

Minutes 10/19

WHITNASH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Thursday, 14th February 2019
at 7.00 p.m. in
Whitnash Community Hall, Acre Close, Whitnash.

PRESENT

Councillors: T Shepherd Mayor
 A Barton
 S Button
 G Cancilla
 Mrs J Falp
 B Franklin
 B Smart
 R Sparkes
 S Vaughan

Town Clerk: Jenny Mason

144/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Heath, Kirton, McFadden and Short. Apologies for absence were accepted.

145/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

146/19 PUBLIC FORUM

Standing Orders were suspended to allow the public to speak.

Mrs Peterson registered to speak with regard to Whitnash Tymes. Mrs Peterson suggested that photos of Whitnash are portrayed on the front page of the Whitnash Tymes.

Standing Orders were re-instated.

147/19 POLICE

Standing Orders were suspended to allow the Police to speak.

There were 10 incidents of anti-social behaviour; 2 burglaries, 2 reports of damage; 1 drug related incident and 4 vehicle crimes. Vehicle crime has calmed down.

Policing priorities will be:

1. Anti-Social Behaviour in the Parks - Officers will be heading out on high-visibility patrols across the parks to identify groups taking part in anti-social behaviour (ASB) and engage with them about the effects of their behaviour on people living nearby.
2. Vehicle Crime - to focus on theft from vehicles. Officers will be heading out at key times to catch offenders in the act and will be continuing to encourage residents about the steps that they can take to protect their vehicle from being targeted by criminals and also urge residents to report suspicious activity to police as soon as it happens.
3. Intelligence Led Drugs Patrols – Officers to work in plain clothes to target areas where there is suspected drug dealing
4. Crime Input – Officers will attend local groups and offer crime advice/support to suit the group.
5. Protecting Vulnerable People – Officers to identify the most vulnerable people in the community and signpost them to services available

Members raised concern about the drug dealing, car parking on the bridal way and the record of violent / sexual offences recorded on the website. The violent / sexual offences are domestic related and cannot be disclosed.

Standing Orders were re-instated.

148/19 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Since the last Town Council meeting, I was invited and attended the Whitnash Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner at Whitnash Sports and Social Club, the wedding blessing of the Mayor of Shipston-on-Stour, attended the Holocaust Memorial Service at the War Memorial in Warwick.

We attended In2cultures at the Spa Centre which featured the African Children's Choir they were accompanied by children from Warwickshire schools.

We have attended the Mayor of Nuneaton and Bedworth's Civic Service and the Mayor of Alcester's Civic Dinner.

Cllr T Shepherd - Mayor

149/19 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the Town Council meetings held on 17th January 2019 and 31st January 2019 as circulated were approved and signed as a true record.

150/19 MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THOSE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

151/19 OUTSTANDING PROJECTS / ACTIONS / DECISIONS LIST

Community Map – Cllr Margrave was not present at the meeting and no update received.

Church Close - Cllr Barton reported that he had spoken to Simon Greaves and Land Registry failed to report any relevant information. It was proposed that a letter is sent to Stonewater Housing asking what action will be taken to repair the road.

152/19 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Warwickshire County Council Report:

Since my last written report in November 18 I have been to the following County Council meetings; Communities (where the Stage Coach Manager was present and an update on street lighting was given). A full day health training on our role as Community Champions for health during this year of Health and well-being in particular. I went to the Chair and Spokespersons meeting for the Resources committee, the Full Council budget debate (more information on that if required at the Town Council meeting as this report has to be sent out on the day of that meeting) and a planning meeting for the Community forum on the 27th February 6.30 at St Josephs' church hall. I also called in to Whitnash Primary to congratulate them on once again getting 'Good' in their recent Ofsted report. We are very lucky to have hard working schools in Whitnash that continue to give our children excellent opportunities for learning and good care.

Residents have contacted me with concerns about parking, street lighting, crime and requests for extra bollards. I will be meeting with the officer soon who looks after the allocated budget that County Councillors get for road and path improvements. I was considering repairing dropped kerbs to help wheelchair users, signage and bollards. If you have other ideas please let me know. We are only allowed to carry over two years of funding and I want the money spent in our town not given back to the general fund.

My County email address is: judyfalp@warwickshire.gov.uk or Cllr.falp@warwickshire.gov.uk and phone number 07771339183

Cllr Judy Falp, County Councillor for Whitnash

Cllr Mrs Falp also mentioned that Safer Routes to schools will be undertaking work at St Joseph's school during half term and were also considering carrying out work at Whitnash Primary School. Palmer Road is also due to be resurfaced. The 'pond' on Heathcote Road has been repaired. The pothole and 'leak' at 42 Coppice Road will be repaired as well. This has been reported.

Warwick District Council Reports:

Since the last Town Council meeting, I have attended the following: Training from the Local Government Association Independent Group who visit us from London to support us usually twice a year. A presentation from Orbit housing group, who gave us a promise to communicate better with Councillors and given a dedicated email address to do so. Shadow Portfolio meetings with the Head of Housing and the Head of Health and Community Protection. Full Council where the party-political groups were challenging each other more than normal, there must be an election soon! The Overview and Scrutiny committee and the Executive, the work load for these committees and the Finance committee that Cllr Margrave sits on up to April is very busy as April meetings will be during the run up to elections and normally do not have large or contentious agendas.

Housing matters and recycling collections continue to be the main reasons residents have contacted me for help.

Cllr Judy Falp, Warwick District Councillor for Whitnash

Cllr Mrs Falp said that the litter bin outside the Sports and Social Club and the one in Golf Lane will be replaced soon along with the one in Franklin Road. Members asked about siting a bin at the bus stop in Whitnash Road near the junction with Golf Lane.

This last month I have been busy with meetings most of which do not affect Whitnash. A Group Leaders Meeting to discuss the agenda for the Executive meeting, Two very long Planning Meetings on the 29th and 30th, the first lasting

almost 5 hours and the second 3 1/2 hours. There were no plans for Whitnash to discuss but others were lengthy with a number of speakers on each application.

I also attended the South Warwickshire Safety Partnership Meeting at which policing and their priorities for the year are decided. It was worrying to see that crime in general is up by 19% but they are still incorporating the new reporting method, Athena, which next time we meet will give true figures year on year. Rough sleepers is another area which is on the increase and both Warwick District and Stratford District have put in place measures to reduce this but you cannot force people to take up these facilities if they do not wish to.

Locally I, along with Cllr Falp, attended meeting with Debbie Cole and Paddy Herlihy of WDC and the architects to finalise the design details for the new Hub. Last Friday both Cllr Falp and I plus our architects and ATI met with Sport England to discuss our bid for £150k of funding. A two-hour meeting with lots of questions but we satisfied them on all points. They will now report to the main committee on the 20th February and, hopefully, we shall hear by the end of February if we have been successful.

I have found out that there is a Football Association fund available to develop and improve sports pitches which Warwick District has applied to join and has been successful. Whitnash is one of the areas that have been included. We, as the owners of the field, now have to complete an application to visit our site for them to assess our pitches in the next two weeks. The only qualification is that the WSSC Football section should be a Charter Club or of National League Standard or be in the process of applying to be. We could then get funding to do extra work like drainage at the same time as moving the pitches.

On the 6th February I attended the first meeting of the new Creative Quarter working group.

I am proposing to write to both our MP's to ask them to get the law on trespass changed to deal with illegal traveller incursions. Warwick District has suffered continually with this problem despite spending £170k on defensive measures. The law in Ireland was changed last year to make it a criminal offence to trespass on private land instead of a civil offence. This has given the police more powers to move them as soon as they arrive rather than having to apply to the magistrate's court which, as you know, can take up to two weeks to move them. Hopefully all District Councillors regardless of politics will sign the letter.

Cllr T Heath Warwick District Councillor for Whitnash

153/19 COMMUNITY HUB UPDATE

There will be an additional cost of £2,03.80 for work carried out by the architects for phase 1. Members approved this additional cost for the period from November 2018 until the start of phase 2. Phase 2 which is the building work will go out to tender. Baily Garner and Faithful and Gould will be asked to quote a 'fixed price' for phase 2 of the work. This will need to be done via a novation agreement.

A productive meeting was held with Sport England and the outcome should be known by the end of February 2019.

Cllr Mrs Falp said that she hoped to name one of the areas after Cllr Kirton for all he has done in Whitnash. This will be discussed at the next Community Hub Committee Meeting.

154/19 COMMUNITY HUB INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

The Community Hub income and expenditure report was sent to all Members.

155/19 APPROVE AND ADOPT CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2019 - 2020

The calendar of meetings for 2019 – 2020 was approved and adopted.

156/19 ADOPT PLASTIC FREE POLICY

The Plastic Free Policy was approved and adopted.

157/19 DEMENTIA ACTION PLAN AND ADVICE UPDATE

The updated Dementia Action Plan and Advice was approved and adopted.

158/19 CORRESPONDENCE

1. Join Keep Britain Tidy's Great British Spring Clean on 22nd – 23rd March 2019. Members would consider joining this. A copy of the email will be sent to Cllr Mrs Falp.

159/19 SCHEDULE OF APPROVED PAYMENTS MADE

The Schedule of Approved Payments from 10th January 2019 to 6th February 2019 was noted.

160/19 REPORTS FROM WARD COUNCILLORS

East: Parking in Church Lane and the Bridle way is becoming a problem. There is liaison with WCC and AC Lloyd to sort this issue. A tidy up will be arranged for East Whitnash.

North: There is a pothole outside 182 Brunswick Street.

South: The new notice board for Mallory Grange development should be installed next week. The Broadband issue is ongoing. The pothole outside 42 Coppice Road has been reported. Litter is a problem after the strong winds last week and it was suggested a tidy up is arranged

West: Councillors from West Ward have carried out a ward walk and the issues raised have been forwarded to Warwickshire County Council highways.

161/19 REPORT OF 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 10th January 2019 are received.

162/19 REPORT OF HALL AND PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE

Cllr Barton proposed that a receipt (in the form of draft minutes) of the Hall and Playing Fields Committee meeting held on 28th January 2019 are received.

163/19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Town Council meeting will be held on 14th March 2019 at 7.00 p.m.

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

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