

# Minutes of Meeting of Whitbourne Parish Council held on 3rd November 2021

## **Attendance:**

Present: R. James (Chairman); P. Davis (PD); T. Hunt (TH); P. Wood (PDW); M. Clark (MC); G. Cupper (GC)

In Attendance: Ward Councillor N. Shaw (NS); K. Phillips (Clerk). 9 members of the public + 1 via Zoom

## **1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from S. Knowles (SK); C. Wier (CW); J. Bromley (JB)

## **2. To receive declarations of interest**

RJ declared that under item 9a he would not take part in the debate nor vote if it became necessary. There were no other declarations.

## **3. To approve the minutes of the meetings held on: 11th October 2021**

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

## **4. Matters arising from above minutes**

- RJ noted that subsequent to the white line being painted through the village it was hoped that the speed of traffic through the area would be reduced. He thanked MC for his involvement with BBLP and Parallel Lines to see the works through to completion.
- S106 Education tranche: NS confirmed that running First Aid courses would not fall under the definition of use for the monies.

## **5. To receive report from Ward Councillor**

The Ward Councillor had sent in a written report to the Parish Council prior to the meeting. RJ queried the details concerning the realignment of the road opposite the Post Office in Bromyard. NS agreed to send a digram showing the changes. The Ward Councillor report is as attached at Annex A.

## **6. To receive the Clerk's report**

- Following the resurfacing of the pavement through the village the Clerk had written to Platform Group requesting that the hedge be trimmed back. This was subsequently undertaken.
- The S106 for the white line painting monies had been claimed from Herefordshire Council and has now been received.
- Advice was sought concerning a potential Lengthsman scheme and a short brief sent to Councillors.
- Assisted MC with a detailed report into the condition of Tedney Road subsequent to a Parishioner complaint.
- Complaints have been received concerning dog mess in the village and on Bringsty Common.

## **7. To determine approach to Lengthsman Scheme**

PDW outlined the need for a Lengthsman scheme within the parish. An expression of interest by a Lengthsman had already been lodged. PDW opined that now that the Village Hall loan had been paid off a Lengthsman scheme could be introduced without increasing the Precept. Councillors debated the relative merits of such a scheme. NS provided experiences from the North Bromyard Group Parish Council and its approach to the management of the scheme. It was proposed by PDW that a Lengthsman Scheme be introduced for a trial period, seconded (PD). All in favour. Decided.

## **8. Financial matters**

- a) To approve accounts for payment.  
Clerk Salary & HMRC PAYE Oct/Nov 21, Clerk Expenses Sep/Oct 21. Proposed MC, seconded PDW. All in favour. Approved. Parallel Lines Proposed PDW, seconded MC. All in favour. Approved. Details of expenditure are contained in a table at the end of these minutes.
- b) & c) To approve bank reconciliation to 31st October 2021 and to approve Income and Expenditure reconciliation to 31st October 2021. Proposed GC and seconded PDW. All in favour. Approved.
- d) To review current 2021/2022 budget versus spend. No issues raised.
- e) To approve Precept for FY 2022/23. The Precept was agreed to remain at £12,000. Proposed TH and seconded PDW. All in favour. Approved.

## **Minutes of Meeting of Whitbourne Parish Council held on 3rd November 2021**

- f) To authorise annual Zoom subscription (Nov 21 - Oct 22). It was proposed (PDW) and seconded (MC) that the annual Zoom subscription be renewed. All in favour. Authorised.

### **9. Planning**

- a) Planning Consultation - 213730 - Barns at Poswick, Whitbourne

It was noted that this application is for prior approval and does not need a response from the Parish Council. It was proposed (PDW) and seconded (MC) that the meeting be opened to the public. All in favour. The Chairman then opened the meeting to the public. Two local parishioners addressed the Parish Council with their concerns about the development, environment and long term use of the proposed dwellings. The Chairman then closed the meeting. It was noted that no planning conditions could be imposed as this was a Class Q application and is permitted development.

### **10. S106 Projects**

MC reported that the white lines through the village had now been painted. Now that these had been completed, the Clerk agreed to check the remaining amount left for the transport tranche of the S106 monies. PDW suggested that a spreadsheet of new transport related projects could be drawn up and prioritised within the spend limit.

### **11. To consider response to the local plan update survey**

It was agreed that the NDP Steering Group should complete the survey on behalf of the Parish Council.

### **12. To receive report from NDP Steering Group**

Work on the grant application had started. A meeting would be held shortly to decide the way forward as there were concerns about timing particularly in relation to Herefordshire Council's own planning progress.

### **13. To receive reports from the Village Hall, Playing Fields and Manorial Court**

- **Village Hall.** CW was not in attendance to present a report.
- **Playing Fields.** Lottery grant funding had been earmarked for extra swings and flooring. These should be in place by the end of November. New goal posts were scheduled for the end of January.
- **Manorial Court.** NS reported that there had been an AGM and a committee meeting would follow shortly.

### **14. To receive report regarding the Glebe/woodlands**

PD reported that there had been a tree survey undertaken. Approximately 100 trees had been identified for removal because of ash die-back, the wrong species in the area and other problems. 40-45 would be replaced with native species. This does not apply to the Glebe as there is still an issue with the Diocese. There was the opportunity to get local parishioners involved in growing seeds and planting etc.

### **15. To decide approach to Church Bank additional road signage**

PDW provided a summary of the situation and noted that the white lines had already been repainted. It was a question of signage to provide warning in advance of the sharp bend. PDW hoped to encourage Herefordshire Council (Simon Hobbs) to agree.

### **16. To report village issues regarding road maintenance, clearance etc.**

RJ noted that a Parishioner had reported overhanging trees at Badley Wood Common. NS advised the Clerk to write to the Estates Manager as the Common was not part of the Public Realm contract.

- a) Parishioner concern: Parking within the village. Parking on pavements within the village had always been a problem. Yellow lines had been investigated but were declared unsuitable for a village situation.
- b) Parishioner concern: Placement of national speed limit sign. Councillors were not hopeful that the sign could be changed. However, the strategic use of white lines may have a similar effect.
- c) Parishioner concern: Community engagement. Two separate expressions of concern had been raised about community engagement. It was felt that fewer and fewer parishioners were becoming involved in organised activities. There were fewer events being organised too although this was perhaps because of Covid 19 or the local school closure. It was deemed

**Minutes of Meeting of Whitbourne Parish Council  
held on 3rd November 2021**

critical that a lead person was necessary to get these events up and running. Although it was noted that the Parish Council are not responsible for organising events in general, it was nonetheless agreed that the Parish Council could fund a meeting room in the Village Hall to support an open parishioner meeting to discuss what might be done. It was also suggested that communication of such organisations and events could be better and more use could be made of the Parish Magazine. PDW agreed to draft an article for the Parish Magazine highlighting these concerns.

**17. Public participation**

The Chairman of the Playing Fields committee thanked the Parish Council for once again supporting them for the following financial year. It was suggested that the kind Parishioner that cleaned the signs around the village be asked to do so again. It was opined that the ‘Welcome pack’ used to introduce new Parishioners to the Parish be overhauled and improved. MC agreed to report some long-term potholes on the top lane. There was one member of the public in attendance via Zoom and felt that it was an excellent vehicle for those members of the public that were unable to attend in person.

**18. Items for future consideration**

First aid courses and potential white lining projects (non S106).

The meeting closed at 21:43.

<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Payment</b>
300493	Clerk Salary Oct/Nov 21	714.73
300494	Clerk HMRC Oct/Nov 21	178.60
300495	Clerk Expenses Sep/Oct 21	40.00
300496	White Line Painting	1380.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>£2313.33</b>

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Chairman – 3rd November 2021

**ANNEX A**  
Ward Councillor Nigel Shaw’s report

**Whitbourne Parish Council Ward Member’s Report for meeting on September 1<sup>st</sup> 2021.**

**Local Parish Matters**

Crumplebury planning application 210640 which was due to be heard at committee today has been deferred at the request of the applicant.  
I am working with an applicant of another, recently approved, application which has had an agricultural tie unexpectedly conditioned.  
I am also working with our new Fastershire Project manager to expedite the connection of a number of properties in outlying areas of this (and other) parishes.  
I have met with PCSO Sue Berrett to discuss the new “neighbourhoodmatters” alert initiative (see below) and to discuss a series of minor thefts in the parish which is still under investigation.  
I am awaiting notification of the date for the licensing issue at the Live public house to go to magistrates court following an appeal of the licensing committee’s recent decision.

## Minutes of Meeting of Whitbourne Parish Council held on 3rd November 2021

Written Report for Whitbourne Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 3rd November 2021

The Crumplebury application P210640 was refused by the Planning Committee, P194408 still awaits an Appeal decision from the Inspector and P210527/U (CLEUD) Certificate of Lawfulness still undecided by Herefordshire Planning.

I attended the AGM of the Bringsty Common Manorial Court (by Zoom) on Saturday and can report that a committee of commoners and residents was elected. Discussions centred on the cutting of fire breaks and the funding of the same. Their first committee meeting will be on Wednesday 10th November.

I reported blocked gullies and scrapes to land drains between Moor Farm and the Wheatsheaf on the A44, which have subsequently been cleared. Please encourage the use of the App. to report any blocked gullies.

Elsewhere in the Ward:

The Bromyard Centre (Halo) and library. Reopening scheduled early December. The Mayor and I are meeting with Scott Ralph, the CEO at the end of November to discuss the opportunity to expand community uses of the Bromyard Centre once it is reopened.

I understand that plans for the Hope Pole have been submitted but I have yet to receive a notification from Herefordshire Planners.

The Planning Inspector has ruled on P191409, 15 Linton Lane and refused permission for the two additional dwellings in the garden, but allowed the planned modification to the main dwelling.

The work to realign the end of Rowberry Street by the zebra crossing by the Post Office has been scheduled to take place beginning in January. Road closures and night working is currently being planned to expedite the improvement.

Simon Hobbs, Herefordshire Councils road safety engineer visited Broad Street last week to discuss with myself and Cllr. Clark the option of placing tubs on the roadway opposite Sewology so as to discourage parking at that pinch point which leads to buses overrunning the pavement outside that retailer. Simon has agreed the proposals and will issue a guidance plan for the tub location. The scheme is seen as a trial which may lead to a more permanent installation if successful.

Works to improve the Upper Sapey (High Cross) crossroads are to take place beginning in early November. Some road closures will be necessary and advance signs are up informing motorists of these. In addition, works to realign, drain and mark the road surface by "Willowbrook" on the B4203 by Bromyard Downs where a fatal accident occurred earlier in the year and scheduled to begin in the first week of November.

I have also been away for two weeks during the last month, but zoomed in to a meeting of the Children and Young people's scrutiny meeting from St Lucia where a statement (suggesting questions) was read on my behalf, and I was able to participate in the discussion on the re-contracting of specific Children's services in Bromyard currently delivered by the Hope centre.

Nigel

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