

Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting of Whitbourne Parish Council held on 23rd September 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);
M. Clark (MC); C. Wier (CW); S. Knowles (SK); P. Davis (PD)

In Attendance: Ward Councillor Nigel Shaw (NS); K Phillips (Clerk). One member of the public.

1. Apologies for absence:

All Councillors were present

2. To receive declarations of interest:

CW declared an interest in item 6b. There were no other declarations of interest.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting: 2nd September 2020

Proposed MC, seconded SK. All in favour. Approved.

4. Matters arising from above minutes

RJ noted that the new bus lane in Hereford had now reverted back to a normal carriageway.

5. Finance

- a) Bringsty Common Manorial Court grass cutting of playing field (£200.00). Proposed JB, seconded CW. All in favour. Approved.

6. Planning

- a) 202234 - Lakeside, Gaines Road, Whitbourne

It was proposed (JB) and seconded (GC) that the Parish Council support this planning consultation. All in favour. Decided.

- b) 202581 - Poplands Rise, Whitbourne

As the applicant, CW provided some context to the application. The Clerk then placed CW into the Zoom 'Waiting Room' thus being unable to hear or see the Parish Council discussions (i.e. the equivalent of leaving the room). It was proposed (GC) and seconded (PDW) that the Parish Council support this planning consultation. All in favour. Decided. CW was then readmitted to the meeting.

- c) 202733 - Barns at Lower Tedney Farm, Clifton

It was proposed (PDW) and seconded (GC) that the Parish Council support this planning consultation. All in favour. Decided

7. To receive report from NDP working party

JB reported that the review of Government white paper and its impacts would be quite lengthy. There appeared to be considerable scope to define the type and location of dwellings. It was noted that the conversion of agricultural land to residential dwellings was deprecated. In preparation for any future increased requirement from Herefordshire Council, three scenarios for housing levels was actively being reviewed. Whitbourne has achieved 41 of the 50 dwellings defined in the current NDP and there was every expectation that the remaining 9 would be found using infill by the end of the plan in 2031. The next tranches of dwellings would be rather more involved.

8. To decide next steps on HGV signage proposals

A response had now been received from BBLP. It was noted that one of the signs did not say "No through route for HGV's" as this was felt to be the most appropriate wording. NS noted that this could be because such wording is not approved by Highways since standard signs have to be used. It was suggested that a 7.5T MGW sign be used instead as this would indicate an unsuitable structure ahead (in this case Whitbourne Ford bridge). It was also noted that there was only one sign proposed for the A44 where it was felt two would be more appropriate. The Clerk agreed to respond to BBLP and also ask for costings.

9. S106 Monies

- a) To receive report on progress

PDW reported that a current figure for the transport section of the S106 monies had been received from Herefordshire Council. This currently stood at approximately £11,000. PDW also noted that the Ardley Meadows footpath extension would cost approximately £8,000 leaving £3,000 for the white lining and other projects. The works for the Ardley Meadows footpath extension would likely commence at the end of October 2020.

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b) To approve expenditure on the provision of utility plans prior to the commencement of works Utility maps had already been acquired from Gigaclear and Western Power Distribution free of charge. The remaining Openreach plan would attract a charge, as yet unknown. It was proposed (PDW) and seconded (MC) that the Parish Council agree a funding limit of £100.00 for the Clerk to be able to obtain the plan. All in favour. Decided.

10. To receive report concerning local woodland management

PD had had a two hour site meeting with Herefordshire Wildlife Trust where the status of the woodlands was reviewed. Several areas of concern were noted including poor fencing, overgrown hedgerows and overhanging trees. There appears to be little or no money available from the Trust to remedy these problems. One option was to set up a working party to determine the extent of remedial action. PD agreed to provide a report with recommendations. NS agreed to get BBLP to write to the Trust to cut back the overgrown hedgerows. He would also request the Locality Steward to take a look as currently the overgrown hedgerow is forcing vehicles across the lane onto a soft verge.

11. Public participation

SK noted that there had been a serious accident on the lane above Badley Wood involving three horses and a bicycle. The air ambulance had been in attendance as one of the riders had sustained a serious head injury. It was suggested that suitable horse riding signs be deployed. NS reported that he had been touch with the Police and Herefordshire Council's road safety officer. It was felt that a non-statutory sign providing adequate warning would be needed, although discussions were ongoing. The neighbouring North Bromyard Parish Group also had an interest in this.

It was noted by a member of the public that there was an active orchard group operating within Whitbourne. The group were available to assist in the maintenance of orchards, free of charge.

It was noted that a further invitation for Parish Council consultation had been received concerning Crumplebury (194408). NS agreed to write to the planning department to request that reports from Highways and Conservation be made available before the consultation due date. A date for a further Parish Council Extraordinary meeting to discuss this application was set for 7th October 2020.

The meeting closed at 20:53.

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Chairman –23rd September 2020