**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHITMINSTER PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHITMINSTER ON WEDNESDAY 5TH JULY, 2017.**

**Public Forum**

There were 4 members of the public present for this part of the meeting. Two introduced themselves as the prospective purchasers of Hillview House. Two other members of the public referred to a letter they had submitted to Council concerning the War Memorial and were advised that it would be raised and discussed under Other Business.

**00/07**

**Present**

Cllrs Jones (Chairman), Hay (Vice-Chairman), Braidford, Douglas, Mrs Gilmore and Peters.

The Clerk was also present together with two members of the public.

**01/07**

**Apologies**

An apology was received and accepted from Cllr Paynter as he had unexpectedly needed to take his dog to see a vet.

**02/07**

**Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made.

**03/07**

**Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting of 7th June, 2017, were approved without amendment.

**04/07**

**Matters Arising**

Bus Service Route 62

There had still been no response received from Mr Carr at Gloucestershire County Council (G.C.C.) and the Clerk was to follow up once again.

Website

Cllr Hay was still requiring some biographical material from Cllr Douglas although he had received some information concerning the church. Cllr Hay agreed to liaise with Cllr Douglas to assist him in putting this together. Information was awaited from Cllr Paynter in respect of the village footpaths.

30 MPH Notices

It was noted that the repeater speed limit signs in School Lane had been fixed by Cllrs Hay and Paynter and they were thanked for their efforts.

World War 1 Project & War Memorial

There was further discussion over potential contractors to produce the relevant interpretation board to summarise the results of this project. The Clerk had been in touch with Steve Roberts of Footprint Interpretation Design, who had been nominated by Cllr Peters. He had suggested it would be difficult to come up with a quote without chatting things through in more detail and possibly looking at examples of past work to see which options are preferred. It was therefore agreed that Councillors Peters and Jones would liaise and arrange to meet Mr Roberts at a future convenient date. Also concerning the War Memorial, a letter was received from Mrs Honor Jones and Mrs Margaret Douglas asking that Council consider restoration of the War Memorial and improvement of the surrounding area in order to preserve it for the future and provide a fitting backdrop for events planned in 2018 to commemorate the end of World War One. It was agreed that this should be pursued and the Clerk was to investigate obtaining quotes from local stonemasons. The Clerk also agreed to investigate potential sources of grant funding. Meanwhile Cllr Jones had progressed matters with the relevant Officer at Stroud District Council (S.D.C.) and had been advised that, in principle, there was no issue with the proposed attachment of the interpretation board to the adjoining railings.

Holbury Crescent

Cllr Jones had nothing further to report on this matter and was waiting to hear more from the relevant Officer at S.D.C. It was noted that 2 lorries were still being parked on the grassed area.

Schoolfield Close

It was noted that the verge had been cut but no work had been done to the ditch. Cllr Jones was to supply details of his contact at Cottsway for the Clerk to pursue the matter.

**05/07**

**Police & Community Safety Issues**

An email update had been circulated from PCSO Michael Trebble. There had been no crimes recorded in Whitminster but a summary of suspicious activity and incidents in surrounding parishes was circulated.

Email correspondence was received from the S.D.C. Water Resource Engineer seeking confirmation of contact details for Watercourse Wardens to facilitate their involvement in plans to raise awareness of flooding issues to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the 2007 floods that impacted on the County.

A consultation document on Dog Control Orders in the Stroud District had been received and could be commented on up until 9th August, 2017.

It was noted that Neighbourhood Warden Andy Murray was ill and off work.

No response had been received from Insp. Brian Clifford concerning action arising from the speed survey carried out in School Lane. However, a suggestion had been made, via Mr Nick Brown, that an appropriate activity would involve PCSO Trebble carrying out speed checks along the road with children from the village school. Cllr Jones volunteered to liaise with the Head Teacher to seek her view. Cllr Jones went on to advise that trees in The Close had been inspected by S.D.C. and a poplar and maple were to be removed. There appeared to be an impasse as to which authority might take responsibility to pursue matters concerning the caravan permanently parked in the A38 North lay-by. However, Cllr Jones advised he had been assured it would be moved in the Autumn. Other minor matters concerning hedges and fly tipping were discussed under this item but no further action was necessary.

**06/07**

**Planning**

Decisions to Note

None.

Applications to Consider

None.

Other Planning Matters

Concerning the new barn that had possibly been built at Hurst Lodge, off School Lane, without planning permission, Cllr Jones advised that he was waiting to hear back from the Planning Enforcement Team.

It was noted that a decision concerning Grove End Farm had been deferred for further highway consultation.

**07/07**

**Highways & Byways**

An update was received from Mr Tiffney of Gloucestershire County Council (G.C.C.) advising that a programme of weed ripping and spraying would be put in place if terms could be agreed with a suitable contractor.

A G.C.C. Highways Customer Satisfaction Survey had been received by the Clerk and completed on behalf of Council. Cllrs could also visit the County Council website and submit their own responses as well.

Notices were received of road and footpath closures for events and works in the locality. It was also noted that the road to Frampton-on-Severn and hence the local doctors’ surgery would be closed when works are carried out to replace Walk Bridge.

It was noted that the G.C.C. Councillors local highway budget was likely to be continue for a further year.

There was nothing more to report concerning car parking in The Close although there was discussion concerning the allocation and use of spaces to the rear of The Close and located in Vaisey Field.

Various footpath matters were discussed and it was agreed that they would be picked up again at a meeting when Cllr Paynter would be present. Meanwhile the Clerk was to contact landowners concerning crops that required spraying out to reinstate footpaths.

On the matter of re-lamping streetlights with LED bulbs, this was progressing and although in an apparent ad hoc fashion this was due to the differing treatment of types of lighting column.

There had been no further update from Wales & West Utilities on their proposals for planned gas main work in the vicinity of the A38 cross-roads.

**08/07**

**Accounts**

Accounts for Payment

The following accounts were approved for payment:

None.

Other Financial Matters

The latest bank statement received was as at 15th May and showed a balance of £9,692.49 but with various cheques outstanding and not presented.

Details were received of a trade union pay claim being consulted on by NALC and circulated by GAPTC. The Clerk confirmed he would not propose any revised remuneration.

**09/07**

**Correspondence**

The following items of correspondence were received:

GAPTC Agenda for AGM.

Clerks & Councils Direct.

Information on pre-school immunisation.

Details of various tourism promotion events being organised by S.D.C.

Details of the Stroud Youth Grant Fund Programme 2017/18.

**10/07**

**Chairman’s Items & District Councillor’s Report**

Cllr Jones informed the meeting that there had been no meeting of S.D.C. on the 20th of the previous month and he had nothing to report from an S.D.C. perspective that had not already been covered although he did provide a brief update on the current operation of the contract for waste collection and recycling. He went on to say that, as matters stood, there would be insufficient material for a meeting of the Parish Council in August, as had been the case in 2016, and he may be absent from the September meeting due to attending Frampton-on-Severn PC in his capacity as District Councillor.

**11/07**

**Future Agenda Items**

No matters were raised.

**12/07**

**Other Business**

It was noted a that a meeting of the group concerning Javelin Park was to take place shortly and Cllr Mrs Gilmore would intend attending.

The painting of the repaired section of the skate ramp was yet to be undertaken but it was understood that Mr Woodward did have the matter in hand.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.07 pm.

**CHAIRMAN** – Wednesday 6th September, 2017.