

vehicles were up. The Safer Neighbourhoods Team would be looking at attending drop in sessions like Rhyme Time at Whitnash Library and also Neighbourhood Watch meetings where they can speak to groups of residents to hear their concerns.

The new technology being rolled out in the Police force will see frontline police equipped with smartphones and laptop computers to enable them to deliver a better service. This will enable them to access intelligence and record crime without having to go back to a police base to complete tasks.

They would also target speeding and Steve has contacted Jane Lees at Warwickshire County Council to find out if she has a solution to the problem at the junction of Golf Lane and Whitnash Road.

Steve warned Members about scams going around where residents are told not to inform the police or anyone else about the 'compensation' they will receive.

Steve also thanked Cllr McFadden for setting up the Neighbourhood Watch Facebook page and highlighting issues that occur in and around Whitnash.

Standing orders were re-instated.

159/17 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to those who have helped set up this evening.

Please be reminded that is also all of our responsibilities to help pack away.

So often members just slip away unnoticed, or just stand around chatting.

If you want to stand around chatting, please do so outside the main gates to the field, after the meeting.

Congratulations to Cllr Dave Sage for his amazing "Excellence in the Community Award".

To steal your words Dave "we are proud to have you as part of our team". Well Done!

So once again we have our Police Officer leaving us.

In a long email from Inspector Daff Goddard, who I actually do have respect for, he explained that Pete Yeardley was leaving us.

He is to be replaced with a new Beat Manager, PC Rachel Smith, who is an experienced officer and has worked on Leamington SNTs for a number of years. She is part-time but still works upwards of 28hrs per week and will be able to dedicate herself to the Whitnash area. We will see!

We will still retain the services of PCSO Steve Sample and in order to supplement the team, we also have PCSO Jessica West added to the team. Again, Jessica is part-time, but if you combine the hours available each week through Steve, Rachel and Jessica, it will total more than that currently available through Steve and Pete.

Judy and I have a meeting set up at the end of the month to meet this team and will convey our thoughts following on from this.

We will also discuss the following issue and others.

Sadly, the traffic issues continue to cause a danger to our residents, despite our pleas to WCC about them.

I received another complaint just yesterday.

WCC just seem to want to blame everyone else and put the onus back onto us, although it is their negligence that has caused this.

As a Town Council, we are powerless to stop people breaking the law by driving badly, or too fast, and of course using mobile phones. This is the responsibility of the Police.

But we can report this, which we have done on numerous occasions, with a pretty pathetic response from WCC, despite us going to a higher authority every time.

I understand this was discussed at the Planning Meeting and Cllr Mrs Falp has some information for us relating to S106 money. Cllr Mrs Falp reported that Fieldgate Lane received Section 106 money for strategic network improvements for roads, footpaths and cycle ways, but this money will be used for Europa Way improvements.

On another issue, we have had a number of complaints from residents about the trees being cut down in this field, along with the loss of the flowerbed in Plough Green.

Both of these issues were discussed at the recent H&PF meeting and decisions have been made on how to resolve this.

You have to bear in mind that the trees in this park are owned by WDC and they just came in without our permission

and decimated them.

We have written to WDC to complain about this and asked them to put right the fact that they left behind a number of safety issues.

We have also informed the residents about what has happened and what we are going to do about this field and the flower bed in Plough Green.

Next Wednesday 22nd March at 7.00pm, here at Acre Close, we have the wonderful talk about the shops from Clemens Street to the top of the Parade. As I said before, anyone who was born in this area, or has lived here for many years will really enjoy this.

Remember this is open to anyone you know, but the response from Councillors, about who is attending, has yet again been really poor. Why do people simply NOT reply?

Thanks to those who have done so.

I would once again thank Barry for this kind offer.

We are now fast forwarding towards our Charity Ball at the Chesford, on Saturday 1st April.

This should be a fabulous evening with 2 live bands, a musician, a disco and a wonderful menu.

We have some amazing auction and raffle prizes, but just need to get bums on seats now.

So please support this if you can and let Jenny know, as soon as possible.

We have a few seats left.

Thank you.

Cllr S Button

Cllr Short proposed that the Mayor meets with the County Engineer and asks for professional advice for a safe crossing at the junction of Golf Lane and Whitnash Road.

160/17 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 16th February 2017 as circulated were approved and signed as a true record.

161/17 MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THOSE MINUTES

139/17 Mayor's announcements – The Bear in the Spa has been taken over.

142/17 Reports from County and District Councillors – Cllr McFadden raised concern about the cuts to 6th form classes at various schools.

162/17 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Warwickshire County Council Report:

There was no report from Cllr Kirton

Warwick District Council Reports:

I have attended the following meetings at the District Council and for the District Council since our last town council meeting, a busy time.

Licence and Regulatory, briefing on Public Health, group looking at the proposals for the new W.D.C. H.Q, the full council meeting to set the budget, shadow portfolio holders meetings (x2) for Community Protection and Environmental Health portfolio, planning training on HMO, group leaders briefing, Audit Scrutiny, Executive meeting, health meeting and Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust quality scrutiny meeting.

I raised concerns re the possible outsourcing of the C.C T.V. service as I cannot see how an operative in the West Midlands can monitor an area he/she does not know. The District Council were approached to see if they were interested in taking up the West Midland service and they have to look at the offer and produce a report on the possible benefits or not. I am concerned this will be another way of cutting budgets at the expense of the service and of course losing staff jobs. Our C.C.T.V operatives have won awards for their excellent work. The Labour group on

W.D.C. put forward five amendments to the budget, matters such as ways to increase affordable housing and increase wages for staff. The three Whitnash Residents Councillors voted as we felt individually, some supporting some motions, some not. The Licence and Regulatory committee as the full group do not meet too often over the year, but the individual panels of three members (5 groups in all) meet on a regular basis to deal with Licence premises hearings and taxi drivers who for a reason/s need to attend the panels due to an issue that has arisen or application for a licence.

The Executive meeting and Scrutiny committees looked at proposals to cut Community Forums to just two a year and cut the budget by £50,000 on the total amount they spend on all grants. I am sure Councillor Margrave will give more information on this matter.

I still have concerns that the District Council focus on large projects only and the day to day services that mean most to our residents are underfunded.

Cllr Mrs Falp said from June 2017 she would forward the report to the Clerk to send out with the agenda and minutes before the meeting so Members could read the report before the meeting.

Judy Falp, Warwick District Council and Whitnash Town Council

Since the last full town council meeting I have attended the full district council meeting and the Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting.

Two issues of note at the Overview & Scrutiny.

Community Forums, they are looking to cut the forums from the current 3 to 2. One suggestion to merge rural forums was met with distain by rural members. Most members thought they were popular and the report indicated that most parishes / towns wanted to keep them. Interestingly it seems that Warwick Town are going to be able to keep 3 meetings because they are going to help "fund" them. When pressed, it seems this funding will be in the form of "in kind" (room and staff provision) support. This is something this town council should look to do if it wants to keep 3 meetings.

One argument put forward by WDC is that resources would be better used to enable them to be more proactive in the community with the time saved. I asked if the forum planning groups would be involved in this. The answer was of course, so our planning group need to be proactive in this regard.

The other issue is the planned review of support for community events. Interestingly the officer reported that this will have to include looking at provision of bins and emptying them at local events. When I mentioned to the officer that we had already had our support removed, she didn't seem to know this. I have emailed for more information which hopefully I will get by the time this is read. *(Cllr Mrs Falp declared a personal interest).*

I am also enquiring as to why WDC block their phone number when making outgoing calls. This isn't very customer friendly, again when I know more I will let you know.

In WDC's new budget there is an allocation of £867,000 for community projects such as Whitnash Hub.

The operator of the WDC leisure centres will be announced soon.

Cllr R Margrave – Warwick District Councillor

163/17 WHITNASH COMMUNITY HUB BUSINESS PLAN

I had hoped to have held a meeting with the working group to present the final draft of the Business plan before the town council meeting so we could ask for you to agree or not tonight. We will now be meeting on Thursday 30th March to present hopefully to full council at the April meeting. To delay longer would mean we could not then present until June.

The delay has been due to needing to find the costs for possible changing rooms for the Hub so the council can consider the request from the Sports and Social Club for them to be included and to allow for further discussions with the Library service on their possible inclusion in the project. This could involve some extra space being needed to accommodate the Library.

Our consultants are now finishing the work they were contracted to do and if we wish them to continue we will need to secure their services to undertake the following:

Confirm funding options and complete detailed funding applications

Coordinate preliminary works (architect, quantities, planning etc)

Co-Ordinate procurement and contracts (with possible support from Warwick District Council).

We have to agree tonight the following:

To go with our current consultants

Or tender for other consultants to see if we can get a lower price

Or undertake the work ourselves

All future project support after this work is included in the costings of the business plan

Councillor Judy Falp Chairman, Whitnash Hub working Group

Members proposed in principle to continue with the existing consultants and Cllr Mrs Falp will negotiate for them to include the planning application in phase 3 of the work.

The next Community Hub Working Group meeting will be held on Thursday, 30th March 2017.

164/17 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER NOMINATIONS FOR POSITION OF MAYOR ELECT AND DEPUTY MAYOR ELECT FOR 2017 -2018

Cllr Heath was nominated as Mayor Elect for 2017 – 2018 by Cllr Mrs Falp and the nomination was seconded by Cllr Sparkes.

Cllr Shepherd was nominated as Deputy Mayor Elect for 2017 – 2018 by Cllr Button and this nomination was seconded by Cllr Smart.

All members present voted in favour of the nominations.

165/17 THE WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL (REORGANISATION OF COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE) ORDER 2017

Members were in agreement with the straightening of Othello Avenue on Warwick Gates and support this proposal.

Whitnash will lose East Whitnash and Cllr Mrs Falp proposed that a letter is written to the Boundary Commission and Warwick District Council objecting to this boundary change due to the historical importance to Whitnash. Cllr Button seconded the proposal and all Members voted in favour. The Diocese boundary is also changing.

166/17 CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

168/17 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

(146/17) - Accounts for payment accepted subject to receipts.)

No	Payable	Details	Amount £	Cheque No
2968	Peter Bennett stationers	Printer drum	122.65	BACS
2969	Midshire	Office call charges February	4.61	DD
2970	British Telecom	Hall telephone	85.32	DD
2972	Jenny Mason	Ant spray hall	13.56	BACS
2973	Jenny Mason	Post office parcel collection	0.70	BACS
2975	D Herbert	Concrete mix for disabled ramp	43.92	002619
2976	HB Creative	Charity ball booklets	264.00	000119
2977	MSG Cleaning	HALL Cleaning	120.00	002620
2978	Cllr Margrave	Purchase electronic display unit	376.98	002621
2979	John Gordon	Charity ball magician	100.00	000118

2981	Cllr Button	Charity ball balloons	117.00	000123
2982	Warwickshire County Council	office rent	495.85	BACS
2983	Colins IT	Acronis backup supply & installation	221.96	BACS
2984	EON	Street lighting	39.41	DD
2985	Midshire	Office call charges March	8.74	DD
2986	Kate & the Mooncats	Charity ball band	160.00	000124
2990	D Herbert	Strimmer cable/fuel& oil for mowers	66.55	002623
	Warwick District Council	Hall rates April 2017	319.50	DD
	Post Office Ltd	100 x 2 nd class stamps	55.00	002617
	Cllr Button	Mayor's allowance February 2017	108.54	000115
	Leamington Mayor's charity	Circle singers concert	20.00	000116
	Leamington Mayor's charity	Sunday roast	70.00	000117
	Warwick Town Council	Charity concert	30.00	000121
	Cancelled cheque	Cancelled cheque	-	000120
	Cllr Button	Mayor's allowance March 2017	244.57	000122

Wages, pensions and Inland Revenue Contributions

	January 2017	February 2017	March 2017	Total
Gross Wages	4888.60	5520.75	6031.35	
Employers NI	190.44	190.44	190.44	
Employers Pension	565.96	565.96	565.96	
Total Staff Cost	5645.00	6277.15	6787.75	18709.90
Income Tax	265.80	264.80	239.80	
NI Employer & Employee	356.52	356.52	356.52	
Inland Revenue Payments	622.32	621.32	596.32	1839.96

Expenditure over £500:

Invoice Date	WTC Ref	Payable to	Detail	Net	Vat	Gross	Paid by
31/10/16	2897A	Chesford Grange	Charity ball balance payment	1,145.00	229.00	1,374.00	BACS
23/04/66	2971	Whitnash Home & Garden	Tree maintenance	500.00		500.00	002618
08/07/28	2987	Countrywide	Grass cutting April	484.00	96.80	580.80	BACS
24/01/57	2988	Crimestop	Alarm annual maintenance & monitoring	685.00	137.00	822.00	BACS
23/04/02	2989	Central skips	Travellers Washbourne	480.00	96.00	576.00	002622

Grant income & expenditure exceeding £500:

	Net	Vat		
Grant received				
n/a				
Grant spend				
n/a				

169/17 REPORTS FROM WARD COUNCILLORS

South Ward: The grass verge on the corner of Coppice Road and Verdun Close has been churned up. Members also mentioned the state of the verges on Tachbrook Park Drive. Cllr Mrs Falp will take this up with Warwick Ward Councillors.

East Ward: Cllr Mrs Falp reported that most of the homes have been built and the roads still need completion.

North Ward: Nothing to report. Thank you to the contractors who did the resurfacing at Acre Close shops.

West Ward: Complaints have been received about children playing football on the grassed

'island' in St Catherine's Crescent. Could a sign saying 'no ball games' be erected there? A noticeboard is needed for the Warwick Gates section of Whitnash. This will be discussed at the next Hall and Playing Fields meeting.

170/17 REPORT ON PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING:

Cllr Franklin proposed that a receipt (in the form of draft minutes) of the Planning Meeting held on 2nd March 2017 are received.

171/17 WHITNASH TWINNING ASSOCIATION REPORT

There was no report from the Twinning Association.

172/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Town Council meeting will be held on 27th April 2017 at 7.00 p.m.

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

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