

# **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHITMINSTER PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT WHITMINSTER VILLAGE HALL AT 7:30PM ON WEDNESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2022.**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting including the two members of the public present. Prior to the start of the meeting a photograph of the current Council was taken in order to update the Parish Council website.

**00/09**

## **Public Forum**

The Council was asked if the matter of sewage and drainage is considered when planning applications are decided on. It was noted that foul drainage is a relevant matter and Severn Trent are consulted. However, a recent meeting between District Councillors Jones & Davies with Severn Trent resulted in Severn Trent advising that, from their perspective, the drains were adequate for the current permitted and planned development. This included the numerous additional houses planned for further down the line at Frampton-on-Severn.

**01/09**

## **Present**

There were 7 Parish Councillors present for the meeting including Councillors Jones (Chairman), Hay (Vice Chair), Braidford, Douglas, Mrs Gilmore, Paynter & Mrs Younger. There were two members of the public in attendance for the duration of the meeting.

**02/09**

## **Apologies**

There were apologies received and accepted from County & District Councillor Stephen Davies.

**03/09**

## **Declarations of Interest**

For transparency, it was recorded that Cllr Jones, Gilmore and Douglas are members of, or representatives on, the Whitminster Village Hall & Playing Field Management Committee and a matter would be discussed under agenda item 10. (ii) that could lead to a financial payment being made to that committee.

**04/09**

## **Minutes**

The Minutes of the August meeting were signed as a true record of the proceedings, as any required amendments had been addressed after the Minutes had been circulated in draft and prior to signing.

**05/09**

## **Matters Arising**

It was noted that the plaque concerning the Queen's Jubilee had been mounted onto the commemorative bench and Cllr Paynter was thanked for his efforts in this regard.

Cllr Mrs Younger confirmed that thanks had been conveyed to Highfield Garden Centre for their kind gift of the bench and she would follow up in regard to the trees offered, as it would soon be an appropriate time of year for planting. She went on to advise that she was awaiting an email setting out what her local contact had proposed as being necessary regarding defibrillator maintenance. However, on reviewing the paperwork relating to the purchase of the existing units, it appeared that

they were maintenance free save for the necessary replacement of pads and, of course, that had been undertaken recently.

## **06/09**

### **Police & Community Safety Issues**

There had been no recent reports from the Warden Service but PCSO Trebble had sent through crime figures for the period 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2022, to 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2022, inclusive. During this period in the current year there had been 43 crimes compared with 55 in the same period during the year prior. There had been one residential burglary, 12 cases of assault, 5 criminal damage and various other incidents. However, PCSO Trebble had observed that all incidents, save for the burglary, were relatively minor and not of great concern and the crime level was generally low. It was noted that there had been an accident at the A38 crossroads the week prior and this was generally thought to be down to driver error.

The Emergency Plan was discussed in general terms and it was agreed that it should be reviewed. This would be placed on the agenda for a subsequent meeting and meanwhile Mrs Jones volunteered, from the public present, to look out hard copies of the original. Initially, it was proposed that this could be looked at prior to the next meeting with an early start but then proposed that a date be agreed on when all might be present.

It was noted that there had been no feedback in regard to the mobile CCTV camera deployed to combat antisocial behaviour but then it was also understood that there had been no further incidents.

## **07/09**

### **Planning**

#### **Decisions to Note**

There were no decisions to note.

#### **Applications to Consider**

S.22/1909/HHOLD Rosedale, Bristol Road, Whitminster, Glos.

Two storey extension to side and single storey extension to rear. Replacement of bay window.

Council resolved to support this application as whilst there was some discussion as to the scale it was noted that the plots was sizeable and the proposed development would be a notable improvement.

#### **Local Plan & Other Planning Matters**

There was nothing further to report in regard to Local Plan matters other than that the delayed Inspection in Public was likely to commence shortly.

On planning enforcement issues, despite the expansion of the Enforcement Team at SDC and a previous flurry of emails neither Cllr Jones nor the Clerk had heard anything more and both would follow up.

There was some general discussion relating to the scale of the works proceeding at Fromebridge View on the A38 but Council was reminded that consent had been granted some time ago and works had been underway for some time.

## **08/09**

### **Highways & Byways**

A meeting had taken place earlier in the day with Yakub Mulla of the Highways Department of the County Council and the following matters were discussed:

- Location for VAS sign and possible traffic calming measures in School Lane – to include costings both for necessary surveys and resultant work.
- Overhanging foliage on the Northbound A38 pavement opposite Whitminster Inn.
- Condition of A38 pavement North of Whitminster Motors following clearance works.

- A38 Northbound lay-by ditch.
- Condition of pavement to bot sides of the A38 carriageway South of the crossroads.
- Widening of the carriageway in The Close where lorries generally mount the verge.
- Visibility issues when exiting The Close onto School Lane.
- Issues relating to the size of the A38 Southbound bus stop preventing buses from fulling pulling off of the carriageway.
- Possible extension of new Grove Lane island.
- Condition of Hyde Lane.
- Exploration of Quiet Lanes proposals.
- Schoolfield Close ditch issues.
- Adoption of Schoolfield Close estate road.
- Adoption of Parklands Orchard estate road.

Mr Mulla agreed to follow up on many of these matters and write setting out how best they could be taken forward or what actions he could offer, although he explained that his budget for the remainder of the year was very limited.

On associated matters, it was noted that the works to Packthorne Corner and the exposed access chamber had been completed.

With Frampton County Fair coming up at the weekend it was reported that the appointed traffic management firm would do everything within their power to discourage the use of Hyde Lane.

There were no issues of note to update in regard to footpath matters.

## **09/09**

### **Skate Ramp**

Applications for grant funding were being submitted to both GPFA and the County Council's Build Back Better fund. Meanwhile, PWLB applications had been submitted.

The contact at Exolum who had offered a site meeting relating to the pipeline was unavailable for the foreseeable future and hence a formal application was being submitted to arrange for the route of the pipe and protected area to be marked out on the ground.

## **10/09**

### **Solar Farm**

It was noted that a discussion with Siobhan Baillie was planned for the coming weekend and discussion ensued as to how to gain further publicity if needed, with a suggestion made that BBC Radio Gloucestershire could be contacted if necessary.

## **11/09**

### **Accounts**

#### **Accounts for Payment**

The following accounts were approved for payment:

Terrane Limited	Jubilee Mugs	£648:00
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A cheque that had been drawn in anticipation of a bill to be expected from Mr D J Davies for verge cutting, at the last meeting, was confirmed as being paid in the sum of £181.81 in this regard it was noted that a reclaim of these costs could now be submitted to the County Council.

#### **Other Financial Matters**

The balance at the bank stood at £42,693.75 with a number of cheques to be presented.

A request was received from the Whitminster Village Hall & Playing Field Management Committee that the Parish Council should consider a request to make payment for the use of the Hall for Parish Council meetings. This was in the light of recent inflation and utility cost increases. It was agreed that payments would be made at the rate of £15.00 per meeting.

**12/09**

**Correspondence**

The following items of correspondence were received:

The Playing Field electronic newsletter.

Details relating to the Stroud Seniors Fair being organised by Siobhan Baillie MP.

Result of the survey carried out by the MP into disabled access and inclusive equipment in playgrounds.

Stroud District Youth Council 2022-23 Manifesto Launch.

GRCC Community Approach to Road Safety update.

Clerks & Councils Direct Magazine.

Trow magazine.

Stroud District Council eNews.

Other electronic correspondence had been circulated between meetings.

**13/09**

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

There were no items raised by Cllr Jones that hadn't been covered elsewhere in respect of Parish Council matters. In regard to the District Council there was little to report other than and update in regard to the leadership of the Labour Party and make up of the ruling coalition.

There was no County Council report.

**14/09**

**Other Business**

None.

**15/09**

**Future Agenda Items**

None.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:18pm.

**CHAIRMAN – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2022.**