

**2010.14 Police Report – For Information.**

This item was dealt with after item 2010.02 but is reported here.

PC Sean Wood reported some 85 incidents (calls) on his patch over the last 3 months, but these included many originating from the M5. There were only 2 recorded crimes in Whittington during that period, a domestic assault and a burglary.

There had been a plague of shed break ins in his area (but none in Whittington) and he enjoined all to maintain good levels of personal and home security and a high state of vigilance.

He had been in contact with Whittington School and established a programme of visits (3-4 per term) where he had the chance to encourage good relations with pupils and their parents, including the need for care in dropping children off at the school - in which connection he had used enforcement against some offenders.

In his period of tenure there had been a drop in the levels of recorded crimes in 2009 compared to the same period in 2008, of around 39% over the months of April to December (inclusive).

He indicated the value of pro-active policing and encouraged parishioners to report any unusual occurrences as although sometimes innocent in themselves they had led to arrests in some instances.

The Chairman closed the meeting temporarily to allow public comment.

S. Brooker commented on the dangers of the A44/J7 and the B4084 with especial reference to speed limits and roundabout safety which the Council addressed subsequently by re-opening item 2010.7, when the meeting was reconvened.

Councillor Adams suggested that in the light of comments and concerns it might be advisable to include County Councillor D. Prodger in correspondence and to invite him to attend a WPC meeting. It was agreed that he be invited, with D. Clee to the Parish Meeting in April - the Clerk was to advise details to Councillor Adams.

The meeting was reconvened and, with the consent of Members, Item 2010.7 q.v. was re-opened.

**2010.15 Reports by Councillors, and Items for Future Agendas.**

- a) Reports of Committees and Working Groups and of Councillors representing the Council on outside bodies: None.
- b) Reports of Councillors on other matters: None.
- c) Inclusion of specific items on a future agenda: None identified.

**2010.16 Inclusion of items in the Parish Magazine.**

Items to be included this month were police matters (SM to liaise with PC Sean Woods); Adult education Classes.

**2010.17 Correspondence.**

A note of correspondence received had been periodically sent out to Members under the "Clerk's Digest" since the last meeting.

The Clerk advised members of the forthcoming WDC Standards Committee meeting on 20/01/2010.

**2010.18 Date of Next Meeting.**

The date of the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council would be Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at Whittington Village Hall.

**The meeting closed at 20:55 Hrs.**

- d. Adoption of Quarterly a/c report as at 31/12/2009. This item was overlooked and would therefore be tabled at the next meeting.

#### **2010.07 Highways & Byways.**

##### **a. Highways Matters:**

General: None.

M5 Noise: None.

Maintenance:

Works for the Lengthsman: None.

Previous Matters: None raised.

New Matters: In the light of comments raised during the later “democratic period” the Chairman, with the consent of Members re-opened this item to resolve matters raised there.

“40” (mph) repeater signs on Whittington Road: The deficiency pointed out was agreed by Members and he Clerk was instructed to inform the Highway Authority, pointing out the excessive speeds and dangers to pedestrians using the pedestrian crossing, and the deleterious effect of speeding traffic on the local environment. Speed enforcement was also to be sought from the police.

“Lane Arrows” on roundabout at J7: It was suggested that lane arrows (left hand lane M5 North, centre lane Pershore B4084) and right hand Lane M5 South) be installed. The Clerk was instructed to request the Highway Authority to consider this (if necessary liaising with the Highways agency).

Roundabout markings at “Swan” roundabout: It was reported that the “give way” lines across the carriageways were wearing badly and required re-marking. The Clerk was to report this.

Traffic Management:

Previous Matters: None.

New Matters: None.

##### **b. Byways Matters:**

General: The Clerk reported the plans for the 2010 Parish Improvement Programme (PIP), and that suggestions for work had been passed to the relevant Countryside Access Officer.

The suggestion that a right of way be established up Crookbarrow Hill had been rejected as it fell outside the remit of the PIP. Previous WCC investigations had failed to show any such right of way and if the matter was to be progressed an initiative would be needed from parishioners or other interested parties.

Bridleways: None.

Footpaths: None.

#### **2010.08 Training.**

Members considered the provision of in-house training agreed that this be programmed for Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February.

The Clerk was asked to make the necessary arrangements, liaising with the Chairman over the subject matter.

Members were informed that CALC were again running training courses for Councillors but no-one sought to attend.

#### **2010.09 Budget & Precept 2010-2011.**

Members considered the Draft Budget sent out prior to the meeting, and the proposed precept of £6,200 representing an approx 3.5% increase based on the “Band D” equivalent. The budget and precept were agreed (MB/AL) without amendment.

#### **2010.10 WCC Consultation on Waste Core Strategy.**

The relevant letter and information were placed in the Correspondence File it being agreed (in view of the time limit) that Councillors should respond individually. The Clerk pointed out that the information could be accessed “on line” at the Worcestershire Hub.

#### **2010.11 Wychavon Bursary 2009/2010.**

Members considered nominations for the Wychavon Bursary and agreed that L.R. Wiltshire be nominated for a second time in view of his continued dedication to the Community and the Village Hall in Particular. In view of the shortage of time RAP undertook to provide the Clerk with a draft submission to the District Council.

#### **2010.12 Adult Learning Classes.**

After considering inception of WCC Adult Learning Classes in Whittington, Members did not feel that there was likely to be sufficient demand for them. It was therefore agreed that an item should be included in the entry to the Parish Magazine advising people of the availability of such courses and giving WCC contact details for those interested.

#### **2010.13 District and County Councillors’ Report – For Information.**

County and District Councillor apologised for his late arrival and noted the alterations to the draft County Transport Structure plan which abandoned the dualling of the “Southern Link”, but provided for the upgrading of the Ketch and Norton Roundabouts. He believed that the Whittington roundabout(s) should also be considered as they were already bottlenecks.

The concept of joint working between Councils was still under review and WDC had identified possible savings of approx £240k resulting therefrom. Environmental health services were the next candidate for joint working, probably out of Bromsgrove Council offices.

Snow conditions remained a problem some 1400 tonnes of salt had been delivered and many grit bins had been re-filled.

**At a Meeting of Whittington Parish Council held at Whittington Village Hall on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2010, at 19.30 Hrs.**

**Democratic Period/ Question Time:** One member of the public was present but did not speak.

**2010.01 Attendance.**

Asterisks after the names of those members present indicate late arrival. Corresponding asterisks in the left hand margin indicate the point of arrival.

Present: M. Baker, G.L. Coldicott, M. Hallmark, N. Hodgetts, A. Lodge, S. MacLeod, R.A. Phillips\*.

In Attendance: P.S. Roe, Clerk; District & County Councillor R.C. Adams, PC Sean Woods.

**2010.02 Declarations of Interest and Ethical Matters.**

- a. There were no declarations of Personal (non prejudicial) Interests in items on this Agenda.
- b. There were no declarations of Prejudicial Interests in items on this Agenda.
- c. Ethical Matters. Members were reminded of the need to keep their Register of Interest entries up to date, and that this was their personal responsibility.

At this point the Chairman invited PC Sean Woods to give his report Item 2010.14) to allow him to return to operational duties. His report is minuted in numerical sequence. RAP arrived during his report.

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**2010.03 Minutes of Previous Meetings of the Council.**

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2009, having been previously distributed, were taken as read, and were adopted (SM/RAP) without amendment.

**2010.04 Planning.**

- a. New and Unresolved Planning Applications: None.
- b. Previous consultations: W/09/02335/PP - Change of Use; The Forge Old Road, Whittington (amended) - WPC response was no comment.
- c. Planning Decisions: W/09/02335/PP - Change of Use; The Forge Old Road, Whittington (as amended) - Approved STC (Specified Plans).
- d. Other Planning Consultations:  
**Worcestershire County Council:** Planning Validation Document Members made no comment.
- e. Other Planning Matters:  
**Concern re advertising signs at J7:** One sign remained (plus parts of a damaged sign) WDC had been reminded on 6/1/2010 by the Clerk and was taking action.  
**SWJCS:** The Clerk having attended the WDC briefing pre-Christmas reminded Members of the forthcoming consultation.  
**WMRSS:** The Clerk reported having been informed that there was a pressure group preparing to mount a legal challenge to the WMRSS led by a notable legal campaigner & supported inter alia by Friends of the Earth & CPRE. In view of the proximity of the Norton development proposals and the ring road, and their likely impact on Whittington, the Clerk had indicated that WPC would probably wish to be represented at an exploratory meeting if arranged. Members confirmed this

**2010.05 Progress Reports/Updates on Matters Previously Resolved.**

- a. **Community Greenspace:** The Clerk explained that having spoken with Lynn Yendell at Hallow regarding the situation in Whittington it was considered that she had little to offer at present as WPC had no "Green Space"; consequently this matter had not been tabled
- b. Other Matters: None.

**2010.06 Finance.**

The Clerk reported as follows: -

- a. Receipts: The Clerk reported receipt of Lengthsman payments by WCC, since the last meeting but had omitted to note the amount.
- b. Payments: Payment of invoices and requests for payment were submitted as follows: -  
 Payments made and to be made in respect of outstanding invoices and requests for payment were reported as follows:-

<b>Expenditures: 12/01/2010</b>	<b>Date of invoice</b>	<b>VAT No</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>Gross</b>
S. Gwilliam - Lengthsman Services for Nov. 2009 (paid)			£220.00	£220.00
S. Gwilliam - Litterpicking & Gardening Services for Nov. 2009 (paid)			£35.00	£35.00
S. Gwilliam - Lengthsman Services for Dec. 2009			£88.00	£88.00
S. Gwilliam - Litterpicking Services for Dec. 2009			£35.00	£35.00
P.S. Roe - Clerking Costs 1/10/2009 to 31/12/2009	Spl	MMA	£79.48	£81.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>£ 457.48</b>	<b>£ 459.00</b>

Payment of these was agreed unanimously (RAP/MB).

- c. Proposals for Expenditure. None.