

Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting of Whitbourne Parish Council held on 8th April 2020

Attendance:

Note: Attendance was by remote video conferencing as necessitated by the Covid-19 lockdown.
Present: R James (Chair); J. Bromley (JB); G. Cupper (GC); T Hunt (TH); P. Wood (PDW); S. Knowles (SK); M. Clark (MC); C. Wier (CW)

In Attendance: Ward Councillor Nigel Shaw (NS), K Phillips (Clerk). Six members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence:** P. Davis (PD)

2. **To receive declarations of interest:** None declared.

3. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting: 4th March 2020**

Proposed JB, seconded PDW. All in favour. Approved.

4. **Matters arising from above minutes**

The Chairman reminded Councillors that he had the litter bin stored safely. The intention now was to install it once the current lockdown arrangements had been relaxed.

5. **Ward Councillors report**

NS had previously circulated his report, which covered the following:

- The donations to the volunteer food bank were down
- NS was in touch with the local Whitbourne volunteer group
- The Manorial Court had created their own volunteer group for Bringsty Common
- Many Herefordshire Council staff were working from home, which may mean that there is a delay in some services
- There had been 1,600 enquiries for business grants where £19m had already been allocated. NS is continuing to help businesses get access to the grants.

6. **Clerk report**

The report from the Clerk covered the following:

- Grass cutting had started. The contractor was aware of his social distancing and personal protection equipment requirements in order to continue working.
- S106 funds for the litter bin and cycle rack were still being chased with Herefordshire Council. NS had helped to escalate.
- Due to recent regulations coming into effect, there was no need to hold an annual Parish Council meeting this year. In addition, it was now possible to hold Parish Council meetings without being physically present.
- End of year accounts were underway.
- We have had VAT returned (£2594.89) using the new online system. This covered the bus shelter and concrete base costs.

7. **Financial Matters**

- a) To approve payment for Shire Tree Services (£300.00) and DCC Grant (£1250.00).
Proposed MC, seconded GC. All in favour. Approved

8. **Planning**

- a) 200546 - The Live Inn, Whitbourne.

It was proposed (JB) and seconded (PDW) to open the meeting to the public. All in favour. The Chairman then opened the meeting to the public. The applicant noted that there was an error on the planning application in that the accommodation being proposed was for bed and breakfast only. The applicant also described the route and termination of the drainage system. After questions from Councillors, the Chairman closed the meeting to the public. It was suggested that this application should be treated as a Class C1. With this condition it was proposed (JB) and seconded (CW) that this planning consultation be supported. All in favour. Decided.

- b) Planning Consultation - 200818, The Mitchells, Whitbourne

It was proposed (PDW) and seconded (SK) that the meeting be opened to the public. All in favour. The Chair then opened the meeting to the public. The applicant gave a brief overview of the application and answered questions from Councillors. The Chair then closed the meeting to the public. It was then proposed (PDW) and seconded (JB) that the Parish Council support this planning consent. All in favour. Decided.

- c) Planning Consultation - 200729, Birchey Leasowe, Whitbourne

It was proposed (SK) and seconded (CW) that the meeting be opened to the public. All in favour. The Chair then opened the meeting to the public. The applicant gave a brief overview of the

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application and answered questions from Councillors. The Chair then closed the meeting to the public. It was noted that this application contravenes policies RA2 and RA3 of the Local Plan Core Strategy and LU-1 of the Whitbourne NDP. It was then proposed (GC) and seconded (JB) that the Parish Council object to this planning consent. All in favour. Decided.

9. To decide on approach for video conferencing subscription (Zoom)

It was proposed (MK) and seconded (PDW) that a subscription (£14.39 incl VAT) be taken out to secure a Zoom subscription. All in favour. Decided.

10. Public participation

There was an update to the Playing Fields progress. The S106 funds had been agreed by Herefordshire Council. There was to be an application to the shop for a grant of £2,000 for safety matting. A Lottery grant of £10,000 was being sought to fund some swings, archery facilities and football posts. The safety repairs had all been completed.

It was also noted that the maintenance of the rose beds by the war memorial would need to be delayed due to the current Coronavirus lockdown conditions.

The meeting closed at 20:34.

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Chairman – 8th April 2020