

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF WHITCHURCH VILLAGE COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10th MAY 2023

Present: Cllrs: M Dury (Vice Chairman), S Bangham, S Bryant, R Chandler, J Fox-Bowen, C Lewis, P O'Leary, V Perry, Mrs S Dyer (Clerk), District Councillor Paul May B&NES & one member of the public.

Mark Dury (Vice Chairman) took the Chair as the present Chairman was not at the meeting.

2023/01 TO ELECT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL AND RECEIVE THE CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Nominations for the Chairman were requested, N Kirk the present Chairman has indicated he will stand again, no other nominations were received. It was unanimously agreed that Mr N Kirk is Chairman for 2023/2024

Cllr N Kirk will need to sign the Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office by 24th May 2023.

2023/02 TO ELECT THE VICE CHAIRMAN AND RECEIVE THE VICE CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The Chairman requested nominations for a Vice Chairman, M Dury the present Vice Chairman agreed to stand again, no other nominations were received. It was unanimously agreed that Cllr M Dury is Vice Chairman for 2023/2024 and he subsequently signed the Vice-Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance form.

2023/03 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Clerk gave apologies for Cllrs N Kirk & P Orchard who are unable to attend due to either illness or other commitments.

These apologies and reasons for non-attendance were accepted by all present.

2023/04 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS UNDER WHITCHURCH VILLAGE COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT (ADOPTED ON 7th NOVEMBER 2012)

None

2023/05 TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE UNDER MENTIONED COMMITTEES

a) Finance

Cllrs: N Kirk (Chairman), S Bangham, S Bryant, M Dury, P O'Leary, V Perry

b) Planning/Traffic

Cllrs: S Bryant, R Chandler, J Fox-Bowen, C Lewis, P Orchard

c) Playfield/Cemetery/Allotment/Community Gardens

Cllrs: P O'Leary (Chairman), M Dury, J Fox-Bowen, C Lewis, P Orchard, V Perry

d) Staff Committee

Cllrs: S Bryant, R Chandler, N Kirk

It was resolved that members on the committees are elected as listed above. The Chair of the meeting expressed the importance of getting the Staff Committee up and running.

2023/06 TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:-

- a) **B&NES Avon Local Councils Association** – The Clerk and/or a Councillor
- b) **Parish Liaison** – The Clerk and/or a Councillor
- c) **Keynsham/Chew Valley Area Forum meetings**

Chew Valley Forum – M Dury

Keynsham Area Forum – J Fox-Bowen & P Orchard

It was agreed the meetings will be advertised and a representative agreed at that time.

2023/07 TO DECLARE THAT THE COUNCIL MEETS THE CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY FOR THE GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

The Clerk explained what the General Power of Competence is. It is intended to give local authorities (including parish and town councils) wider powers to deliver more for their communities. The GPC will allow a council to do anything that individuals generally may do, except where other aspects of the law may forbid them from doing. It is intended to relieve councils of the need to find specific statutory powers to authorise their activities.

To be eligible to exercise the GPC a parish council must conform with the following:-

- at least two-thirds of the total number of councillors have been elected (at ordinary or by-election), not co-opted, at the meeting, the resolution is passed to confirm that the council is eligible.
- the council's clerk holds either
Certificate in Local Council Administration (CILCA).
Or level 4 qualification awarded by the University of Gloucestershire.

It was resolved that Whitchurch Village Council meets the conditions above and therefore it retains the ability to use the GPC until the annual meeting of the council in the next ordinary election year.

Meeting closed at 7.50.p.m.