

Minutes 07/18

WHITNASH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Thursday, 15th February 2018
at 7.00 p.m. in
Whitnash Community Hall, Acre Close, Whitnash.

PRESENT

Councillors: T Heath Mayor
 T Shepherd Deputy
 A Barton
 S Button
 G Cancilla
 Mrs J Falp
 B Franklin
 B Kirton
 R Margrave
 S McFadden
 D Sage
 B Smart
 R Sparkes

Town Clerk: Jenny Mason

Police = 0

Public = 0

126/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Short and Vaughan. Apologies for absence were accepted.

127/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

128/18 PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

129/18 POLICE

The Police Report was read by Cllr Heath.

We send our apologies for missing the meeting but we were unable to change our shifts.

This month's crime figures are as follows:

ASB – 9 reports. Two issues in the park (report of a fire in Acre close and a report of kids swearing). Someone refusing to leave the Heathcote when asked. The rest personal.

Burglary – there have been no burglaries this month.

Damage – No reports.

Drugs – one report but linked to an individual

Vehicle crime – We have had a weekend where there were a lot of cars damaged on Erica Drive and surrounding roads. We have had the street lights left on for the past two weeks, tasked all the SNTS to patrol in the evenings and have had the Specials helping.

Priorities

If everyone is happy we will go with the following policing priorities. We will put ballot boxes in the library, doctor's surgery and will visit the local coffee mornings and luncheon club.

- Inconsiderate parking- the reports continue from residents
- ASB in parks – previous reports of drug use etc.
- Speeding- to include St Fremund Way
- Bogus callers Awareness surgeries – To educate the community regarding bogus callers or telephone scams, minimum of one session a month to community groups
- Community lead intelligence patrols – focus regular issues that occur

PC Rachel Smith

130/18 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Since my last report it has been quiet. I have attended a curry night on behalf of the Mayor of Leamington (very nice) and Solihull Civic Dinner. Last Friday I was at the Chair of WDC charity concert which was very pleasant.

The majority of time has been taken up by The Hub Working Group meetings to continue the finalisation of plans to be submitted at the end of March. Cllr Falp, the Clerk and Kerry met with the legal department at WCC who are acting on our behalf with the proposed lease for the library service. I had a meeting with our consultants and WDC Paddy Herlihan who, it was agreed, would be acting as our client agents once planning permission has been granted.

On Tuesday 6th we held the public open day to present the scheme to Whitnash residents. There was a good turnout (about 60) all of whom were in favour of the development and the proposed increase in the community charge to obtain the PWLB money. A few had reservations about the access through Acre Close but were assured that there would be the same amount of parking spaces that we have at present at this building

Everything seems to be going smoothly at the moment so let's keep our fingers crossed it continues that way for the next month. The architects are finalising the drawings and ATI are meeting WDC Planning Dept and Highways for a pre-application advice meeting before the submission.

We have tonight to approve a couple more contracts which I will leave to Cllr Falp to put before you.

Finally, can I remind you about my civic dinner on the 9th March at the Golf Club. There is still time to reply to Jenny. I look forward to seeing you there.

Don Samways passed away last week. Don played a major part in setting up the Whitnash Tymes, Neighbourhood Watch and was also a member of the Patient Participation Group at Whitnash Medical Centre. Cllr Mrs Falp will notify Members when the funeral will take place. Flowers or a donation will be made from Whitnash Town Council.

Cllr Heath – Mayor

131/18 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 18th January 2018 as circulated were approved and signed as a true record.

132/18 MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THOSE MINUTES

110/18 Whitnash Twinning Association – Cllr Mrs Falp will have a report ready for the next

Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting in March 2018.

114/18 Reports from County and District Councillors – Cllr McFadden asked if there was any update on the short-term solution for Traveller sites. There is no update yet.

121/18 Reports from Ward Councillors – the tree trunks have been delivered to Washbourne Playing Fields and placed at the Washbourne Road entrance.

133/18 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Warwickshire County Council Report:

Cllr Mrs Falp asked if Members found the written report helpful or if they would prefer something else. It was agreed the written report was helpful.

Cllrs Mrs Falp's Community Forum Grant from Warwickshire County Council has been increased by £1000.

Library Hours will not be cut in Whitnash they will remain at 25 hours per week.

The 'missing' yellow lines in the service road in Tachbrook Road near Montgomery Road will be painted after April 2018.

Posts on the grass verges between Coppice Road and Verdun Close will be installed shortly.

Cllr Mrs J Falp

Warwick District Council Reports:

Cllr Mrs Falp reported that a debate had taken place at the Scrutiny meeting due to the imminent removal of the Covent Garden Car Park there are concerns about where additional car parks can be provided.

Cllr Mrs J Falp

Following my last report, the opposition at WDC joined together to suggest alternative warding arrangements for the boundary review taking place. This was a joint statement from the Labour, Lib Dems, Green and Independents which is more coalescent compared to the Conservative proposals. It will be interesting to see which the commission goes with.

The only other meetings have been planning and nothing much controversial to report from them and nothing effecting Whitnash.

The new headquarters for WDC is on hold as the Secretary of State has been asked to call it in. His decision is expected in the next week or so.

Cllr T Heath

Since the last town council meeting there has only been one committee meeting (Financial & Audit committee) that I am a member of plus full Council for which I gave my apologies due to work commitments. At the Financial & Audit committee meeting which included a joint meeting with the Scrutiny committee regarding car parking strategy. Part this including buying the Stoneleigh Arms on Clemens St which didn't look particularly good value for money.

Cllr R Margrave

134/18 COMMUNITY HUB UPDATE

Cllr Mrs Falp reported that there was a good turnout at the Community Hub public consultation on 6th February 2018. There were positive comments and some useful negative comments as well.

The survey will also be placed in the spring 2018 edition of the Whitnash Tymes for residents to complete. Security concerns were raised and the Mayor and Cllr Mrs Falp will be meeting Pete Cutts and Ian King for their suggestions on security.

Three quotations have been sourced for the ground investigation work for the new Community Hub.

1. MLM Group - £3650.00 + VAT
2. GIP Ltd - £3720.00 + VAT
3. GIS Ltd - £4470.00 + VAT

It was proposed that MLM undertake the ground investigation work. All Members voted in favour.

Three quotations were sourced for the Mechanical and Electrical Services for the new Community Hub:

Baily Garner - £24960.00 + VAT

Couch Perry Wilkes Engineering - £32384.00 + VAT

FHP Engineering Services Solutions = £39168.00 + VAT

Work of this type is costed at a percentage of the total construction cost and as we do not have a confirmed cost the quotes were asked to be based on a £1 million build.

It was proposed that Baily Garner undertake the Mechanical and Electrical Services work.

Twelve Members voted in favour and there was one abstention.

One quotation has been received for the Construction and Design Management.

The quotation was from Warwickshire County Council Resources. The estimate fee will be £4500.00 + VAT.

We are awaiting two further quotations. Delegated powers were given to Mayor, Chairman of Community Hub Working Group, Chairman of Finance and Cllr Button to make a decision when all the quotations are received.

Parking for the new Community Hub was questioned and Warwickshire County Council Highways will make a decision on the number of parking spaces provided.

135/18 DIRECT DEBIT UPDATE

A schedule of direct debit payments for 2018 – 2019 was forwarded to all Members and approved.

136/18 APPROVE AND ADOPT CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR 2018 – 2019

The calendar of meetings for 2018 – 2019 was approved and adopted.

137/18 HEATHCOTE / FRANKLIN ROAD JUNCTION

The traffic issues at the junction of Heathcote and Franklin roads is ongoing.

Lines were repainted on the roundabout and pedestrian crossing today.

Members were again forwarded the suggestions and ideas put forward by Cllr McFadden in 2015.

The main concerns are speeding vehicles and drivers not giving way to oncoming vehicles from the right.

This junction has not had any serious incidents in the last three years. Traffic lights cost £300 000.00 to install and removing the roundabout or pedestrian crossing costs £20 000.00. It was suggested that the lighting at zebra crossing near Lammas Croft is improved. Signs and markings on the road also need to be improved to make them more visible.

Rumble strips cannot be installed in a residential area.

Cllr Sparkes left the meeting at 19h50.

It was also suggested that the traffic island is raised slightly. Signage is too close to the junction

and should be better sited.

Cllr Mrs Falp will look at the Warwickshire County Council funding she has available to make some improvements.

138/18 CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

139/18 SCHEDULE OF APPROVED PAYMENTS

The Schedule of Approved Payments from 11th January 2018 to 6th February 2018 was noted.

140/18 REPORTS FROM WARD COUNCILLORS

South Ward: Nothing reported.

East Ward: Cllr Mrs Falp is meeting Matt Western MP as East Ward is in Whitnash and residents should contact her and work through her. The welcome to Whitnash sign will be going up in the near future. The Chesterton Allotments should be transferred soon. We need to ascertain who the access /service road belongs to first so that we know who will be maintain this road.

North Ward: There is a pothole on Brunswick Street near the mini roundabout going to St Margaret's Road.

West Ward: The grass verges outside 40 – 42 Rowley Road has been churned up by delivery vehicles / parents. Safer Routes to schools are looking at this issue. The section of road surface from the junction of Ashford / Landor Roads to Moorhill Road is disintegrating. There is also a section of Landor Road near the junction with Moorhill that is sinking. The abandoned fridge / freezer is still on the footpath in Landor Road. The wooden shelter at Warwick Gates has blue paint markings on it. Cllr Mrs Falp has received notification of noise nuisance near the Old Oak on Tachbrook Road. The Police are aware of this and so is Pete Cutts.

141/18 REPORT ON CHRISTMAS LIGHTS WORKING GROUP MEETING:

Cllr Button proposed that a receipt (in the form of draft minutes) of the Christmas Lights Working Group meeting held on 1st February 2018 are received.

142/18 REPORT ON FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING:

Cllr Cancilla proposed that a receipt (in the form of draft minutes) of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 11th January 2018 are received.

143/18 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 25th January 2018 are received.

144/18 REPORT ON PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING:

Cllr Mc Fadden proposed that a receipt (in the form of draft minutes) of the Planning Meeting held on 1st February 2018 are received.

145/18 WHITNASH TWINNING ASSOCIATION REPORT

The 25th Anniversary of the French Twinning will be held in September 2018.

146/18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Town Council meeting will be held on 15th March 2018 at 7.00 p.m.

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

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