

# **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHITMINSTER PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT WHITMINSTER VILLAGE HALL AT 7:30PM ON WEDNESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> JUNE, 2021.**

## **Public Forum**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. There was one member of the public present but no issues were raised.

**00/06**

## **Present**

There were 7 Parish Councillors present for the meeting including Councillors Jones (Chairman), Hay (Vice-Chairman), Braidford, Douglas, Mrs Gilmore, Paynter and Younger. One member of the public was in attendance.

**01/06**

## **Apologies**

None.

**02/06**

## **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Paynter sought to advise the meeting that the contractor he had been in discussions with concerning a quotation for a replacement skate ramp was engaged in work for him at his property. This was noted but as there was no pecuniary benefit declared it was considered that this did not prevent Cllr Paynter from participating in any discussions on the matter.

Cllr Braidford, who had been absent from the previous meeting, signed his Acceptance of Office and Declaration of Members Interest forms. With some necessary amendments completed to others, this meant that all relevant forms had been completed and returned. Members were reminded that Election Expense forms were their own responsibility.

**03/06**

## **Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2021, were signed as a true record without amendment.

**04/06**

## **Police & Community Safety Issues**

There were no formal matters to consider and no reports received from the Police or Neighbourhood Warden. Cllr Jones picked up on the matter of the defibrillators and advised that he would fill in some relevant paperwork and liaise further with Councillor Younger concerning her role as defibrillator monitor. There were no other issues discussed under this agenda item.

**05/06**

## **Planning**

### **Decisions to Note**

It was understood the both Planning and Listed Building Consent had been granted for work proposed to Parklands Farmhouse.

### **Applications to Consider**

None.

### Local Plan & Other Planning Matters

Cllr Jones advised that the developer with an interest in land between Parklands House and the Playing Field had made contact with him and was keen to explore further consultation with the Parish Council ahead of submitting a planning application shortly. Concern was voiced as to if Council should be supporting an application ahead of its inclusion within the Local Plan and also, if it did, whether this would have an impact resulting in a potentially higher overall allocation. Cllr Jones advised that he had been in touch with the relevant officer who assured him this would not weaken the overall position on numbers for the village and lead to pressure for extra sites and /or allocation. Council therefore agreed to arrange a meeting if requested.

There had been no response in regard to the various planning enforcement matters that had been recently referred to the District Council and Cllr Jones advised that a key officer had recently left.

Nothing more was known as to the status of the pending application for 100 houses off of School Lane but it was confirmed that an objection had been submitted by the County Council Highways Department and if the Local Planning Authority was minded to grant permission then the application would be called in to be determined by the Development Control Committee.

Cllr Douglas observed that the Stonepits bridge application had yet to be determined.

It was also noted that the site of the Council garages in The Close was likely to be sold at auction and that work had stopped at Grove End Farm and this was believed to be due to an issue arising out of the estate of the late owner of the property.

## **06/06**

### **Highways & Byways**

#### Footpaths

Cllr Paynter informed the meeting that he would be meeting with the Public Rights of Way Officer on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June and would update the Council at the following meeting. It was not known if the handrail that had come off of Lockham Bridge had been replaced but Cllr Paynter would raise it again nonetheless.

#### School Lane

A meeting with the Area Highways Manager, Harriett Osburn, had been requested and a date was awaited. Matters to be discussed would also include:

Packthorne Corner drain cover.

Hyde Lane road surface.

The Close ongoing parking issues.

Little Holbury area surrounding the play area.

#### Other Matters

Concern had been raised at the last meeting regarding work ongoing at a development site in Hyde Lane that was resulting in water and debris being discharged onto the lane. The matter had been raised with the County Council Highways Department and Yakub Mulla had been to inspect the site and spoke with Cllr Paynter. However, he didn't propose any action and observed that the work seemed to have finished. That did not address the state the road had been left in.

Cllr Douglas commented on the A38 verges being in need of cutting but it was confirmed that this remains the responsibility of County Council Highways. He also commented on the overgrown hedge adjacent to Rosebank and a leaning Laburnum tree in Paynes Meadow. Cllr Jones agreed to follow up this latter matter and the hedge, along with raised kerbs stones in The Close, highlighted

by Cllr Braidford, were to be put to Harriet Osburn to follow after the proposed meeting.

**07/06**

**Skate Ramp**

Measurements had been taken to consider alternative layouts taking into account the location of the pipeline, boundary and proposed pavilion redevelopment. No responses had been received from the suppliers that had been previously contacted and who were supposed to be revising proposals. However, Councillor Paynter had progressed discussions with Jason Green of the AAA Group, a contractor he had engaged to carry out work at his home, and this had resulted in a quotation being submitted in the sum of £46,000 plus VAT as per a proposal circulated. It was agreed that a site meeting to get a further understanding of the proposal would be arranged and the contractor asked to supply examples of similar completed projects and referees. Questions were also raised concerning the nature of the warranty, who it would be from and if it would be insurance backed, the need for painting and other queries that Cllr Paynter agreed to explore. Meanwhile, further information would be sought on the process to secure Public Works Loan Board funding and efforts made once again to secure comparable quotes.

**08/06**

**Accounts**

**Accounts for Payment**

The following account was approved for payment and a cheque circulated for signature:

David Davies – Verge cutting	£211.61
Cllr T Douglas – Lawn Mower	£400.00

It was agreed to fund the cost in full of a lawnmower to me used for cutting amenity and other grassed areas within the village that are considered accessible open spaces but not form part of any highway cutting contract nor sports field mowing contract.

**Other Financial Matters**

The last reported balance at the bank was confirmed as £29,434.71 with a cheque valued at £57.50 yet to be presented. This included a receipt of CIL funds that had been received by BACS.

**09/06**

**Correspondence**

The following items of correspondence were received:

The Trow.

Clerks & Councils Direct

Other correspondence had been received and circulated by email between meetings.

**10/06**

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

Most relevant matters were covered elsewhere during the meeting and Cllr Jones had nothing more to add on parish matters. On District Council issues he advised the makeup of the new Council and that many Councillors were new, 24 in total. The formation of Committees was soon to be underway and no meetings had yet been held

**11/06**

**Other Business**

**Allocation of Wards**

The following wards were agreed:

Paynes Meadow & Little Holbury – Cllr Jones

School Lane to Walk Bridge & Schoolfield Close – Cllr Younger

Uptons Garden & Rickyard Way – Cllr Hay

A38 & Grove Lane – Cllr Mrs Gilmore

The Close, Vaisey Field and Manor Court – Cllr Douglas

Hyde Lane & Holbury Crescent – Cllr Paynter

Kidnams Walk & Parklands Farm – Cllr Braidford

**Tree Strategy**

Thought was given to locations for additional tree planting but no locations came to mind and so it was agreed that a watching brief should be maintained.

**12/06**

**Future Agenda Items**

Parish Notice Boards.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8:55 pm.

**CHAIRMAN – Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2021.**