

Minutes 03/19

WHITNASH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 12th September 2019
at 7.00 p.m. in
Whitnash Community Hall, Acre Close, Whitnash.

PRESENT

Councillors: R Margrave Mayor
 A Barton Deputy
 Mrs L Burkinshaw
 S Button
 Mrs J Falp
 B Franklin
 A Heath
 S McFadden
 W Pickett
 T Shepherd
 B Smart
 R Sparkes
 S Vaughan

Town Clerk: Jenny Mason Police: 2

60/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Cancilla. Apologies for absence were accepted.

61/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

62/19 PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

63/19 POLICE

PCSO Steve Sample presented the Police report.

This month's crime figures are as follows:

Anti-Social Behaviour – 10 reported – 4 were neighbour disputes; 3 were drugs related; 3 miscellaneous reports of males homeless etc.

Burglary – 1 reported. Motorbike taken from garage.

Damage – 4 reported. 1 was a neighbour dispute.; 1 damage to vehicle; 1 report of vehicles broken into (3 – van). 1 smashed pane in conservatory.

Drugs – 0 reported however suspicious activities reported (suspected dealing)

Vehicle crime – 3 thefts from vehicles - iPad, cash and tools.

Overall, we have had 115 incidents reported which is slightly more than the 106 reported the previous month. However, we have had several neighbour disputes start up again and people reporting suspicious incidents due to more people being out and about, lighter nights.

PCSO Sample attended the Heathcote Festival family day which was well attended. A great way of engaging with the residents.

We have changed our surgery times at the Library 11am-1pm which has proved successful due to the library being busy.

PCSO Jess Charlesworth (nee West) will be joining the team again from next week.

Anti-Social Behaviour at Home Farm Crescent is in the process of been dealt with by a multi-agency approach.

Anyone that contacts you regarding not getting through on 101 they can now report online.

Anti-Social Behaviour car has been out every day over the school holidays and generally there has been a reduction in anti-Social Behaviour. However, there has been reports of teenagers in the wooded area of Harbury Playing fields. We have patrolled here and they have engaged with the youths.

Members enquired about the cashpoint at Acre Close and whether that was linked to damage to a van and vehicles and inconsiderate parking. A more detailed Police Report will be presented at the Community Forum meeting on Wednesday, 18th September 2019.

64/19 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Since the last meeting I have attended Kenilworth Mayor's BBQ, a conference on the work on Dementia organisations that operate in the area. It was an interesting meeting and I think valuable for those who attended. Finally, I presented medals and certificates last weekend to children who entered the Summer Reading Challenge at the library.

I am having to reschedule my meeting with the police which I had to cancel due to work commitments.

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Mayor - Cllr R Margrave

65/19 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 18th July 2019 as circulated were approved and signed as a true record.

66/19 MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THOSE MINUTES

34/19 Public Forum – Members of the public should report issues that need repairing to the town council office rather than through the public forum.

Confidential item page 8 – Not in the public interest to pursue.

67/19 OUTSTANDING PROJECTS / ACTIONS / DECISIONS LIST

Cllr Margrave reported that there has been no update on the Community Map.

68/19 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Warwickshire County Council Report

Both Warwickshire County Council and Warwick District Council have declared a Climate Emergency. We all know the damage many of our human actions have on the planet.

I have asked and it has been agreed that I can sit with others (from other political parties) on the groups set up by both councils to look at ways we can prevent the damage we are causing. A large number of council's have said they will be working to find ways to do this and we will be working with local groups and others to come up with solutions.

Whitnash Town Council may wish to consider more ways such as our plastics policy to see what we can achieve. The leader of the District Council wants a tree planted for every resident in the District. We have land we could offer to plant trees on if it was funded.

The new Fire Chief will hopefully (if operational duties do not prevent him) be attending the Community Forum on the 18th September, 6.30 at St Josephs' Church Hall. The fire brigade does so much more than fight fires.

The Clerk and I continue to report pot holes, over grown hedges, street lights out and other highway matters. Residents can go on to fix my street to reports things and the County Council web site www.warwickshire.gov.uk has been improved to make it easier to navigate.

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

Cllr Mrs Judy Falp, Warwickshire County Councillor for Whitnash

Warwick District Council Reports:

I would of have attended 22 District Council meetings since the last Town council meeting until tonight's Town Council meeting. They range from Scrutiny and Executive to Climate change and Health and Community Protection, training and much more. There are also additional meetings regarding our new Community Centre will I hope result in us agreeing a builder for the project this evening.

There is so much happening at the District Council since the elections and I am pleased to say a much more collaborative way of working with all.

I did not support having a new Lido in Kenilworth as I felt the carbon footprint of heating an outdoor pool, the lack of use on wet, cold and windy days did not encourage and give me evidence to build a new one. To have a pool where those with disabilities and younger children could use it (a special floor that can be raised and lowered), lots more chances for swimming lessons was my preference. As I pointed out we would have loved a pool in Whitnash!

Residents are contacting me re housing repairs, lack of housing, selfish parking and overgrown hedges. I was delighted after 8 years of trying that I have managed with the help of A.C. Lloyd to get a path from the bottom of Anderson Drive into Harbury Fields. Residents had cut through themselves, lots of dog walkers use those fields as well as others just wanting to walk, but with no firm path they cut across the open fronts of the homes there. I knew it meant a lot for the residents to keep going with this and at last it has been sorted. The District Council will now maintain the path.

Cllr Mrs Judy Falp, Warwick District Councillor for Whitnash

August has been reasonably quiet month or so one would think. But looking back there were still two or three meetings on two or three days per week.

The most interesting one was the Kenilworth Leisure project discussed at the Executive meeting. The Keep Kenilworth Lido group had expected the scrutiny meeting on the Tuesday to suggest the lido stayed on the agenda as per the election promises by the Greens and Lib Dems but after a discussion and the Chairman's (Green) casting vote against adopting the report, no comment or proposal was forthcoming. So, at the Executive the following day the Leader, Cllr Day, allowed the group a five-minute period to speak prior to the recommendation being put to the vote.

The report had proven conclusively that a lido was economically unsound being only used part of the year, was three times more damaging to the environment, cost £170k a year and would cause the deletion of the second indoor pool

which was for swimming lessons and disabled swimmers. Therefore, the vote was unanimous in favour of adopting the report.

Other meetings I have attended were the Planning Committee (one Whitnash item). The Safety Partnership meeting, Executive, Trade Union joint meeting, The Infrastructure Delivery Plan, Licensing & Regulatory committee, the Major Contracts Renewal meeting, Group Leaders meeting, the Headquarter / Riverside House project and various briefings arranged for all councillors.

In addition, there have been numerous meetings that Cllr Falp and myself have attended to further the Civic Centre project culminating in three clarification meetings with the shortlisted contractors.

Later on, in the Town Councils agenda is a confidential item which, I am sure, you will be pleased to hear.

Cllr Tony Heath, Warwick District Councillor for Whitnash

I have chaired the Employment Committee, at which the main subjects were their Apprenticeship scheme, which has been successful and a gender pay gap report, where there is a gap, but it is better than the regional and national averages. I also attended Overview and Scrutiny, Full Council and a briefing on the HQ move project. Litter continues to be a problem around some areas with residents reporting litter and flying tipping more regularly than before.

Cllr R Margrave, Warwick District Councillor for Whitnash

A discussion took place on climate change as brought up in Cllr Mrs Falp's WCC Report. Suggestions were made to invite a Charity that promotes plastic awareness to address the Town Council; planting more trees and hedgerows that have been removed for housing developments in the area, finding out how much plastic is recycled and how much ends up in landfill and general statistic figures. Cllr Mrs Falp will pursue this.

69/19 CIVIC CENTRE AND LIBRARY UPDATE

Cllr Heath encouraged Members to promote the crowdfunding campaign towards landscaping and planting, bike stands, electric are parking points, signage and car parking enhancements. Pledges will need to be made online.

Members were also asked to approve a quotation from Faithful & Gould for the amount of £1125.00 for additional time spent on the preparation of the tender document and contract modifications. Members approved this quotation.

70/19 CIVIC CENTRE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

The Civic Centre income and expenditure report was emailed to all Members.

71/19 ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Mrs Falp has received an email from Warwick District Council did not discuss the type of fencing around the allotments at Mallory Grange with Persimmon Homes. Will be discussed at the next Town Council meeting.

72/19 CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter from David Bradshaw – will be acknowledged.

73/19 SCHEDULE OF APPROVED PAYMENTS MADE

The Schedule of Approved Payments from 10th July 2019 to 4th September 2019 was noted.

74/19 REPORTS FROM WARD COUNCILLORS

East: Parking at the bridleway has been addressed.

North: The substation next to the hairdressers at Home Farm Crescent has become a dumping area. Overhanging bushes outside 61 Heathcote Road; a raised manhole cover near 61 Heathcote Road towards Lammas Croft; damaged tarmac at Lammas Croft; further along another raised manhole.

South: The manhole cover outside 76 Erica Drive has cracked again. Cllr Mrs Burkinshaw has reported this before via fix my street.

West: Nothing to report.

75/19 REPORT OF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Cllr Franklin proposed that a receipt (in the form of draft minutes) of the Planning Committee meeting held on 1st August 2019 are received.

76/19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Town Council meeting will be held on 17th October 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.....