

There were 5 burglaries since the last meeting, 3 vehicle crimes and 7 incidents of damage since the last meeting. Steve has been on fire patrols with the Fire Service. Parking is still a major issue especially around the schools. The Police will be holding surgeries in the Library every Friday once the dates have been confirmed. Bike theft is rife throughout the country. 555 bikes have been coded in Whitnash. Steve will be looking into the frisbee disc golf to try and rejuvenate it.

Standing Orders were re-instated.

27/17 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prior to May I attended various Mayor Making ceremonies as Deputy Mayor enabling me to meet the incoming Mayors I will be serving alongside. Since my election to May I have been to a variety of functions representing Whitnash. From African Children's Choir to Civic Church Services and the laying of a wreath for the Service of Commemoration in Leamington and a charity bowls event last Thursday prior to my Civic Service last Sunday. I presented the prizes and at the end was very surprised that they announced the winner of the Challenge Trophy for 2017 was Whitnash Warriors. As you can see it is a splendid trophy. We were also given small replicas to keep. I hope that Leamington and Warwick are not too upset when they see the pictures in the press.

Last Sunday my Civic Service was a great success and my thanks go to Jenny and Kerry for their hard work.

Looking forward it is going to be a very busy year with the New Community Hub generating more input as we go on to appointing the architects and awarding the contract to build. This will be exciting for us all as this will be first major project this council has undertaken in years, possibly since the old hall was built.

During the last month, several of us cleaned the Whitnash Town signs and such was the difference it was decided to clean the street signs as well. This was done over two weekends and proved very successful, with the local residents passing compliments and some even offered to continue the work where they have a sign nearby in the future.

Hopefully we have now prevented any further invasion by travellers within our boundary and I must thank the residents for their co-operation and understanding when it did happen. However, we must remain vigilant.

You will have seen that the telephone box from in front of St Margaret's Church has been taken away for refurbishment after the electricity was disconnected on Monday.

Tonight, we have to take some important decisions regarding the new Community Hub which will take us forward to the future. So, I am asking for your support tonight.

Cllr Tony Heath

28/17 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 15th June 2017 as circulated were approved and signed as a true record.

29/17 MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THOSE MINUTES

08/17 Warwickshire County Council Report - On the subject of the County Council saying they could not put speed ramps on Golf Lane due to the driveways, Cllr McFadden has driven along Golf Lane a couple of times to have a look, and unless there are regulations about how close a speed ramp can be to dropped kerbs, then there would seem to still be ample opportunity to put probably 4 speed ramps along the road: between the allotments; anywhere between the entrance to the golf club down to Fieldgate Lane outside No 62 on the corner with Morris Drive and near the junction with Holmes Road.

13/17 New Allotment Site – this will be reviewed once the Boundary Review has taken place.

30/17 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Warwickshire County Council Report:

Report read by Cllr Heath

June/July have been busy months with a training session on the Fire and Rescue Service (that included a visit to Rugby Fire Station. A training session on Gypsy and Travellers was well attended and as you can imagine raised a range of questions and concerns. A presentation by young people in foster care was moving and made me understand the things we take for granted and our children have access to is often not the same for them. The role of Safeguarding and Social Services, the Resources group and all the departments that covers and visits to the registry office, Warwick Library and the communications rooms have also taken place. I also attended a day course in Birmingham delivered by the Local Government Association where I met Councillors from across the Midlands.

I met with David Cross from Highways just after my last report. I was pleased that all of the notified issues were being looked at, though as ever with less money for local authorities not as fast as we would like. I also contacted his colleagues to ask what road repairs/improvements were due to take place in Whitnash and these have been circulated to you.

Issues with trees have also been notified to the county and now they have taken back the work from the District Council a survey of all the trees in our town will take place later in the year.

We have arranged the dates for the Community Forums, the first being on the 4th October 2017. I hope local Organisations will apply for the funding. This year the District Council will continue to give £5000 towards grants and I have agreed, as Cllr Kirton did in the past, to put the £5000 County Councillors grant we can give to the Forum. The District Council are looking at reducing grant funding so we do not know yet if they will do so next year.

The major issue at the County Council is the closure of many of the Children's Centres. I urge you and would ask that you encourage residents to complete the survey on the County Council web site. The centre serving Whitnash is one of the centres along with Kingsway to be identified for closure. With our town and the surrounding area growing with all the new houses, to close these two centres and make staff redundant makes no sense. To leave our town with no centre for our young children and their families and nowhere for the Health visiting team who were based at the Whitnash centre and are now at Kingsway needs highlighting.

I now have my County e mail address judyfalp@warwickshire.gov.uk and phone number 07771339183

Cllr Judy Falp, County Councillor, Whitnash

Warwick District Council Reports:

Since the last Town Council meeting I have attended the following District meetings:

Full Council, Overview and Scrutiny, meeting and briefing (for which I am the Chairman), Executive, shadow portfolio meeting for The Community Partnership, Environmental Health and Licencing Directorate, Health Scrutiny and the Standards Committee. While not being able to stay in the chamber due to the conflict of interest, I was very pleased to hear that the Executive had agreed to the half a million pounds for our Community Hub.

A consultation paper will be coming from the Standards Committee to all Parish and Town Councils re how the Committee may be made up in the future due to a number of Parish's not signing up to Warwick District's Code of Conduct, though they have to by law have a Code of Conduct. Cllr Smart had been appointed as a Parish representative, has never been informed officially and is still waiting to see if he will be invited to a meeting!

I placed a Notice of Motion to the Full Council twelve months ago asking that the P.A. system in the town hall be improved and that both audio and visual recordings be made and broadcasted. I asked again this month as I had been promised an update in September last year and twelve months later the P.A. system is now even worse and for meetings especially planning where residents are often present this is just not good enough.

Residents Issues notified to me have been planning matters, matters that needed enforcement, garage repairs (or should I say non-repairs) fly tipping and once again Dog Fouling in particular in the Palmer Road area. If residents are aware of dog owners who do not pick up after their dogs please let me or the dog warden know. There is a large fine

for dog fouling.

Cllr Judy Falp
Warwick District Council

This month has been fairly quiet as I have been away for two weeks, but since returning have been attending various meetings. I must thank Cllrs Mrs Falp and Margrave for covering for me during my absence.

Last week I was appointed Chair of the Voluntary Services and Grants Committee on Warwick District Council which oversees the grants for Arts and Sport and the commissioning services for five areas within Warwick District Council, Sydni Centre, Lillington, Warwick West, The Gap and Brunswick Hub. Also, it includes small grants given by Warwick District Council which everyone is entitled to apply for during the year. The Committee also oversees the Community Forum panels throughout the District.

The next meeting for the Leisure Committee will be held at the new Newbold Leisure Centre in August so it will be interesting to see the changes.

Cllr Tony Heath
Warwick District Council

Since the last Town Council meeting I have attended the Finance and Audit Committee meeting. There wasn't much specifically affecting Whitnash to be reported.

I have been continuing to work with Home Farm Crescent shop keepers to tackle the problem of the bins not being emptied regularly enough.

The lack of use of the Harbury Lane playing fields and their state have been brought to my attention. I have started look into this, as they are WDC owned playing fields, with respect to finding out about their usage, costs to run and costs to hire and hope to report back at the next meeting.

Cllr Short asked if Cllr Margrave could find out why the playing fields in Harbury Lane are locked as these were designated for use by residents in Warwick Gates and Whitnash. There should be vehicle access for cars.

Cllr Rob Margrave
Warwick District Council

31/17 VAT

The Council needs to consider the VAT issue with regard to reclaiming VAT for the new Community Hub. The Internal Auditor advised that this issue needs to be addressed and advice sought. DCK Accounting Solutions provided advice and this was forwarded to all Members with the Town Council agenda.

Whitnash Town Council agreed by a majority vote to Register for V.A.T and agreed to ask the Accounting consultants to undertake this action for us with H.M.R.C.

32/17 COMMUNITY HUB REPORT

Report read by Cllr Heath.

I am pleased to say that the half a million pounds promised by Warwick District Council on a business plan being presented went through their Executive. There are some actions we need to take now such as sorting out the V.A.T. arrangements and then money will be released for us to employ an Architect, Building Surveyor and apply for planning permission. It is clear, as we did with the hall we have now, that we will have to borrow some money from Public Works Loans as well. To do this we have to 'consult our residents'. We are waiting a decision to see if the Library will be part of the new Hub but we can continue with the progression of the Hub project for now while we await the decision. While it has taken some time to get to this stage I feel at last the New Hub is close to becoming a reality and will provide an exciting place with good facilities for our Residents to use.

Cllr Judy Falp, Chairman, Whitnash Community Hub Working Group

All Members were forwarded the ATI Proposal – Phase 4 along with the Public Works Loan Board rates and the effect it would have on the precept.

Members were also forwarded the two sets of documents for the invitation to tender for the architect and building surveyor.

Acceptance of Grant from Warwick District Council:

It was agreed, by a majority vote Whitnash Town Council to accept the £500,000 grant from Warwick District Council.

Public Works Loan Board:

Whitnash Town Council also agreed by a majority vote to commit to accessing Public Works Loan Board funding subject to the legal requirement of consultation with Whitnash residents in respect of an increase in the Town Council tax precept.

ATI Projects

It was agreed by a majority vote Whitnash Town Council to continue to employ ATI Projects on a month by month basis to manage phase 4 of the Community Hub project.

Appointment of Solicitors for the procurement process

It was agreed by a majority vote that Whitnash Town Council would appoint a Solicitor to advise the Town Council on the procurement process. *At least two quotations would be sourced for solicitors to gauge the cost involved.*

Delegated Powers

It was agreed by a majority vote of Whitnash Town Council to give delegated powers to:

Mayor

Deputy Mayor

Chair of the Finance Committee

Chair of the Community Hub Working Group

Clerk

the duty to receive and make the decision on the tenders received for the Architect and Building Surveyor and that they will then formally propose the successful applicants for agreement at the full Town Council meeting in September 2017.

The cost to go out to Tender for the Architect and Building Surveyor needs to be ascertained.

33/17 WHITNASH DEMENTIA CHAMPION REPORT

Report read by Cllr Heath:

I became Dementia Champion for the town when I was Mayor in 2015/16. I was raising funds for Alzheimer's U.K and I wanted to find out more about Dementia.

Guidance and advice from Alzheimer's U.K based in Leamington and a local resident Alan Goldstraw who has Vascular Dementia helped me to find out more. I visited the Brunswick Hub which already had a Dementia Café and managed to secure them a small grant. There was at the time no café in Whitnash. I became a Dementia Friend (information on how you can become one is on the Dementia Friends web site). After a meeting with the Clerk and a

Dementia lead for the County Council I signed the Town up to the Dementia Action Alliance. Organisations have to commit to targets to make them more Dementia Friendly. I said we would advertise information on Dementia on our web site and in the Whitnash Tymes (we do); that I would organise training for Councillors and staff (we did)) and that we would look to make our new Community Hub Dementia friendly (we will do when built). I have also promoted and hosted in Whitnash training for Councillors from across the County.

I attended the D.A.A. meetings held in Nuneaton, Coventry and Stratford where ideas and actions were shared. I also along with Alan Goldstraw visited a very busy Dementia café in Alcester to see how they supported residents. A link I made with the past Mayor of Alcester, Cllr Chris Brannigan, who helped run the café.

Cllr Heath's wife, Jenny, along with Paul and Karen from the Lawns and helped by Kitty Crutchley started the Forget-Me- Not monthly café in Whitnash. I try to attend and help out every month. Cllr Franklin along with other local residents have supported by giving local history talks and others including local school children undertaking a range of activities for those attending, all free of charge. It is amazing what has been achieved with very little cost.

I feel two years is a good amount of time to hold the position of Dementia Champion and I am sure the next person in the role will carry on the good work. Thank you to all who have supported me during the two years in particular Alan Goldstraw and his wife Carol. Dementia is a sensitive subject for many and I hope I have raised awareness and took things forward while understanding it is still a subject some feel hard to speak about.

Cllr Judy Falp

A vote of thanks was proposed for Cllr Mrs Falp for the work she put into this initiative.

34/17 NOMINATION FOR A DEMENTIA CHAMPION

In his absence Cllr Button was nominated as the Dementia Champion taking over from Cllr Mrs Falp.

35/17 APPROVE AND ADOPT TRAVELLER ENCAMPMENT POLICY

The Traveller Encampment Policy was approved and adopted.

36/17 COMMUNITY FORUM MEMBER

There is a vacancy on the Community Forum Planning Committee. Would any Members be willing to join this committee? There is a planning meeting before a Community Forum, early evening and about a month before the Forum. There will be two forums this year. So, two planning meetings, two forums and some emails. We plan the dates, think about content and agree grant applications to go forward to the main meetings to be voted on by those present. Cllr Smart agreed to join the Community Forum Planning Committee.

37/17 LEAMINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB

Cllr McFadden is concerned about the impact of a potential Traveller site on the Leamington Football Ground and asked if there was something that could be done about blocking this site. Cllr Heath informed Members that there is nothing we can do until a planning application is submitted and the Warwick Local Plan is approved.

Cllr Barton declared an interest.

38/17 CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

39/17 SCHEDULE OF APPROVED PAYMENTS

The schedule of approved payments from 7th June to 11th July 2017 was noted.

40/17 REPORTS FROM WARD COUNCILLORS

South Ward: Coppice Road will be resurfaced at the end of July and Cllr Cancilla asked if the footpath will also be done at the same time. The alley way from Verdun Close to Coppice Road needs clearing as there are loads of weeds.

East Ward: Nothing reported

North Ward: There is a lot of litter near the bench in Dobson Lane at the junction with Heathcote Road and a resident has asked Cllr McFadden if a bin can be installed there. The hedge at Home Farm at the junction of Palmer and Whitnash Roads is encroaching on the footpath again. The Clerk has already reported this. Litter bins at the shops in Home Farm Crescent need to be emptied more often. Cllr Margrave is dealing with this.

West Ward: Nothing to report.

41/17 REPORT ON FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING

Cllr Smart proposed that a receipt (in the form of draft minutes) of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 8th June 2017 are received.

42/17 REPORT ON HALL AND PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE MEETING:

Cllr Margrave proposed that a receipt (in the form of draft minutes) of the Hall and Playing Fields Committee meeting held on 22nd June 2017 are received.

43/17 REPORT ON PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING:

Cllr Franklin proposed that a receipt (in the form of draft minutes) of the Planning Meeting held on 6th July 2017 are received.

44/17 WHITNASH TWINNING ASSOCIATION REPORT

There are 14 German visitors coming to Whitnash at the end of July for the twinning visit.

45/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Town Council meeting will be held on 21st September 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.....