

Minutes 06/20

WHITNASH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 16th January 2020
at 7.00 p.m. in
Whitnash Community Hall, Acre Close, Whitnash.

PRESENT

Councillors: R Margrave Mayor
S Button
G Cancilla
Mrs J Falp
A Heath
S McFadden
W Pickett
B Smart
R Sparkes

Town Clerk: Jenny Mason

128/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE 111/19

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Barton, Burkinshaw, Franklin, Shepherd and Vaughan. Apologies for absence were accepted.

129/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

130/20 PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

131/20 POLICE

In the absence of the Police the report was read by Cllr Margrave.

Happy New Year to you all. Apologies we cannot attend tonight, due to the recent serious incident we are all committed and have been told to cancel all appointments.

This month's crime figures are as follows:

ASB – 6 reported – All personally targeted no general ASB

Burglary – None.

Damage – 2 reported. 1 scratched car on Sir Toby Belch Drive. 1 Damage to a gate on Evans Grove

Drugs – 5 reported all at one address, intel submitted with a view to executing a warrant.

Vehicle crime – 5 reported. A decrease by half. Three were vans targeted on Whitmore RD. One van stolen on Palmer RD and a vehicle broken into on Cobham Grove. Number plates taken off vehicle by Glebe Ct.

Overall, we have had 80 incidents reported which is a significant decrease from 115 reported the previous month.

1. Policing priorities from the Community forum are:
 - Drugs – Acting on intel from residents – As mentioned in the stats we are looking at a specific address.
 - Parking – schools and problem areas – still continues to be an issue. Parents park well when we are there.
 - Vulnerable People – identifying vulnerable people in the area and signposting them to the right agencies, help, social support. – this is going well, and we have identified many vulnerable people who don't just need help with care but also financial help due to being taken advantage of.
2. This month Steve has attended the luncheon club
3. I know there was some concern that the Whitnash SNT were not on duty over Christmas. During the bank holidays a skeleton crew is on duty and resources are stretched during this period. This does not mean there are no police covering Whitnash and shouldn't be an issue as all incidents should be called in through 101 or as an emergency 999. This creates a log which helps with our statistics when looking at trending problems. We are fortunate that we are able to give you our direct contact details however this is not the way to report incidents and we cannot guarantee we will be able to respond even if we are on duty. All jobs called in on 101/999 will be prioritised through the Thrive model which is Threat, Harm, Risk, Investigation, Vulnerability and Engagement.
If you have any questions relating to staffing levels or how we prioritise attendance please contact my Sergeant on trent.mcmurray@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk
Hopefully we will see you all in February.

Members raised concern about the articulated lorry that was parked on the footpath at St Margaret's Church Centre totally obstructing the footpath over new year. Cllr Heath called the Police requesting something be done and was told 'they were too busy'! There is no service in Whitnash even with three officers!

There were also complaints about a noisy vehicle from Greville Smith Avenue that will be reported to the Police.

132/20 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Since the last full Council meeting in November I have attended 6 functions including a civic dinner, music concert and three events in Whitnash, The final Margaret Clough coffee morning, the Christmas Luncheon Club, who are having to move venue because St Margaret's Centre is to be used for something else now, and Christmas Carols at Whitnash Primary School.

You will have received an invite to a second Quiz Night in support of my charity for the year. This is on 22nd February at the club. I hope you can make it.

Also coming up in March is the Civic Dinner, on 20th at the Golf Club and a 12-hour sponsored Line Dancing Marathon again at the Sports and Social Club.

We have an issue with our website meaning that we cannot update content. Our IT company are aware but are not being very communicative or proactive in helping to get it going again.

Cllr R Margrave - Mayor

133/20 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 14th November 2019 as circulated were approved and signed as a true record.

134/20 MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THOSE MINUTES

108/19 - The Leader of the Council said he was made very welcome at the Town Council meeting he attended on 14th November 2019.

111/19 – (91/19) – Mallory Grange allotments may be changed to a community garden according to their Facebook page. Planning variation will probably be needed for change of use.

113/19 – There were problems making pledges on the Space Hive page.

117/19 – No further correspondence has been received with regard to the removal of the public pay phone in Heathcote Road.

121/19 – The litter on the Harbury Playing Field has hopefully been cleaned.

135/20 OUTSTANDING PROJECTS / ACTIONS / DECISIONS LIST

Community Map is now being progressed. The Council should see a final draft before it is printed.

136/20 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Warwickshire County Council Report:

In the next few months as the Council financial year ends, I hope to have a few schemes completed. I have asked for small areas that really need doing, such as the corner of Franklin Road and Moorhill Road being widened, some tarmacking to areas where the grass verges have almost disappeared. Better disabled access to the shops in Coppice Road, and an extra streetlight in Laburnum Drive. This is as well as schemes that the County Council will undertake within their existing budget. Palmer Road has been completed and I am hoping Ashford Gardens will be considered soon.

Whitnash Primary will have some path improvements near the school through safer routes to school. This is the second Whitnash School that I have managed to benefit from this scheme since I became a County Councillor.

My Community Forum Grant scheme is now open, and bids should be submitted by the beginning of February. I was delighted to be able to contribute a large amount to the Spacehive campaign for the outside items for the new Civic Centre and Library, but still have enough funding for all the grants received. Placemaking fund from the County Council also contributed but many thanks must go to Residents of the Town, Businesses in Town and beyond, District Council staff and the Town Councillors who contributed. Councillor Heath must be given a special mention for all the hard work he put in to encourage people to donate.

I continue in my role as a Governor at Campion School and am pleased they are having a major refurbishment of the school to allow it to grow and it is possible from next September that all 180 places that will be available for the new intake will be filled.

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

Cllr Judy Falp, Warwickshire County Councillor for Whitnash

Warwick District Council Reports:

This is my first report to you all for the decade 2020. I will have been a District Councillor for 17 years this May. It has been 16 years as one of the opposition parties and since last year a member of the administration as Portfolio Holder for Health and Community Protection.

I would hate to add up how many meetings I have been to in all those years, but I know I am attending more than ever especially health related ones. There are a lot of resources in looking after our health, but demand is for ever increasing due to advancement in treatment and us all living longer. We have to try and look after our own health and encourage others to do so as well. Prevention has always been better than trying to cure.

I went to a two-day course at Warwick University in November on Climate Change. As with health we can all help ourselves and others to look after our planet. Even small changes such as buying loose fruit and vegetables as we used to, buying what we need not what we want and trying to use our car less often helps. Recycle wherever possible and donate unwanted items to Charity shops.

We have a very busy year ahead both at the District, Town and County Councils. I look forward to the help and support you give me and each other to achieve all we can for Whitnash.

Cllr Mrs Judy Falp, Warwick District Councillor for Whitnash

Two potholes have been repaired one in Whitnash Road near the Doglands and one in Home Farm Crescent. There has been a caravan parked in the lay by in Brunswick Street for nearly 12 months. Both Warwickshire County Council and Warwick District Council have been involved. Cllr Heath will contact Cllr Chilvers to try and resolve this issue. St Margaret's Church Centre will be taken over as a school for vulnerable children. There will be a Climate Change meeting at Warwick District Council next week.

Cllr T Heath, Warwick District Councillor for Whitnash

Not much to say, other than I have attended an O & S committee meeting and chaired an Employment Committee meeting where main subject is a slight restructuring at senior level, partly to add a post to manage the "Climate Emergency", and some other structural tweaks that won't really affect anything.

Cllr R Margrave, Warwick District Councillor for Whitnash

137/20 APPROVE AND ADOPT PRECEPT FOR 2020 - 2021

The Precept for 2020 – 2021 is £216,232.00. This is an increase of 6.98%.

Members proposed that the precept for 2020 - 2021 is approved and adopted. All Members present voted in favour.

138/20 COMMUNITY HUB UPDATE

The Library Lease Agreement is almost ready to sign. There has been a brain storming meeting regarding Management procedures.

The drainage survey has been completed and soakaways cannot be installed so the water will have to go into a main drain in Clarkson Drive / Osbourne Close.

A further quotation from MLM has been received to carry out further investigation work for the drainage until a suitable solution has been established. The fee proposal to liaise with the Design team, member if the wider local authority and water authority. The suggested budget fee for undertaking the work is £2,500 + VAT. All Members voted in favour of this proposal.

139/20 CIVIC CENTRE AND LIBRARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

The Community Hub income and expenditure report as at 7th January 2020 was emailed to Members.

140/20 APPROVE LEGAL DEEDS AND DOCUMENTS

There were no legal deeds and documents to approve at the meeting.

141/20 NEW COUNCILLOR PROPOSAL

The co-option of Mr Bryan Colledge was proposed. All Members voted in favour of the co-option.

142/20 CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter from Whitnash Twinning Association was emailed to all Members before the meeting and read by Cllr Margrave. Cllr Cancilla urged Members to have a positive attitude towards the twinning as numbers are declining.
Cllrs Cancilla, Smart and Sparkes declared an interest as Members of the Twinning Association.
2. It was proposed that a letter be sent to Ian Colls to say thank you for all the repair work he does at Whitnash Community Hall.
3. It was also proposed that a thank you letter be sent to Pete Cutts to thank him for all the help over the years with anti-social behaviour / security issues etc at the Community Hall.

143/20 SCHEDULE OF APPROVED PAYMENTS MADE

The Schedule of Approved Payments from 7th November 2019 to 7th January 2020 was noted.

144/20 REPORTS FROM WARD COUNCILLORS

East: Nothing to report.

North: There is a problem in Ashford Gardens with vehicles obstructing traffic and vehicle oil on the footpath. Cllr Mrs Falp has reported this will report it again.

South: There is a pothole on the north end of Mullard Drive and Brunel Close that needs repairing. There is also a pothole at the junction of Golf Lane and Morris Drive.

West: The Leylandii hedge on the corner of Franklin and Heathcote Roads needs cutting back as it is encroaching on the footpath. There is a sunken drain cover near the Heathcote Pub on Heathcote Lane near the water pumping station. There is also a lot of litter around this area. A request has been made delay the changeover of the traffic lights at the junction of Heathcote and Tachbrook Roads to enable traffic turning right towards Leamington to cross this junction.

145/20 REPORT OF CHRISTMAS LIGHTS WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD ON

Cllr Button proposed that a receipt (in the form of draft minutes) of the Christmas Lights Working Group meeting held on 7th November 2019 are received.

146/20 REPORT OF COMMUNITY HUB COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON

Cllr Heath proposed that a receipt (in the form of draft minutes) of the Community Hub Committee meetings held on 21st November 2019 and 5th December 2019 are received.

147/20 REPORT OF MINUTES OF FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON

Cllr Heath proposed that receipt (in the form of draft minutes) of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meetings held on 21st November 2019, 5th December 2019 and 9th January 2020 are received.

148/20 REPORT OF MINUTES OF HALL AND PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON

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

149/20 REPORT OF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Cllr McFadden proposed that a receipt (in the form of draft minutes) of the Planning Committee meetings held on 5th December 2019 and 2nd January 2020 are received.

150/20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Town Council meeting will be held on 13th February 2020 at 7.00 p.m.

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

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