

Minutes 08/16

WHITNASH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Thursday, 17th March 2016
at 7.00 p.m. in
Whitnash Community Hall, Acre Close, Whitnash.

PRESENT

Councillors: S Button Deputy Mayor
A Barton
P Birdi
G Cancilla
B Franklin
B Kirton
R Margrave
T Shepherd
J Short
B Smart
R Sparkes
S Vaughan Arrived at 19h10

Town Clerk: Jenny Mason

Police: 1 Public: 1

162/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs Falp, Heath, McFadden. Apologies for absence were accepted.

163/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at the start of the meeting.

164/16 PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

165/16 POLICE

Standing Orders were suspended to allow PSCO Steve Sample to speak

Anti-social behaviour, school parking and speeding are still the priorities.

There were 10 reports of anti-social behaviour, no burglaries and 3 incidents of criminal damage. A number of youths have been stopped and spoken to on site and have been issued with anti-social behaviour warning letters, a necessary first step on the anti-social behaviour legislation path. One has already had a letter in the previous six months and will be offered an Acceptable Behaviour Contract – The second step. Parents of the children were also spoken to on the night. If persons are in Council or Social Housing their tenancy could be affected or even terminated if they participate and persist in anti-social behaviour.

Surgeries will be held at Linleigh Electrical on Saturdays and the proposed dates will be published on the Police website. Members proposed that these dates are also publicised on the Town Council website and in the next edition of the Whitnash Tymes.

Inconsiderate parking has been addressed and 'parking notices' issued. Various other parking problems in Acre Close and Coppice Roads were reported to Steve.

Cllr Vaughan arrived at 19h10.

Citizens' Academies enable people in our communities to develop an insight into and experience what their local policing teams do to protect them, their families, friends and colleagues from harm. Members of the public can support the work of the police and their partner agencies by enrolling in the ten-week Citizens' Academy programme, to be held at Warwickshire Justice Centre (Newbold Terrace, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV32 4EL) / Leek Wootton every Wednesday from 6:30-8:30pm, beginning on 13 April 2016 where police officers, police staff and supporting agencies/organisations will deliver presentations.

The Travellers are still here and should be moved on tomorrow (Friday). Shop owners have experienced issues with the Travellers and Cllr Vaughan asked if the Police can address these.

Standing Orders were re-instated.

166/16 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

In the Mayor's absence Cllr Button read the report.

I send my apologies for not being with you at the meeting. I know Simon will chair the meeting well for me and it is good practice for him for the coming months.

I was very pleased so many Councillors and all our staff were able to attend the Dementia Awareness Training before the last meeting. Awareness training has also taken place arranged by Jenny Heath and Paul Gaskell at the Lawns, with a good attendance. I also attended the Brunswick Healthy Living Centre Dementia Cafe in Leamington where one of our residents who has Dementia gave an excellent talk on the Elephants of Leamington Spa and living with Dementia. Whitnash Town continues to work towards being a Dementia Friendly Town.

With just ten weeks to go before I hand over as Mayor I have tried to attend as many functions as possible. There are quite a few as Civic leaders arrange their last events before they hand over to their deputies. In Whitnash I have attended the Indoor Bowls Club Annual Dinner at the Golf Club and the Women's World day of Prayer held at St Margaret's this year. Other events have been the League of Friends A.G.M at the Rehab hospital, Leamington Town Mayor's civic dinner, Warwickshire County Council Chairman's civic reception, The Flag Flying at Leamington Town Hall for Commonwealth Day, a talk at the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association for International Women's Day and a wonderful performance of Oliver put on by the Warwickshire Youth Singers lead by Trevor Jones.

The Town office is extremely busy at the moment. We have been renewing contracts, trying to arrange activities for the summer holidays for our younger residents (thanks to funding raised in the past by Cllr Birdi when he was Mayor) and dealing with a range of issues raised by our residents. The first meeting of the Community Hub working group

has taken place and the next one is planned. We have ongoing projects to sort and the end of the financial year to complete, but our efficient team will as always rise to the challenge to complete all in a timely manner.

Judy Falp Mayor of Whitnash

167/16 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 18th February 2016 as circulated were approved and signed as a true record.

168/16 MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THOSE MINUTES

133/16 War Memorial Names – Cllr Smart has not received an update since the last meeting.

152/16 Rates Assessment – Cllr Franklin completed the measurements tonight and will report back to the next meeting.

169/16 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Warwickshire County Council Report:

Cllr Kirton has spoken to WCC Highways engineer about the damage on the grass verges around Whitnash. The firms concerned will be charged if the verges are not re-instated. There is a bye-law about parking on the verges. Cllr Kirton was thanked for bringing this to the attention of the Highways Authority.

WCC will also be looking at the viability of libraries in the county as their funding has been cut by central government. Members proposed that a letter is sent to the Leader of WCC asking for usage statistics compared with similar sized libraries in the county and the timescales involved in the closures.

(Subsequent to the meeting decision it was established that the closure does not currently apply to Whitnash Library.)

Cllr Margrave was asked to find out about what is happening with the One Stop Shops as these services are also offered in the library.

Warwick District Council Reports:

Cllrs Heath, Margrave and myself as the three Whitnash District Councillors while all on different committees at Warwick District Council cover for each other if need arises. This means we have to try and attend all the training sessions on all subjects as well as meetings so we can put a meaningful input for any committee. Not so well planned today as only one or all of us cannot attend the town council meeting tonight!

We also try to meet together at least once a month to look at what is to be discussed at forthcoming meetings and to talk about any issues that may have arisen. This is a big time commitment especially for Cllrs Heath and Margrave who still work. By working as a team though we can achieve a good outcome for our residents. The proposed new allocations of housing in Whitnash and our concerns have been raised in full council. The ongoing need for Warwick District to save money due to government funding cuts impacts on our residents, with a constant demand for services making it difficult to sometimes get simple things achieved such as replacement and new litter bins. We look at every item that is on an agenda and while understanding we need to look at it as District Councillors and the need of the district it is of course what we think it will or will not benefit Whitnash that drives our decision making. As Independents we can vote as we think not what we have been told we must.

Judy Falp Warwick District Councillor

Cllr Margrave said that the Town Council should make representations to the Inspector regarding the proposed

development of 75 houses on Golf Lane and that the Town Council should also respond to the Planning application. In the past WCC Highways objected to development further down as the access was too long. It was proposed that a letter is sent to WCC to find out when their rationale and the criteria policy changed with regard to this access. The Whitnash Neighbourhood Plan should hold weight with regard to this application.

Members also raised concern about the re-design proposals that WDC was carrying out earlier this year and how this will implicate the work of the planning department with all the new planning applications. Would Warwick District Councillors find out about this and report back to the Town Council?

Cllr R Margrave Warwick District Councillor

170/16 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER NOMINATIONS FOR POSITIONS OF MAYOR ELECT AND DEPUTY MAYOR ELECT FOR 2016 – 2017

Cllr Button was nominated as Mayor for 2016 – 2017 by Cllr Margrave and the nomination was seconded by Cllr Shepherd. All members present voted in favour.

Cllr Heath was nominated as Deputy Mayor for 2016 – 2017 by Cllr Cancilla and this nomination was seconded by Cllr Franklin. Ten members voted in favour and there were two abstentions.

171/16 STREET NAMING PROPOSALS

WDC is in the process of writing to all relevant developers and asking them to put forward provisional themes as well as individual names for streets. These will be sent to the relevant Town/Parish Councils for consideration prior to a formal decision being made by the District Council. Cllr Short said our current list needs to be amended as Stan Moreton was also a District Councillor. It was proposed that the names suggested on the Whitnash list are considered

172/16 COMMUNITY HUB UPDATE

The first working group meeting of the Whitnash Community Hub met on Thursday 10th March 2016. Representatives from the Town Council, Whitnash Sports and Social Club, Whitnash Primary School and Warwick District Council had been invited. The interested parties present all gave their thoughts on how they could be involved in the Hub, their concerns and ideas and ways a Hub could be used. Deputy Chief Executive Andrew Jones from Warwick District Council explained how they had assisted the Town Council with the feasibility study for the hall and that he would be taking a report to the Executive of Warwick District Council on Wednesday, 6th April 2016 on how the district could support the residents of Whitnash to progress the project that was an important part of the now adopted Neighbourhood Plan. The group will need to have a working agreement document for all to sign and will need to start to think of a business plan and who can assist with its production. It was agreed to meet again on Thursday, 7th April 2016 when the result of the Executive meeting will be known.

Judy Falp

Cllr Birdi proposed that funding for the Community Hub is considered at the next Finance and GP meeting.

173/16 CORRESPONDENCE

1. Card from Josie.
2. Email from Mr Mulherin re grass verges in Franklin and Gleave Roads.

All correspondence was noted.

174/16 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

(155/16) - Accounts for payment accepted subject to receipts.)

No	Payable	Details	Amount £	Cheque No
2716	British Telecom	Hall telephone	75.56	D/D
2717	Jenny Mason	Batteries for emergency lighting hall	3.98	Bacs
2718	Jenny Mason	Gate keys Acre Close	10.50	Bacs
2719	VIKING	Credit returned toner (old printer)	- 91.19	Bacs
2720	Spa Computers Ltd	Supply & install new printer	416.00	Bacs
2721	Spa Computers	Onsite support	108.00	Bacs
2722	Jenny Mason	Chain for Fortress bin	7.00	Bacs
2723	ESPO	Hall cleaning materials	78.85	Bacs
2724	ESPO	Mop handles	10.58	Bacs
2726	Jenny Mason	Fuel & oil mowers	21.47	Bacs
2728	Crimestop	Alarm call out hall	91.20	Bacs
2729	EON	Street lighting March 2016	33.94	D/D
2730	Jenny Mason	Keys for Fortress Bin	7.00	Bacs
2731	Midshire Telecom	Office call charges March 2016	6.37	D/D
2732	ESPO	Litter pickers	30.62	Bacs
2733	H B Creative	Parking Sign Acre Close	78.00	002561
	WDC	Hall rates April 2016	657.00	D/D
	Post Office	100 x 2nd Class stamps	54.00	002560
	Cllr Falp	Mayors allowance (part payment)	300.00	000058
	Kenilworth Mayor's Charity	Civic Tour Kenilworth Castle	10.00	000059

Expenditure over £500:

Invoice Date	WTC Ref	Payable to	Detail	Net	Vat	Gross	Paid by
			No expenditure over £500				
Grant income & expenditure exceeding £500:				Net	Vat		
Grant received							
			No expenditure or grants received				
Grant spend							
			No grant spend				

175/16 REPORTS FROM WARD COUNCILLORS

South Ward: The bin outside Whitnash Sports & Social Club as still not been installed. Cllr Cancilla proposed more bins are placed near St Margaret's and St Joseph's schools as well as in Church Lane so that dog mess can be disposed of. Cllr Cancilla will do a report for the June

meeting. The recycling teams are still leaving a mess when collections are done on a Thursday. Cllr Vaughan queried the timings of the bin collections on a Thursday. The arterial routes through Whitnash seem more congested on Thursdays. When the wagons stop to do collections the traffic builds up behind them. Cllr Margrave will raise this issue with WDC.

East Ward: Nothing to report.

North Ward: Nothing to report.

West Ward: Nothing to report.

176/16 REPORT ON PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING:

Cllr Smart proposed that a receipt (in the form of draft minutes) of the Planning Meeting held on 3rd March 2016 are received.

177/16 WHITNASH TWINNING ASSOCIATION REPORT

The French Twinning will be visiting from 5th – 8th May 2016.

178/16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Town Council meeting will be held on 21st April 2016 at 7.00 p.m.

There being no other business the Deputy Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed.

SIGNED..... DATE.....