

WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Council held at Whitwell Community Centre at 19.00 on Wednesday 18 May 2011

Present:

Councillor S Maiden (Chair),
Councillor J Burdett,
Councillor S Ellis,
Councillor S Frow,
Councillor V P Mills,
Councillor T Munro,
Councillor J Raspin,
Councillor G Webster,
Councillor K Stevenson,
Councillor D Kerr,
PCSO 4549 K Lee,
8 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies.

2. Election of Chair

Two nominations were received and seconded, those of Cllr S Maiden and Cllr T Munro. On putting the nominations to the vote and the Chair having to use his casting vote Cllr Maiden was duly elected as Chair.

3. Election of Vice-Chair

Two nominations were received and seconded, those of Cllr S Frow and Cllr T Munro. On putting the nominations to the vote and the Chair having to use his casting vote Cllr Frow was duly elected as Vice-Chair.

4. Elections to Other Groups/Bodies

The following members were nominated and elected to the following Groups /Bodies:

Establishment Review Working Group – Chair, Vice-Chair and Cllr Mills.

Footpaths Working Group – Cllrs Ellis, Maiden and Munro,

Hanging Baskets Working Group – Cllrs Mills, Munro and Webster (This Group will also incorporate the responsibilities of the Hedgerows Officer),

Internal Audit Committee – Chair, Vice-Chair and Cllr Raspin,

Playscheme Working Group – Cllrs Frow, Maiden and Raspin,

Stone Piers Working Group – Cllrs Maiden and Munro,

Website Monitors – Cllrs Ellis and Burdett,

Whitwell Community Centre Management Committee – all Councillors.

(It was advised that a Working Group could appoint a non-member of the Council to the Group if it so wished).

5. Suspension of Standing Orders to permit a thirty minutes open forum for:

5.1 Members of the Parish Council and the public to discuss matters of importance with the County Councillor.

Cllr Stevenson reported on the following:

He felt that the austerity measures introduced by the current administration were now beginning to have an effect on services.

He also reported that there is a threat to the Robin Hood Line Sunday services which is due to lack of passengers.

Creswell Crags had a very good chance of securing World Heritage Site status.

The following issues were raised:-

- 5.1.1 Repairs to the rumble strips in the village had not taken place. Cllr Stevenson said that this had been reported.
- 5.1.2 The tree roots were again damaging the footpath on Sandy Lane.
- 5.1.3 It was thought that there would be £30m funding available from the Coalfields Regeneration Fund which would be for new employment.
- 5.1.4 A member of the public had taken photographs of HGVs using High Street during a one hour period on 18 May which were distributed to Councillors. Cllr Stevenson said that he would report the matters to DCC Trading Standards.
- 5.1.5 The Clerk reported that he had had no response from DCC regarding the criteria used for assessing the need for school crossing patrols.
- 5.1.6 The footpath in The Square was still in need of repair. This had been reported by Cllr Stevenson.

5.2 Members of the Parish Council and the public to discuss matters of importance with the police

PCSO Lee was not able to report on the crimes since the last meeting because of an ongoing upgrade of the system. She reported that there had been warrants issued and executed for drugs offences. She reported that she had received training on the use of community speed watch.

The following issues were raised:-

- 5.2.1 There had been a break-in at the Welfare building in Hangar Hill (this had not been reported).
- 5.2.2 The crime figures reported at the last meeting do not reconcile with those reported on the police website.
(PCSO Lee left the meeting at 19:55).

5.3 Members of the public to discuss matters of importance with the Councillors present

The following items were raised:-

- 5.3.1 It was asked whether Whitwell was represented on any of the BDC committees. Cllr Webster had been appointed on the Planning, Licensing and Scrutiny Cttees. Cllr Kerr had been appointed to the Scrutiny Cttee.
- 5.3.2 It was reported that BDC were investigating the possibility of purchasing of the EMDA land on Southfield Lane.
- 5.3.3 The problem of dog fouling was getting worse especially on Welbeck Street.
- 5.3.4 There was a problem with graffiti on Welbeck Street Recreation Ground and the catch on the gate to the toddlers area was in need of repair.

5.3.5 There had been instances of trespass and vandalism on the Welfare building site.

(Cllrs Stevenson and Kerr left the meeting at 20:10).

6. Resumption of Standing Orders

It was resolved to resume Standing Orders.

7. Consideration of matters arising from Items 5.1 to 5.3 above

It was **resolved** to communicate with the following on the issues stated:

DCC – items 5.1.4, 5.1.5 and 5.1.6 above.

Handymen – item 5.3.4 above.

BDC Planning and Contractor – item 5.3.5 above.

8. Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council held on 13 April 2011

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 April 2011 were approved and duly signed by the Chairman as a correct record of that meeting.

9. Matters Arising from Item 8

There were no matters arising.

10. Accounts for approval and payment

The following accounts were approved for payment and the cheques duly signed.

Cheque No.	Payee	Goods/Service	Amount
103277	Whitwell Community Centre	Grant & Stationery	5087.60
103278	Broker Network Ltd	Ins renewal	2799.42
103279	Hodthorpe & Belph PC	Vesting balance	2329.03
103280	Inland Revenue	PAYE to 30.04.11	2176.19
103281	Derbyshire County Council	Superann to 30.04.11	1602.87
103282	Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	Play equipment	1328.40
103283	Turner & Wilson Ltd	Cemetery contract	1200.00
103284	Standard Industries Ltd	Lamp column testing	1048.20
103285	Planterior Landscape Services Ltd	Contract Apr 11	582.50
103286	Sutcliffe Paly Ltd	Play equipment	353.76
103287	Thorpes Building Supplies Ltd	Various	244.12
103288	King Forestry & Tree Care	Tree removal	150.00
103289	S Hardie	Newsletter delivery	85.00
103290	Global Collect BV	Anti-Virus software	79.95
103291	T & GWU	Union Subs to 30.04.11	52.66
103292	M&R Lawnmower Services	Repairs	45.80
103293	Gibbs & Dandy	Timber	27.60
103294	CWG Countrystores Ltd	Clothing	20.34
103295	Bolsover District Council	Rent	5.00
	Total		<u>19218.44</u>

11. Financial Reports

The Clerk presented the Payroll Report for the period to 30 April 2011.

It was **resolved** to accept the report.

12. Correspondence

The list of correspondence not requiring a decision was made available to members.

It was **resolved** to deal with the following items of correspondence as follows:-

- 12.1 Creswell Crags – Wellington Bomber Memorial Ceremony 21 May – Cllrs Maiden and Burdett to represent the WPC.
- 12.2 Lafarge Aggregates – Liaison Cttee representative – Cllrs Mills and Munro to represent WPC.
- 12.3 Network Rail – Railway Communications System – object to the fact that notice had only been given retrospectively.

13. Planning Matters

(Cllr Webster declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon).

The following applications were considered:

- 13.1 11/00200/FUL – no objections. (Cllr Maiden declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon).
- 13.2 11/00201/FUL – no objections. (Cllr Maiden declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon).

14. Approval of the Statement of Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2009

It was **resolved** that:

We acknowledge as the members of Whitwell Parish Council our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including the preparation of the Statement of Accounts. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the council's Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2011, that:

- 1. we have approved the Statement of Accounts which has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations and proper practices,
- 2. we have maintained an adequate system of internal control, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness,
- 3. we have taken all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and codes of practice which could have a significant financial effect on the ability of the council to conduct its business or on its finances,
- 4. we have provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations,
- 5. we have carried out an assessment of the risks facing the council and taken appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required,
- 6. we have maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the council's accounting records and control systems and carried out a review of its effectiveness,
- 7. we have taken appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external auditor and

8. we have considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year end, have a financial impact on the Council and, where appropriate, have included them in the Statement of Accounts.

15. Proposed Alkane Development

The Chair reported on a meeting held with interested bodies which discussed the possibility of purchasing the land from EMDA.

It was **resolved** to request that the VOA be asked to value the land and to ask H&BPC and WAA to contribute to the cost of valuation.

16. Progress Reports

Playscheme – Cllr Frow reported yet another successful Playscheme.

17. Member Training - 29 June

The Clerk reported that councillor training, to be delivered by DALC, was to take place at Bakestone Moor Community Hall on June 29 at 18:00 to which all members were expected to attend.

18. Dates of Future Meetings

It was agreed to hold future meetings as normal on the second Wednesday of each month (although there would be Budget meeting on January 4 2012.

The next meeting will be held at the Whitwell Community Centre on 8 June 2011 at 19:00.

19. Suspension of Standing Orders to permit a fifteen minute open forum for members of the public to comment on items discussed at this meeting

19.1 A question was asked and answered about the cost of fencing at Bakestone Moor Recreation Ground and the cemetery.

19.2 It was reported that BT will not provide information on the precise sites for broadband upgrading.

19.3 A member of the public was disappointed that at least one Member was not aware of the site for the Alkane planning application.

19.4 It was confirmed that both allotment sites in Hodthorpe were the subject of the same lease with Welbeck Estates Co. Ltd.

20. Resolution to exclude members of the public and press in order to discuss items of a confidential nature

Cllr Mills thought that WPC could carry out its own grass cutting if it purchased the appropriate equipment which would pay for itself within three years.

It was **resolved** to agenda the item for the June meeting.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.24.

Signed Chairman

Date

Abbreviations used:

Cllr – Councillor,
HGV – heavy goods vehicle,
BDC – Bolsover District Council,
PC – personal computer,
Superann – Superannuation,
Subs – Subscriptions,
T&GWU – Transport and General Workers Union,
DCC – Derbyshire County Council,
SLCC – Society of Local Council Clerks,
DEFRA – Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,
DoT – Department of Transport
PCT Primary Care Trust,
CCTV – Closed Circuit Television,
DALC – Derbyshire Association of Local Councils,
NALC – National Association of Local Councils.
ASBO – Anti-Social Behaviour Order.
CAN - Community Action Network.
ODPM – Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.
WCC – Whitwell Community Centre,
WCCMC – Whitwell Community Centre Management Committee,
C&DCT – Clowne and District Community Transport,
DET – Derbyshire Environmental Trust,
BLSP – Bolsover Local Strategic Partnership.
CRB – Criminal Record Bureau
PCSO – Police Community Support Officer.
LGPS – Local Government Pension Scheme.
ASC – After School Club.
DCLG – Department of Communities and Local Government.
IT – Information Technology.