

WHITBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of Whitbourne Parish Council held on Tuesday 2nd September 2014 at 7.30pm in Whitbourne Village Hall

Present: Cllr M Williams (Chairman), Cllr R James (Vice-Chairman), Cllrs J Cummins, N Westacott, J Archer, D Haddock, C White and R Freeman

In attendance: Cllr G Swinford (Ward Councillor), Mrs Mary Seldon (Clerk) and 10 members of the public.

14/57 To accept **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies had been received from Cllr G Cupper

14/58 To receive **Declarations of Interest**
Cllr Cummins 14/67

14/59 To approve the **Minutes of the Meeting** held on:
Tuesday 1st July 2014
Proposed Cllr James, seconded Cllr Archer, APPROVED by all

14/60 To receive the **Clerk's Report**

- External Audit - returned and no recommendations
- Parish councils and communities website - new pages on Herefordshire Council website: one featuring parish councils and the other preparing councillors and prospective councillors for the elections in May 2015
- Playground Inspection Report received - passed to Cllr Westacott
- Code of Conduct meeting - Rescheduled 16th September - 6.30pm, Hereford Town Hall - presented by Bill Norman, monitoring officer
- Transparency Code coming shortly - important to have a parish council website
- Two Balfour Beatty evenings for Parish Councils - 24th/25th September, 7pm to 8.30pm, Rotherwas Industrial Estate
- Travellers' Sites Consultation - not site specific. Consultation ends 2nd October
- Rubbish Collection changes starting in November - bins have started to be delivered
- Paper planning ends in November - email only from then.
- Locality Stewards
- Continued studies
- War Memorial renovation

14/61 Planning:

- a) To consider: Application No. P142356/F
Fodder store adjacent The Old Rectory, Boat Lane, Whitbourne, WR6 5RS
*Proposed removal of condition 4 of planning permission DCNC2004/2013/F
(Conversion of cottage annexe to provide one bedroom holiday cottage) to allow
'Fodder Store' to be used as a dwelling.*

The Chairman asked that the meeting be opened to the public - Proposed Cllr Cummins, seconded Cllr Haddock.

Mr Wood spoke and distributed a document explaining his objections about this application.

The Meeting was then closed to the public and councillors discussed the document and agreed with Mr Wood's objections.

Cllr Cummins proposed that the Parish Council **OBJECTED** to the planning application, seconded Cllr Freeman, unanimously **AGREED**.

The Clerk was asked to register this objection on the following grounds as stipulated by Mr Wood:

We strongly object to this application for the following reasons:

- 1. The Old Rectory is a Grade II listed building, which, if divided up in this way would be compromised and we believe the fabric should be preserved.*
- 2. The impact of the application on the present occupants of the Rectory - with regard to overlooking both front and rear gardens, increased density - ie, noise, cars, people, etc.,*
- 3. This would be providing residential accommodation for a separate family within what should be one residential unit - thus impacting detrimentally upon the occupants of the main dwelling.*
- 4. Lack of amenity for the annex accommodation - as this is essentially ancillary accommodation to The Old Rectory and as such does not have a defined curtilage. This inadequacy renders the unit not capable of being practical or appropriate as a form of accommodation.*
- 5. We consider this application contrary to policy guidance in the Herefordshire UDP and the NPPF. The separation of the property is unauthorised.*

14/62 **Financial Matters:**

- a) To approve **accounts for payment:**

Mary Seldon Net Salary 05 06: £348.06

HMRC PAYE 05 06: £87.00

Expenses incurred by the Clerk: £10.43

Hugh Davis: £80.00

Proposed for approval Cllr White, seconded Cllr Archer, **AGREED**.

- b) To approve **Bank Reconciliation** to 2nd September 2014

- c) To approve **Income and Expenditure** to 2nd September 2014

AGREED by all – no questions

14/63 To receive **Ward Councillor's Report**

- HC bi-elections - opposition candidates have won - Conservatives now not the majority party.
- Meeting with the CE of HC about lack of communication amongst officers - issues with lack of response
- Planning Applications are taking too long - needs to be strong political leadership
- Linton Industrial Estate road - working towards - perhaps this financial year
- Town Council - put forward more employment land next to Linton, this needs to be accepted by the planning inspector
- Planning Application re: Whitbourne Estates - Wednesday 8th October coming to planning committee - current application
- Detailed other planning applications that have been

- 14/64 To receive reports from **Outside Bodies and receive updates on agreed decisions:**
- a) Village Hall Committee**
 Councillors are advised that a letter has been received from the Village Hall Committee with regard to discussions at the July meeting.
 The Chairman read out the communication that had been received.
 There was some discussion as to whether this was a public car park – Cllr Cummins to liaise with VHC
 The Clerk was asked to reply that this had been noted.
 Cllr Cummins reported that the committee had grown, but would need a Chairman.
- b) Playing Fields Committee**
 Cllr Westcott explained that they were hoping to have a 50/50 raffle soon to raise funds. The football pitch needed to be marked and the Clerk was asked to find out if 4 Seasons GroundCare included this in their work schedule.
 Cllr Westcott to ask Playing Fields Committee about goal posts.
- 14/65 To receive update on the **Neighbourhood Plan**
 Cllr Williams circulated the latest report with an update on the progress of the NDP.
- 14/66 To receive an update on the **School Buildings**
 No more information had been received.
 Cllr James asked if there was a shortage of school buildings in Worcester, and wondered if anyone in Worcester want to use the building. Cllr Swinford volunteered to find out the information.
 Cllr Cummins reported that the DCC would be discussing this and would be trying to find out who owns this building.
The Clerk was asked to put this on agenda for the next meeting.
- 14/67 To discuss the path to the **Churchyard** and progress in plans
 Cllr Cummins explained that 3 quotations for this work had now been received and one had been chosen, as it was the best specification. Total cost: £1,014
 The Parish Council were asked if they wished to make a contribution to this and Cllr Williams reminded people that this was not part of the budget and would have to be taken from reserves if approved. Cllr Williams asked that the meeting be opened to the public. Proposed Cllr Freeman, seconded Cllr Westcott.
 There was much discussion about this point from both sides of the argument.
 When the meeting was closed Cllr James proposed that the sum of £200 be given as a gift towards this work. Seconded Cllr Freeman. 5 votes for, 1 against and 2 abstentions.
- 14/68 To discuss **Rosemore Grange**
 Cllr Williams asked that the meeting be opened to the public. Proposed Cllr Westcott, seconded Cllr Archer.
 The legality of Rosemore Grange being used as a holiday let was questioned as change of use had not been sought.
 A time limit on noise was also discussed.
 Cllr Williams asked that proper enforcement and planning be sought and that all parties reported back to the next meeting to check the progress on this.
- 14/69 To report **village issues** regarding road maintenance, clearance, etc.
- Pot holes between shop and school
 - Cllr Archer asked if a notice could be put in the parish magazine correcting a statement made by Mr Kneen, namely that the parish council voted not to discuss the proposed development with Whitbourne Estates. In fact the PC voted not to discuss the matter with MW Housing.

- Orchard schemes for funding.
- Village Green - holes - perhaps rats or badgers or voles. NW to look into these with Cllr Cummins.
- Speed of traffic from school to shop – the Clerk was asked to liaise with the Road Safety Partnership - 30 mile an hour road signs not visible.
- Cllr James asked that there be a Working Party for the Green on a Saturday morning

14/70 **Public Participation** - members of the public are allowed 10 minutes to address the Council

- PC Website needs updating
- Broadband – the possibility of using Knightwick Exchange and Worcester’s Broadband
- Noel Knight volunteered for the Working Party
- BDLHS research school history may be able to help establish ownership details

14/71 Items for future consideration

- Budget
- Rosemore Grange
- School Buildings