

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHITMINSTER PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE WHITMINSTER VILLAGE HALL, WHITMINSTER AT 7.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY 3rd JUNE, 2015.

Public Forum

15 minutes were allocated for public question and comment at the start of the meeting. There were no members of the public present and hence no matters were raised.

00/06

Present

Cllrs Jones (Chairman), Douglas, Mrs Gilmore, Hughes & Peters. The Clerk was also present.

01/06

Apologies

There were apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Hughes and Paynter.

02/06

Declarations of Interest

The Clerk had circulated new Declaration of Members' Interests forms that would need to be completed by Councillors. Five had been completed and returned with the documents still due back from Cllrs Hughes and Paynter. There were no declarations made relating to items on the meeting agenda.

03/06

Minutes

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 6th May, 2015, were signed as a true record subject to one amendment as follows:

- 10/05 Planning – S.15/0911/HHOLD 'Listed Building' replaced with 'property'.

Cllr Peters also raised a query regarding the spelling of Rickyard Way within 13/05. The Clerk pointed out that spelling had been as per the correspondence received and had been identified as sic erat scriptum.

04/06

Matters Arising

First World War Centenary

Cllr Jones reported that he had completed his notes on the school log book for the year 1914. Cllr Peters informed the meeting that he had been reviewing the photos he had found of those that had gone to war and had also found details relating to the funding of the war memorial when first built in its original location. The matter was ongoing.

Walkers Welcome Scheme

Cllr Peters advised that he had received no interest in the matter and therefore that it should be removed from the agenda for the time being.

05/06

Police & Community Safety Matters

Crime Figures

Crime Figures for the previous month were received and read out. There had been one crime within the village, being criminal damage to a motorbike parked in The Close, and a number of police incidents had occurred.

Other Matters

It had been understood that PCSO Lifton would be attending the meeting but he was not present. It was noted that matters were generally quiet in the village despite the light nights and better weather. Cllr Jones reported that the SDC review of the Warden Scheme was ongoing and it was likely that the District would be divided between North and South areas with 4 wardens to be allocated to each sector.

Details of a request to participate in a National Rural Crime Survey had been circulated by email for individual Councillors to respond as appropriate.

Cllr Jones had attended the Joint Cluster Group Meeting on 2nd June but there was nothing of relevant significance to report. The papers were circulated.

06/06

Planning

Decisions to Note

S.15/0702/FUL Highfield Garden World, Bristol Road Whitminster, Gos.
Erection of a replacement shop and canopy.

Permission granted.

S.15/0532/HHOLD Rose Cottage, Hyde Lane, Whitminster, Gos.
Two storey extension.

Permission granted.

Applications and Appeals to Consider

S.15/1206/FUL Rose Cottage, Hyde Lane, Whitminster, Gos.
Erection of an open barn to house mowing equipment.

Council supported this application on the basis that it understood it to be a retrospective application and it considered the structure to be appropriate to house equipment given the intended use of the land as an orchard.

Cllr Jones advised that he had been notified that planning appeal reference APP/C1625/W/15/3005966 concerning Land off School Lane, Whitminster for a development of up to 95 dwellings was to be heard on 24th November. The timetable for the appeal had been printed and circulated. A general discussion ensued concerning the points that would need to be made by the representative speaking on Council's behalf.

Notification had been received of appeal reference APP/C1625/W/15/3018496 regarding land off Hyde Lane. Cllr Jones had circulated by email his correspondence with Mr Wyatt of SDC Planning as to why the application had not been determined. Council had objected to the application but it was agreed the Cllr Jones would prepare some further comments to be circulated and approved prior to submission to the Planning Inspectorate.

Land Adjoining Paynes Meadow/Vaisey Field

Cllr Jones advised that he had received a further request from Mr Attwooll asking to put to the Parish Council some more detailed proposals concerning development of this land. It was agreed that Mr Attwooll and/or his agent be invited to attend the August meeting and give any appropriate presentation but that this should be during an open session of the meeting that could be attended by members of the public.

Other Planning Matters

Cllr Jones commented that a walnut tree had been removed from the verge opposite the Village Hall. Cllr Douglas commented on the removal of a conifer hedge and the works that had been undertaken at 1 Paynes Meadow as well as white lines marking out planned work at Parklands Farm. Cllr Jones advised that he understood the formal planning consent notice for that development would be issued shortly.

07/06

Highways & Byways

Email correspondence was received from Cllr Blackburn concerning the remedial work planned for the A38 during July and his comments on the proposed boater operation of canal bridges. This reinforced information Council had previously received. Cllr Blackburn had also advised that he wished to put some of his available highway funds towards footway repairs in The Close and Paynes Meadow. Cllr Jones had responded and hoped that if any budget remained further works could be undertaken to Hyde Lane.

Notice was received of an on-line survey being conducted into the proposed boater controlled/remote controlled bridges for the Gloucester & Sharpness Canal.

08/06

Accounts

Accounts for Payment

The following accounts were approved for payment and cheques drawn:

CPRE	Membership	£36.00
Clerk	Stamps & Postage	£16.62

General Overview Audit & Other Matters

It was confirmed that the annual inspection of the play area and equipment on the Playing Field had been arranged subject to an additional charge of £25.00, supplementary to the standard £62.50 plus VAT, to enable Cllr Jones to be present when it is conducted. The bank statement for the month of May was yet to be received.

The Annual Return for the financial year ending 31st March 2015 was reviewed by Council and approved to be submitted for Audit. The closing balance at year end had been £6,441.00 compared with an opening balance of £6,830.00 .

09/06

Correspondence

The following items of correspondence were received:

Website statistics for the previous month – circulated by email.

The News from SDC – circulated by email.

Details of Gloucestershire County Council Active Together grant scheme.

Notice of the CPRE Berkeley Vale branch AGM – it was agreed that an email should be sent to the Branch Chairman asking for any comments that might be made regarding the appeal for 95 dwellings off School Lane.

Details regarding a public consultation on Restoring the Stroudwater Navigation from Saul Junction to Stonehouse.

Chartered Parishes Group meeting notes and agenda – passed to Cllr Mrs Gilmore.

Schedule of bands playing in the bandstand in Stroud Park.

Details of the Fields In Trust AGM and a copy of the Friends Update newsletter.

GAPTC Newsletter.

Introductory email from the Area Manager for HAGS SMP with specific details on outdoor gym and multi-use games areas.

10/06

Chairman's Items & District Councillor's Report

Cllr Jones gave an update on matters concerning Stroud District Council and advised at the Council's AGM Cllr Rees was elected Chairman of Council and Cllr Mrs Cordwell Vice-Chair. He went on to give a break-down of the political make-up of various committees. It was also noted that Mr Longmuir had become acting Head of Planning and the Council's Building Control department

was to merge with that of Gloucester City Council. Under this item Cllr Mrs Gilmore agreed to undertake litter picking at the Playing Field for the coming month and Cllrs Peters and Hughes and Douglas volunteered to help Cllr Jones relocate winter salt stored in the Village Hall car park. The Village Walks map was discussed and it was agreed that a reprint would be appropriate of approximately 500 copies and Cllr Paynter was to be asked to look into this.

11/06

Other Business

Cllr Peters informed the meeting that he had heard nothing more regarding the future arrangements for the Gloucester Park & Ride facility. Cllr Douglas commented that the school warning sign on School Lane had not been reinstated but Cllr Jones confirmed that the Highways Department had been notified. Cllr Douglas also told the meeting that he had recently completed a canal walk.

12/06

Future Agenda Items

Outdoor Gym Equipment.
Parish Church Clock.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

CHAIRMAN – Wednesday 1st July, 2015.