

## **Minutes of Meeting of Whitbourne Parish Council held on 3rd March 2021**

### **Attendance:**

Note: Attendance was by remote video conferencing as necessitated by the Covid-19 lockdown.  
Present: R. James (Chairman); S. Knowles (SK); P. Davis (PD); C. Wier (CW); T. Hunt (TH); J. Bromley (JB); P. Wood (PDW); M. Clark (MC); G. Cupper (GC)

In Attendance: Ward Councillor N. Shaw (NS), K. Phillips (Clerk). 7 members of the public.

### **1. Apologies for absence**

All Councillors were present.

### **2. To receive declarations of interest**

There were no declarations.

### **3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on: 6th January 2021**

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

### **4. Matters arising from above minutes**

Although this is a matter from minutes a while ago, RJ reported that a brass plaque had now been placed under the red oak tree on the village green. The tree had been purchased by the Parish Council at the time and planted by the school. This was in commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012. The plaque was engraved and donated by Neil Grant, for which thanks are duly recorded.

### **5. To receive report from Ward Councillor**

The Ward Councillor's report covered the following:

- NS noted that the bus shelter is now installed on the track leading to the Live and Let Live on Bringsty Common. He thanked Simon Muirhead and his team for the work they had undertaken. NS thanked the Parish Council for the donation of the bus shelter, which would be used by school children and visitors to the common. He suggested that a suitable photograph be taken to record the occasion.
- There were three proposed amendments to the County budget but all were defeated.
- There has now been a notice published to approve the Mineral and Waste Local Plan. It addresses some of the issues with phosphate pollution in the rivers Lugg and Wye catchment areas. NS reminded Councillors that there is a moratorium on new development in the north Herefordshire area because of this situation.
- In the Linton parish there was the prosecution of a farmer for cruelty to animals, which has led to a custodial sentence.

### **6. To receive the Clerk's report**

- The VAT reclaim form had been submitted covering the Ardley Meadows S106 payment.
- Quotes had been sought from four potential grass cutting contractors.
- A shared online space has been created for the NDP working group.
- There is a new PCSO, Diane Smith.
- The Clerk provided an update on previous road maintenance matters reported to BBLP.

### **7. Financial matters**

- a) To approve accounts for payment.  
Clerk Salary Feb/Mar 21 & Clerk HMRC PAYE, Clerk Expenses Nov/Dec 20 & Jan/Feb 21, SLCC subscription. Proposed SK, seconded JB. All in favour. Approved.  
Details of expenditure are contained in a table at the end of these minutes.
- b) To approve bank reconciliation to 28th February 2021 and
- c) To approve Income and Expenditure reconciliation to 28th February 2021. Proposed TH and seconded CW. All in favour. Approved.
- d) To review current 2020/2021 budget versus spend. RJ itemised the various differences between budget and spend. No issues raised.
- e) To decide grass cutting contractor. The Clerk had approached four potential contractors for the work. It was proposed (PDW) and seconded (MC) that Bruce Eddy be chosen as the contractor for the grass cutting and strimming of the playing fields.
- f) To appoint internal auditor. It was proposed (JB) and seconded (PDW) that Lynne Butler be appointed as the internal auditor for the forthcoming end of year accounting.

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### 8. Planning

a) Planning consultation 210494 - Lower Tedney Farm, Whitbourne

It was proposed (MC) and seconded (TH) to open the meeting to the public. All in favour. The Chairman then opened the meeting to the public and invited the applicant to address the Parish Council. The applicant provided some background to the proposed development and took questions from Councillors. It was noted that this was a class Q application and as such would not be judged against the Whitbourne Neighbourhood Development Plan. The Chairman then closed the meeting. With the proviso that the application met the class Q requirements it was proposed (PDW) and seconded (CW) that this consultation be supported. All in favour. Decided.

### 9. S106 Projects

a) To review progress on agreed projects.

There were no ongoing S106 projects at the moment following the successful completion of the Ardley Meadows footpath extension.

b) To determine next phase projects.

A meeting had not yet been held with the locality steward to discuss the proposed white lining on the C1066 through the village.

### 10. To receive report from Bringsty Common Manorial Court relating to speed limit on A44

It was proposed (SK) and seconded (GC) to open the meeting to the public. All in favour. The Chairman then opened the meeting to the public and invited the Chair of the Bringsty Common Manorial Court (BCMC) to address the council. It was noted that a report providing details of the issue and some of the surrounding legislation had been sent to Councillors prior to this meeting. The request was made for the Parish Council to support the request for a study into the speed limit across Bringsty Common. As there were no further question from Councillors, the Chairman closed the meeting to the public. It was noted the Parish Council support would be necessary if any study were to be undertaken and that if the study took place, the remit should extend to the county boundary towards Worcester (to cover the junction with the C1066). It was proposed (MC) and seconded (SK) to support the request for a study into the speed limit across Bringsty Common (and to include the A44 up to the county boundary). All in favour. Decided.

### 11. To receive report on NDP review

JB reported that the next meeting of the working group would be on the 24th March. Different ways of updating the NDP were being investigated. In addition a 'landscape assessment' was being considered to cover local history and character. Kate Lack (a local historian) has been approached to see if she would be prepared to lead a small task force to create the report and has subsequently kindly agreed to do so.

### 12. To receive reports from the Village Hall, Playing Fields and Manorial Court

- **Village Hall.** CW reported that the hedge by the Village Hall had been cut back severely but would grow back over time. CCTV will be installed very soon. Gigaclear are being approached to install internet access.
- **Playing Fields.** The next meeting of the committee will be on the 19th April. Grants are being sought for the purchase of new sets of swings. A field tidy-up will take place once the weather improves. A review and inspection of the equipment and surroundings is due soon.
- **Manorial Court.** SK reported that there had been a meeting on the 11th February 2021. The main discussion point had been the speed limit on the A44 as it passes through the common. Other matters included fund raising, the location of a defibrillator, a change of ownership of the common and grazing on the common.

### 13. To receive report regarding the Glebe/woodlands

PD reported that there had been two meetings with the Trust. The result is that the Trust is keen to work with the Parish Council to undertake agreed remedial works. The Trust would like to meet with representatives of the Parish to determine what needs to be done. It was reported by RJ that Beth Grant had been approached to be the Warden and she had subsequently agreed.

### 14. To report village issues regarding road maintenance, clearance etc.

SK noted that the concrete road on Badley Wood common had had its grips replaced, perhaps because of the water coming down from Redhill. PDW had been approached by a parishioner

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noting the crack in the road along bottom lane as it approaches Whitbourne Ford Bridge. Potholes had now appeared at the bottom of church bank.

**15. Public participation**

A parishioner from Bringsty Common suggested that the speed limit signage be reviewed as there were several changes within a matter of a few hundred meters. He also opined that it would be more useful to have a speed camera than to reduce the speed limit. It was noted that another local parishioner may be interested in supporting the maintenance of the Glebe and woodlands. It was also suggested that concrete bollards or Armco would be better suited on the bottom lane where the bank falls away sharply as it approaches the Whitbourne Ford Bridge. It was noted that some Whitbourne based parishioners were also concerned about the speed on the A44 across Bringsty Common. A local farmer reported that he had trimmed the hedgerow by the Glebe. This was warmly welcomed by Councillors although he should be recompensed for future such hedge cutting.

**16. Items for future consideration**

An extraordinary Parish Council meeting is planned for the 15th March 2021

The meeting closed at 20:53.

<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Payment</b>
300470	Clerk Salary (Feb/Mar 21)	536.13
300471	Clerk HMRC (Feb/Mar 21)	357.20
300472	Clerk Expenses (Nov/Dec 20)	40.00
300473	Clerk Expenses (Jan/Feb 21)	47.92
300474	SLCC Subscription	112.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>£1053.25</b>

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Chairman – 3rd March 2021