

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHITMINSTER PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE WHITMINSTER VILLAGE HALL, WHITMINSTER AT 7.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY 2nd DECEMBER, 2015.

Public Forum

15 minutes were allocated for public questions and comments at the start of the meeting.

The member of the public present raised the matter of the public noticeboard situated at the School Lane end of the Playing Field access road. It was in a very dilapidated condition and it was suggested it should be replaced. The Clerk advised that quotes for new noticeboards had been sought.

00/12

Present

Cllrs Jones (Chairman), Hay (Vice-Chairman), Douglas, Hughes, Paynter & Peters. The Clerk was also present along with 1 member of the public.

01/12

Apologies

Apologies had been received and accepted in advance from Cllr Mrs Gilmore.

02/12

Declarations of Interest

There were not declarations of interest in regard to items listed on the Agenda.

03/12

Minutes

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 4th November, 2015, were signed as a true record without amendment:

04/12

Matters Arising

Code of Conduct

The Clerk and Chairman reported that the current Code of Conduct, as prepared by SDC and adopted by the PC prevailed but the matter would remain under review in case any recommended changes or alternatives were put forward.

Skate Ramp

The Chairman and Clerk had met with the contractor, Greenfields, on site and confirmed the order to proceed with repairs which were anticipated to start in the New Year. The Clerk was to determine if safety fencing was needed and, if so, how it was to be provided. The Chairman had given an indicative budget to the contractor in regard to any additional repairs that may be found necessary once the main frame was exposed. Whilst no indication of future longevity had been provided it was suggested that all necessary repairs could be accommodated within the allocated funding.

Cllr Peters informed the meeting that he had yet to receive a quote from Caloo for alternative equipment but it was expected the following week. Cllr Jones suggested he also try and obtain competitive quotes from Playdale and HAGS SMP.

05/12

Police & Community Safety Matters

Crime Figures

No Crime Figures had been received for the previous month. It was noted that PCSO Lifton had been ill and apologised for the fact the figures had not been supplied. It was understood that they would follow.

Other Matters

Cllr Jones reported on the recent Community Safety meeting at which it had been reported that crime was up 8% but this was largely due to cybercrime. In general crime rates were similar to those reported in 2012 overall. The Police and Crime Commissioner was consulting on a possible 2% increase in the police precept. Following the review of the Neighbourhood Warden Scheme 4 wardens had been named with Andy Murray listed as a Senior Warden. Recruiting was on-going and an organisational chart would be circulated in due course. Details were circulated of the last Cluster Group meeting and confirmation of the next meeting date being Wednesday 25th May, 2016, at 6.30pm in the SDC Council Chamber. Cllr Hay commented on a recent assault he had heard had taken place in Eastington while Cllr Jones reported on an incident involving fireworks used at the Playing Field and in one case attached to the pavilion building. Cllr Peters commented on the Fire Service Review and Cllr Jones gave a brief overview of his understanding of the changes proposed for Painswick and Cirencester fire stations. There was then some discussion concerning updating the village's Emergency Plan. Whilst it was felt there had been no changes in respect of the type or nature of risks posed sufficient to review the whole document contact details would certainly require review and it was felt a good idea to seek some general advice on a review. It was therefore agreed that Cllrs Peters and Hay should liaise Niki Hammond of SDC as appropriate.

06/12

Planning

Decisions to Note

S.15/0062/OUT Land off Hyde Lane, Whitminster.

Erection of 3 dwellings.

Non-determination – refused at appeal.

S.15/2354/HHOLD Hurst Lodge, School Lane, Whitminster

Conversion of outbuilding to form annexe.

Permission granted.

S.15/2286/DISCON Parklands Farm, School Lane, Whitminster.

Discharge of conditions 7 (dust control – partial) and 17 (construction method statement - partial) of S.14/0716/OUT.

Permission granted.

Cllr Peters commented that he had read through the archaeology report submitted in regard to a previous condition and he was surprised that it didn't really put forward any conclusions. Cllr Jones advised that it must have been sufficient nonetheless to receive office approval at SDC.

Applications to Consider

S.15/2552/TPO 1 Uptons Garden, School Lane, Whitminster.

Fell Beech and Field Maple.

Comments were required between meetings and Council did not comment on this application.

Other Planning Matters

The appeal to consider the application for up to 95 dwellings off of School Lane was due to occur on 24th November at 10am. However, Council was pleased to learn that the appeal had been withdrawn and the matter therefore closed by The Planning Inspectorate.

It was noted that the application concerning land adjacent to the A38 for a number of new dwellings had been withdrawn.

The proposed Terms of Reference for the Javelin Park EFW Facility – Community Liaison Group remained under review and Cllr Mossman had circulated an action list to the relevant parishes determining who had agreed to undertake which tasks. As well as determining terms of reference an

investigation was ongoing into appropriate equipment to purchase as a means of monitoring particulate discharge from the facility once it is up and running. It was anticipated that the next meeting of the group would be on 21st January, 2016, at 7pm in Whitminster Village Hall.

Information from SDC was circulated in relation to the proposed Neighbourhood Planning Timetable and details of delegated authority in this respect.

Council was pleased to learn that the Local Plan had been formally adopted by SDC on 19th November 2015. Whilst this would hopefully put an end to speculative development, especially given the land supply currently available within the District, it was important to note that strategic land assessments would still be carried out throughout the plan period.

Cllr Douglas commented on building works ongoing at an outbuilding at Kidnams Farm. Whilst the work might appear to be for future residential use so far it was felt it could be repairs of the existing structure so Council agreed to monitor the matter and liaise with the District Council if any change of use is applied.

07/12

Highways & Byways

Cllr Peters agreed to follow up again regarding various street lights that were not working.

Cllr Paynter reaffirmed that he would work on the Parish Walks Guide over Christmas.

The Chairman had spoken with the Highways Officer, Daniel Tiffney, regarding the problems with the surface of the A38 in Whitminster and advised that matter was being considered by a higher level of management. It was understood it was recommended that the areas concerned be planed off and replaced. The Clerk had received no response to his last correspondence.

A letter was received from Skanska/Highways England stating that works to the M5 J13 Stroudwater Bridges would be commencing during December.

Cllr Jones advised that he would be meeting a resident of Paynes Meadow concerning issues regarding trees. He also gave an update concerning the issues with parking in The Close and confirmed that he would liaise further with PCSO Lifton.

Cllr Hay commented on the generally poor condition of School Lane and suggested that this should be kept in mind when asked for any future local funding projects by County Councillor Tony Blackburn.

08/12

Accounts

Accounts for Payment

The following accounts were approved for payment and cheques drawn:

SDC	Warden Scheme	£300.00
D Lord	Clerk's expenses	£307.55

Other Matters

The Clerk reported a donation towards the skate ramp repairs of £300.00 from Frampton Country Fair. This had been banked along with a payment of £1,371.90 from the Transparency Fund following a successful grant application. A letter was received from Lloyds bank advising of changes to the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. No bank statement had yet been received for the previous month.

Information had been received from SDC advising that it was unlikely that the LCTS funding would be passed on during the coming financial year and therefore Councils would most likely need to increase their precept to make up the shortfall.

09/12

Correspondence

War Memorials Trust Bulletin.
Gloucestershire Draft Local Transport Plan (2015-2031) Consultation.
Broxap catalogue – noticeboards.
The Trow Magazine.
NALC Guide to Procurement.
Chartered Parishes Group Meeting –agenda.
Garden Waste Collection Scheme information.
GCC Local Transport Plan consultation information.
CPRE Fieldwork magazine.
CPRE Countryside Voice magazine.
Kingsdown Nurseries catalogue.

10/12

Chairman's Items & District Councillor's Report

Cllr Jones gave an update on various matters concerning SDC including the unanimous adoption of the Local Plan, subject to some abstentions, and advised that it would come into operation immediately. It was noted that the District was considered to have a land supply approaching 7 years. He also touched on the matter of devolution of increased powers to the County wide grouping that had been set up. This was looking more likely but would not proceed if the election of a mayor was necessary.

Cllr Jones also raised the matter of pension rights in respect of the Clerk. The Clerk advised that he understood this was not a requirement in his circumstances but it was agreed the matter would be minuted and reviewed again if necessary. The Chairman's full detailed report was to be circulated.

11/12

Other Business

Website statistics had been circulated.

Litter picking at the Playing Field for the coming month was to be continued by Cllr Hughes.

Cllr Peters advised that he would be attending the forthcoming NHS consultation meeting he also went on to say that he would arrange to meet Cllr Jones to go through the layout of the WW1 project material. Cllr Peters raised the matter of the boundary changes that would apply at the 2016 SDC elections and suggested that the details should be repeated in SPAN and this was agreed. He also touched on the activities of Neighbourhood Watch and Cllr Hay suggested that using Facebook to disseminate information may be useful.

A continuous authority was agreed in regard to the Playing Field to provide Council's ongoing consent for matters relating to the proposed Pavilion Redevelopment and the necessary consents.

Cllr Stephen Davies, current District Councillor for Eastington, attended the end of the meeting to introduce himself and also to outline the details of the planning proposal for a business park that was expected on land East of the motorway junction. Council had already written to Eastington Parish Council in support of its concerns over the proposal.

12/11

Future Agenda Items

None identified.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

CHAIRMAN – Wednesday 6th January, 2016.