

Minutes of Meeting of Whitbourne Parish Council held on 4th March 2020

Attendance:

Present: R. James (Chairman); G. Cupper (GC); S. Knowles (SK); P. Davis (PD); C. Wier (CW); M. Clark (MC); T. Hunt (TH); J. Bromley (JB); P. Wood (PDW)

In Attendance: Ward Councillor N. Shaw (NS), K. Phillips (Clerk). 30 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

None.

2. To receive declarations of interest

RJ declared that although he did not have a pecuniary interest in items 5a and 5c, he did rent land from the Applicant. He therefore outlined that he would continue to chair the meeting but not comment or vote on these planning applications. If a casting vote was necessary, this would fall to the vice-chair (JB). This was agreed by the remaining Councillors. There were no other declarations.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on: 8th January 2020

Proposed GC, seconded CW. All in favour. Approved.

4. Matters arising from above minutes

Under items 13, the oak tree by the village hall and now been trimmed. Under item 14, the litter bin had now been delivered. A working party would be requested to fit the bin in place. Under item 16 two letters had been delivered to Old Forge. As yet there has been no sign of hedge trimming. Church bank had been trimmed both sides.

5. Planning

a) Planning Consultation 194408 - Crumplebury Farm, Whitbourne.

It was proposed (JB) and seconded (TH) that the meeting be opened to the public. All in favour. The Chairman then opened the meeting to the public and invited the Applicant to speak. Once completed, the Chairman invited members of the Parish Council to ask questions. The Chairman then invited those members of the public present to raise comments. The Chairman then closed the meeting to the public and sought views from Councillors. After careful deliberation, Councillors considered that, among other issues including usage of the venue for weddings, the application would contravene Policy RA6 of the Core Strategy, namely ensuring no unacceptable adverse impacts on the amenity of nearby residents by virtue of design and mass, noise, dust, lighting and smell together with increased traffic movements that could not be safely accommodated within the local road network. It was proposed (JB) and seconded (SK) to object to the removal of condition 4 and the variations to condition 16. All in favour. Decided. RJ did not vote.

b) Planning Consultation 200409 - 26 Acreage, Whitbourne

This application was supported. Proposed MC and seconded JB. All in favour. Decided.

c) Planning Consultation 200335 - 1 The Helts, Whitbourne

It was noted that a second boiler had been installed contrary to the original planning application. The Parish Council does not have enough information concerning health and safety to make a meaningful decision. It was proposed (GC) and seconded (SK) that a response of 'submit a general comment' be agreed. All in favour. Decided. RJ did not vote.

d) Planning Consultation 200488 - Bramble Cottage, Bringsty Common.

It was proposed (CW) and seconded (GC) that this application be supported with the condition that the building could not be sold separately nor converted to a dwelling. All in favour. Decided.

e) Planning Consultation 200465 - 20 Ardley Meadows, Whitbourne

This application is supported. Proposed (PDW), seconded (CW). All in favour. Decided.

f) Planning Consultation 200306 - 18 Old Forge, Whitbourne

It was proposed (JB) and seconded (CW) that the meeting be opened to the public. All in favour. The Chairman then opened the meeting to the public and invited comments. The greatest issue concerned the limited parking in the turning circle at the end of Old Forge. This application may force the applicants to park in this restricted area instead of on the drive (planned to be built upon)

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thus causing further problems. The Chairman then closed the meeting to the public and invited the views of Councillors. It was further noted that large delivery vehicles and fire engines may have difficulty gaining access if this area was not kept clear. It was proposed (GC) and seconded PDW that this application be supported with the proviso that there would be suitable access/parking to the satisfaction of the Highways Department. All in favour. Decided.

6. To receive report from Ward Councillor

The Ward Councillor's report covered the following:

- There had been a recent budget meeting where amendments were granted in the reduction of the business rate and the allocation of £2m for the maintenance of C and U roads.
- NS had met with BBLP. There is a potential cost of £10m as a result of recent flooding. There are 40 roads closed or restricted. There have been 406 houses flooded in the county. There is a £500 relief available for householders and £2,500 for businesses.
- Unfortunately, unemployment in the county has risen.
- There are high phosphate issues affecting the county. Whitbourne is not affected but parts of Bromyard and Tedstone are. All property development has been stopped in an area covering half the county. This will affect new development decisions within those parts of the county that are not affected (including Whitbourne). £2m has been set aside to create managed wetlands with Welsh Water to help strip the water of phosphates.

7. To receive the Clerk's report

- We have received S106 monies from Herefordshire Council for the bus shelter and base. This was excluding VAT. The suppliers have been paid (including VAT). The Clerk will reclaim the VAT.
- A claim for further S106 monies for the litter bin and cycle rack have been submitted.
- Due to the S106 monies received, the total income predicted for this financial year will exceed £25K. This will mean that an external audit is likely to be required. This fee is not with the current budget.
- An online VAT recovery account has now been created. This will be tested on the above VAT to be reclaimed.
- A case of fly-tipping on Stocking Lane has been reported.

8. Financial matters

- a) To approve bank reconciliations to 29th February 2020. Proposed CW and seconded SK. All in favour. Approved.
- b) To approve Income and Expenditure reconciliation to 29th February 2020. Proposed MC and seconded CW. All in favour. Approved.
- c) To approve accounts for payment.

Clerk Salary Feb/Mar 2020, Clerk HMRC PAYE, Clerk Expenses, SLCC and Broxap.

Proposed TH and seconded PDW. All in favour. Approved. Details of expenditure are contained in a table at the end of these minutes.

- d) To review current 2019/2020 budget versus spend. No issues raised.

9. S106 Projects

- a) To review progress on agreed projects.

The bin and cycle rack have been delivered and installed. The approved works on the footpath extension (by Ardley Meadows) is likely to commence with the next 2-3 months..

- b) To determine next phase projects.

MC continued to seek a meeting with the Highways engineer to discuss the potential white lining past The Live Inn.

10. To receive reports from the Village Hall, Playing Fields and Manorial Court

- Village Hall. Painting in the large hall is complete. Blown windows near the front of the hall will be replaced. This will be followed by outdoor woodwork painting. CCTV considerations are on hold pending discussions about establishing an internet service within the hall. The use of S106 monies will be investigated for this.
- Playing Fields. A village consultation is in progress concerning the equipment to be deployed on the playing fields. It has become necessary to charge for the use of the playing field as no

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donation will be received from the summer fete income this year. The 100 club will continue. A lottery licence is being investigated.

- Manorial Court. There had been a recent meeting under a new Chairman. TH had been co-opted on. There were discussions on the vision and way forward concerning management of the common, including bracken control and ride maintenance.

11. To receive report from NDP meeting with Herefordshire Council
Postponed.

12. To decide approach to Lengthsman scheme
It was agreed that a Lengthsman scheme was not required for the coming year.

13. To report village issues regarding road maintenance, clearance etc.
Pothole just above lodge on C1066. Blocked drain by junction of Stocking Lane. Boat Lane flooded due to blocked drains and has left a layer of mud. Gullies between Acreage and Bannercroft blocked. Gully blocked by Cider Mill farm and existing pothole was now bigger.

14. Public participation
It was noted that some telephone wires were hanging down in some parts of the village. It was noted that issues such as this had been reported before and no action had been taken by the operating companies.

15. Items for future consideration
• NDP meeting with Herefordshire Council.

The meeting closed at 21:52.

Cheque No	Expenditure	Payment
300434	Clerk Salary (Feb/Mar 20))	£300.14
300435	Clerk HMRC (Feb/Mar 20)	£200.00
300436	Clerk Expenses (Jan/Feb 20)	£40.00
300437	SLCC	£78.00
300438	Broxap	£429.60
Total		£1047.74

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Chairman – 4th March 2020