

Minutes of Meeting of Whitbourne Parish Council

held on 1st May 2019

Attendance:

Present: R. James (Chairman); M. Williams (MW); A. Evans (AE); N. Knight (NK); J. Bromley (JB); P. Wood (PDW); G. Cupper (GCJ); Cummins (JC); J Walker (JW).

In Attendance: K Phillips (Clerk). 3 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

All Parish Councillors were present. Ward Councillor N Shaw sent his apologies.

2. To receive declarations of interest

JW declared an interest in item 8a and would leave the room at that time. No other declarations received.

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th April 2019

Proposed MW, seconded PDW. All in favour. Approved.

4. Matters arising from minutes of meeting

S106 matters were still in abeyance pending a meeting at Herefordshire Council on the 9th May 2019.

5. To receive Ward Councillor's report

The Ward Councillor had provided some brief notes in an email to Councillors, as follows.

- "I can confirm that the s.215 notice on the Wheatsheaf is "on hold" whilst the planning application is being considered which I understand now is standard practice.
- I reminded Andrew Banks again about Rosemoor Manor [Sic]"

6. To Receive Clerk's report

The Clerk's report covered the following:

- The Clerk had had a response from BBLP stating that the fly-tipping case had been re-opened and that the fly-tipping would be removed soon. The Ward Councillor also invited the Clerk to email a named individual at Herefordshire Council to help resolve the matter. The fly-tipping was still there and the Clerk will continue to press the case.
- There had been a website glitch as the back-end servers were changed over. Now back to normal service.
- The outgoing and incoming Parish Councillors would swap over on the 7th May. The next Parish Council meeting has been set for the 15th May 2019. At this meeting the Clerk will provide Acceptance of Office forms to be completed by all Councillors. Declaration of Interests would need to be actioned individually.

7. Finance

a) To approve bank reconciliations to 30th April 2019

Proposed NK, seconded GC. All in favour. Approved.

b) To approve income and expenditure reconciliation to 30th April 2019

Proposed JB, seconded PDW. All in favour. Approved.

c) To approve accounts for payment (amounts shown in table below)

Clerk Net Salary Apr/May 2019, Clerk HMRC Apr/May 2019, Clerk expenses Mar/Apr 2019.
Proposed AE, seconded MW. All in favour. Approved.

d) To review 2019/20 budget versus spend

The Clerk tabled the current position on spend versus budget. No issues were raised.

8. Planning

a) Planning consultation: 191376 - Barns at Lower Tedney Farm

JW left the room. The Parish Council supports this application. Proposed PDW, seconded NK. All in favour. Decided. JW re-entered the meeting room.

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9. Decision concerning financial support to Playing Fields

MW had been researching the background into how the Playing Fields were financed, and read out the following statement.

“In the past the Playing Field committee has had to raise money from grants for new equipment, furniture etc and the yearly cost of insurance, safety checks and hedge cutting. Raising money to do this is an uphill struggle for volunteers and thought to be in the region of £800 per year. However, I suggest the Parish Council in the November 2019 budget meeting put aside money for insurance, the safety checks and hedge cutting. This figure to be provided to the Parish Council before the November budget discussion for April 2020 delivery.

The [Playing Fields] committee have already budgeted and have money to pay the insurance and safety checks and hedge cutting for this present year to take them to 2020. The cost of repairs is another matter. The committee suggests £5,000 is needed but I think a new committee might find this can be dealt with in another way. To work out priorities for the most urgent repairs and a report to the Parish Council for their help with this. No grants are available for repairs but with S106 money perhaps new equipment could be obtained to replace some equipment rather than repair it. If new equipment in the future is needed then a grant can be obtained by the Parish Council or a new lease will be needed to obtain grants by the Playing Fields committee.

A new type of committee can still raise money for trees or hedge repair and other ideas they may have to improve the area. But the daunting task of raising a large sum each year to cover the insurance etc. would be a burden. I hope this would improve the chances of getting a new committee together to oversee the playing fields, which is owned by the parish Council and a valuable asset to the village as a whole.

I have a copy of the letter I received this morning and a copy of Clive's [Chairman of Playing Fields Committee] ideas in 2017. I hope the new Parish Council will discuss this at its next meeting.”

It was noted that the Parish Council already funds the grass cutting of the playing fields. After further discussion, the Parish Council agreed to discuss this at the next Parish Council meeting (that would have new Councillors at that stage). The decision to be debated would be to 'support in principle' (or not) some of the Playing Fields committee necessary expenditure.

10. Decision concerning weight limit signs at A44 entrance to village

The Ward Councillor was not present to be able to advise the way forward on this. The Clerk agreed to write to him, seeking such advice. It was suggested that a sign saying “7.5T except for access”, would be appropriate.

11. Reports from subcommittees and working parties

Village Hall. There had been an ongoing matter that had been happily concluded at its recent meeting. Another committee member had been appointed. The Chairman (PDW) will be stepping down at its AGM in June 2019. There will need to be a representative from the Parish Council to attend future meetings.

S106 Monies. As noted above, this is still in abeyance awaiting the meeting on 9th May 2019.

Playing Fields. The committee had had a recent meeting. There are no new members. There is no secretary and the Chairman will stand down in September 2019. The committee is therefore not quorate, with only the Treasurer remaining. It is proving difficult to sell 200 Club tickets and the Safari Supper is in question. It is not possible to arrange a pre-inspection before the equipment audit in July due to 'conflict of interests'.

Manorial Court. The next meeting is 8th May 2019. There is currently no stewardship scheme in place but BCMC are considering applying for a grant.

12. To report village issues regarding road maintenance, clearance etc

The A44 entrance to the village was still causing concern, albeit a low priority for Highways to refurbish.

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13. Public participation.

No issues raised by the public attending the meeting.

a) Change of name of Live and Let Live Public House. The future potential lessee of the pub had written to the Clerk requesting the opinion of the Parish Council on a possible name change. He had provided some initial thoughts. It was felt that the name had a long association with the village and would probably be called 'The Live' by local residents despite any name change. There were no strong views about changing the name and some were suggested:

- The Live at Whitbourne
- The Olde Live
- Whitbourne Inn
- Beamsley Bank (after the section of road leading from the pub to the A44)

The Clerk agreed to respond to the enquiry.

14. Items for future consideration

- S106, Manorial Court representative

Closing words by the Chairman

The Chairman thanked in turn, those Councillors retiring from the Parish Council. These were NK, AE, JC and MW all of whom had served on the Parish Council for many many years. He reflected on the achievements of the Parish Council over the last four years and the contributions each of them had made.

The meeting closed at 20:32.

| Cheque No | Expenditure | Payment |
|------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 300407 | Clerk Salary (Apr/May 19) | £321.86 |
| 300408 | Clerk HMRC (Apr/May 19) | £214.00 |
| 300409 | Clerk Expenses (Mar/Apr 19) | £40.00 |
| Total | | £575.86 |

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Chairman – 1st May 2019