

MINUTES OF WHITCHURCH VILLAGE COUNCIL VIRTUAL ORDINARY PARISH MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 2021

Present: Cllrs: N Kirk (Chairman), T Griffin (Vice Chair) S Bryant, R Chandler, M Dury, P O’Leary, J Pearce, V Perry,
Mrs S Dyer (Clerk), District Councillor Paul May B&NES & one member of the public.

2021/117 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A Councillor reported an attempted break in to her property and another property in the village on Saturday 30th January in the evening, nothing was taken but the padlocks were cut off to gain entry. There was also issues at Whitchurch Cricket Club with motor bikes being driven across the cricket pitch on the same evening.

2021/118 RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Clerk gave apologies for Cllrs C Lewis & P Orchard who were unable to join the meeting due to family commitments and technical issues. The apologies and the reasons for non-attendance were accepted by all present.

2021/119 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS UNDER WHITCHURCH VILLAGE COUNCIL’S CODE OF CONDUCT (ADOPTED ON 7th NOVEMBER 2012)

None received.

2021/120 TO RECEIVE, CONSIDER AND GRANT ANY DISPENSATIONS (FOR DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS)

None received.

2021/121 CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6th JANUARY 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th January 2021, previously circulated, were agreed and will be signed as a true record of the meeting, by N Kirk (Chairman).

2021/122 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON ADVERTISING TO CO-OPT A NEW COUNCILLOR

The Clerk has put the official notice that a casual vacancy has arisen on the website, noticeboard and advised the Monitoring Officer at B&NES Council. If the Monitoring Officer does not receive a request for an election, signed by ten electors, by 8th February the position can be advertised.

2021/123 TO REVIEW THE SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY AND AGREE ANY AMENDMENTS

It was resolved to remove Matt Donovan as one of the Social Media moderators and add Whitchurch Village Council employees and John Pearce, alongside Paul O’Leary. Also to add - Whitchurch Village Council employees & Martin Francis are Webmasters, under specific sanction from the Clerk.

2021/124 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL FORM ‘THE WEEK IN’ REGARDING A COMMUNITY PAGE IN THEIR NEWSPAPER

The Secretary from the Week In newspaper has been in contact with regards offering free space on a regular basis to parish and town councils to publish their own news in the paper.

This is likely to be on a quarterly basis depending on how many councils wish to join in.

It was resolved that this is something the council would be interested in, the Clerk will advise them accordingly.

2020/125 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.

b) To consider and agree a response to planning application No. 21/00313/FUL J P Philliskirk, 7 Dobunni Close, Whitchurch, Bristol, BS14 0FG

It was resolved to support this application which is within the Housing Development Boundary.

c) To agree the contents of the Liveable Neighbourhoods Proforma

The Clerk & Paul May recently had a meeting to discuss this and are recommending that we focus on three issues:-

- The speed of traffic on the A37 into the Village. A new pedestrian crossing is needed on the A37, near its junction with Woollard Lane, to allow residents to cross safely to and from the Playpark, allotment site and bus stop. This would also help reduce traffic speed in and out of the Village.
- Staunton Lane, Sleep Lane & Maggs Lane, rat runs.
- Lighting on the Cycle track – there are lights on the Bristol section of the track but none on the Whitchurch section.

It was resolved to support this action, Paul will complete the Proforma and send it to the relevant department.

d) To note the Local Plan Partial Update Options consultation dates and agree a response

Paul May explained that B&NES Council have not included any further development in Whitchurch Village within this review, which is good news and they are working with us. As the JSP was thrown out, WECA will need to plan for further strategic sites across the region, a new Mayor is due to be appointed in May 2021.

We will need to be vigilant and will need to object to any further plans for development within the Village. Whitchurch Village with its current transportation issues is not a sustainable place for development.

2020/126 CLERKS REPORT

On chasing the issue of the flooded footpath between Bristol Road & Sleep Lane the Clerk was informed that contractors will be on site this week to clean and survey the whole drainage system in this area to see what is causing the flooding. This is the reason for the traffic lights on the A37/Bristol Road. The Clerk will send a follow up e-mail to the Senior Drainage Engineer on Friday for an update.

Several roads in the village are either closed at present or will be shortly for different reasons, Norton Lane is closed until tomorrow, & Maggs Lane from Monday 8th February.

An e-mail has been received from a resident regarding setting up a farmers market to sell local produce.

A new wooden bin has been installed at the cemetery to try to encourage visitors to recycle more, the new cremation area has been created.

The Clerk has booked virtual regional training on Weds 24th March.

2020/127 ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR PAUL MAY BANES

Paul explained that the Week In newspaper has contacted him for comment regarding the old railway bridge on the A37 in the village, which is on a list of 134 disused structures that are under threat of either demolition or infilling by Highways England. As he was unaware of this, he has asked B&NES if they have been in contact with anyone regarding this.

The Chairman thanked Paul for the update.

2020/128 FIELD CEMETERY & COMMUNITY GARDENS (ALLOTMENTS)

a) To Grant Exclusive Rights of Burial

Linda Hacker Plot No. H199 Deed No. 1433
Ref: (Paul Christopher Hacker)

Richard Tucker Plot No. H202 Deed No. 1434
Ref: (Margaret Tucker)

Lauren Popel Plot No. C40 Deed No. 1435
Ref: (Connor Churchley)

S Bryant proposed, M Dury seconded and the meeting duly passed the Exclusive Rights of Burial.

b) To receive a report on the Playpark/Cemetery/Allotment committee meeting, consider the quotes for the removal of tree's at the cemetery.

Paul O'Leary, who was voted in as Chairman on this committee, gave an update on this meeting. An update on the Playpark refurbishment was given by the Clerk, it was agreed to recommend that the risk assessment and weekly inspection reports will need to be updated with the new equipment.

It was agreed that the new cremation area, which should have been completed last year, needs to be completed as soon as possible, as we are running out of cremation plots.

The budget for all areas were discussed and then set for 2021/2022.

Two quotes have now been received for the removal of the Ash tree's at the cemetery which have Ash dieback. Rachel Chandler has details of another tree surgeon who could also supply a quote.

It was resolved to accept the recommendations made and when another quote is received for the tree removal the Clerk can go ahead with the cheapest one.

Paul May left the meeting.

c) To receive an update on the Playpark refurbishment, to consider additional quotes and payments to be made

The Clerk explained that she visited the site with the Chair, Vice-Chair on Monday to speak with the contractor to see what still needs to be completed to finish the project. It was recommended by the contractor that top soil is spread on the areas outside the boundary of the play equipment & MUGA and it is then reseeded and a grid paving system with gravel is installed around the table tennis area. A quote was requested for this additional work together with an additional picnic bench. This has been received and is £14,030.00.

Another quote has been received from Lee Gillam for £8430.00, plus the purchase of another bench.

After a long discussion it was agreed that the Chairman will speak with Mant Leisure tomorrow to see if they will reduce their quote and if not explain to them that it is their

responsibility to leave the ground in an acceptable state. The contract to complete the groundwork will then be given to Lee Gillam.

It was resolved that a payment of £70,000.00 +VAT will be given to Mant Leisure along with the payment for the table tennis table, the remaining balance will be issued when a satisfactory Post Installation report has been received, circulated to all Councillors for agreement and signed off by the Clerk.

2020/129 FINANCE

a) To note and agree the payment of accounts dated 3rd February 2021

It was resolved the schedule of payments dated 3rd February 2021, as listed in Appendix B be paid and that Cllrs N Kirk & M Dury will sign the cheques & Cllrs J Pearce & T Griffin will authorise the online payments.

b) To receive a report and agree recommendations from the Finance Committee, including increasing cemetery fee's and the budget for 2021/2022

Chairman Nick Kirk, gave an update and recommendations made by the Finance committee, including increasing the cemetery fee's by 4%, as they have not been increased for two years, this will be in line with other burial authorities in the area. An update on the amount of CiL & Section 106 funds held was given, proposals to set up a Reserves Policy, the budget figures to date were checked and then a proposed budget set for 2021/2022, which was circulated to all Councillors.

It was resolved to accept all the above recommendations.

d) To agree the amount of Precept for 2021/2022

It was resolved that the Precept for 2021/2022 will be increased by £1,000.00 to £38,000.00, this will be a decrease of .49p per annum on Band D properties in the village and a reduction on all other bands.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting which ended at 9.05.pm.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 3rd March 2021.

Appendix A

PLANNING APPLICATION LIST – 3rd FEBRUARY 2021 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
- 16/12/2020
20/0476/FUL
- Mr Jonathon Miller
41 Bristol Road, Whitchurch, BS14 0PF
Erection of a single storey kitchen rear extension with stair access from the inside to facilitate underneath storage. Erection of a small decking and stair access to the garden.
SUPPORT this application which is within the Housing Development Boundary
- 26/01/2021
21/00313/FUL
- J P Philliskirk
7 Dobunni Close, Whitchurch, BS14 0FG
Erection of single storey side extension

RESULTS

- 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.
PERMITTED
- 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
REFUSED

Appendix B

MONTHLY PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

DATE: 3rd FEBRUARY 2021

D/D	British Telecom	Phone/broadband	52.80	8.80
D/D	SSE	Electric Clock - Jan	41.75	1.98
D/D	SSE	Electric Clock – Feb	34.90	1.66
BT	SLCC	Training	54.00	9.00
BT	Various	Salaries, stationery, travel expenses	1,691.47	
BT	WVCA	Rent – January	180.00	
BT	Your Solution	Maintenance	150.00	
BT	Bateman skips	Skip at cemetery	288.00	48.00
Chq	B&NES Council	Pension Fund	429.17	
Chq	H M Revenue Customs	PAYE & NIC Jan	268.58	
Chq	Mant Leisure Ltd	Table tennis table	5,100.00	850.00
Chq	Mant Leisure Ltd	Playpark refurbishment	84,000.00	14,000.00
Chq	Mant Leisure Ltd	Playpark refurbishment	17,257.99	2,876.33
Total Payments			£109,548.66	£17,795.77