Statem31.03.2018		Deposit a/c	£21,645.38
Total			£39,809.62
Plus Receipts	April	6,289.25	
	May	341.29	
	June	847.48	
			£7,478.02
Total Receipts			£47,287.64
Less Payments	April	1484.93	
	May	657.11	
	June	552.02	
			£2,694.06
		Balance	£44,593.58
Balance as per Statem30.06.2018		Current a/c	£22,945.66
Balance as per Statem30.06.2018		Deposit a/c	£21,647.92
			£44,593.58

Allotment Proposal: Sheds

This document describes the various choices for the Council to work through regarding the provision of allotment sheds. Working through the choices below should enable the Council to make headway with this process, and come to some agreement on how to proceed.

Choice 1: Whether to provide sheds at all

Options:

- Provide sheds
- Do not provide sheds

Provide sheds

Advantages:

- Plot holders have somewhere to store tools etc. rather than carrying them to and from the site each day (some storage boxes have already been installed, which demonstrates the need for secure storage for at least some plot holders)
- If sheds are provided by the Council, they can ensure visual unity in the space
- Sheds provide a collection point for rain water, which will reduce the usage (and cost) of water from the taps

Disadvantages:

- Sheds have a cost implication for the Council, to buy and to maintain, although this is manageable, and some responsibility can be borne by plot-holders.
- Sheds take up space on plots (some plot holders may not want sheds for this reason) or on the site – either on paths, or on extra land which would need to be procured and made suitable (see below)
- Sheds can be a target for vandals (although the proximity of the houses should deter this)

Do not provide sheds

Advantages

- No cost implications for the Council, regarding purchase, installation, etc.
- Any sheds could be considered intrusive in the landscape (nearby householders have expressed some concerns in this area)

Disadvantages

- Plot owners will make their own arrangements, which could result in considerable visual disturbance
- The council may feel obliged to restrict what the structures are made out of, and how they are constructed, leading to a cost in terms of enforcement.
- Plot holders will own their structures – they may remove them on leaving (possible delays and disturbances), leave a mess of potentially hazardous materials for the next plot holder

to clear up (broken glass, rotting carpet etc.) or wish to sell them to the next plot holder, who may not wish to buy, resulting in disputes

Recommendation – the Council Provides Sheds

Choice 2: What type of shed?

Options:

- One communal shed or other shared shed arrangements
- A small individual shed allocated to each plot

The main disadvantage for communal sheds is that of security of personal belongings. Tools and equipment are expensive and in communal sheds the possibility of disputes arising from tools being taken and used, broken or left dirty is very high. The possibility of the shed being left insecure and theft occurring is also very high.

For these reasons alone:

Recommendation – the Council provides individual sheds, one per allotment.

Choice 3: Where to site the sheds.

Options:

- On individual plots
- On paths adjacent to individual plots
- In a central 'shed space'
 - o On the communal plot
 - o On a separate (not yet decided) space

On individual plots

Advantages:

- Ease of access – quick to fetch tools and to clear up at the end of the day
- Can be hooked up to a water butt on plot – ease of carrying water to crops
- Good maintenance more likely, as ownership is clear, and people like to 'beautify' their plots

Disadvantages:

- The smallest shed will take up over a metre squared of plot space
- Will need individual bases to be installed (implications for cost and inconvenience)

On paths adjacent to individual plots

Advantages:

- Essentially same as on individual plots, above
- Do not take up space on growing area
- Can be placed directly onto the existing surface (reducing cost of installation)

Disadvantages:

- Again – may be considered visually intrusive
- May cause an obstruction on the paths or decrease ease of movement around the site
- Placement will be according to available space, which might increase visual disturbance

In a central 'shed space' - On the communal plot

Advantages:

- Installing the base may be cheaper if done all in one
- Maintenance could be easier if done as one
- Those who do not want a shed don't have to use it, and they are not inconvenienced

Disadvantages:

- The communal plot may not be big enough to provide a usable area (sheds, circulation space, and 'manoeuvring room' – plus water butts if required)
- It's at one end – plot holders at the other end may feel disadvantaged
- A block of sheds provide a hidden area where vandalism can occur unseen
- An entire plot would be lost – usually there are waiting lists for plots and using a growing area for sheds could be seen as a poor use of the space

On separate land

Advantages:

- No intrusion on growing space
- Other advantages as communal plot above
- It could be slightly more central to the whole of the plots (see 'what land' below)

Disadvantages

- This will involve potentially lengthy process before anything can be done
 - o decision-making over what land to request
 - o negotiation with Wychavon CC to use the land
- Purchase/lease of the land is at an unknown and potentially considerable and/or ongoing cost
- The land would need to be made suitable (fenced, a base installed, gates to the allotments) which would be more costly than other options.

Recommendation – No choice is perfect. Either decide at the council meeting after discussion, or after consultation with allotment holders (this will involve a further delay).

Figures:

Estimation for purchase of 15 sheds, bases, aggregate etc.

£3000 - £3300

Estimation for installation

£1000 – but less if plot holders contribute to installation. If a concrete apron is required, costs would probably increase.

Whittington Parish Council

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June 2018.

Report by Whittington Parish Council relating to traffic matters affecting the Parish of Whittington.

Background.

The Village of Whittington in the Parish of Whittington is a well-established residential area. It is divided by the M5 motorway and adjacent to Junction 7 and the road from Worcester to Oxford via Pershore and Evesham.

The village is, in practical terms, more or less equal distance between Frankley Motorway Services and Strensham Motorway Services on the M5. The important point in this respect is that to park at these Services, the first two hours is free, thereafter it is £12.50 per 24 hours. Whittington is also at the junction for the Malverns and Herefordshire as well as Worcester City and suburbs.

In recent years, Whittington Parish has seen major road and transport infrastructure developments. The motorway has been widened to three lanes, a dual carriageway from Junction 7 towards the Malverns and Herefordshire and a dual carriageway 'ring' road to the West and the North. It can be simply summed up as the village is now surrounded by dual carriageways.

County Hall figures imply that the road from Whittington Island towards St Peters, the Malverns and Herefordshire, Crookbarrow Way, carries an estimated 30,000 cars a day. (*Worcester News 4th May 2018*). Add the volume of cars to the west and north then it can be safely assumed that the figure is likely to be in the region of 40,000 a day.

The Worcester to Pershore dual carriage way is subject of a 40mph speed restriction which is not enforced. West Mercia Police figures (from 4-5 years ago when similar issues were raised) indicated that the average speed of motorists was 55mph.) (Whittington Parish Council invested in a Driver's Speed Awareness Sign currently located on the Pershore road).

Apart from the speed restriction in the area of the pedestrian crossing, Swinesherd Way is de-restricted.

Walkers lane (30mph) from the Swinesherd dual carriageway joins Church Lane,

(30mph) runs through the village and back out onto the Whittington island. It is a narrow lane with many blind bends, devoid of pavements and with access to numerous dwellings.

On Old Road in addition to dwellings there is a primary school and a Public House, the Swan. The Swan has its own car park.

In the last year or two there has been an additional 300 houses built within the Parish on the west side of Swinesherd Way and a further 300 houses are to be built (work having commenced) on the east side of Swinesherd way.

Children attending the Whittington Primary school, use twice daily, the foot path from the Spetchley Road Estate, running alongside the Worcester dual carriageway and using the pedestrian crossing on the Swinesherd Way dual carriageway. Similarly, children (and parents) use the footpath from St Peters, running alongside the Crookbarrow dual carriageway using the pedestrian crossing on the Worcester Road dual carriageway.

Construction of a 'Parkway' railway station serving the Cotswold Line and the Birmingham Bristol line is currently underway, believed to be complete 2019. This is situated on the Pershore road approximately 2 miles from Whittington. We understand that this Parkway will have car parking facilities for which there will be a fee.

There is ample cycling provision approaching Whittington from and to Worcester and south towards St Peters and Malvern. However there is not a safe cycling route approaching Whittington and Worcester from the east (Persnore). (Representation has previously been made to County Hall Highways Department who deem it not necessary to erect caution cyclist signs to warn motorists – there is no other alternative, cyclists have to mix with the traffic and take their chance, a frightening and dangerous experience!)

Concerns.

The Parish Council wishes to make the point quite clearly that Whittington Parish is not against progress and development. We accept the need for more residential properties, business properties and the transport, road and rail infrastructure to go with it. However, there seems to be little or no thought given as to the impact on a well established community and the community of the future as a consequence of further housing and road development.

1. Road Safety. Considering the frequency and the number of children who use the pathways along Crookbarrow Way and the Worcester Road, the amount of time cars have failed to negotiate the traffic island at the Swinesherd Worcester Road junction and gone through the safety barriers as well as the frequency of cars travelling too fast to stop in time for the lights at the pedestrian crossings on both the aforementioned dual carriageways, the Parish Council believes this is a matter of significant importance. Additionally, the speed of vehicles entering the Whittington Island makes cars exiting Whittington Village on to the island difficult and dangerous.

2. Rat Run. Walkers Lane and Church Lane being used as a 'rat run' particularly at rush hour in an attempt to avoid congestion at the Whittington Island. This puts other road users particularly pedestrians and residents at risk.
3. Cycling safely. Cyclists approaching Junction 7, Whittington and on towards Worcester from the east, Pershore, are caught up with motorway traffic (traffic leaving the M5 and three lanes of traffic going left, straight on and right. This is a frightful experience with no other option. (It is acknowledged that there are plans to include a cycle path from St Peters to the new Parkway Station, but realistically, cyclists going to and returning from the Parkway who live in north Worcester suburbs are likely to take the most direct route.)
4. Parking in the Village of Whittington. Whittington residents do have a reasonable approach. There is no objection to a short stay parking in a sensible position on the road but unfortunately this is often not the case. This is a major problem impacting on the lives of Whittington residents. With parking costs at Frankley and Strensham Services, the intended parking fees at the new Parkway railway station, the location of Whittington on the M5 junction 7 and access to the west of the country, Whittington village is overwhelmed with parked cars. Some for a day, some for as much as two weeks at a time. Trade and business vehicles are often left whilst the drivers car share. Vehicle transporters off load and load cars. Coaches use the village as a pick up point, its passengers having left their cars in Old Road. There are occasions when, due to the volume of cars parked in Old Road and Church Lane, cars resort to parking across driveways, on the grass verges which are being destroyed, the zig-zag lines outside the school and the double yellow lines at the entrance to the village. Motorists, in doing so, avoid the parking costs at Frankley and Strensham Services and soon to be, the fee paying car park at the new Parkway railway station on the Pershore Road.
5. Parents collecting and dropping off children at the school have nowhere to park. Drivers return to their cars at all times of the day and night. Whittington residents have been abused, threatened and very recently when a resident remonstrated with a motorist who was obstructing his driveway, had the windscreen of his own car smashed. There are two elderly and infirm ladies resident in the road whose carers frequently are unable to find somewhere close to park. There are residents without off road parking who similarly, have not been able to park outside their homes.

This may all sound a little 'hysterical' but the (unlawful) parking in Old Road and Church lane on same days is impossible.

Whittington residents do have a reasonable approach. There is no objection to a short stay parking in a sensible position on the road but unfortunately this is more often not the case.

- 6 With some 40,000 vehicles passing Whittington a day there are concerns relating to noise and air pollution. In respect of Pollution, Whittington is rated 3

of a scale of 6. 1 is good, 6 is heavily polluted. A rating of 3 means it is likely that nitrogen dioxide levels will exceed the annual legal limit. At peak traffic times the air quality will worsen, particularly in stagnated weather conditions. (Studies point towards minor and long term health concerns for people spending long periods in these conditions, i.e. residents). This figure of 3 is higher than average for Wychavon which is rated 1 out of 6. (*Source: MappAir100EarthSense*).

In 2000, following consultation with the Chief Constable, West Mercia Constabulary, Worcestershire County Council, in acknowledging the scale of the problem, exercised their powers under Section 1(1), 2(1) and (4) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and imposed a Prohibition of Driving Except for Access Order. (*copy attached*).

This worked well, initially. The local Police Officer at the time was Constable Cavendish. He contacted the coach companies and asked them to desist from using Whittington Village as a collection point. (The coach companies were obliging). PC Cavendish also put police recognisable notes on car windows asking them to desist or face the consequences, and those that took no heed were issued with a fixed penalty notice. (To help him identify contraventions more easily, PC Cavendish arranged for residents to display a 'Whittington Resident' disc on their car window.)

However, PC Cavendish moved on and the situation has crept back to what it was once before, This matter has been raised with the Police. The Parish Council acknowledges and appreciates that the police are busy, have limited resources and that there are undoubtedly more important matters requiring their attention.

In response, that is not the reasons the Police give for non-attendance or non-enforcement. The reason given by Police is that the Police will not enforce this type of order as evidentially it is difficult to prove the offence to the level required in a criminal court. (*Email 14th March 2018 Safer Neighbourhood Team, Droitwich*). If the Police choose not to enforce the access only order then the Parish Council ask that they work with the Council (and other agencies) to explore alternative options and solutions.

It also begs the question as to why does Parliament make legislation and give Authorities the power to make Regulations if these Regulations cannot be enforced or prosecuted - or is this simply a defeatist attitude.

Potential Solutions:

The Parish Council believes there are solutions to the concerns raised. The Council believe that solutions need not necessarily be significantly costly but with a positive

‘can do’ attitude by the authorities and agencies some if not all of the concerns expressed can be addressed.

1. Speed restriction of 50mph for Crookbarrow Way and Swinesherd Way. This will be in the interests of road safety, reducing air pollution and reducing noise pollution.
2. Enforcement of speed restriction. This will make our roads safer, reduce air pollution, reduce noise pollution, and give parents of children attending Whittington primary school peace of mind! Enforcement could also include the yellow ‘Community concern speed awareness sign’ often seen elsewhere in and around communities within Worcestershire County..
3. Cycling safety. Make motorists leaving the M5 motorway and entering the three lanes approach to Whittington Island aware of cyclist through the erecting of caution cyclist signs. (As described by Road Traffic Act Regulations).
4. Community Support Officers. Would it be possible for Community Support officers to deter illegal parking in Whittington Village through the use of a polite ‘are you legally parked? Whittington Village is subject of an access only order’ notice recognisable as being from West Mercia Police?
5. Consideration of ‘Limited Waiting Order’. Consideration of abandoning the ‘access only order’ and instead imposing a ‘limited waiting order’ (Say 4 hours, no return 4 hours except permit holders – examples seen elsewhere in the Country) This will deter long term and all day parking by those motorists ignoring the ‘Access only Order’ and using Whittington as a motorway long stay free car park. This change will effectively take the problem out of the hands of the Police and give the responsibility to the Local Authority who is more likely to enforce.
6. Rat run. Spot checks by Police / Community Support Officers to deter habitual offenders?

Recommendations:

1. A copy of this report is forwarded to Member of Parliament, Mr. Nigel Huddleston, inviting his comment and support.
2. A copy of this report be forwarded to the County Council member responsible for Highways, County Hall, Worcestershire County Council and a copy to the Chief Constable, West Mercia Constabulary, seeking a meeting between representatives and the Parish Council so that solutions can be considered and put into effect.

Signed.....
Chairman, on behalf of Whittington Parish Council.

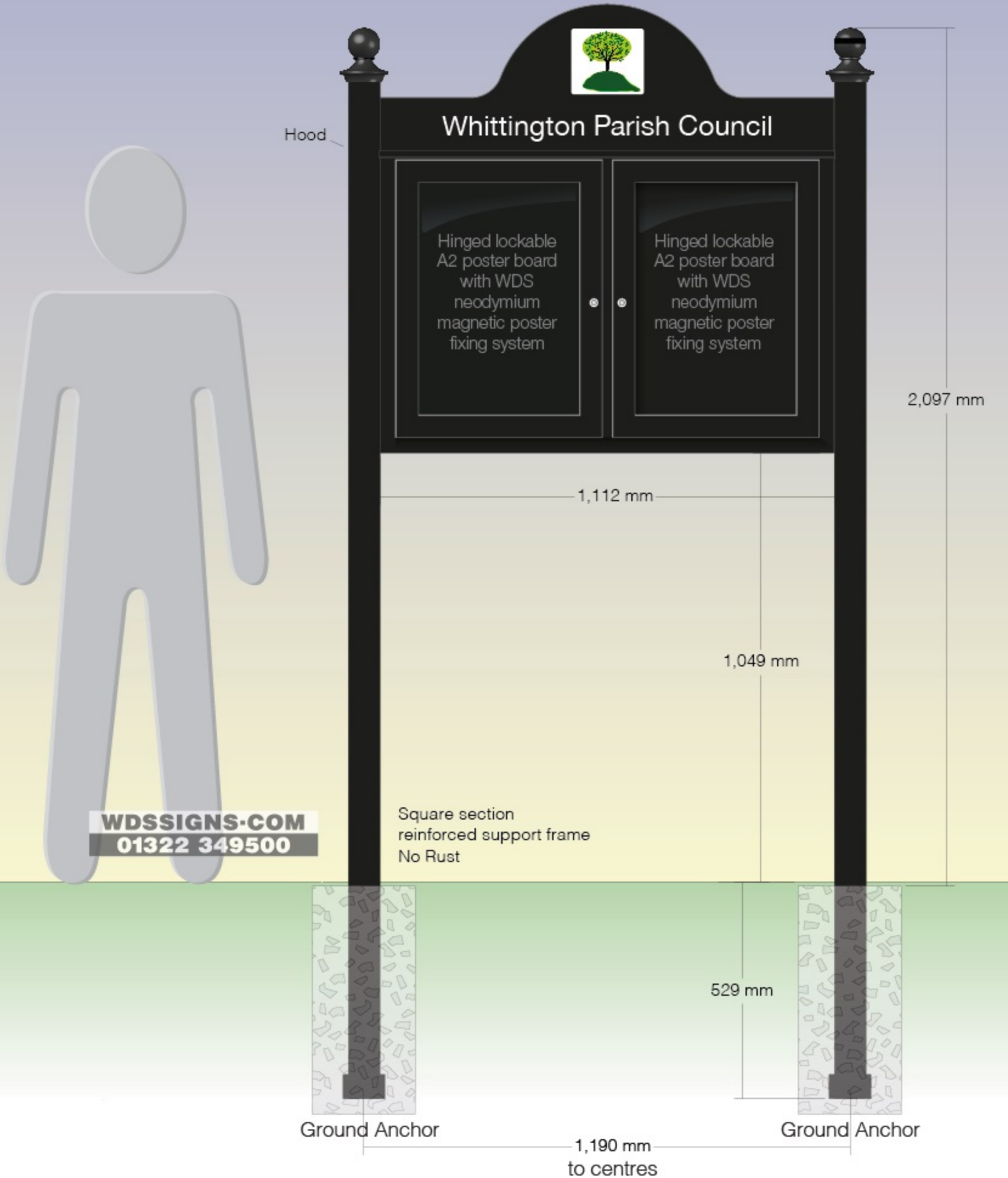
Copy: Councillor Rob Adams.

Top View

Concealed stainless steel security bolts



Front or back view, lettering & logo can vary



Hood

Whittington Parish Council

Hinged lockable
A2 poster board
with WDS
neodymium
magnetic poster
fixing system

Hinged lockable
A2 poster board
with WDS
neodymium
magnetic poster
fixing system

2,097 mm

1,112 mm

1,049 mm

WDSSIGNS.COM
01322 349500

Square section
reinforced support frame
No Rust

529 mm

Ground Anchor

Ground Anchor

1,190 mm
to centres