

WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at Whitwell Community Centre at 19.00 on Wednesday 11 September 2013

Present:

Councillor S Maiden (Chair)	Councillor K Austin	Councillor J Burdett
Councillor S Ellis	Councillor V P Mills	Councillor T Munro (Vice Chair)
Councillor J Raspin	Councillor G Webster	
County Councillor D McGregor	4 members of the public	PCSO K Lee

1 Apologies for absence

None.

2 To consider applications for Dispensation of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

No applications had been received.

3 It was resolved to suspend Standing Orders to permit a fifteen minutes open forum for:

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

Cllr McGregor reported on the following issues:-

- 3.1.1. The overgrown hedge on Firbeck Lane has been cut.
- 3.1.2. The DCC Portfolio Holder is looking into the matter of parking on the verge at Sandy Lane.
- 3.1.3. The problem with overgrown hedges on Station Road is being investigated.
- 3.1.4. The road markings in The Square will be completed at the end of the week.
- 3.1.5. Alternative dates for site inspections with Parish Councillors; Thorpe Avenue will then be inspected.
- 3.1.6. Cllr McGregor is awaiting a response from the Highway Agency regarding Lorries driving through the village. Councillors were concerned that the problem was getting worse, and that the last traffic survey carried out was not a covert survey.
- 3.1.7. Cllr McGregor read information from the latest news releases regarding apprenticeships and a clamp down on illegal tobacco sellers.
- 3.1.8. DCC were undertaking a survey on the use of Community Transport.
- 3.1.9. A consultation is taking place until 31.10.13 regarding Council services, including what the public thought were the lowest priority and the level of Council tax they would be willing to pay.
- 3.1.10. Cllr McGregor gave information on additional savings the Council need to make over the £157Million savings over 4 years, which equate to a 32% reduction from 2009/10.
- 3.1.11. There are 28 properties on the Bluebell Walk Estate in Creswell which are within the Whitwell parish boundary. The District Council will be consulting with those affected and other interested parties, in order that a sensible solution can be put to the Boundary Commission.

The following issues were raised:-

- 3.1.12. A member of public thanked Cllr McGregor for dealing with the replacement of the bollard near the Co-op and he also noted that another bollard had been placed on the grass verge.
- 3.1.13. Progress on the provision of yellow lines on Duke Street – Cllr McGregor has spoken to Ann Weston about this; there was a similar situation in Clowne where lines have been provided.
- 3.1.14. Arrangement of a public meeting about Lorries driving through the village – Cllr McGregor said that he will move on this.
- 3.1.15. DCC newsletters – public are able to register to receive these on the DCC website.

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

PCSO K Lee reported on crimes committed in August.

Criminal damage = 3, violence = 3, theft from vehicles (diesel) = 2 (A619 lay-by), non-dwelling burglary = 6 (4 of these being from sheds on allotments) with 1 person being arrested and charged, theft = 2, vehicle thefts = 1. Some good intelligence has been received from the community regarding drugs and two people have been arrested and charged.

There has been damage to the access gate to the rec. from Station Road, and there have been two off-road motorbikes; please inform the police if you see them. There will be some dates advertised for police surgeries.

The following issues were raised:-

- 3.2.1 A resident had suffered from anti-social behaviour near the Co-op. The police were aware of this and will be visiting the parents of two of those involved next week. K Lee agreed to visit the residents in order to update them.
- 3.2.2 A member of public was aware of a person arrested on Whitwell Green, and the police were there again this week. K Lee confirmed that it had been the same person.
- 3.2.3 The Parish store in the car park has suffered from smashed roof tiles due to football being played in the car park. K Lee said she will ask those concerned to move on when she sees them playing football.

PCSO K Lee left the building at 7.35 pm

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

The following items were raised with District Councillors:-

- 3.3.1 What are BDC likely to do about the issue raised in 3.2.3. above? The possibility of measures ie., installation of netting in order to protect the roof tiles was suggested. Cllr G Webster said that he would speak to the Legal Department tomorrow.
- 3.3.2 Progress on the new Co-operative store –no further information, other than the Planning Department has contacted them to ask when they will commence.
- 3.3.3 A member of public had met with the DCC Solicitor, who admits that the notice of election had not been sent to Whitwell, but the election had been carried out under legislation. However, they have taken on board his concerns and in future the information will be sent. The member of public was congratulated on pursuing this issue.
- 3.3.4 The issue of weed spraying was raised, concerning the strength of the spray and the indiscriminate nature of the spraying and the affect it has on wildlife, with Malt house Road being particularly affected. Cllrs Webster and Mills agreed to find out what solution is used and the weed spraying policy.

The following items were raised with Parish Councillors:-

- 3.3.5 Was the letter sent to Mr Bullock. The Clerk confirmed that this had been sent.
- 3.3.6 A large chestnut tree has fallen on Drinkingpit Lane.
- 3.3.7 Our hanging baskets are at present predominately green, in comparison to other parishes. The Clerk agreed to ask neighbouring parishes who their suppliers were this year. A query was also raised as to why some posts had two baskets and others had none. Cllr V Mills said that this was due to the restrictions placed on the number of baskets, the availability of brackets, and that they be concentrated near the centre of the village
- 3.3.8 The notices placed at Mill Lane allotments require tidying.

4 Resumption of Standing Orders

It was **resolved** to resume Standing Orders.

5 Consideration of matters arising from Items 3.1 to 3.3 above

None.

6 Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council held on 14 August 2013

Item 3.1.2 - delete "covert".

Item 3.1.7 – replace "Home" with "Homes". Replace "custody" with "stewardship".

Item 7.8 – insert "planning" before "application".

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 August 2013 were then approved and duly signed by the Chairman as a correct record of that meeting.

7 Reporting of Matters Arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 14 August 2013

7.1 Item 3.3.2 - Cllr G Webster was at the job club today and he was delighted that at least 12 people attended.

7.2 Item 13.2 – Cllr V Mills will be meeting with the probation service on Monday to discuss our projects.

7.3 Item 15.2 – The "Have a Field Day" event was held on 28 August. The park is being extremely well used. Requests have been received for the provision of litter bins and a bench.

7.4 Item 15.3 – The Clerk had received 3 responses to the letters sent to Mill Lane allotment plot holders, with two wishing to give up their plots at the end of the season and one working towards improving their plot.

7.5 Item 18.1 – The Clerk would be contacting the RBL to enquire about the Armistice Day parade.

8 Accounts for approval and payment

The schedule was wrongly dated 14 August. The budget head for the sports programme should be contingencies. The following accounts were then approved for payment and the cheques duly signed.

Cheque

No.	Payee	Goods/Service	Amount	Budget
103585	P Hodges	Store electrical work	1363.83	2S
103586	Bolsover District Council	Sports programme	720.00	
103587	Darfoulds Nursery Ltd	Plants	260.74	5B
103588	Allcocks Wood Products Ltd	Workbench	149.76	2S
			<u>2494.33</u>	

Direct Bank Payments to be Authorised

	Payee	Goods/Services	Amount	Budget
Sep 2	HMR&C	Tax & NI August 13	2961.76	1A-1L
	DCC	Superann August 13	1704.41	1A-1L
	Planterior Landscape Services	Contract August 13	556.80	4G,5F(60:40)
	VisionICT	Website maintenance	300.60	2X
	Office Depot	Stamps	60.00	2R
	Unite The Union	Union Subs August 2013	53.20	1A-1L
	Ofsted	Playscheme registration	35.00	2Q
	Turner Hire & Sales	Repairs	23.34	5I
Sep 5	Came & Co.	Insurance	2485.62	2I
Sep 6	Came & Co.	Motor Insurance	352.60	2O
	Total		<u>8533.33</u>	

9 Financial Reports

Wages Summary – the Clerk informed that she had requested some of the names to be removed.
Budget Monitoring Report – It was agreed that item 2X be altered to IT/Website and the new wi-fi expenditure be moved from 2S into 2X.

10 To Consider the Renewal of the Parish Council's Insurance

The Clerk informed that the new play equipment value of £43,415.00 had been added to the sums insured. The long term agreement (LTA) expired in 2014. Council would not wish to enter into a new LTA, in order to obtain alternative quotes at renewal in 2014. The Chairman agreed to speak to the RFO.

11 Land at Southfield Lane – to consider setting up a joint group with H&BPC

It was **resolved** that the Clerk contact the H&BPC Clerk in order to arrange a meeting in October.

12 Weed Spraying (Cllr J Burdett)

Raised in 3.3.4 above.

13 To consider the provision of Christmas Lights

Due to the regulations and costs involved in erecting Christmas Lights, it was **resolved** to concentrate this year's display around the Community Centre, maximising what we possibly can out of the Christmas Lights budget.

14 Whitwell Cemetery – Agreement to purchase land (Cllr S Maiden)

Cllr Maiden informed that after obtaining a valuation and making an offer of £21,000 for the land required for the cemetery extension, the land owner has agreed to the purchase. It was **resolved** to purchase the land required to extend the cemetery at the price agreed with the land owner and the Cemetery Committee.

15 Correspondence

15.1 DALC Circular 17/2013 – Proposed combined Authority/Surveillance Camera Code of Practice/ Seasonal Decorations/NALC Topics 19 & 31/Local Councils Explained/Playground Inspection Training/Funding workshop/Sports England grants/Clerk/RFO Vacancy, Hope with Aston PC.

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

15.1 Noted.

16 Planning Matters

None.

17 Progress Reports

17.1 Wireless Internet Provision

Cllr K Austin reported on the installation of the new wireless internet provision. The Parish Council staff are now connected and he would be proposing terms and conditions for guest users in the next week or so.

17.2 Initiatives Group

A meeting of the Initiatives Group was arranged for Thursday 19 September at 7.00 pm.

18 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 9 October 2013. Cllr J Raspin gave her apologies in advance.

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

No items.

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

It was **resolved** to exclude the public and press from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

- 20.1 Cllr S Maiden informed of progress on the Clerk's hours.
- 20.2 Cllr S Maiden asked if there would be any objections to a member of staff joining the Local Government Pension Scheme. There were no objections.
- 20.3 The Community Centre Manager has requested Health & Safety at Work Training for all staff, which would cost a total of £500. This was approved.
- 20.4 The Clerk would remind the RFO to attend all meetings, as per minute 18 of the meeting held on 10 April 2013.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Signed Chairman

Date

Abbreviations used:

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