

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHITMINSTER PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT WHITMINSTER VILLAGE HALL AT 7:30PM ON WEDNESDAY 6th OCTOBER, 2021.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting including the one member of the public present.

Public Forum

Although the member of the public present raised no issues, Cllr Mrs Younger passed some comments that had been made to her by a neighbour including reference to the traffic arising from Frampton Country Fair; the pending solar farm application and the operation of the Parish Council website. Cllr Braidford also raised matters relating to the noise produced by events at the Whitminster Inn over the past 4 weeks and it was proposed that the matter be referred to the Environmental Health team and Licensing Department at Stroud District Council.

00/10

Present

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

01/10

Apologies

There were no apologies.

02/10

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made in regard to known agenda items.

03/10

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of 1st September, 2021, were signed as a true record without amendment.

04/10

Matters Arising

It was noted that Cllr Mrs Younger was dealing with the necessary registration of the defibrillators positioned around the village.

Cllr Jones drew attention to the updates he had circulated, between meetings, concerning the play areas in Little Holbury and Kidnams Walk. The potentially hazardous gate had been removed from the Little Holbury play area and it was understood that further work was planned. Cllr Braidford commented on the fact that

it is not necessary to have a gate on a play area and this was something he became aware following recent training.

05/10

Police & Community Safety Issues

Following on from Cllr Braidford's comments on E-Scooter raised at the August meeting, PSCO Trebble and Neighbourhood Warden Jarvis had been informed of the potentially growing local issue and reaffirmed that they would be maintaining a watching brief. It was understood that 47 scooters had been confiscated over recent months due to inappropriate use.

There were no other recent reports from the Police or Warden Service and no other issues were raised.

06/10

Planning

Decisions to Note

There were no formally reported decisions to note.

Applications to Consider

S.21/2265/TCA

Brookside, Whitminster Lane, Whitminster, Gloucestershire.

Trees in a Conversation Area – T1 Willow – Fell in decline. T2 Sycamore – reduce by 3-4m. T3 Spruce – Fell. T4 Silver Poplar – Reduce by 4-5m.

Council resolved to support this application providing it met with the approval of the District Council's Arboricultural Officer. It was also proposed that any trees that are removed should be replaced.

S.21/2291/FUL

Fish Pass, Fromebridge Lane, Whitminster, Gloucestershire.

Construction of fish pass.

Council resolved to support this application as it did not appear to impinge on the adjacent heritage assets or Listed Building and would be of benefit to the aquatic life of the river.

S.21/2010/FUL

Land at Uptons Garden, Whitminster, Gloucestershire.

Erection of 11 dwellings, access works, public open space, landscaping & associated infrastructure.

Council resolved to object to this application on the basis that the site is not within the village settlement boundary and is not identified for development within the current Local Plan. Therefore, development should only be considered in exceptional circumstances and the proposal is not for a rural housing needs exception site. Council also echoed the comments of the Water Resources Officer over the SUDS proposal and the County Council Highways Department on the impact on traffic movements in the locality. Council also had concerns over the number of houses, boundary treatment and future maintenance of open space areas. However, it was noted that Council's view would be different if the site is included for development within the Local Plan, currently under review, in an integrated fashion.

Local Plan & Other Planning Matters

There were no other planning matters discussed although Cllr Jones did advise that a meeting was being arranged, along with Cllr Davies, to discuss local foul drainage issues.

07/10

Highways & Byways

Footpaths

Cllr Paynter informed the meeting that he had been trying to follow up matters with the Public Rights of Way Officer but had been unable to reach her. He would continue to chase.

School Lane

A site meeting had been requested with Yakub Mulla to discuss School Lane and various other matters and a date would be provided for late November. Meanwhile, the list of matters to be raised was reviewed and updated.

Other Highway Matters

It was thought that the work to the A38 Southbound carriageway, giving access to May View, had been completed satisfactorily

Cllr Jones advised that the trees by The Close, raised previously, had been inspected by Highways and they had accepted responsibility for carrying out any necessary work.

Under this item there was also a discussion on local bus routes time tables had been obtained and circulated for services 60 and 64.

08/10

Skate Ramp

After it was agreed by all that the skate ramp was in a hazardous state and that it should be removed this work was undertaken in September and the site was left clear. Grant applications had been submitted and the outcome awaited after which a loan application could be submitted. Cllr Paynter agreed to follow up with AAA in order to obtain and updated quotation and information in support of that firm's proposal.

09/10

Accounts

Accounts for Payment

The following accounts were approved for payment:

T W Hawkins & Sons	Grass cutting	£1,379.32	
G R Fasteners & Engineering Supplies	Fixings		£22.10

Other Financial Matters

The second instalment of the precept had been received

Audit papers had been completed and submitted.

10/010

Correspondence

The following items of correspondence were received:

The TROW Magazine, update letter and membership application form for anyone interested in joining the Cotswold Canals Trust.

Agenda for the meeting of Severn Voice to be held on Tuesday 2nd November at Elmore Village Hall.

Other correspondence had been circulated electronically between meetings.

11/10

Chairman's Items & District Councillor's Report

Most relevant matters were covered elsewhere during the meeting but Cllr Jones gave a brief update on the District Council including council committees, staff returning to office working and a review of assets and place names to consider any inappropriate historical connections.

12/10

Other Business

Parish Noticeboards

Further quotes had been obtained for new noticeboards but it was hoped that some could be sourced free of charge being salvaged from a building being redeveloped.

Councillor Email Addresses

It was agreed that email addresses be set up for Councillors to use to differentiate their Council business from other matters.

13/10

Future Agenda Items

To be discussed before the end of the year – Budget; S.106/CIL funds and Village Projects.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:04 pm.

CHAIRMAN – Wednesday 3rd November, 2021.