

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF WHITMINSTER PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT WHITMINSTER VILLAGE HALL AT 7:00PM ON WEDNESDAY 19TH MAY, 2021.

Public Forum

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the first in-person meeting held for some time due to the restrictions imposed by the ongoing pandemic. There were two members of the public in attendance. A number of questions were raised by Mr N Peters including the cost of the representations submitted in regard to Local Plan proposals; when would the bus shelter Perspex sheet be repaired; has the proposal for 100 new houses off of School Lane been called in to be determined by the Development Control Committee and will the Parish Council be adopting the proposed Tree Strategy that Mr Peters had seen details of elsewhere. The answers given by Cllr Jones were, in the order raised, £4,675 plus VAT; as soon as Cllr Paynter (who had volunteered to undertake the work) could find the time and access could be taken; only if likely to receive recommendation for approval and to be considered as an agenda item at a future meeting.

00/05

Present

There were 6 Parish Councillors present for the meeting including Councillors Jones (Chairman), Hay (Vice-Chairman), Douglas, Mrs Gilmore, Paynter and Younger. Two members of the public were in attendance.

01/05

Apologies

Cllr Braidford was absent but no apology had been received.

02/05

Parish Election & Relevant Matters

The Notice of Uncontested Election was read out confirming Councillors Jones, Hay, Braidford, Douglas, Mrs Gilmore, Paynter and Younger as being duly elected. Declarations of Acceptance of Office and Declarations of Member's Interests forms were circulated for completion and signature. Councillors were reminded that they needed to complete expense forms and submit these directly to the Returning Officer.

03/05

Elections & Appointments

- (i) Election of Chair – Cllr Mrs Gilmore proposed Cllr Jones who was seconded by Cllr Hay. Cllr Jones was re-elected unopposed and informed Council he would be happy to serve for this year and next, for as long as his health permitted him, but he would be unlikely to want to serve as Chair for the full 3 year term of the newly elected Council.
- (ii) Appointment of Vice Chair – Cllr Jones appointed Cllr Hay who was pleased to continue in the role.
- (iii) Appointment of Responsible Financial Officer – Cllr Jones appointed the Proper Officer to continue in this role.

- (iv) Appointment of other positions – Footpaths & Watercourses – Cllr Paynter; Representative on the Whitminster Village Hall & Playing Field Management Committee – Cllr Mrs Gilmore; Defibrillator Monitor – Cllr Younger; Energy From Waste Community Liaison Group – Cllr Mrs Gilmore; Parish Charter Group – Cllr Younger.

04/05

Declarations of Interest

None.

05/05

Minutes

The Minutes of the 7th April, 2021, meeting were agreed as a true record subject to the following corrections that were agreed:

- Public Forum – First line – ‘There were seven....’
- 05/04 – Planning – Applications to Consider – 10th line – ‘In’ included at start of second sentence.
- 07/04 – Skate Ramp – 1st line – ‘bene’ changed to ‘been’.

Other hard copy Minutes from meetings where approval had been given by Zoom were also signed by the Chairman at this meeting for the records.

06/05

Police & Community Safety Issues

There were no formal matters to consider and no reports received from the Police or Neighbourhood Warden. Cllr Jones had nothing to add but there was a brief discussion on the matter of dog theft and alerts had been circulated.

07/05

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

S.21.1184/HHOLD 2 Vaisey Field, Whitminster, Gloucester.

Erection of boundary fence.

Council considered this proposal being a variation from what had been previously consented and to allow for timber panels to be set within brick piers. This was considered to be in keeping and Council resolved to support the application.

S.21/0886/FUL Highfield Garden World, Bristol Road, Whitminster, Gloucester.

The demolition of 2,245m² of existing structures and the erection of a 3,336m² replacement structure with an opening roof and a proposed extension to the existing customer car park and the laying out of a gravel overflow car park and the revoking of development approved under planning consent ref S.19/1676/FUL.

Council considered this application in some detail and whilst having no objection to the proposed overflow car park formed the view the proposed structure, taking into account its height and positioning close to the boundary, would be overbearing in relation to the adjacent residential properties. For this reason Council resolved to object to the application.

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.

There had been no response in regard to the various planning enforcement matters that had been recently referred to the District Council.

Nothing more was known as to the status of the pending application for 100 houses off of School Lane but 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.

08/05

Highways & Byways

Footpaths

Cllr Paynter informed the meeting that the footpaths were largely clear but he was still pursuing long outstanding matters with the Public Rights of Way Officer. It was noted that the handrail had come off of Lockham bridge once again.

School Lane

A meeting with the Area Highways Manager, Harriett Osburn, would be scheduled as soon as possible to discuss matters further.

Other Matters

Concern was raised relating to work ongoing at a development site in Hyde Lane that was resulting in water and debris being discharged onto the lane. The matter was to be raised with the County Council Highways Department.

09/05

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.

10/05

Accounts

Accounts for Payment

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

Cllr John Jones Reimbursement of Delta Nine IT Ltd invoice for printer cartridges £57.50

Other Financial Matters

The balance at the bank was confirmed as £29,434.71 as at 23rd April, 2021.

11/05

Correspondence

The following items of correspondence were received:

Cllr Jones advised he had received notification of details for a new agent administering the oil pipeline passing through the village. He would pass the details on in due course.

Other correspondence had been received and circulated by email.

12/05

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

that most he would carry over and report on in the Annual Parish Meeting. However, he advised that the AGM of the District Council would take place the following day when committees would be formed. He also gave a brief update on the political make up of the Council following the election.

13/05

Other Business

None.

14/05

Future Agenda Items

Parish Council Wards.

Tree Strategy.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8:24 pm.

CHAIRMAN – Wednesday 2nd June, 2021.