

MINUTES OF WHITBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held in Whitbourne Village Hall.
on Tuesday, 6th March 2012 at 7.30pm

In Attendance

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| Chairman | Mr. R Freeman |
| Vice-Chairman | Mrs. M Williams |
| Councillors | Mr. J Cummins, Mrs. D Haddock, Mr. R James, Mr. J Archer, Mr. C White, Mr. N Westacott. Mr G Cupper* |
| Ward Councillor | Cllr. G Swinford |
| Clerk | Mr. K Butler |
| Public | 8 in attendance |

1. No Apologies

Cllr. Cupper remained outside the meeting until after item 5.1 had been discussed*

2. No Declarations of Interest

3. Minutes of January & February Parish Council Meetings

No Alterations - Proposed Cllr Mrs. Williams Seconded Cllr Mrs. Haddock

4. Matters Arising

Cllr. James offered thanks to everybody who had worked to tidy up the Village Green

5. Planning

- 5.1 Application for Planning Permission Glebe Edge, Whitbourne, WR6 5RT. Application N120121/F Proposed demolition of existing property with site clearance and proposed erection of 2 detached 4 bed dwellings with associated infrastructure works.

Letter of support read by Chairman.

Council in general support of the scheme and requested clerk to forward comment - "No Objections"

Proposed Cllr. Mrs. Williams Seconded Cllr. Mrs. Haddock - all in favour

Cllr. Cupper joined the meeting

- 5.2 Colbridge Cottage, Whitbourne, WR6 5RT - Works to Trees Application DMN/120582/K

Council in general support of the scheme and requested clerk to forward comment - "No Objections"

Proposed Cllr. James Seconded Cllr Mrs. Haddock - all in favour

- 5.3 Decisions for Perryfield Cottage, Whitbourne was reported which had been refused

6. Village Shop

Cllr Cummins reported that progress with the shop building project was ongoing. There had been an article published in the Parish Magazine and a public meeting was being arranged for early May regarding the shop. The shop committee was awaiting building regulations and were hoping to have it built by Christmas 2012

Clerk reported meeting with HCC regarding the cleared site and perceived danger to traffic by the telegraph pole that now appears unprotected on the verge (though it was actually within the border of the Live and Let Live rather than the shop site). Reflective posts had been put in place.

7. Increase in volume of traffic in The Stocking

Cllr. White reported on meeting with Cllr. Swinford, Cllr. James and Ray Wallace of Highways who had made an inspection with him. There is a clear increase in traffic using Stocking Lane, particularly white vans, but it appears that little can be done to alleviate this volume of traffic. Mr Wallace was not the appropriate officer, dealing mainly with HGV issues. It is being passed to Highway Maintenance / AMEY for further investigation. Cllr. Swinford will also follow it through.

Cllr. White made a full and detailed report to the meeting.

8. Grit Bins Survey

Clerk reported that he had surveyed the Grit Bins in the Parish and prepared a map (which was displayed). Most are in a poor state and one has been totally destroyed. The Parish can buy 250kg grit bins directly and HCC will fill them.

9. Whitbourne Parish Council Web Site

Cllr. White gave a full report on the progress on the site. Design and hosting will cost £130-00 including updating to the end of the first year. The domain name costs £10 for 2 years.

Proposed by Cllr. Cummins Seconded by Cllr. Cupper that Cllr. White be authorised to proceed with Ken Nason of Cradley to finalise and go live with the site. Passed.

Council intends that the site should go live just before the next scheduled meeting and when everybody has had time to look at it, a full discussion can take place at that meeting.

Chairman thanked Cllr. White for the amount of work he was doing on the project.

10. Village Hall Committee Report

Cllr. Nigel Westacott gave a short update on Village Hall business. Clerk will liaise with Village Hall Secretary regarding Parish Council cupboard placement.

11. Diamond Jubilee

11.1 The Jubilee Gift for the Primary School children is now being sponsored by a local business. The Clerk, Cllr. Mrs Williams & Cllr Mrs Haddock will liaise with Mrs Millwood at the school to finalise the detail.

11.2 The Jubilee Tree is to be planted by the school children with a short ceremony. Cllr. James is organising the purchase and planting. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Williams and Seconded by Cllr. Mrs Haddock that Cllr. James be authorised to purchase the tree at a price of £34-92

12. Playing Fields

A representative from the Parish Council was required for the Playing Fields Committee

Cllr. Westacott volunteered to serve with Cllr Freeman and Cllr Cummins willing to cover if he was unable to attend a meeting. Clerk was asked to inform Playing Fields Committee Secretary of this arrangement.

On the proposal of Cllr. Mrs Williams, seconded by Cllr. James the meeting was opened to the public

13. Parish Paths

Mr Kneen informed the meeting that he was stepping down as Parish Paths Officer. Neil Grant has offered to take over.

The Council thanked Mr Kneen for the work he had done.

Meeting was closed to the public

14. Finance

On the proposal of Cllr. Mrs Williams, seconded by Cllr Archer approval was given for the payment of the Clerks Salary, PAYE and expenses as scheduled.

15. Correspondence

No significant correspondence but general items received to be circulated.

16. County Councillors Report

Cllr. Swinford reported that the Boundary Commission was looking at the make up of Herefordshire Council and it seemed likely that it would settle on there being 54 Councillors.

Council Tax would be frozen for the forthcoming year

He reported that much time had been spent regarding the School, that there had been dialogue with Council Officers and a strategy to improve numbers was being put in place including a leaflet drop and an Open Day on March 28th. The School was under review to ensure its long term future.

17. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Swinford has arranged for the Council to meet with Mike Wilmont, Head of Neighbourhood Planning.

18. Parish Council Representative on School Governors

The Council has been asked to appoint a School Governor - not necessarily a Councillor - but who will keep the Council informed and up to date with School affairs. This was agreed in principle.

19. Public Questions

On the proposal of Cllr. Mrs Williams, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Haddock the meeting was opened to the public

The question was asked if the Village Shop could have agendas for display for Parish Council meetings. It was agreed.

The question was raised whether minutes could be published in the Parish Magazine. It was pointed out that the Parish Magazine is in fact independent of the Parish Council and while it has every right to report on Parish Council meetings it cannot be obligated to do so. Minutes cannot be published until they have

been passed at a subsequent meeting and with time added for the cycle of publication, it was likely that by which time, they might be dated.

Proposed development in the village was raised and the question asked if the pre-application advise given by HCC could be published. The questioner was informed that this information was confidential.

Cllr. Swinford informed the meeting that there was to be a choral concert by The Malvern College Choir at Whitbourne Church on 28th April.

KD Butler
Clerk to the Parish Council
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Next Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 1st May 2012

Minutes were approved and signed off by Chairman 1st May 2012