

WINTERBORNE WHITECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council
held on Wednesday 29 August 2012 in the
Village Hall, WINTERBORNE WHITECHURCH

PRESENT

Mrs Christine Flemming (Vice-Chair)
Ms Caroline Ward
Mrs Emma Parker
Mr Richard Fry
Mrs Aideene Turley

IN ATTENDANCE Mrs P. Parker (Clerk), Mr Robert Turley (Clerk elect), Mrs Hilary Cox (County Councillor) and 5 members of the general public.

CF chaired the meeting and welcomed Rob Turley as the new Clerk who would take over duties on 1 September. Mrs Parker thanked Councillors for the flower arrangement so kindly presented to her to mark her last meeting with WWPC.

98/12. Apologies for absence- Jane Somper, Don Byrom and Paul Ritchie

99/12. Declarations of Interest- All Councillors had signed their Declarations of Interest according to the new Code of Conduct. There was, consequently, no further need to record declarations at meetings.

100/12. Public Participation –None

101/12. Approval of Minutes- The Minutes of the meeting held on 4 July 2012 had been previously circulated and were now approved and duly signed.

102/12. Matters Arising

Bench Repair – CF reported that Mr Adams had the necessary materials to mend the bench at the junction of Whatcombe Lane and Fields Close, but would await a PC decision on whether to go ahead. This would be discussed under Finance.

Willow Tree, Rook Lane – The Clerk had received notice that NDDC would not object to the proposed works and the tree had since been removed.

Clearing the Winterborne – The Environment Agency had promised to provide a draft letter which could be sent to riparian owners. This had not yet been received; the Clerk would follow up.

Olympic Torch Day- CF referred to 12 July when, despite the weather, all elements of the celebration had been totally successful.

Cars for sale in pub car park – This had been overtaken by the surprising news that Punch Taverns had put the pub on the market.

Overgrown trees – CW reported that she had informed Dorset Direct that people waiting at the stop on Dorchester Hill could not see clearly when buses were approaching. She had been told that the work would be carried out.

Bus timetables- These had now been replaced by larger font versions.

103/12. Speeding Traffic on A354

Mrs Cox had discussed this matter with officers at DCC Highways and been given the following information:

The mobile speed camera had been in Whitechurch on about 18 occasions this year which was roughly one visit per fortnight. This was more than any other village. Many speeding tickets had been issued. There had, thankfully, been no fatal accidents as yet. This stretch of the A354 was highly monitored compared with other Dorset roads.

In cases where over-hanging vegetation was obliterating road signs and pavements, the PC should inform Dorset Direct. Highways would contact owners of hedges whose responsibility it was to trim. CW said that vegetation on Dorchester Hill was badly encroaching on the pavement and forcing pedestrians further towards the road. HC would arrange for the verge to be checked.

CF felt that the apparent monitoring of the A354 may not be having the desired effect. More warning of the 30mph speed limit could be given to drivers. At present, they began braking too late because the signs on both hills into the village were the first indication of required speed reduction.

RF thought that radar speed checks succeeded in slowing down the hard core of speeding drivers, but only for the time they were present. He felt that driving speeds rose significantly after about 5pm. HC would ask the Police to carry out speed checks later in the day. RF and CW suggested that other means of slowing traffic

should be considered such as an obvious indication that drivers were entering a village and should slow down.

HC pointed out that active speed cameras were rarely located permanently; mobile units were used instead. She said that the 'No Excuses' campaign continued to be successful, reducing serious injury and fatalities by 50% in Dorset. RF was persisting with the 'No Excuses' sign, moving it to different locations regularly, but he had noticed that it was effective only when drivers could see the speed camera in the lay-by.

HC would follow up the idea of residents using hand-held cameras. RF was interested to know whether data from such cameras could be used by the Police. The Clerk would contact DCC, copying in HC, to ask permission to display the village sign beside the main road. AT had organised a group to tend to the flower planters. HC confirmed that DCC were providing only three cuts per year for grass verges.

In conclusion, HC said that the topic of speeding would feature at the autumn Divisional Meeting.

104/12. Planning

There were no applications or decisions.

EP informed Councillors that recent applications for Sunnyside Stud had been sent to WWPC in error. The property was in fact part of the Lower Winterborne Parish.

105/12. Correspondence

NDDC- Temporary Event Notices- Information regarding applications for premises licences for small scale events. This had been kept on computer file.

NDDC-Localisation of Council Tax Support- This complicated issue had been the subject of a presentation to ND Cabinet, and another was planned for 6 September. District Councillors Jane Somper and EP would try to send useful information to the PC. DAPTC had given details of a consultation, with responses due by 9 October. The full implications for Parish Councils were yet to be made clear.

Melbury Abbas & Cann PC – An invitation to be part of a joint committee set up by these PCs.

DCC- Winter Snow Clearing operations- EP would attend a meeting at the DCC Charminster Depot on 11 September.

DCC- Highways Survey – Councillors requested the link through which they could respond to the survey:

www.dorsetforyou.com/405987

106/12. REPORTS

- a) Playground – RF was pleased to report that there had been no repetition of offensive graffiti. He had attempted to repair the damage to the wooden bar between the swings and multi-play unit. Weekly checks were being continued and recorded. Digley Associates now hoped to complete the annual inspection within the next three weeks.
- b) Footpaths – CW reported new signs in place on the Chescombe footpath. The gate could now be opened.

107/12. FINANCE

Current Account at 22 August	£6,669.64
Outstanding chq No. 402- £35.00	

Cheques for authorisation

DAPTC Councillor Training :	£110.00
16 May-Localism Act Update - £20.00	
12 Jun- Making Your Meetings Work - £60	
16 Jul -Planning Issues - £20	
26 Jul- Code of Conduct Briefing - £10	
Expenses for Olympic Torch celebrations:	
Jan Snook – Bunting Tape	£30.00
Bob Cowley - Plants	£25.92
Sarah Sherwin – Memory Stick	£26.78
Ian Flemming – Evening Entertainment	£57.73

- Clerk’s Salary Standing Order 7 August - £254.58. This was the concluding payment for Mrs Parker. A form was passed to Mr Turley to change PC contact details and enable him to operate the account.
- Receipts in July –
£34 from Village Hall Committee towards cost of fence
£50 from The Valley Players towards Jubilee celebrations
- 29 August - £16 cash had been paid into the account from proceeds of the Olympic Torch barbecue.
- Payment of cheque since last meeting – BDO (Audit Fee) -£144.00

- Mr Finn had not yet presented his Torch Day expenses to the PC for payment.
- Consideration of purchase of benches -
Whatcombe Lane/Fields Close-Councillors agreed that it would be more cost effective to purchase a new bench than to repair it.
Fields Close – It was agreed to purchase a bench, first asking residents where they would prefer it to be placed.
 RF would go to Bartletts for an update on the cost of two benches, including delivery, and email all Councillors.

108/12. Other information for report only

Details had been passed to the Clerk of a local company which specialised in affordable housing. Councillors could view details at www.HousingLocalPeople.com

Mr Chichester had confirmed that a memorial bench to the late Mr Rose should be installed by the end of September, sponsored by Mr Sims of Wessex Water Recycling.

West Coast Energy had made a presentation about the proposed wind turbines near Tolpuddle and were due to make another for Milborne St Andrew PC. EP would email the date of Milborne's meeting to all Councillors.

109/12. Public Participation

The following points were raised:

It was regrettable that local speed signs and village names were becoming obliterated by overgrown vegetation. The Clerk would report to Dorset Direct.

A letter had apparently been sent from one of the Torch carriers thanking the PC for evening entertainment on 12 July.

110/12. Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 3 October 2012 at 7.30pm.