

WHITCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL MRS ANN-MARIE DAVIES

Minutes of the meeting of Whitchurch Parish Council on Monday 9 January 2017 at 7.30pm in the St Johns Hall

Present: Chairman Ashley Bond
Vice Chairman Charlotte Lincoln
Councillor Caroline Heron
Councillor Sue Ford
Councillor Mark Parrott

County Councillor Netta Glover
District Councillor Janet Blake

Minute taker – Amy Castielli

Plus 3 residents

- 1. To receive apologies for absence** – Apologies were received from the Clerk, Ann-Marie Davies, and Councillor Paul Alderman.
- 2. Declaration of interest** in items on the agenda: to declare any interests and agree any dispensation requests - Chairman Ashley Bond Chairman declared his interests as Members of the AVDC Strategic Development Control Committee and also the Development Management Committee.
- 3. Open Forum:** – (under adjournment) - County Councillor Netta Glover gave a verbal update to the group. The notes would be distributed to Councillors. **ACTION: AMD**

Concerns about the route the trucks from the Greatmoor energy from waste site were taking was raised by Councillors. County Councillor Glover asked Councillors to note down any details of the vehicles and send through to her and she would follow up with Greatmoor as vehicles should not be using the village as a cut through. **ACTION: ALL CLLRS**

The Clerk would be asked to check the route on the BCC website.

ACTION: AMD

Councillor Glover reported to the group that she had some spare funding that she could offer to the Parish Council towards a future project. Councillor Heron indicated that she was in receipt of quotes for a new picnic bench at £375 and a new picnic table at £565. Councillor Glover said she would consider this project, but could only make a contribution towards and not cover the full cost. **ACTION: NG**

District Councillor Janet Blake reported that the government has recently announced its support to designate Aylesbury a new 'garden town.' This will attract additional funding with a share of a £1.4 million pot to support delivery and also see more homes being built over the next 15 years. The final Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan is expected towards the end of 2017 but no actual timescale is available just yet. In addition, the unitary bid will be discussed by Full Council and submitted by 16 January 2017. It was likely that County Council elections could be affected so the assumption was that they would be held before May 2017.

Councillor Heron had been approached by a resident who had asked why an electric fence had been removed in Weir Lane. Councillor Parrott knew about this issue and reported that it was as a result of a private arrangement.

Councillor Ford was also carrying a question from a resident who had challenged why there was a lack of recreational facilities for children at the lower part of the village. Councillors would keep this in mind when deciding on future projects.

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The progress of Broadband was discussed. It was reported that only 85 people had yet signed up to the AV Broadband despite door to door visits by a local resident. It was hoped that via Parish Councillors, the need to sign up could be encouraged.

4. **To agree the minutes** of the last meeting held on Monday 12 December 2016 – the minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record.
5. **To update on matters arising** – Two items were highlighted from the last minutes. The Chairman reported that all the works to improve the stiles in the village was in hand. The second item for the Clerk to source stickers showing dog waste could be put into litter bins had yet to be sourced. **ACTION: AMD**

6. **To consider correspondence and other communication received since the last meeting.**
- a) To consider the invitation to nominate a Chairman (past or present) to attend the Queens Royal Garden Party – Councillor Lincoln nominated Chairman Ashley Bond. The Clerk would be asked to apply via BALC on his behalf. **ACTION: AMD**
- b) To review and consider adopting the list to prioritise infrastructure improvements in the village. The list of six priorities which had been worked on by Councillor Lincoln, Ford and Alderman was discussed. After lengthy discussion it was decided to add improvements to footpaths in the village, in particular the footpath by the new Bushmead Road development. **ACTION: AMD**

Improvements to rights of way was also discussed as a possible addition to the list. Following the meeting it was found that this was not possible as the Parish Council now had taken on the responsibility to maintain rights of way in the village through the devolved services agreement with BCC.

7. **Planning:** To discuss planning applications and make recommendation, and to include those planning applications received after this agenda is published, if urgent:

16/03966/APP – Spencer House, Little London, Whitchurch, Bucks, HP22 4LE – To note slightly amended plans – Despite the Clerk contacting AVDC to ask for the exact detail (as it had been omitted in the initial advice letter), no information had yet been received. The Clerk would continue to chase. **ACTION: AMD**

16/04405/AOP – Land adjacent to Bushmead Road, Whitchurch, Bucks – Outline application with all matters reserved for a residential development of 13 dwellings and formation of new access – Councillors resolved to **OPPOSE** this application on the grounds as previously mentioned when last put forward for consideration. The Clerk would be asked to advise AVDC. **ACTION: AMD**

16/04619/COUOR- The Firs, High Street, Whitchurch, Bucks – Determination as to whether prior approval (Class O) is required in respect of transport & highway impact, contamination risk, flooding and noise for the conversion of B1(a) office into 8 residential flats. 2x1 bedroom and 6x2 bedroom – Councillors resolved to **SUPPORT** this planning application. The Clerk would advise AVDC. **ACTION: AMD**

8. **Highways, Footpaths and Footways**

- a) To report and update on issues and repairs – The Chairman reported that he was still to speak to a landowner in the village about repairs to a stile. **ACTION: AB**
Councillor Lincoln gave details of a further stile in need of repair. The Chairman would again look to resolve. **ACTION: AB**
Discussion around salt bins/heaps in the village was had. The Clerk would be asked to contact TFB for an update. **ACTION: AMD**
Possibly due to a culvert under the road, a pothole had appeared in Bushmead Road on the left hand side as you exit the village. The Clerk would be asked to contact TFB to report. **ACTION: AMD**

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- b) To receive and consider quotes to upgrade seating in the Recreation Ground – Councillor Heron had sourced quotes to supply recycled plastic seating in the Recreation Ground. She suggested two picnic benches and six benches. Councillors were grateful for the work that Councillor Heron had already done but asked for additional quotes so that they could make a comparison on prices. **ACTION: CH**
- c) To discuss the LAF award to supply a further MVAS in Bushmead Road – It was noted that the LAF bid to fund 50% of the cost of another Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign for the village had been successful. The Clerk would contact Swarco to progress. **ACTION: AMD**

Other matters discussed were:- Councillors noted that cars were still parking on the pavements in the High Street and asked if the Clerk could contact PCSO Wendy Taylor to ask if she could visit to ticket more cars.

ACTION: AMD

It was noted that residents could pay £90 to have white access protection marking lines installed to their driveway entrances if they were concerned about obstructions to their parking. Residents should contact TFB for further detail on 01296 395000.

Councillor Heron reported that she had removed the old noticeboard in the Recreation Ground and just needed a large vehicle to dispose of it. Councillor Parrott offered to collect and dispose.

Councillor Heron also reported that the dog bins in the village had not been emptied. Also the bin opposite the surgery was broken and needed replacing.

Councillor Heron advised that she will also start locking the gates to the Recreation Ground. This note should be put in the Whitchurch News to advise residents that the ground will be closed in the evenings. She also reported that the gate isn't closing properly. The Chairman agreed to look into it. **ACTION: AB**

9. Street lighting

- a) To report and update on issues and repairs – It was reported that a light to the front of 22 Ashgrove Gardens was too dull and a light at the top of Post Office Lane intermittently was going off and on. The Chairman would take a look and report to the Clerk if necessary.

ACTION: AB

10. Finance

- a) To agree the accounts for November 2016 – The accounts were agreed as a correct record.
- b) To draw cheques – The Council resolved to draw the following cheques:-

PCC Whitchurch	chq 565	£16.00
Ann-Marie Davies	chq 566	£424.98
Swarco Traffic Ltd	chq 567	£252.00

- c) To update on Community Chest Grant funding – It was noted that the bid for £6000 funding towards an outdoor gym had been submitted to AVDC's Community Chest fund. The outcome would be known around 19 January.
- d) To consider hosting a Play around the Parishes session – This was considered by the Parish Council and was not felt worth the high cost to the Council considering the previous turnout.
- e) To decide whether to enter into an MVAS maintenance agreement and if agreed, raise cheque – Councillors voted to enter into this agreement and the cheque was raised – see 10.b for details.

11. To report on meetings attended on behalf of the Parish Council

- a) Winslow Local Area Forum – No LAF had been held since the last meeting. Next meeting was planned for 9 March 2017.

12. **Recreation Ground** – Councillors noted the checklist completed by Mr Paul Foot and noted the comments. No action at this stage.

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13. To agree the date of the next meeting – Date of next meeting is Monday 13 February 2017 at 7.30pm in the St Johns Hall.

Signed:

Date