**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHITMINSTER PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHITMINSTER ON WEDNESDAY 3rd OCTOBER, 2018.**

**Public Forum**

The Chairman welcomed the Parish Councillors and the members of the public in attendance.

There were 2 members of the public present who were given an opportunity to speak but no issues were raised.

**00/10**

**Present**

There were 6 Councillors present including Cllrs Jones (Chairman), Braidford, Douglas, Mrs Gilmore Paynter and Peters.

There were 2 members of the public in attendance at the start of the meeting.

**01/10**

**Apologies**

An apology had been received and accepted from Cllr Hay.

**02/10**

**Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made in respect of the items notified on the agenda.

**03/10**

**Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting of 5th September, 2018, were approved subject to the following amendments:

* 04/09 – Final bullet point concerning planning application S.18/1678/FUL – amended to include reference to 2 Vaisey Field as likely to suffer from the impact of the overbearing nature of the proposed development. Also, S.18/1583/P3MT – ‘limite’ amended to ‘limit’.
* 06/09 – Neighbourhood Warden – 2nd line – ‘outline’ changed to ‘outlined’.
* 10/09 – Other Financial Matters – final two lines deleted.
* 12/09 – Cllr Jones – amended to a capital ‘J’.

**04/10**

**Matters Arising**

Dog Waste/Litter Bin – Cllr Jones advised that the new bin was being collected from him by the builder contracted to install it on the following Sunday and so hopefully it would be in situ very shortly.

Growing Our Communities Fund – It was understood the £2,000 awarded by Cllr Stephen Davies was in the process of being transferred.

Play Equipment Safety Inspection – This had been arranged for the coming Friday at 11am.

Garage Site Off The Close – Cllr Jones reported that the decision regarding the planning application, considered at the last meeting, would be referred to the Development Control Committee as a matter of principle, given that it has been submitted by the District Council.

Outdoor Gym Equipment – In additional to the award made by Cllr Davies, Cllr Jones was pleased to confirm that the Whitminster Village Hall & Playing Field Management Committee had agreed to pledge £3,500 towards the cost of the project.

Chartered Parishes - The meeting that had been scheduled to clash with the Parish Council meeting had been cancelled. A schedule for the remainder of the year had been circulated and with some meetings planned for a Thursday it was hoped that the Parish could be represented. A letter had been sent making the point that it had previously been agreed that meetings would not be scheduled for a set day each month, when they occur, because of the nature of the regular meetings of parish & town councils therefore precluding some from being represented depending on the date.

**05/10**

**Police & Community Safety Issues**

Emergency Plan

There was nothing further to report for the time being.

Neighbourhood Warden

No report.

Other Matters

Cllr Jones drew to Council’s attention a conference that was taking place to consider issues relating to speeding. He also reported on concerns relating to tress in the copse next to the Playing Field, He had been in touch with a representative of Swan Hill Homes and they were arranging for a tree surgeon to investigate. Cllr Peters gave an update on matters relating to the local Cluster Group and the use of Facebook for disseminating information.

**06/10**

**Planning**

Decisions to Note

Application No. S.18/1680/HHOLD

Location: The Old Post Office, Hyde Lane, Whitminster, Glos.

Description: Conversion of attic.

It was noted that consent had been granted and the decision notice was circulated.

Application No. S.18/1308/FUL

Location: Land Adjacent To Yew Tree Cottage, School Lane, Whitminster, Glos.

Description: Erection of three bedroom dwelling.

It was noted that consent had been granted and the decision notice was circulated together with the Officer’s report.

Application No. S.17/2851/OUT

Location: Grove End Farm (Adjacent), Grove Lane, Whitminster, Glos.

Description: Demolition of existing buildings. Construction of new commercial buildings.

It was noted that consent had been granted and the decision notice was circulated together with the Officer’s report.

Applications to Consider

None.

Other Planning Matters

It was understood that the Reserved Matters application concerning the Parklands Farm site was yet to be determined as some minor amendments to the design were being addressed in light of comments and feedback from English Heritage and others. This was as reported by Cllr Jones at the last meeting and there had been no further developments.

Cllr Jones had received a request from Eastington Parish Council that the Parish Council support that parish in its request to the Secretary of State to call in the application concerning the proposed new Forest Green Rovers stadium. It was agreed that the request should be supported and Cllr Jones would respond.

It was noted that a meeting was being held at Stroud Subscriptions Rooms, the following day, to provide information on Neighbourhood Development Plans.

**07/10**

**Highways & Byways**

Footpaths Map

Nothing further to report.

Other Matters

It was noted that the County Council highway contract would be transferring in 2019 from Amey back to Ringway, the firm had been the previous provider.

Notification had been received of a closure over part of School Lane from 22nd to 24th October for utility works.

Pavement repair work had been carried out in Paynes Meadow, although there remained areas requiring attention.

Cllr Jones informed the Council that he would soon be meeting with Cllr Mark Hawthorne, of the County Council, to discuss highway matters and in particular issues relating to unclassified and C class roads and their maintenance. He was also liaising with the Highways Dept of the County Council over necessary repairs to Hyde Lane, the need made more urgent following a recent water leak.

Cllr Paynter informed Council that he had a new contact name at the County Council’s Public Rights of Way Department following a discussion he had on their stand at Frampton County Fair. He would also note any areas where crops required spraying out where crossed by footpaths.

Comment was made that the street signs to Vaisey Field and Paynes Meadow had both faded and were difficult to read.

Finally, under this item, a number of overgrown hedges, between field boundaries and road carriageways, were identified and it was agreed that letters should be sent to the relevant landowners/farmers.

**08/10**

**Skate Ramp**

Cllrs Paynter updated Council on the good progress that had been made with repairs with more work planned for the coming Sunday

**09/10**

**World War One Commemoration**

It was noted that the interpretation sign had been erected and an invoice was anticipated. Cllr Peters was thanked for his work in undertaking this project.

**10/10**

**Accounts**

Accounts for Payment

The following accounts were approved for payment:

Mc Allister Masonry Ltd Stone cleaning £2,688.00

Proper Officer Reimbursement of expenses £234.39

Other Financial Matters

It was noted that the precept and budget for the 2019/2020 financial year would be considered at the December or January meetings. Meanwhile, it was hoped that a reserve of approaching £8,500 would be carried forward into the new financial year.

**11/10**

**Correspondence**

The following items of correspondence were received:

The Trow magazine.

CPRE Magazine – Countryside Voice.

Letter and awareness poster from Royal Mail concerning Scam Mail.

Clerks & Councils Direct magazine.

CPRE Field Work magazine.

Details of the Community Governance Review of the Stroud District – Phase 1 Consultation Survey – as previously circulated by email.

Notification was received informing Council that the recycling centre at Pyke Quarry would be operating new hours and days being between 10am and 4pm and closed on Wednesdays.

There were no other hard copy items of correspondence that had not been circulated.

**12/10**

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

Cllr Jones reminded Council that a new CEO for Stroud District Council had been appointed and she would be starting in November following the retirement of Mr Hagg. He went on to advise that he may be absent from the next Parish Council meeting as he hoped to be able to attend Frampton-on-Severn Parish Council, that meets on the same night, in his capacity as District Councillor. Cllr Jones also commented on the red phone box in The Close that was becoming tatty and may need some attention in the near future and, finally, he reminded those present of the meeting of Severn Voice being hosted by the Parish Council on 24th October, the agenda had been circulated.

**13/10**

**Other Business**

Schoolfield Close Ditch – Nothing further to report.

Parish Records – It was noted that the record of the Minutes, in which Cllr Peters was interested, could not be found in the items stored at the Village Hall. He advised that he had been in contact with ex Council Chairman, David Barnes, who had bene unable to assist and so investigations would consider.

Parking in The Close – Cllr Peters had expanded on the comments he made at the last meeting and had set out in an email the matters that he wished to see investigated further. Various areas of land around The Close and to the rear of Henry Withers Place had been considered and information obtained from Land Registry where it was available. This information had been provided to Cllr Peters and a copy circulated. It would appear that the land accessing and surrounding the garage from which car repairs were undertaken belongs to the District Council and the car parking spaces off Vaisey Field were unallocated. Cllr Jones advised that he felt unable to pursue the matter further and suggested the involvement of Cllr Davies should be sought to obtain the view of the Legal Department at Stroud District Council. Meanwhile, a letter had been sent to the Housing Association having ownership of Henry Withers Place but no response had been forthcoming.

**14/10**

**Future Agenda Items**

It was agreed that the copse adjacent to the playing field, PC records and considering a budget for the 2019/2020 financial year would be agenda items for future meetings when relevant.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.06 pm.

**CHAIRMAN** – Wednesday 7th November, 2018.