**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF WHITMINSTER PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHITMINSTER ON WEDNESDAY 1ST MAY, 2019.**

**Public Forum**

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

There were three members of the public present who were given an opportunity to speak but it transpired that all relevant matters had been raised during the Annual Parish Meeting that had concluded shortly prior.

**00/05**

**Present**

There were 7 Councillors present including Cllrs Jones (Chairman), Hay (Vice-Chairman), Braidford, Douglas, Mrs Gilmore, Paynter and Peters.

There were 3 members of the public in attendance throughout the meeting.

**01/05**

**Apologies**

None.

**02/05**

**Elections and Appointments**

Election of Chair

There had been no formal nominations for the position of Chairman but Cllr Mrs Gilmore put forward Councillor Jones at this stage in the meeting and the proposal was seconded by Cllr Peters. Cllr Jones agreed to continue as Chair for a further year. There were no other nominations and Cllr Jones was elected unanimously.

Appointment of Vice-Chair

Cllr Jones thanked Cllr Hay for his efforts and standing in to chair meetings when needed over the past year. He asked if he would be prepared to continue in the role for a further year and he agreed.

Appointment of Responsible Financial Officer

The Council’s Proper Officer was appointed to this role.

Appointment to other positions

Cllr Mrs Gilmore agreed to be appointed as Council’s representative on the Whitminster Village Hall & Playing Field Management Committee at the appropriate time when a nomination is requested.

Cllr Paynter agreed to continue as Footpaths Officer and Watercourse Warden and Cllr Peters agreed to continue as Snow Warden.

**03/05**

**Declarations of Interest**

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

**04/05**

**Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting of 3rd April, 2019, were approved subject to the following amendment:

* 02/04 – Declarations of Interest – First line – changed to read ‘personal’ rather than ‘persoaln’.

The Minutes were then duly signed.

**05/05**

**Matters Arising**

Land to the rear of the Whitminster Hotel – Cllr Jones had raised the matter of the lorries parking at the back of the site, that had been discussed at a recent Parish Council meeting, with Ian Mallinson, Senior Planning Enforcement Office at the District Council. He had advised that the consent for vehicle parking on the site was not restricted as to vehicle type and therefore unless the vehicles were essentially being stored, rather than parked in between going about their business, then the matter was not a planning issue. The email exchange on the subject was to be circulated.

Trees on District Council amenity land in The Close

It was noted that no response had been received from Rozelle Jachowicz on this matter. Once these initial queries are resolved it was agreed that further questions would be put to her concerning the land in front of the garage adjacent to Henry Withers Place.

**06/05**

**Police & Community Safety Issues**

Emergency Plan

There was nothing further to report.

Neighbourhood Warden

There was no report or any other update received from the Neighbourhood Warden.

Other Matters

An email had been received concerning the next Joint Cluster meeting that had been brought forward by a week to avoid clashing with council meetings for those that hold them on the first Wednesday of each month. This followed an earlier change to accommodate the European Elections. The new date publicised was Wednesday 26th June at 6:30pm and an agenda would follow.

**07/05**

**Planning**

Decisions to Note

Although notification had not been received by Council as yet, Cllr Jones was able to advise that the

the application concerning Attwoolls on the A38 had been determined.

Applications to Consider

S.19/0815/VAR Parklands Farm, School Lane, Whitminster, Glos.

Variation of Condition 6 – Working hours.

This application had been consulted on by Cllr Jones between meetings and with general approval on the part of Council, local residents and the village school, he had subsequently passed on an opinion in support.

Stroud District Local Plan Review

Nothing further to report.

Other Planning Matters

Confirmation had been received from Neil Marriott, Principal Address Management Officer at the District Council, that the name Parklands Orchard would be put forward to the developer as Council’s preferred name for the Parklands Farm site.

It was understood that the planning application concerning 39 Paynes Meadow had been withdrawn.

It was noted that the meeting at which the outstanding application for a new football stadium, on land East of M5 Motorway Junction 13, would be considered was set for 12th June, 2019.

The new structure being erected at Whitminster Court was discussed and it was understood to be some form of sun lounge. It was agreed that a watching brief would be maintained.

**08/05**

**Highways & Byways**

Footpaths Map

Nothing further to report by Cllr Paynter for the time being as he planned to review the routes following the conclusion of matters concerning the proposed re-routing of footpaths to allow for the canal restoration works. No response had been received from the County Council Public Rights of Way team concerning other footpath issues. The difficulty of using the footpath running alongside the Gloucester & Sharpness Canal was discussed.

Other Matters

Council was notified of the closure of Castle Lane, Moreton Valence, 28th May to 30th May to allow for works by Severn Trent Water. Cllr Douglas made an observation concerning the narrowing of the access route through from The Forge car park to the shop by the installation of bollards. This was considered to be a private matter. Cllr Jones informed the meeting that he was hoping to tour the village with the Area Highways Supervisor the following Wednesday and would raise issues such as the various overgrown hedges that had been discussed at recent meetings, including the conifers bounding the A38, as well as the state of School Lane. Cllr Paynter commented on the damage being done to Hyde Lane by its apparent frequent use by skip lorries. Finally, on this matter it was noted that verge cutting was expected to proceed during May.

**09/05**

**Skate Ramp**

Cllrs Hay & Paynter provided an update on the repair work that they had undertaken and outlined the further repairs they had planned for the uprights. However, it was clearly understood by all that this would be only a temporary fix. There was no further discussion on the skate ramp as the issues had been explored comprehensively during the Annual Parish Meeting but it was agreed that the matter would be explored fully at the June meeting.

**10/05**

**Accounts**

Accounts for Payment

The following accounts were approved for payment and cheques issued between meetings:

Village Hall Severn Voice Meeting £14.50

Other Financial Matters

The balance at the bank was reported as being £22,084:00 following receipt of the first precept instalment in the sum of £8,500.00

**11/05**

**Correspondence**

The following items of correspondence were received:

Copy of Issue 2 May 2019 of the Whitminster Newsletter.

Information on the Whitminster Orchard Day taking place on Saturday 11th May.

Details of the Armed Forces Day Event – Picnic in the Park, Cheltenham.

European Election Notices and Timetable of key dates leading up to 23rd May.

Email of introduction with information concerning outdoor gym equipment available from Sovereign.

CPRE Countryside Voice magazine.

CPRE Gloucestershire Annual Review.

CPRE Fieldwork magazine.

HAGS catalogue detailing Spring offers.

CPRE Gloucestershire Views magazine.

**12/05**

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

The Chairman had no issues to raise that had not been considered elsewhere on the Agenda other than to advise that an application had been submitted to the Gloucestershire Energy from Waste Community Fund Grant scheme for assistance with the cost of outdoor gym equipment on the playing field. On an associated matter, Cllr Jones observed that Cllr Hay has circulated details relating to the Calor Gas funding available of up to £5,000. On District Council matters he reported on the purchase of the former Salvation Army hostel in Stroud for use as accommodation for the homeless; support for the setting up of the Avon Mutual Bank; taking maintenance and repairs of Council housing stock ‘in-house’; appointment of an interim Monitoring officer and various motions considered by the Council. A copy of Cllr Jones’ notes would be circulated.

**13/05**

**Other Business**

Javelin Park Community Liaison Group Update – Cllr Mrs Gilmore had nothing more to report but details of the ongoing air quality monitoring were circulated.

**14/05**

**Future Agenda Items**

Skate Ramp Fund Raising.

Purchase of a defibrillator.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

**CHAIRMAN** – Wednesday 5th June, 2019.