

MINUTES OF WHITCHURCH VILLAGE COUNCIL VIRTUAL ORDINARY PARISH MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 2nd DECEMBER 2020

Present: Cllrs: N Kirk (Chairman), S Bryant, R Chandler, M Donovan, M Dury, C Lewis, P O’Leary, J Pearce, V Perry, Mrs S Dyer (Clerk), District Councillor Paul May B&NES & one member of the public.

2020/91 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A Councillor advised that the builders working off Staunton Way have had their compound broken into twice, this has also happen at the Playpark with the contractor’s storage container.

A Councillor reported that a supermarket trolley has been left in the lane next to Hunters. It was reported that a site in Washing Pound Lane has been cleared.

Further to a complaint received regarding the houses opposite the entrance to The Witheys and the state of the recycling/waste outside these properties, the Chairman has spoken to the rental company who is responsible for these dwellings and they have promised to advise their clients accordingly.

2020/92 RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Clerk gave apologies for Cllrs T Griffin & P Orchard who are unable to attend the meeting as they are unwell or are having technical issues. These apologies and reasons for non-attendance were agreed by all in attendance.

2020/93 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS UNDER WHITCHURCH VILLAGE COUNCIL’S CODE OF CONDUCT (ADOPTED ON 7th NOVEMBER 2012)

M Dury declared an interest in agenda item 9 & J Pearce in item 10. b)

2020/94 TO RECEIVE, CONSIDER AND GRANT ANY DISPENSATIONS (FOR DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS)

None received.

2020/95 CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 4th NOVEMBER 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th November 2020, previously circulated, were agreed and will be signed as a true record of the meeting, by N Kirk (Chairman).

2020/96 TO NOTE THE DATES OF MEETING FOR 2021

A list of dates for 2021 had previously been circulated to all Councillors and these were noted.

2020/97 TO NOTE THE CONTENTS OF THE NEWSLETTER

As agreed at the last meeting, a brief newsletter has been drawn up and placed on the website, Facebook page, noticeboard & copies in the Music Shop, the contents of which was noted.

2020/98 TO DISCUSS THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION AND DRIVE AROUND AND WHETHER THESE SHOULD GO AHEAD

It was agreed that for this year the Christmas Lights competition will be held via Facebook. M Donovan will put information asking residents to upload pictures of their Christmas lights and the property with the most likes will win a prize.

It was agreed that there will be no official light switch on this year, Father Christmas will arrive in a vehicle which will be driven around the village on Friday 4th December, he will visit as many roads as possible.

Cllr M Dury left the meeting for the next agenda item

2020/99 TO REVIEW STAFF HOURS AND AGREE THE WAY FORWARD WITH THIS

This item was discussed at length, a review of the job roles are required, the work load has increased considerably over the last ten years. A personnel committee will be set up, which Cllrs R Chandler & S Bryant will join. It was pointed out that this should not be discussed in a public forum but by the committee and a report made to full Council. Extra help has been required this year due to the pandemic which is not yet over.

Cllr M Dury re-joined the meeting

2020/100 PLANNING AND TRAFFIC

a) To note the current Planning Application list.

The current Planning application listed in Appendix A, previously circulated to all Councillors was noted.

Cllr J Pearce left the meeting for this agenda item

b) To consider and agree a response to planning applications:-

20/03811/FUL – Mr & Mrs Percival, Tellisford, Norton Lane, Whitchurch, Bristol BS14 0BT

Erection of first floor extension over existing single storey aspect to rear and addition of bay window to front balcony above.

The planning officer has calculated that the increase in size from the original building, including previous extensions and the new proposals would be an increase of 81%.

It was therefore resolved that an objection is made to this application, as the property is within the Green Belt and the proposed extension would result in a disproportionate addition over and above the size of the original dwelling. Policies HG.15 & GB1.

20/04164/FUL - Mrs Jen Ashfield, 17 Oldbridge Road, Whitchurch, Bristol, BS14 0TP
Erection of first floor side extension on existing footprint to create larger family bedrooms and facilities.

It was resolved to support this application, the property is within the HDB.

Cllr J Pearce re-joined the meeting.

2020/101 CLERKS REPORT

Excess rubbish in Maggs Lane has been reported to B&NES.

The NALC/ALCA subscription for 2021 has been increased by NALC 3% - ALCA 30% of the 2020-21 fee. It is estimated it will be £397.04 but will depend on the 2021 electorate. The Regional Seminar which was moved to March 2021 has now been cancelled, virtual seminars are being arranged instead.

The West of England Combined Authority are asking for your thoughts on the future of the region, the on-line survey runs until Monday 14th December, the link has been forwarded to all Councillors, put on the website, Facebook and noticeboards.

There is also a WECA Placemaking Charter – Community Summit workshop on Monday 14th December from 2-4pm, which anyone can register to attend.

Pre-Application consultation regarding an upgrade to the Vodafone base station on the Avon Accident site has been received and circulated to all Councillors. The Clerk has spoken to Maxema Ltd who is completing the work and they confirmed that six antennas are being installed to replace the existing ones, they are within the guidelines, and planning permission is not required as it can be completed under Permitted Development.

Meetings

There is a B&NES Area group meeting via zoom on Thursday at 7pm.

2020/102 ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR PAUL MAY BANES

Paul explained that he attended a virtual meeting held by Tim Kent, members of Whitchurch Action Group & Tim Ball, B&NES Council also joined the meeting. Representatives made it clear that Whitchurch Village has already seen an increase of 250 dwellings allocated as a strategic site in the Core Strategy and therefore should not be seeing any further allocation in the Local Plan Review.

The Action Group are sending around a newsletter to all residents advising them of the WECA survey, which closes on 14th December. Paul advised that he thought the survey was development oriented and he had made full use of the comment boxes reiterating that Whitchurch Village is surrounded by Green Belt and that the Green Belt is important to its residents. To protect the ecology and climate there is no need to build a road. Resourceful Earth have withdrawn their application and Paul is looking into other possible uses for the site.

Budget consultations are going ahead at present in B&NES Council.

The speed of traffic over the bridge into the village is still a cause of concern.

The Chairman thanked Paul for the updates.

2020/103 FIELD CEMETERY & COMMUNITY GARDENS (ALLOTMENTS)

a) To Grant Exclusive Rights of Burial

Shirley May White Plot No. H200 Deed No. 1432
Ref: (Arthur George White)

S Bryant proposed, N Kirk seconded and the meeting duly passed the Exclusive Rights of Burial.

b) To receive an update on the Playpark refurbishment & agree any actions required

The Clerk and Chairman today visited the site, most of the play equipment is now in and fencing installed around it.

The table tennis table and bike rack will be installed shortly and the MUGA is being erected. The pathways and surfacing should be installed next week.

So a great deal of progress has been made but is also very muddy due to the weather, some more stone was needed to pack out the corner of the park which resembled a pond, this will cost an extra £469.00. and should prevent any future issues with flooding.

It was resolved that the park will not be reopened until it is totally finished and an inspection report made by an independent company.

A discussion was then had about safe routes to the park from the village, which should be recommended to residents and the issue of crossing the main A37. Paul May will contact B&NES Council regarding this and arrange a meeting with himself and Village Council representatives to hopefully find a solution to this issue.

Cllr Paul May left the meeting

2020/104 FINANCE

a) To note and agree the payment of accounts dated 2nd December 2020

It was resolved the schedule of payments dated 2nd December 2020, as listed in Appendix B be paid and that Cllrs N Kirk & V Perry will sign the cheques & Cllrs P O'Leary & J Pearce will authorise the online payments.

b) To receive an update on online banking and agree any actions required

Most Councillors now have authorisation to sign into the new bank account and authorise online payments, which is much quicker and less time consuming. Two Councillors authorised some payments last month and these went through fine. The plan is to have most payments online by the end of the financial year.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Matt Donovan, who has decided to stand down from the Council, for all his help and input since he has been Chairman, especially with community events. All members of the Village Council expressed their thanks by giving Matt a round of applause.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting and wished them a Merry Christmas.

The meeting ended at 8.55.pm.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 6th January 2021.

Appendix A

PLANNING APPLICATION LIST – 2nd December 2020

APPLICATIONS

26/08/2020

20/03066/FUL

Mr Thompson

The Nest, Hursley Hill, Whitchurch, BS14 0QZ

Erection of a single and second storey rear extension and conversion of loft space to form bedroom with en-suite.

OBJECT to this application as the property is within the Green Belt and the proposed extension would represent a disproportionate addition over and above the size of the original dwelling.

Policy HG.15 & GB.1

14/10/2020

20/03731/FUL

Jody & Raychel Thomas

Wyke Lodge, Norton Lane, Whitchurch, Bristol, BS14 0BT

Erection of single storey flat roof rear extension following demolition of existing single storey rear aspect and build conversion of attic and rear dormer window
(Resubmission)

SUPPORT this application as it is now within the regulations of extensions within the Green Belt & adheres to Policy HG.15.

20/10/2020
20/03811/FUL

Mr & Mrs Percival
Tellisford, Norton Lane, Whitchurch, Bristol BS14 0BT
Erection of first floor extension over existing single storey aspect to
Rear and addition of bay window to front with balcony above

09/11/2020
20/04164/FUL

Mrs Jen Ashfield
17 Oldbridge Road, Whitchurch, Bristol, BS14 0TP
Erection of first floor side extension on existing footprint to create
larger family bedrooms and facilities.

Appendix B

MONTHLY PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS			DATE: 2 nd DECEMBER 2020	
D/D	British Telecom	Phone/broadband	52.80	8.80
D/D	SSE	Electric Clock	39.53	1.88
BT	Various	Salaries, postage, travel expenses, & stationery	1,719.67	
BT	Bryant Electrical	Infrastructure Xmas lights	120.00	20.00
BT	Bateman Skips	Skip at cemetery	288.00	48.00
BT	WVCA	Rent – November	180.00	
Chq	Mant Leisure Ltd	Play park – week 3	24,000.00	4,000.00
Chq	B&NES Council	Pension Fund	429.17	
Chq	H M Revenue Customs	PAYE & NIC Nov	268.58	
Chq	Your Solution	Maintenance	286.00	
Chq	Blachere Illum	Christmas lights	1,678.42	279.74
Chq	Unity Trust Bank	Transfer funds	(20,000.00)	
Total Payments			£29,062.17	£4,358.42