

**Minutes 04/18**

**WHITNASH TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018  
at 7.00 p.m. in  
Whitnash Community Hall, Acre Close, Whitnash.

PRESENT

Councillors: T Shepherd                      Mayor  
                  A Barton  
                  Mrs J Falp  
                  B Franklin  
                  A Heath  
                  S McFadden  
                  D Sage  
                  J Short  
                  B Smart  
                  R Sparkes

Town Clerk: Jenny Mason

Police: 1                      Public:1

At the start of the meeting the Mayor announced that items 10 and 11 on the agenda will be discussed and the press and public will be excluded from the meeting in accordance with Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, for these items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of confidential and exempt information.

**58/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Button, Cancilla, Kirton and Margrave. Apologies for absence were accepted.

**59/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**60/18 PUBLIC FORUM**

There was no public forum.

## 61/18 POLICE

*Standing orders were suspended to allow the PC Rachel Smith to speak*

PC Smith conveyed a message from her Sergeant Alison Wiggins thanking Whitnash Town Council for the way the traveller encampment was handled.

There were 16 anti-social behaviour incidents, 4 burglaries, 11 incidents of damage to motor vehicles, 14 vehicle crimes and 30 calls of concern.

Police surgeries are ongoing in Whitnash. Parking issues are still a problem.

Voting is now open for Whitnash Community Forum Police Priorities – drug patrols in hot spot areas, patrols in the park to combat anti-social behaviour; speed checks and school parking. Apparently, there is a trial in Solihull banning cars from roads outside schools during certain times of the day.

## 62/18 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Since the last council meeting in July we have attended:

Lunch at the High Sherriff's home, Leamington Mayors Heritage walk,

Charity Dinner at Millennium Balti in aid of our charity Dogs for Good,

Mayor's 40's 50's and 60's night at the Sports & Social club in aid of our charity.

Children Summer reading presentations at Whitnash Library, an evening with the Whitnash Women's Institute, Proms night at Hampton Lucy Church and

Stratford Mayors River Cruise and Heritage Walk.

I would like to thank those Members who attended the Civic Dinner at the Golf Club last Friday evening.

We have had another traveller incursion on Washbourne Playing Field. It was a stressful 10 days for all concerned. I would like to thank Cllr Barton, the Town Clerk and my fellow councillors for the work they did and have done since the travellers have left. I would also like to pass on my thanks to the members of the community who turned out to assist with the bund.

I would like to and I am sure you would too congratulate Cllr Barton on his achievement as Warwick District Citizen of the year award.

I have had poppies placed on all the lampposts along Heathcote and Whitnash Road and a plaque placed on the new flowerbed on Chapel Green to commemorate 100 years of the WW1 armistice. I also requested 2 Silent soldiers from the Royal British Legion which I intended to place near the War Memorial but we are awaiting delivery of these.

**Cllr T Shepherd – Mayor**

## 63/18 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the Town Council meetings held on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018 and 6<sup>th</sup> September 2018 as circulated were approved and signed as a true record.

## 64/18 MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THOSE MINUTES

**19<sup>th</sup> July 2018:** 40/18 WCC Report – Cllr Mrs Falp read the reply she had received regarding a filter on the Heathcote / Tachbrook Road traffic lights, but will keep trying to find a solution.

The report on Loneliness and Isolation has been well received.  
Cllr Mrs Falp has asked for the footpath in Masters Road to be resurfaced and enquired about kerb stones for Chandlers Road.

### 65/18 OUTSTANDING PROJECTS / ACTIONS / DECISION LIST

There has been no update from Cllr Margrave regarding the Community Map.

### 66/18 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

#### **Warwickshire County Council Report:**

As with most council's there have been fewer meetings recently due to the holiday period. I will have though attended 2 Cabinet meetings, full Council and a Chairs and Spoke persons Resources meeting as well as the Resources meeting since the last time the Town Council meet.

The report from the Task and Finish Group on Loneliness and Isolation has now been completed and has gone to cabinet for approval. Most of the actions are ones for the County Council to undertake with some for G. P's and health professionals. One interesting point to note it is recommended that Councillor forum grants will give extra points from 2019/2020 for projects coming forward that include ways of reducing Isolation and Loneliness.

I asked and tried to get from my Councillor budget a filter light on the Traffic Signals at Heathcote turning towards Leamington from Whitnash. Highways have given me a number of reasons why this cannot be done, impact on traffic on the other roads, a filter already being on one of the ways etc. I was not happy with this so they have gone away to look at other possible solutions to what we know is an accident waiting to happen, as vehicles try to turn right, especially at busy times. There is still work to be completed around the mini Island in Heathcote Road.

I will have met with the County Officer who looks after the Roads etc. for our area the morning of the Town Council meeting. One of the issues I will raise with him is the poor state of the paths in parts of Masters Road. If you have other areas that need attention please let me know.

Finally, it was a pleasure once again to be part of, with The Mayor, handing out awards to children who had taken part in the Libraries Summer reading challenge. This activity is there to help inspire our younger residents to gain a life skill, reading for school, work in the future and pleasure.

County email address [judyfalp@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:judyfalp@warwickshire.gov.uk) or [Cllr.falp@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.falp@warwickshire.gov.uk) and phone number 07771339183

**Cllr Judy Falp**

**Warwickshire County Councillor**

**Whitnash**

#### **Warwick District Council Reports:**

Along with my fellow Whitnash Councillors I have attended meetings at the District since the last Town Council meeting. We have noted how there is a rise in questions and challenges to the administration and we have no doubt that party politics due to next years' District Council elections have caused the increase. We as a group see what impact any item has on Whitnash and form a view and a way we will vote, usually the same, but also respect the others views and we can if we wish on any matter vote as we individually think.

One item that has been on the Executive agenda that will affect Whitnash is the possibility, should government funding be granted, of 25 social homes on the garage site in Spa View. The garages need complete refurbishment or demolition. Parking is not easy in Spa View though and while most garages are not let to residents in that road any extra cars will cause problems. It is hoped a solution to provide much needed homes along with no extra burden for the current residents can be found.

While air quality is not such an Issue in our town it is in the other three towns. Solutions such as an electric bus on one route, bicycles for hire (that we may get in Whitnash) and other solutions are being looked at to help address this problem.

Residents have contacted me re council house repairs (new doors needed), ramps and paths for elderly residents, internal home needs for a gentleman following an accident and the anti- social behaviour on Warwick Gates at the Gazebo. I am pleased to say a new door is being provided for one resident, a ramp and path for another, a stair lift and hopefully a shower for the resident following the serious accident. Residents close to the Gazebo are being asked if they have any objections to the removal as the condition is not good and it is attracting the wrong sort of use.

**Cllr Judy Falp**

**Whitnash Town Councillor**

**Warwick District Councillor**

The last two months have been pretty quiet at the District with only the normal Planning Meetings and full Council meeting.

I have attended the Employment committee on behalf of Cllr Mrs Falp, The Employers/Trade Union Meeting and community forum planning meeting ready for next week's forum meeting.

You will know that East Whitnash/South Sydenham has been moved into Leamington ward for the District Boundary from next May's election. It will remain in Whitnash until at least 2023 before a review of Parish Boundaries takes place.

In addition, I have had regular meetings with Debbie Cole regarding the planning application and detail of the new Community Hub and also with the WSSC which Judy will explain more about. Hopefully by this time next week we will have the approval through and we can get down to the serious business of deciding if we can afford it. It's looking a very expensive project and we will have to make modifications to our desired building following yesterday's Steering Group Meeting.

One piece of good news I have to share is that Warwick District Council have been allocated more Silent Soldiers to commemorate WW1 and four have been given to Whitnash free of charge which means we now have six.

**Cllr Tony Heath**

**Warwick District Councillor**

**Whitnash**

#### 67/18 COMMUNITY HUB UPDATE

This will be discussed following the exclusion of the press and public at the end of the meeting.

#### 68/18 COMMUNITY HUB FINANCE REPORT

This will be discussed following the exclusion of the press and public at the end of the meeting.

### 69/18 CHURCH CLOSE UPDATE

Cllr Franklin reported that some information provided by Simon Greaves from St Margaret's Church had been helpful, but further information is needed. Cllr Franklin suggested writing to the Dioceses and asking them for more information on the Section 56 agreement referred to in the paper work we have received.

Members proposed that if this has not been resolved by the next meeting a temporary repair may be considered, but liability for this unadopted road would not be accepted until the 'owner' was identified. Nine members voted in favour and there was one abstention.

### 70/18 DIRECT DEBIT UPDATE

The direct debit schedule has been amended as we now pay SAGE accounts cover monthly. We had to upgrade our cover and software in preparation for the new rules regarding the submission of VAT returns. The Payroll cover is still paid annually.

### 71/18 CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter form Olly Thompson
2. Local Boundary Commission letter – Electoral Review of Warwick: Final Recommendations.

*All correspondence was noted.*

### 72/18 SCHEDULE OF APPROVED PAYMENTS

The Schedule of Approved Payments from 11<sup>th</sup> July 2018 to 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018 was noted.

### 73/18 REPORTS FROM WARD COUNCILLORS

**South Ward:** Residents on Mallory Grange have asked if this development could be included in the Whitnash beat rather than Warwick as they encounter the same problems as the Whitnash area. A request will be made to Sergeant Wiggins regarding this.

**East Ward:** Cllr Mrs Falp was nominated to serve on the governing body at Champion School

**North Ward:** Cllr Short reported that the resurfacing of Heathcote Road the area of road way adjacent to Glebe Court flats on Heathcote Road is subject to flooding and pedestrians are showered with water when a car passes this area.

Cherry Tree near the entrance to Whitnash Sports and Social Club needs felling it is dangerous.

**West Ward:** Nothing to report.

74/18 REPORT OF COMMUNITY HUB COMMITTEE

Cllr Mrs Falp proposed that a receipt (in the form of draft minutes) of the Community Hub Committee meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2017 are received.

75/18 REPORT OF HALL AND PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE MEETING

Cllr Barton proposed that a receipt (in the form of draft minutes) of the Hall and Playing Fields Meetings held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September and 30<sup>th</sup> August 2018 are received.

76/18 REPORT ON PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Cllr Franklin proposed that a receipt (in the form of draft minutes) of the Planning Meetings held on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2018 and 6<sup>th</sup> September 2018 are received.

77/18 REPORT ON STAFFING COMMITTEE MEETING:

Cllr Mrs Falp proposed that a receipt (in the form for draft minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2018 are received.

*Standing orders were suspended to allow Mr Clough to present Cllr Franklin with a certificate of appreciation for the funds he raises for the Whitnash Charitable Trust. Standing orders were reinstated.*

78/18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Town Council meeting will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 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.....